



# Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Regular Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Council Conference Room - Golden Valley City Hall  
7800 Golden Valley Rd., Golden Valley MN

Listen via Zoom:

<https://plymouthmn.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcodOCvrj8rHtZJzXg6hib82UqHHvF4ift3#/registration>

## MEETING AGENDA

### 1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

**2. PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS** – *Members of the public may address the Commission about any item not contained on the regular agenda. A maximum of 15 minutes is allowed for the Forum. If the full 15 minutes are not needed for the Forum, the Commission will continue with the agenda. The Commission will take no official action on items discussed at the Forum, except for referral to staff or a Commissions Committee for a recommendation to be brought back to the Commission for discussion/action.*

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA (10 minutes)

- A. Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2026 Commission Meeting
- B. Acceptance of June Financial Report
- C. Approval of Payment of Invoices
  - i. Keystone Waters, LLC – May 2026 Administration
  - ii. Keystone Waters, LLC – May 2026 Administrative Expenses
  - iii. Barr Engineering – May 2026 Engineering Services
  - iv. Triple D Espresso – June Meeting Catering
  - v. City of Plymouth – May 2026 Accounting Services
  - vi. Kennedy & Graven – April 2026 Legal Services
  - vii. Metro Conservation Districts – Children’s Water Festival
  - viii. Stantec – WOMP Tasks
  - ix. HDR – Website Accessibility Project
  - x. Metro Blooms – Minneapolis Water Quality Projects Support
- D. Approval of Commercial Insurance Proposal
- E. Approval of Budget for Watershed Plan Printing & Accessibility Updates
- F. Approval of Agreement with Met Council for 2026 Community Assisted Monitoring Program
- G. Approval of Conditional License Agreement with Hennepin County for Use of Hydrologic Model

### 5. BUSINESS

- A. Consider Approval of Feasibility Study for Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project (CL-4) and Select Option for Implementation (30 min)
- B. Consider Approval of Feasibility Study of Lagoon Dredging Project Phase II (BC-7) and Select Option for Implementation (30 min)
- C. Consider Approval of 90% Designs for Flood Control Project Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) (15 min)

- D. Review 5-year Capital Improvement Program and Set Maximum Levy for 2027 (15 min)
- E. Consider Administrative Services Committee Recommendation to Approve Contract for Organizational Assessment Project (15 min)

**6. COMMUNICATIONS (15 minutes)**

- A. Administrator's Report
  - i. Fruen Mill Documentary
  - ii. Applications for Communications & Administrative Assistant Position
  - iii. Comments to Clean Water Council on Chloride Reduction Program Needs
- B. Engineer
  - i. Report on Bassett Creek Restoration Project
- C. Legal Counsel
- D. Chair
- E. Minnesota Watersheds
  - i. Comments on MN Watersheds Resolutions
  - ii. Plumbing Board Rule Change Issue
- F. Commissioners
  - i. Report on Turtle Fest
- G. TAC Members
  - i. Report on Plymouth Creek Restoration Project
  - ii. Report on June 3<sup>rd</sup> TAC meeting
- H. Committees

**7. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)**

- A. Administrative Calendar
- B. CIP Project Updates [www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects)
- C. Grant Tracking Spreadsheet
- D. West Metro Water Alliance Annual Report

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

- BCWMC Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30 a.m., Wirth Lake Room, Brookview
- BCWMC Regular Meeting: Thursday, July 16, 8:30 a.m., Golden Valley City Hall



# Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

## AGENDA MEMO

Date: June 11, 2026

To: BCWMC Commissioners

From: Laura Jester, Administrator

RE: **Background Information for 6/18/26 BCWMC Meeting**

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**
2. **PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ACTION ITEM with attachment**
4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2026 Commission Meeting - ACTION ITEM with attachment
  - B. Acceptance of June Financial Report - ACTION ITEM with attachment
  - C. Approval of Payment of Invoices - ACTION ITEM attachments available upon request –Commission Treasurer Polzin reviewed Keystone Waters invoices. I reviewed the remaining invoices and recommend payment.
    - i. Keystone Waters, LLC – May 2026 Administration
    - ii. Keystone Waters, LLC – May 2026 Administrative Expenses
    - iii. Barr Engineering – May 2026 Engineering Services
    - iv. Triple D Espresso – June Meeting Catering
    - v. City of Plymouth – May 2026 Accounting Services
    - vi. Kennedy & Graven – April 2026 Legal Services
    - vii. Metro Conservation Districts – Children’s Water Festival
    - viii. Stantec – WOMP Tasks
    - ix. HDR – Website Accessibility Project
    - x. Metro Blooms – Minneapolis Water Quality Projects Support
  - D. Approval of Commercial Insurance Proposal – ACTION ITEM with attachment – Commission Attorney Anderson recommends approval of the proposal from North Risk Partners (provided through the League of Minnesota Cities) for the BCWMC’s commercial insurance which is similar to previous years’ coverage and rates.
  - E. Approval of Budget for Watershed Plan Printing & Accessibility Updates – ACTION ITEM with attachment – The 2026 – 2035 Watershed Management Plan was adopted in April. The document itself should comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility rules for web content and documents. Further, a few copies of the plan should be printed for Commission use and to furnish to the Met Council, as required. Staff recommends approval of the attached budget for these activities. While these tasks were not included in the original Plan development budget, the balance for plan development in this year’s budget will cover a portion of these costs. Ultimately, the plan development line will be over budget at year’s end but will have minimal impact to the year-end fund balance.
  - F. Approval of Agreement with Met Council for 2026 Community Assisted Monitoring Program – ACTION ITEM with attachment - Each year, the Commission coordinates this volunteer lake monitoring program in partnership with the Met Council. The program is included in the Commission’s education budget. We have nine volunteers across eight lakes performing biweekly or monthly sampling to help augment the Commission’s monitoring program. Staff recommends approval of this agreement which was reviewed by

Commission Attorney Anderson.

- G. Approval of Conditional License Agreement with Hennepin County for Use of Hydrologic Model – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *Hennepin County is requesting use of the BCWMC Hydrologic and Hydraulic model for an upcoming project. The County requested some revisions to the Commission’s standard license agreement. Commission Attorney Anderson agreed to those changes, which do not materially change the intent of the agreement. Staff recommends approval.*

## 5. BUSINESS

- A. Consider Approval of Feasibility Study for Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project (CL-4) and Select Option for Implementation (30 min) – **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *The Commission reviewed and discussed the draft feasibility report for this project at their May meeting. Since then, the TAC discussed implementation options, and Commission Engineers and I met with Minnetonka staff to review and discuss viable implementation options. Sections in the study that were updated since the draft report include the executive summary, section 4.2, section 5, and Figure 2-1. At this meeting the Commission should review and consider the recommendation for project phasing and corresponding budgets, and consider setting a 2027 levy for this project.*
- B. Consider Approval of Feasibility Study of Lagoon Dredging Project Phase II (BC-7) and Select Option for Implementation (30 min) - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *The Commission reviewed and discussed the draft feasibility report for this project at their May meeting. Since then, Commission Engineers and I met with Golden Valley staff and MPRB staff to discuss buffers, implementation roles and long-term maintenance activities. Sections in the study that were updated since the draft report include the executive summary, section 5.3.2.4, Figure 5-5, section 6.3, section 7, and section 8. The report includes a recommendation to implement Alternative 3 but also incorporates variations on Alternative 3 to lower project costs, if implementation of the whole alternative is deemed too costly.*
- C. Consider Approval of 90% Designs for Flood Control Project Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) (15 min) - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *The Commission approved 60% designs for this project at their meeting in March. At this meeting the Commission Engineer will present the 90% designs and recommendations for informing the public about the project. Staff recommends approval of the designs and the communication plan, and directing the engineers to finalize plans and develop bid and contract documents in cooperation with Commission Attorney Anderson.*
- D. Review 5-year Capital Improvement Program and Set Maximum Levy for 2027 (15 min) - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *At this meeting the Commission should set a maximum levy for 2027. The levy amount will depend on alternatives chosen in items 5A and 5B above and will impact the 5-year CIP. Levy amounts based on recommended options for 5A and 5B are included in the attached memo and the CIP table. At the September meeting, the Commission will set the final 2027 levy which can be lower than the max levy set at this meeting but cannot be higher.*
- E. Consider Administrative Services Committee Recommendation to Approve Contract for Organizational Assessment Project (15 min) - **ACTION ITEM with attachment** – *The request for proposals for this project was approved by the Commission at the April meeting and distributed shortly thereafter to multiple firms. One proposal was received. The Administrative Services Committee recommends approving a contract with Strategic Consulting and Coaching. See the attached memo and contract.*

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS (15 minutes)

- A. Administrator’s Report – **INFORMATION ITEM with attachment** -
- i. Fruen Mill Documentary

- ii. Applications for Communications & Administrative Assistant Position
- iii. Comments to Clean Water Council on Chloride Reduction Program Needs
- B. Engineer
  - i. Report on Bassett Creek Restoration Project
- C. Legal Counsel
- D. Chair
- E. Minnesota Watersheds
  - i. Comments on MN Watersheds Resolutions
  - ii. Plumbing Board Rule Change Issue
- F. Commissioners
  - i. Report on Turtle Fest
- G. TAC Members
  - i. Report on Plymouth Creek Restoration Project
  - ii. Report on June 3<sup>rd</sup> TAC meeting
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## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

**Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**May 21, 2026**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**7800 Golden Valley Rd., Golden Valley MN**

**1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**

On May 21, 2026 at 8:31 a.m. Chair Cesnik called the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (Commission) to order.

**Commissioners, city staff, and others present**

City	Commissioner	Alternate Commissioner	Technical Advisory Committee Members (City Staff)
Crystal	Joan Hauer	Terri Schultz	<i>Absent</i>
Golden Valley	Paula Pentel	Wendy Weirich	Emma Rakestraw
Medicine Lake	Clint Carlson	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Minneapolis	Jodi Polzin	Nick Minderman	<i>Absent</i>
Minnetonka	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	Eric Eckman online
New Hope	Jere Gwin-Lenth	Jen Leonardson	Nick Macklem and Lola Ellingson-Shuster
Plymouth	Catherine Cesnik	<i>Absent</i>	Ben Scharenbroich
Robbinsdale	<i>Absent</i>	John Ella	<i>Absent</i>
St. Louis Park	<i>Absent</i>	David Johnston	Erick Francis
<b>Administrator</b>	Laura Jester, Keystone Waters, LLC		
<b>Engineers</b>	Stephanie Johnson, Greg Wilson, and Patrick Brockamp - Barr Engineering Co.		
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<i>Vacant Position</i>		
<b>Legal Counsel</b>	Dave Anderson, Kennedy & Graven		
<b>Guests/Public</b>	None		

Introductions were made around the room and new Alternate Commissioner John Ella was introduced.

**2. PUBLIC FORUM ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Commissioner Carlson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0. The city of Minnetonka was absent from the vote.

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** Commissioner Pentel moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Carlson seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0. The city of Minnetonka was absent from the vote.

The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda.

- Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2026 Commission Meeting
- Acceptance of May Financial Report
- Approval of Payment of Invoices
  - Keystone Waters, LLC – April 2026 Administration
  - Keystone Waters, LLC – April 2026 Administrative Expenses
  - Barr Engineering – April 2026 Engineering Services
  - Triple D Espresso – May Meeting Catering
  - City of Plymouth – April 2026 Accounting Services
  - Kennedy & Graven – March 2026 Legal Services
  - Stantec – WOMP Tasks
  - HDR – Website Accessibility Project
  - LB Carlson LLP – Financial Audit
- Approval of Administrative Services Committee Recommendation on Job Posting
- Approval of Agreement with MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for Performance Review and Assistance Program Grant
- Approval of Attendance and Reimbursement of Expenses for MN Watersheds Summer Tour, Detroit Lakes
- Approval of CSAH 102 Douglas Drive Highway Safety Improvement Program Project
- Approval of Theodore Wirth Regional Park Trail Improvements Project
- Approval of Agreement with Bolton & Menk for Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Outreach Project Phase II

### 5. BUSINESS

#### A. Review Draft Feasibility Study for Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project (CL-4)

Administrator Jester provided a brief background and noted the final report would be brought to the June meeting where a decision would be needed on the 2027 maximum levy. Commission Engineer Wilson presented results of the study. He reviewed the landuse in the watershed draining to Crane Lake noting that about half (252 acres) of the watershed is commercial and multi-family residential land use that drains to lake through stormwater ponds, with major land holders including Ridgedale Center (77 acres) and Hennepin County (17 acres). He reviewed the monitoring locations and data, the history of increasing chloride levels and reduced zooplankton diversity in the lake, and the fact that the lake is fully mixed (does not stratify like deeper lakes). Engineer Wilson reported that salt application rates were reported by the City of Minnetonka and MnDOT and that private landowners provided information about winter maintenance contractors but do not track the amount of salt applied each year. He noted Hennepin County did not provide data on salt use on roads or at Hennepin County Ridgedale Center. He reported that 60% of the chloride load is coming from the “Ridgedale South” stormwater pond which collects runoff from more than 50% of the mall, the Hennepin County property, the YMCA, and residential streets. He noted a 31% reduction in chloride loading from the watershed is needed to meet state water quality standards in the lake.

Commission Engineer Wilson reviewed various chloride management concepts. He noted structural measures such as altering pond water levels, diverting roof runoff, or treating pond water were assessed but considered not feasible due to high costs and/or an inability to reduce chloride levels enough to meet water quality standards. He noted that source control by reducing salt use is the only viable option. He reviewed various source control concepts that could be plausible in the watershed given the survey results, including tracking

application rates for winter deicing, assisting with winter maintenance contracting, deicing equipment purchase/loan program, providing abrasives to reduce salt use, developing a business agreement for joint winter maintenance, working on alternative salt storage options, developing a Ridgedale smart salting retrofit plan, and regulatory advocacy.

There was a discussion about potential low-hanging fruit (such as helping Ridgedale Mall update their winter maintenance contract and expectations). It was noted that Ridgedale Mall's contractor uses Smart Salting practices with other clients, including using brine. There was a question about why there was a spike in chloride levels between 2016 and 2021 (higher number of snow and ice events in 2021), a question about whether a Metro-wide solution exists, a comment on how equipment cost share might need to be constrained to use in the watershed, and a concern that one landowner is seemingly allowed to degrade a lake without consequence. There was discussion about how a special service district might work between the city and certain landowners to combine winter maintenance under one city contract. Commission Engineer Johnson noted this situation is working in a few cases in Edina and Minneapolis.

Commissioner Polzin indicated that there likely is not enough information in the feasibility study to justify a capital project and corresponding levy. There was discussion on whether a non-structural project could be considered a capital project and levied through the county. Attorney Anderson noted there is likely a distinction in law regarding the definition of a capital project. He noted he could do research and bring additional information to the June meeting. There was some agreement that BCWMC and city staff should explore the idea of a special service district for chloride management. Attorney Anderson noted that scenario may work but it would be a policy decision for each city and likely to require much administrative work.

[Chair Cesnik called for a 5-minute break.]

**B. Review Draft Feasibility Study of Lagoon Dredging Project Phase II (BC-7)**

Chair Cesnik provided some brief background on the original dredging project which resulted in Lagoons D, E, and F being dredged to 4 feet of the designed 6 feet. Commission Engineer Brockamp presented additional background information and reviewed the three alternatives being considered now (dredging the last 2 feet in Lagoons D, E, and F; dredging Lagoon G and returning it to a large open water pond; or dredging two smaller areas in Lagoon G and restoring wetland areas around Lagoon G). He reported that stakeholders, including some members of the public and staff with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) liked the restoration option.

Commission Engineer Johnson reviewed the wetland assessment for Lagoon G noting there are 6 different wetland communities and that restoration would reconnect wetlands to the creek during high water events. She noted that restoration could move the functions and values of the wetland from "low-moderate" to "moderate-high." Engineer Brockamp reported that there would be virtually no change to flood levels with any of the explored alternative. He reviewed a long list of permits needed for the alternatives, including the need for an environmental assessment worksheet as with the original project. He also noted the desire for more outreach and information gathering from indigenous communities as part of work during the final design.

Engineer Brockamp reviewed estimated project costs and cost-benefits in pollution reduction, noting that all alternatives included in the study show lower than normal costs per pound of pollutant removal. He reported that Commission Engineers recommend implementing the wetland restoration option because it aligned with ecological restoration goals in the new watershed plan and the fact that opportunities to improve wetlands are rare within the watershed.

There was discussion about the benefits of removing contaminated sediment including a slight benefit to the benthic community. It was noted that restoring the wetland would not significantly improve water quality beyond the benefits of the dredging, but would improve ecological quality. There was discussion about long term maintenance needs of the wetland restoration. The draft feasibility study assumes 10 years of active maintenance activities as a placeholder, although it's unknown who would perform the maintenance. Further, it was noted that typical BCWMC CIP projects only pay for 3 years of vegetation management. It was noted that

more clarity is needed on which jurisdiction (city of Golden Valley, MPRB, BCWMC) would have ability and funding to perform long-term maintenance.

Commission Hauer asked how much methane would be released during construction of the project. Engineer Johnson noted that calculation was not part of the scope of work for the study and is unknown. It was also noted that the wetland could be restored without any dredging in Lagoon G but that would remove water quality benefits and improvements to fish habitat.

There was discussion about wetland buffer requirements, concerns about project cost, and a note that there is no urgency to implement the project. It was noted that, historically, BCWMC does not pay for long term maintenance of CIP projects; that those costs are borne by the city who implements the project. If the BCWMC were to pay for long term vegetation maintenance with this project, it could set a precedent for future projects. It was noted that there is a possibility of levying for CIP maintenance and that wetland restoration could be viewed as the exception to the long-term maintenance responsibilities.

Engineer Johnson noted that the final study will be brought to the June meeting and will be updated to not include long term maintenance costs beyond the 3-year establishment period. However, she noted that long-term maintenance is critical to the reported ecological benefits of the project, if the restoration alternative is chosen.

**C. Consider Approval of Updated Scope and Budget and Direct Staff to Start Task 1 of Hydrologic & Hydraulic Conversion and Update Project**

Administrator Jester noted that at the meeting in March, the Commission reviewed a recommendation from the TAC on a revised budget and timeline for the Hydrologic and Hydraulic Conversion and Update Project. She reviewed her memo with options and implications of continuing to wait for a FEMA grant and reported that she reached out to congressional representatives to request assistance with moving the grant application forward. She recommended that the Commission approve the TAC-recommended revision to the project scope and budget and direct the Commission Engineer to implement task 1 of the project while waiting for additional information on the grant.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Carlson moved to approve the updated project scope and budget and to direct the Commission Engineer to implement task 1 of the project. Commissioner Gwin Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0. The city of Minnetonka was absent from the vote.

**D. Review Budget Committee Recommendation on 2027 Operating Budget**

Budget Committee Chair Polzin reviewed the committee-recommended 2027 operating budget, noting the activities reflect the new 10-year plan. She reviewed the recommendation related to the fund balance noting that the Special Projects fund should be considered accessible for purposes of the fund balance as its real cash on hand. She noted the committee will closely review the fund balance and Special Projects fund each year. She noted the proposed budget includes a modest increase in city assessments of 1.1%. TAC Chair Scharenbroich noted the budget to address aquatic invasive species (AIS) may need to be increased and that Plymouth will want to understand the value gained from the additional \$10,000 in Plymouth assessment.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Carlon moved to approve the proposed budget as presented and to send it to member cities for input. Commissioner Polzin seconded the motion.

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that cities have until August 1<sup>st</sup> to provide comments on the proposed budget and that more clarity on funding needed for AIS should be gathered in the interim. Chair Cesnik noted that the budget should reflect the intent to address Medicine Lake issues.

**VOTE:** Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0. The city of Minnetonka was absent from the vote.

**E. Consider Administrator Recommendation to Resolve Conflict of Interest**

Administrator Jester reported that Barr Engineering was recently selected by the City of St Louis Park to assist

with developing the city's Surface Water Management Plan update which presents a conflict of interest because as the Commission Engineer, Barr would also be charged with reviewing the city's plan. Administrator Jester recommended that, as with similar conflicts in the past, she be appointed to review the city's plan on the Commission's behalf. Alternate Commissioner Schultz asked about the potential for Administrator Jester to retire before the city's plan is submitted. TAC Member Francis noted that the plan should be submitted in 2027, ahead of the Administrator's likely retirement.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Carlson moved to avoid the conflict of interest by directing the Administrator to review the St. Louis Park Surface Water Management Plan on the Commission's behalf. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth seconded the motion. Upon a vote the motion carried 8-0. The city of Minnetonka was absent from the vote.

**F. Discuss Possible Development of Medicine Lake Task Force**

Administrator Jester noted that the Commission's CIP includes \$2M for implementing recommendations from the Medicine Lake TMDL Assessment Study starting in 2028. She recommended that in preparation for that project, the Commission consider convening a task force of experts and key lake residents in cooperation with the City of Plymouth. She reported the task force would help develop plans for a project that improves water quality while also addressing aquatic invasive species (AIS) and other aspects of lake ecology and function. She noted that Commission Engineers would be a key part of this task force and asked for approval to begin the work of convening a task force, gathering partners (including potential funding partners), and requesting a potential budget from the Commission Engineers to be considered at a future meeting. TAC Chair Scharenbroich indicated that the City of Plymouth would do the bulk of the outreach and messaging. Commission Attorney Anderson noted that if the Commission creates a formal task force and appoints commissioners, it would likely be subject to open meeting law. There was consensus that convening a task force is appropriate, that the Commission Engineers should develop a proposed budget for their participation, and that a timeframe for the task force's work be developed.

[Commissioner Carlson and Alternate Commissioner Schultz leave the meeting.]

**G. Consider Resolutions from MN Watersheds on Policy Recommendations or Legislative Action**

Administrator Jester noted that at the April meeting commissioners were asked if they had ideas or recommendations for potential resolutions for MN Watersheds to consider, that no ideas were presented, and that resolutions are due June 2. Commissioner Gwin-Lenth asked about a potential resolution regarding the plumbing code outlined in Item 6Ai. Administrator Jester reported that Capitol Region Watershed District is developing a resolution on that issue. She was directed to inquire about co-sponsoring that resolution.

[Commissioner Pentel leaves the meeting.]

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Administrator's Report**

- i. **Proposed MN Plumbing Code Changes on Stormwater Reuse for Irrigation** – Noted that this was a big discussion item at the Metro Watersheds quarterly meeting and that many watersheds are extremely concerned about the issue.
- ii. **Update on Proposals Received for Organizational Assessment** – Reported that only one proposal was submitted and the Administrative Services Committee will review.
- iii. **Update on Linear Projects Checklist and Requirements Document** - Reported final minor edits to the Requirements Document were reviewed and approved by the TAC, were posted online, and became effective May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- iv. **Update on WMWA Coordinator Position** – Ms. Barcelow is leaving this position; county staff and WMWA partners will determine a path forward, hopefully filling the position this summer.
- v. **Turtle Fest Volunteers** – Chair Cesnik and Commissioner Hauer have volunteered to far; additional volunteers being sought.
- vi. **[Smart Salting for Community Leaders Workshop](#)** – Good opportunity for 2-hour, online workshop on Smart Salting.

- B. **Engineer** – Commission Engineer was requested to sample for harmful algal blooms in Parkers Lake and Westwood Lake by city staff.
- C. **Legal Counsel** – No report.
- D. **Chair** – No report.
- E. **Minnesota Watersheds**
  - i. **Report on Metro Watersheds Quarterly Meeting** – Meeting included a long discussion on potential revisions to the MN plumbing code and impacts to stormwater reuse.
- F. **Commissioners**
  - i. **Report on Nibiwalk Event** – Chair Cesnik tabled at this event; it was a hot day with low attendance.
- G. **TAC Members** – Plymouth is hosting a shoreline restoration workshop on June 4<sup>th</sup>, there is room for 5 additional attendees; register online.
- H. **Committees** – No report

**7. INFORMATION ONLY (Information online only)**

- A. Administrative Calendar
- B. CIP Project Updates [www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects)
- C. Grant Tracking Spreadsheet
- D. Article on Joel Bassett
- E. WCA Notices Golden Valley, Minneapolis, and Plymouth

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners  
From: Administrator Jester  
Date: June 9, 2026

#### RE: Invoices for June 18<sup>th</sup> BCWMC Meeting

I have reviewed invoices 3 – 10 listed below and attached here and I recommend payment by the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission at the June 18, 2026 regular meeting. Commission Treasurer Polzin reviewed invoices 1 and 2 and recommends payment.

	Vendor	Service	Amount
1	Keystone Waters, LLC	May 2026 Administration	\$6,064.50
2	Keystone Waters, LLC	May 2026 Administrative Expenses	\$376.30
3	Barr Engineering	May 2026 Engineering Services	\$141,104.62
4	Triple D Espresso	Meeting Catering	\$197.53
5	City of Plymouth	May 2026 Accounting Services	\$1,415.00
6	Kennedy & Graven	April 2026 Legal Services	\$1,707.88
7	Metro Conservation Districts	2026 Children's Water Festival Contribution	\$350.00
8	Stantec	WOMP Tasks	\$3,166.00
9	HDR Engineering	Website Accessibility Project	\$1,769.27
10	Metro Blooms	Minneapolis Water Quality Projects Support	\$4,000.00

<b>Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission</b>			
<b>Statement of Financial Position as of 5/31/2026</b>			
<b>Unaudited</b>		400	100
		<b>Capital Improvement Projects</b>	<b>General Fund</b>
			<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Checking/Savings</b>			
·	102 · 4MP Fund Investment	3,501,986.62	661,197.57
·	103 · 4M Fund Investment	4,913,775.26	1,340,268.32
	104 · US Bank Checking	0.00	-197.53
	<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>8,415,761.88</b>	<b>2,001,268.36</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>			
·	111 · Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00
·	112 · Due from Other Governments	0.00	0.00
·	113 · Delinquent Taxes Receivable	24,508.64	0.00
	<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>24,508.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>			
·	114 · Prepays	0.00	4,187.00
·	116 · Undeposited Funds	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,187.00</b>
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>8,440,270.52</b>	<b>2,005,455.36</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>8,440,270.52</b>	<b>2,005,455.36</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Accounts Payable</b>			
·	211 · Accounts Payable	76,315.81	83,835.29
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>76,315.81</b>	<b>83,835.29</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>			
·	212 · Unearned Revenue	200,000.00	0.00
·	251 · Unavailable Rev - Property Tax	24,508.64	0.00
	<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>224,508.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>300,824.45</b>	<b>83,835.29</b>
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>300,824.45</b>	<b>83,835.29</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
·	311 · Nonspendable prepaids	0.00	4,187.00
·	312 · Restricted for improvements	4,562,582.00	0.00
·	315 · Unassigned Funds	0.00	406,219.07
·	32000 · Retained Earnings	4,765,842.18	948,037.91
	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-1,188,978.11</b>	<b>563,176.09</b>
	<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>8,139,446.07</b>	<b>1,921,620.07</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		<b>8,440,270.52</b>	<b>2,005,455.36</b>

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission						
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and changes in Fund Balance - General Fund						
5/31/2026						
Unaudited						
		Annual Budget	May	June	Year to Date	Budget Balance
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
	411 · Assessments to Cities	672,830.00	48,267.00		672,830.00	0.00
	412 · Project Review Fees	77,000.00	3,000.00		22,500.00	54,500.00
	413 · WOMP Reimbursement	5,000.00	0.00		4,500.00	500.00
	414 · Grants	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
	415 · Investment earnings	0.00	31,974.21		165,416.56	-165,416.56
	416 · Transfer from CIP and LT Accounts	65,070.00	0.00		0.00	65,070.00
	417 · Reimbursement for Expenses	0.00	0.00		348.83	-348.83
	418 · Insurance Dividend	300.00	0.00		0.00	300.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>820,200.00</b>	<b>83,241.21</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>865,595.39</b>	<b>-45,395.39</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
<b>1000 · Engineering</b>						
	1010 · Technical Services	150,000.00	8,531.50	9,972.00	52,225.50	97,774.50
	1020 · Development/Project Reviews	90,000.00	5,573.00	4,705.50	24,652.50	65,347.50
	1030 · Non-fee and Preliminary Review	30,000.00	859.50	1,163.00	5,786.00	24,214.00
	1040 · Commission and TAC Meeting	16,000.00	562.50	2,316.50	6,789.70	9,210.30
	1050 · Surveys and Studies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1060 · Water Quality / Monitoring	178,000.00	14,199.45	37,907.81	68,267.92	109,732.08
	1070 · Water Quantity	9,000.00	927.30	1,303.50	4,547.30	4,452.70
	1080 · Annual Flood Control Inspection	15,000.00	0.00	112.00	454.50	14,545.50
	1090 · Municipal Plan Review	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
	1100 · Watershed Outlet Monitoring Facility	34,500.00	3,559.28	3,166.00	10,880.50	23,619.50
	1110 · Annual XP-SWMM Model Update	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1120 · APM/AIS Work	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,000.00
	<b>Total 1000 · Engineering</b>	<b>564,500.00</b>	<b>34,212.53</b>	<b>60,646.31</b>	<b>173,603.92</b>	<b>390,896.08</b>
<b>2000 · Plan Development</b>						
	2010 · Next Gen Plan Development	10,000.00	526.50	0.00	6,743.85	3,256.15
	2020 · Savings for 2036 Plan	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00
	<b>Total 2000 · Plan Development</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>	<b>526.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,743.85</b>	<b>18,256.15</b>
<b>3000 · Administration</b>						
	3010 · Administrator	81,900.00	7,176.00	6,064.50	29,020.68	52,879.32
	3015 · Additional Staff	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,000.00
	3020 · MAWD Dues	7,500.00	0.00	0.00	7,500.00	0.00
	3030 · Legal	28,000.00	1,675.28	1,707.88	5,536.42	22,463.58
	3040 · Financial Management	19,230.00	1,459.15	1,415.00	7,292.58	11,937.42
	3050 · Audit, Insurance & Bond	26,000.00	7,440.00	0.00	7,540.00	18,460.00
	3060 · Meeting Catering	2,400.00	197.53	197.53	1,185.18	1,214.82
	3070 · Administrative Services	4,200.00	162.71	376.30	829.11	3,370.89
	<b>Total 3000 · Administration</b>	<b>209,230.00</b>	<b>18,110.67</b>	<b>9,761.21</b>	<b>58,903.97</b>	<b>150,326.03</b>
<b>4000 · Education</b>						
	4010 · Publications / Annual Report	1,300.00	625.00	0.00	908.50	391.50
	4020 · Website	2,000.00	1,009.94	1,769.27	3,170.37	-1,170.37
	4030 · Watershed Education Partnerships	18,350.00	0.00	4,350.00	7,850.00	10,500.00
	4040 · Education and Public Outreach	37,350.00	0.00	0.00	15,208.19	22,141.81
	4050 · Public Communications	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	<b>Total 4000 · Education</b>	<b>60,000.00</b>	<b>1,634.94</b>	<b>6,119.27</b>	<b>27,137.06</b>	<b>32,862.94</b>
<b>5000 · Maintenance</b>						
	5010 · Channel Maintenance Fund	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
	5020 · Flood Control Project Long-Term	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35,000.00
	<b>Total 5000 · Maintenance</b>	<b>60,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>60,000.00</b>
<b>6000 · Special Projects</b>						
	6030 · Bassett Creek Valley Floodplain	68,275.00	4,307.50	5,717.00	28,099.00	40,176.00
	6040 · Northwood & Lost Lake TMDL	9,247.00	107.50	1,591.50	7,931.50	1,315.50
	<b>Total 6000 · Special Projects</b>	<b>77,522.00</b>	<b>4,415.00</b>	<b>7,308.50</b>	<b>36,030.50</b>	<b>41,491.50</b>
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>996,252.00</b>	<b>58,899.64</b>	<b>83,835.29</b>	<b>302,419.30</b>	<b>693,832.70</b>

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission									
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and changes in Fund Balance - Construction Fund									
5/31/2026									
Unaudited									
		Project Budget	May	June	Year to Date	Inception to Date Expense	Remaining Budget		
	Ordinary Income/Expense								
	Expense								
1000	• 1000 · Engineering	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2024CR-M	• 2024CR-M · CIP-BS Main Stem Restore	3,534,580.00	10,347.40	22,607.50	115,464.00	615,793.53	2,918,786.47		
2026CR-P	• 2026CR-P · Plymouth Creek Restor Dunk 38th	2,600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	155,556.08	2,444,443.92		
BC-12	• BC-12 · CIP-CostShare Pur High Eff St S	150,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500.00	146,500.00		
BC-14	• BC-14 · CIP-Sochacki Pk Wter Quality Im	600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,500.00	586,500.00		
BC-2381	• BC-2381 · CIP-DeCola Ponds/Wildwood Pk	1,300,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	84,049.39	1,215,950.61		
BC-5	• BC-5 · CIP-Bryn Mawr Meadows	1,835,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	755,689.56	1,079,310.44		
BC-7	• BC-7 · CIP-Main Stem Lagoon Dredging	2,759,000.00	32,883.00	16,889.50	76,220.86	1,701,741.85	1,057,258.15		
BCP-2	• BCP-2 · CIP-Basset Cr Pk & Winnetka	1,123,351.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,075,698.32	47,652.68		
ML-12	• ML-12 · CIP-Medley Park Stormwater	1,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,358,137.20	141,862.80		
ML-21	• ML-21 · CIP-Jevne Park Stormwater Mgmt	500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56,390.75	443,609.25		
ML-22	• ML-22 · CIP-Ponderosa Wood Strm Restora	407,238.00	0.00	0.00	332,267.80	404,925.11	2,312.89		
NL-2	• NL-2 · CIP-Four Seasons Mall	990,000.00	0.00	0.00	544,774.77	754,455.33	235,544.67		
PL-7	• PL-7 · CIP-Parkers Lake Stream Restore	485,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,805.00	253,331.62	231,668.38		
SL-3	• SL-3 · CIP-Schaper Pond	612,000.00	473.00	10,765.00	22,076.22	604,896.52	7,103.48		
TW-2	• TW-2 · CIP-Twin Lake Alum Treatment	163,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	91,037.82	71,962.18		
CL-4	• CL-4 · CIP-Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Pro	0.00	12,437.00	17,845.50	41,621.25	109,895.79	-109,895.79		
FCP-1	• FCP-1 · CIP-Flood Control Project Double Box	1,504,000.00	7,484.90	8,208.31	54,748.21	99,936.73	1,404,063.27		
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>20,063,169.00</b>	<b>63,625.30</b>	<b>76,315.81</b>	<b>1,188,978.11</b>	<b>8,138,535.60</b>	<b>11,924,633.40</b>		





**NORTH RISK PARTNERS®**

# **Commercial Insurance Proposal**

**Presented to:  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management  
Commission**

P.O. Box 270825, Golden Valley, MN 55427

**Proposed Effective Date: 06/27/2026  
Presented by: Collin Hardman**

**1-800-247-7016  
Info@northriskpartners.com**

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*THIS DOCUMENT SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSAL FOR YOUR INSURANCE. THIS IS NOT A CONTRACT. THE TERMS OF THE POLICY FORMS WILL CONTROL THE INSURANCE CONTRACT WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY STATEMENT MADE IN THIS PROPOSAL.*

# Municipal Liability

## Coverage Written On

Coverage Type	Coverage Basis
Commercial General Liability	Claims Made Municipal Liability Retroactive Date: 06/27/1991 Limited Contamination Liability Claim Retroactive Date: 06/27/1991

## Limits of Liability

Coverage	Limit 1	Limit 2	Deductible
General Aggregate	\$0		\$500
Products/Completed Ops Aggregate	\$3,000,000		\$500
Personal & Advertising Injury	Included		\$500
Each Occurrence	\$2,000,000		\$500
Fire Damage	Included		\$500
Medical Expense	\$2,500 Any One Person	\$10,000 Occurrence	\$500
Failure to Supply Claim Limit	\$3,000,000		\$500
EMF Claim Limit	\$3,000,000		\$500
Limited Contamination Liability Claim Limit	\$3,000,000		\$500
Land Use and Special Risk Litigation Limit	\$1,000,000		\$500
Outside Organization Claim Limit	\$100,000		\$500
System Security Breach Claim Limit	\$3,000,000		\$500
Sexual Abuse Claim Limit	\$3,000,000		\$500
Wildfire Claim Limit	\$3,000,000		\$500
Limited Law Enforcement Service Contract Claim Limit	\$200,000		\$500

## Additional Coverages

Petrofund Supplemental (Included) Reimbursement Costs and Defense Costs	Limit
Each Tank Release	\$250,000
Agreement Term Aggregate	\$250,000

## Schedule of Hazards

Classification	Expiring Premium Basis	Proposed Premium Basis
Expenditures – Rate is per \$1,000	\$2,816,454	\$2,708,379

## General Liability Additional Interests

Type	Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Additional Insured RE: Right of Entry of Obtain Samples	City of Minneapolis	350 South 5th Street	Minneapolis	MN	55415
Additional Insured RE: Environmental Response Fund Grant	Hennepin County	A 2300 Government Center	Minneapolis	MN	55487

# Municipal Liability Cont.

## General Liability Forms Included, But Not Limited to

Form #	Form Name	Description	Edition Date
ME014	Additional Covered Party-Municipal Liability	Scheduled person or organization as AI when required by contract.	11/2023

### ADDITIONAL COVERED PARTY - MUNICIPAL LIABILITY

It is agreed that with respect to coverage afforded only for *bodily injury, property damage and personal injury* under Coverage A - Municipal Liability Coverage, the *Covered Party* provision is amended to include the person or organization named below, but only with respect to, and to the extent of, claims made upon the additional covered party by reason of the acts or omissions of the *Member* or its agents or employees and not by reason of any act or omission of the additional covered party or its agents or employees.

<u>NAME OF PERSON OR ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>LOCATION OF PREMISES OR CONTRACT OR OPERATIONS</u>
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS 350 SOUTH 5TH STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415	RE: RIGHT OF ENTRY TO OBTAIN SAMPLES
HENNEPIN COUNTY A 2300 GOVERNMENT CENTER MPLS, MN 55487	RE: ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE FUND GRANT

For the persons or organizations listed above, coverage afforded by this endorsement is further limited in the following respects:

1. Coverage afforded to the additional *covered party* only applies to the extent permitted by law;
2. If coverage or additional *covered party* status is required by contract:
  - A. Coverage afforded to the additional *covered party* will not be broader than that which the *member* is contractually required to provide; and
  - B. The most *LMCIT* will pay on behalf of the additional *covered party* is the lesser of either: 1) the limit of coverage required by the contract; or 2) the Limits of Coverage otherwise available as specified in Section III - Limits of Coverage. This endorsement shall not increase the applicable Limits of Coverage shown in the Declarations or as specified in Section III - Limits of Coverage.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

# Crime

## Coverage Detail

Coverage Description	Limit	Deductible
Crime	\$250,000	\$500

## Additional Coverages

Coverage	Limit	Deductible
Failure to Conduct Callback Procedures Sublimit	\$50,000	\$500



# Bond

## Coverage Detail

Coverage Description	Limit	Deductible
Bond	\$50,000	\$500



# Municipal Cyberrisk

## Coverage Detail

Coverage Description	Limit	Deductible
Municipal Cyberrisk – First Party Cyber	\$250,000	\$1,000
Third Party Cyberrisk	Included	\$1,000

## Business Auto – Hired and Non-Owned Only

### Coverage Table

Coverage	Limit	Deductible
Combined Single Limit	\$2,000,000	\$500
Minnesota Each Claimant Limit - Statutory Cap	\$500,000	\$500
Minnesota Each Occur Limit - Statutory Cap	\$1,500,000	\$500

### Hired & Non-Owned Auto Physical Damage

Coverage	Limit	Deductible
Combined Single Limit	Included	\$500

# Defense Cost Reimbursement

## Coverage Written On

Coverage Type	Coverage Basis
Defense Cost Reimbursement	Claims Made – Retroactive Date: 06/27/1991

## Defense Cost Limits

Coverage	Limit
Annual Aggregate Per Member Official	\$50,000
Agreement Term Annual Aggregate	\$250,000



# Premium Summary

Proposed Policy Term	Line of Business	Carrier
06/27/2026 - 06/27/2027	Package: Municipal Liability, Crime, Bond, Municipal Cyberrisk, Business Auto	League of Minnesota Cities
06/27/2026 - 06/27/2027	Defense Cost Reimbursement	League of Minnesota Cities

Line of Business	Expiring Premium	Proposed Premium
Municipal Liability	\$7,263	\$7,006
Crime	<i>Included</i>	<i>Included</i>
Bond	\$128	\$128
Municipal Cyberrisk	\$893	\$893
Business Auto – Hired & Non-Owned Only	\$90	\$90
Defense Cost Reimbursement	<i>Included</i>	<i>Included</i>
<b>Total Premium</b>	<b>\$8,374</b>	<b>\$8,117</b>

## Binding Requirements

### Items needed to Bind:

Signed Proposal Page 16

Electronic Delivery Authorization Form Page 17 – contact: Dave Anderson

## Coverages to Consider

Decline a Quote	Coverage in Force	
	X	Directors and Officers Liability
	X	Fiduciary Liability
	X	Employment Practices Liability
	X	Crime <b>\$250,000 Limit</b>
	X	Bonds <b>\$50,000 Limit</b>
	X	Pollution Liability <b>Petrofund Reimb. Costs &amp; Defense; Each Tank Release: \$250K</b>
	X	Municipal Cyberrisk Liability
X		Excess Liability – Optional Coverage Not Elected
X		Flood Insurance
X		Earthquake Insurance
X		Ordinance or Law Coverage
X		Equipment Breakdown – Optional Coverage Not Elected
	X	Professional Liability <b>*Exclusions Apply</b>
X		Communicable Disease/Virus & Bacteria Exclusion
X		Drone Coverage
X		Life Insurance
X		Coverage for States Other Than Those Already Listed
X		Workers Compensation - Owners, spouses, parent or children
X		Higher Limits Are Available Subject to Underwriter Review

***I acknowledge that the above coverages have been offered to me, and I have either requested a formal quote or declined the additional coverages. I understand my rejection of these additional coverages may result in the denial of claims in the future.***

Named Insured: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Electronic Delivery Authorization

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## ***ELECTRONIC SELECTION/REJECTION OPTIONS***

North Risk Partners is requesting consent from insureds prior to engaging in further electronic delivery of insurance policies and/or other supporting documents in connection with the policy. You have the right to:

- **Select Electronic Delivery;** policies and/or supporting documents are delivered via electronic delivery-either via email or InsurLink client portal. Paper copies of documents will no longer be sent.
- **Reject Electronic Delivery;** policies and or/supporting documents are delivered via mail or hand delivery by risk advisor. You will continue to receive email correspondence from North Risk Partners.
- **Withdraw your consent;** if you decide you no longer want to receive electronic delivery of documents in connection with your insurance policy. You will continue to receive email correspondence from North Risk Partners.

### SELECTION OF ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OPTION – *Please Choose One*

Email Delivery

InsurLink Client Portal Delivery

### REJECTION OF ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OPTION

### WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT OF ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

## ***ELECTRONIC DELIVERY DISCLOSURE***

The policyholder who elects to allow for electronic delivery of policy documents should be diligent in updating the electronic mail address provided to the North Risk Partners in the event that the address should change.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred email for Electronic Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

North Risk Partners contact email: [aries.xong@northriskpartners.com](mailto:aries.xong@northriskpartners.com)

# Memorandum

**To:** Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)  
**From:** Barr Engineering Co. (Greg Williams, Stephanie Johnson), and Laura Jester (BCWMC Administrator)  
**Subject:** 2026 Watershed Management Plan Update for ADA Title II Compliance  
**Date:** June 11, 2026  
**Project:** 23270051.54

## Requested BCWMC Commissioner action

1. Consider approval of the proposed scope and budget for accessibility compliance and printing of 2026 Watershed Management Plan.

## Background

At their April 16, 2026 meeting, the Commission adopted its 2026 Watershed Management Plan (Plan). The Plan outlines the Commissions' priority issues, measurable goals, and prioritized actions over the next 10-years. As a document hosted at the Commission website, the Plan must meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title II [accessibility requirements applicable to special district governments](#) like the Commission.

The original scope of work for development of the BCWMC Plan did not include considerations for ADA compliance, as this requirement did not become law until 2024. Elements of the 2026 Plan are not ADA compliant as currently formatted, including (but not limited to) sidebar text, graphics, and tables. The Plan appendices are also not compliant.

The deadline for the BCWMC to be compliant with Title II of the ADA is April 26, 2028. We recommend updating the Plan for ADA compliance now in order to maximize partial ADA compliance work already completed and current familiarity with the Plan document itself, having recently been adopted. The following scope includes an estimate of hours and cost to develop an ADA Title II compliant Plan PDF document and to maximize compliance of the underlying Microsoft (MS) Word document.

An estimated cost to produce printed copies of the final documents once completed is also included within this proposed scope of work.

## ADA Title II Compliance

We will update the Plan to develop an ADA Title II complaint PDF document. To do this, we will first update the MS Word files to promote compliance to the extent possible prior to developing the PDF. This will reduce the number of "back end" PDF edits needed and also reduce the effort needed to make any Plan amendments compliant in the future. Work within this task will include moving Plan tables imported from MS Excel into the MS Word document, where possible.

We will update the MS Word files of the main body of the Plan as well as Barr-developed appendices to the Plan (e.g., Land and Water Resources Inventory, Monitoring Plan). We will also update the MS Word files of the following appendices not developed by Barr, if they are provided to us by the Commission:

- Appendix C – Education and Engagement Plan
- Appendix F – Summary of Plan Engagement
- Appendix G – Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)

This scope does not include updates to Appendix D – BWSR Level II Performance Review for ADA compliance because: 1) we do not have access to the source documents; 2) we anticipate this would entail a significant effort; and 3) this document is the product of another government agency.

Following updates to the MS Word files, we will compile PDF files of the Plan main body and individual appendices. We will edit the PDFs to rectify any remaining ADA compliance issues and will share the revised MS Word and PDF files with the Commission for final posting.

### Printed Plan Documents

The Metropolitan Council requires a printed copy of the final Plan document. The BCWMC Administrator has also requested at least one additional printed copy of the Plan for administrative use. There is some efficiency in printing multiple physical copies of the Plan. For the purposes of developing a cost estimate, we assume that five printed hardcopies of the Plan will be provided. A cost estimate for Plan production is also included.

### Estimated Cost and Schedule

The table below summarizes estimated costs associated with this work. We anticipate delivery of ADA compliant PDF files, supporting MS Word files, and printed Plan documents approximately 6 weeks from scope approval. We estimate a total cost not to exceed \$7,250 for this scope.

Task	Labor Cost	Materials Cost	Total Cost
Develop ADA compliant PDFs and supporting MS Word files	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
Produce printed Plans (Assume up to 5 printed copies)	\$500	\$150/Plan	\$500 + \$150/Plan
<b>Total Cost</b>			<b>\$7,250</b>

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE  
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL AND THE  
BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made and entered into by and between the Metropolitan Council (the "Council") and the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (the "Watershed"), each acting by and through its duly authorized officers.

THE ABOVE-NAMED PARTIES hereby agree as follows:

**I. GENERAL SCOPE OF AGREEMENT**

The Council and the Watershed agree to undertake a volunteer lake monitoring study in order to provide an economical method of broadening the water quality database on lakes in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.

**II. SPECIFIC SCOPE OF SERVICES**

**2.01 Lake Monitoring Program.** The Watershed and the Council agree to jointly undertake a volunteer lake monitoring program as specified below:

- a. **General Purposes of Program.** The volunteer lake monitoring program involves the use of volunteers to monitor lakes in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The volunteers will collect surface water samples which will be analyzed for total phosphorus (TP), total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN), and chlorophyll-a (CLA). In addition, the volunteers will measure surface water temperature, water transparency, and fill out a monitoring form that describes the lake and weather conditions at the time of the monitoring event. Lakes will be visited from April through October of 2026 (the "Monitoring Period") for the number of times and at the approximate intervals specified in paragraph (b) below. Each lake will be sampled at the location as indicated on the site location map provided by the Council. The Council will arrange for chemical analysis of the samples either through its own laboratory or an outside laboratory.
- b. **Specific Lakes Involved.** The following lakes and specific lake site(s) listed below will be involved in the Council's Community-Assisted Lake Monitoring Program (CAMP) in 2026.

Lake name	DNR ID#	Number of monitoring events	Approximate monitoring interval	Quantity of new kits
Lost	27-0103	8 to 14	Biweekly	0
Medicine, site 1	27-0104	8 to 14	Biweekly	0
Medicine, site 2	27-0104	8 to 14	Biweekly	0
Northwood	27-0627	1 to 7	Monthly	0
Parkers	27-0107	1 to 7	Monthly	0
Sweeney, site 1	27-0035-01	1 to 7	Monthly	0
Sweeney, site 2	27-0035-01	1 to 7	Monthly	0
Twin	27-0035-02	1 to 7	Monthly	0
Westwood	27-0711	1 to 7	Monthly	0

**2.02 Watershed Responsibilities.** The Watershed agrees that it will have sole responsibility for:

- a. Recruiting volunteers (who have access to a boat) to monitor the lakes the Watershed wishes to involve in the program as listed in section 2.01(b) above.
- b. Providing the Council and/or volunteers with needed lake information such as lake bathymetric maps and access locations.
- c. Paying for the laboratory analysis cost of the samples collected by volunteers which cost is included in the amounts specified in Article III below.
- d. Ensuring that the volunteers participate in the training program and follow CAMP methods and procedures.
- e. Ensuring that the volunteers fill out a monitoring form during each monitoring event.
- f. Picking up the samples and the lake monitoring forms from their volunteers and delivering those items to the Watershed's central storage location. The Watershed will be responsible for providing the central storage location. The central storage location can be a Council facility, but the Watershed will be required to deliver the samples and monitoring forms to this facility. The samples are required always to be frozen.
- g. Storing its volunteers' samples until picked up by Council staff. The samples are required always to be frozen.

- h. Maintaining, storing, and restocking its monitoring kits.
- i. Delivering and picking up its monitoring kits to and from their volunteers.

**2.03 Council Responsibilities.** The Council agrees that it will:

- a. Organize the survey.
- b. Provide training for the volunteers.
- c. Pick up the samples and lake monitoring forms from the Watershed’s central storage location and deliver them to the laboratory at approximately 2-month intervals starting in June.
- d. Review the results of the monitoring data.
- e. Prepare a final report containing the physical, chemical, and biological data obtained during the Monitoring Period and a brief analysis of the data.
- f. Provide quality control by collecting lake samples from random lakes involved in the volunteer program. The resulting parameter values will then be compared to the volunteers’ results to determine if any problems exist involving the volunteer's monitoring activities and what should be done to correct the problem.
- g. Provide and deliver to the Watershed the expendable monitoring items (e.g. sample containers, labels, filters, aluminum sheets, zip-style plastic bags, and lake monitoring forms). The expendable monitoring items will be delivered in the weeks preceding the start of the monitoring season. The cost of the expendable monitoring items is included in the annual participation fee.

**III. COMPENSATION; METHOD OF PAYMENT**

**3.01 Payment to Council.** For all labor performed and reimbursable expenses incurred by the Council under this agreement during the Monitoring Period, the Watershed agrees to pay the Council the following amounts per lake site listed in section 2.01(b). The participation fee will be billed based on the quantity of monitoring events actually monitored or sampled.

<b>Number of Monitoring events</b>	<b>Participation Fee (excludes monitoring equipment)</b>
8 to 14	\$760
1 to 7	\$380
0	\$0

For lake sites requiring monitoring equipment, the cost for a kit of monitoring equipment is \$225 per kit.

**3.02 Payment Schedule.** Payment of the total amount owing to the Council by the Watershed shall be made within 30 days of the date of the invoice. An invoice specifying the amount owed by the Watershed will be sent under separate cover after the end of the monitoring period.

**3.03 Additional Analyses.** The total amount specified in paragraph 3.01 does not include the cost of any additional analyses requested by the Watershed, such as analysis of bottom samples. The Council will carry out any such additional analyses at the request of the Watershed and subject to the availability of Council resources for carrying out such analyses. The Council will bill the Watershed after the end of the Monitoring Period for any such additional analyses at the Council's actual cost, and the Watershed will promptly reimburse the Council for any such costs billed. The costs for additional analyses are provided in Exhibit A.

**3.04 Replacement of Durable Equipment.** The total amount specified in paragraph 3.01 does not include the cost of replacing durable monitoring equipment, such as thermometers, Secchi disks, filter holders, hand pumps, graduated cylinders, sampling jugs, forceps, and tote boxes. The Council will provide and deliver durable monitoring equipment that needs replacement upon request from the Watershed. The Council will bill the Watershed for any such replaced durable monitoring equipment at the Council's actual cost, and the Watershed will promptly reimburse the Council for any such costs billed.

#### **IV. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

**4.01 Period of Performance.** The services of the Council will commence on April 1, 2026, and will terminate on March 31, 2027, or following work completion and payment, whichever occurs first.

**4.02 Amendments.** The terms of this agreement may be changed only by mutual agreement of the parties. Such changes will be effective only on the execution of written amendment(s) signed by duly authorized officers of the parties to this agreement.

**4.03 Watershed Personnel.** Laura Jester, or such other person as may be designated in writing by the Watershed, will serve as the Watershed's representative and will assume primary responsibility for coordinating all services with the Council.

Laura Jester - Administrator  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission  
c/o Keystone Waters, LLC  
16145 Hillcrest Lane  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
952-270-1990

**4.04 Council's Contract Manager.** The Council's Contract Manager for purposes of administration of this agreement is Brian Johnson, or successor, or such other person as may be

designated in writing by the Council. The Council's Contract Manager will be responsible for coordinating services under this agreement. However, nothing in this agreement will be deemed to authorize the Contract Manager to execute amendments to this agreement on behalf of the Council.

Brian Johnson, or successor  
Metropolitan Council  
2400 Childs Road  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
651-602-8743

**4.05 Equal Employment Opportunity; Affirmative Action.** The Council and the Watershed agree to comply with all applicable laws relating to nondiscrimination and affirmative action. In particular, the Council and the Watershed agree not to discriminate against any employee, applicant for employment, or participant in this study because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age; and further agree to take action to assure that applicants and employees are treated equally with respect to all aspects of employment, including rates of pay, selection for training, and other forms of compensation.

**4.06 Liability.** Each party to this agreement shall be liable for the acts and omissions of itself and its officers, employees, and agents, to the extent authorized by law. Neither party shall be liable for the acts or omissions of the other party or the other party's officers, employees or agents. Nothing in this agreement shall be deemed to be a waiver by either party of any applicable immunities or limits of liability including, without limitation, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 466 (Municipal Tort Claims).

**4.07 Copyright.** No reports or documents produced in whole or in part under this agreement will be the subject of an application for copyright by or on behalf of the Council or Watershed.

**4.08 Termination of Agreement.** The Council and the Watershed will both have the right to terminate this agreement at any time and for any reason by submitting written notice of the intention to do so to the other party at least 30-calendar days prior to the specified effective date of such termination. In the event of such termination, the Council shall retain a pro-rata portion of the amounts provided for in Article III, based on the number of monitoring events occurring for each lake before termination versus the total monitoring events specified for each lake. The balance of the amounts will be refunded by the Council to the Watershed.

**4.09 Force Majeure.** The Council and the Watershed agree that the Watershed shall not be liable for any delay or inability to perform this agreement, directly or indirectly caused by, or resulting from, strikes, labor troubles, accidents, fire, flood, breakdowns, war, riot, civil commotion, lack of material, delays of transportation, acts of God or other cause beyond reasonable control of Council and the Watershed.

**4.10 Audits.** Pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 16C.05, Subd. 5, the parties agree that the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this agreement are subject to examination by either party and the state auditor or legislative auditor, as appropriate, for at least six years from the end of this agreement.

**4.11 Relationship of Parties and their Employees.** Nothing contained in this agreement is intended, or should be construed, to create the relationship of co-partners or a joint venture between the Council and the Watershed. No tenure or any employment rights including worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, medical care, sick leave, vacation leave, severance pay, retirement, or other benefits available to the employees of one of the parties, including indemnification for third party personal injury/property damage claims, shall accrue to employees of the other party solely by the fact that an employee performs services under this agreement.

**4.12 Severability.** If any part of this agreement is rendered void, invalid or unenforceable such rendering shall not affect the remainder of this agreement unless it shall substantially impair the value of the entire agreement with respect to either party. The parties agree to substitute for the invalid provision a valid provision that most closely approximates the intent of the invalid provision.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have caused this agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives on the dates set forth below. This agreement is effective upon final execution by, and delivery to, both parties.

**BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION:**

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: Monitoring and Assessment Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**

<b>Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Laboratory Prices for Additional Analyses</b>		
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Laboratory Code</b>	<b>Price (per sample)</b>
Total Phosphorus, low level	LLTP-AV LLTP-AHV (frozen)	\$15.50
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	TKN-AV TKN-AHV (frozen)	\$15.50
Chlorophyll	CLA-TR-CS CLA-CAMP	\$15.50
Chloride	CL-AV2	\$10.00
Ortho-phosphorus	ORTHO-AV	\$12.00
Ca, Mg, + Hardness via calculation	HARD-MSV2	\$16.00
Alkalinity	ALK-AV2	\$15.50
Sulfate	SO4-ICV	\$15.00
Metals (Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Ni, Zn)	MET-MSV2	\$48
Minerals Suite (Ca, K, Mg, Na) + Hardness via calculation	MIN-MSV2	\$32
Individual minerals/metals (e.g. Fe)	XX-MSV2	\$8.00 (per element)
A parameter not on this list		Contact the Council's Contract Manager for specific pricing.

## CONDITIONAL LICENSE AGREEMENT

This Conditional License Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, a joint powers watershed management organization under the laws of the state of Minnesota (“Owner”), and the following company/agency (“Licensee”):

Hennepin County

Company/Agency Name

Address

### RECITALS

- A. The Owner owns a proprietary computer model, which uses the BCWMC XP-SWMM program, (“Model”) which may be used to create modeling data for certain projects; and
- B. The Owner wishes to provide a temporary, non-exclusive, license (“License”) to the Licensee to use the Model for the purposes for which it is intended; and
- C. The Licensee wishes to utilize the Model for such purposes pursuant to the terms outlined in this Agreement.

### AGREEMENT

In consideration of the recitals and the mutual promises set forth herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. License. The Owner hereby grants the Licensee a temporary, non-exclusive, license to use the Model subject to the terms outlined in this Agreement. The Licensee shall be responsible for obtaining, at its own cost, the XP-SWMM program and related licenses in order to run the Model.
2. Term. The License shall be in effect for a period of twelve months, unless terminated earlier by the Owner providing written notice of termination to the Licensee. This Agreement shall terminate immediately upon the delivery of such termination notice unless a different termination date is provided in the notice.
3. No Support. The parties hereby expressly acknowledge that the Licensee shall be solely responsible for use of the Model by the Licensee. The Owner is in no way required or obligated to provide any technical or other support to the Licensee in the use of the Model. The Owner may elect to answer basic questions regarding the Model, but is under no duty to assist in the use of the Model or in the production of results. In the event the Owner elects to provide any support, such support shall not create any ongoing or future obligation on behalf of the Owner to provide additional support to the Licensee.
4. No Warranty. The Owner expressly waives any and all warranties related to the use of the Model. The Owner further makes no representation regarding the accuracy, completeness, or permanence of the Model, or for its merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. If errors are found by the Licensee or changes to the Model are made by the Licensee, the Licensee shall document those errors and/or changes made and provide that information to the Owner.

5. Specific Purpose. The Model was developed exclusively for a specific project and Licensee acknowledges that the data and programming may not be suitable for other uses or computer applications. The use of files prepared by the Owner shall not in any way negate the Licensee's responsibility for the proper checking of model input parameters. All information in the Model constitutes an instrument of service of the Owner. Licensee has no ownership rights in the Model and has only the limited, revocable, rights granted under this Agreement. The Model shall, in all respects, remain the sole legal property of Owner. In no case shall Licensee transfer the Model to others without the prior written consent of the Owner.
6. Compatibility. The Owner hereby makes no representations related to the compatibility of the Model with any hardware or software. The Owner uses reasonable efforts to eliminate contamination, but files are not guaranteed to be free from contamination and the Licensee uses the Model at its sole risk.
7. Modifications. If the Licensee modifies the Model through its use, Licensee shall not represent to others that the modified Model or the resulting data is that of the Owner's, except with the prior written consent of the Owner.
8. Sharing. The Licensee shall not transfer or share the Model with any person, company, or entity that is not a party to this Agreement. The Licensee shall direct any third parties inquiring about using the Model to the Owner.
9. Liability. Licensee agrees to utilize the Model at its sole risk. Each party is responsible for its own acts, omissions and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law and will not be responsible for the acts and omissions of others and the results thereof. Minnesota Statutes Chapter 466 and other applicable law govern liability of the Owner and the Licensee. Further, the Owner shall have no liability to the Licensee for any loss or damage which may be caused to Licensee's data or systems due to its use of the Model.
10. No Copyright Fees. The Owner believes that no licensing or copyright fees are due to others on account of the transfer or licensing of the Model. However, to the extent any claims for such fees are raised, and such fees are deemed necessary, the Licensee shall be required to pay the appropriate fees. The Licensee further waives any claim against the Owner related to such fees.
11. Intellectual Property. The Licensee hereby acknowledges that the Model is the intellectual property of the Owner. As such, the Licensee hereby agrees not to take any action which may give rise to a claim of infringement or any other legal claim related to the Model. Further, the Licensee will not make any modifications to the Model which would infringe upon any other intellectual property rights of any other party, whether such claims are reasonably known to the Licensee or not.
12. Governing Law. The terms of this Agreement shall be construed under the laws of the state of Minnesota. Any dispute arising hereunder shall be heard in the courts of the state of Minnesota, Hennepin County. Both parties hereto waive any challenge to the jurisdiction of such courts.
13. Amendments. This Agreement represents the full and complete agreement between the parties. This Agreement replaces and supersedes any other agreements, whether oral or

written, between the parties related to the subject matter herein. This Agreement may only be amended in writing signed by the parties.

14. Data Practices Act. The parties hereby acknowledge that the Owner is an entity which is subject to the provisions of the Minnesota Data Practices Act (the "Act"), Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13. To the extent necessary to comply with those laws, the Licensee shall take all required actions to provide the Owner with any information which may be deemed necessary to allow Owner to comply with its requirements under the Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized officers on behalf of the parties effective as of the date indicated below.

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER:**

**Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

**LICENSEE:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Name of Licensee]

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

# Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project (CL-4) Study



Prepared for  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Prepared by  
Barr Engineering Co.

June 2026

4300 MarketPointe Drive, Suite 200  
Minneapolis, MN 55435  
952.832.2600

[barr.com](http://barr.com)



## Certification

I hereby certify that this plan, specification, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the state of Minnesota.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Wilson", written over a horizontal line.

Greg Wilson  
PE #: 25782

6-11-26  
Date



# Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project (CL-4) Study

June 2026

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## Abbreviations

BCWMC	Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
BMP	Best Management Practice
GISWQM	Geographic Information System Water Quality Model
MCES	Metropolitan Council Environmental Services
MNDOT	Minnesota Department of Transportation
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
P8	Program for Predicting Polluting Particle Passage Thru Pits, Puddles, and Ponds
RFP	Request for Proposals

# 1 Executive Summary

Crane Lake is a BCWMC priority 2 shallow lake in the City of Minnetonka, adjacent to the Ridgedale Mall area. Approximately half (252 acres) of the watershed is commercial and multi-family residential land use that drains to the lake, mostly through stormwater ponds (Figure 2.1). Major landholders include Ridgedale Center (77 acres) and Hennepin County (17 acres). The lake is listed as impaired for chloride by the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and drains to Medicine Lake. The City of Minnetonka explored several chloride management options to reduce chloride loading and concentrations within Crane Lake as a part of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's (BCWMC) 2019-2020 Crane Lake Water Quality Improvement Project, including working with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) to dispose of the chloride contaminated effluent from the lake into the sanitary sewer system. Despite the extensive review of chloride management options as part of that effort, no solution was identified.

The current study was approved by the BCWMC at their July 2024 meeting and involves watershed and in-lake chloride monitoring, watershed source load assessment and mass balance modeling, estimating the chloride reduction needed in Crane Lake and analyzing multiple alternatives to meet the project goals. Results of this study are intended to inform the implementation of a demonstration project to advance chloride reduction measures in Crane Lake and other parts of the watershed. This project will also inform options and methods for salt application and other winter maintenance materials, options for the removal of chlorides prior to reaching Crane Lake, and potential partnerships with Ridgedale Center and road authorities within the study area.

Because high chloride concentrations can harm fish and plant life, the MPCA established maximum and chronic chloride standards for surface waters within the state. A lake is considered impaired if two or more measurements exceed the chronic criterion (230 mg/L) within a 3-year period or one measurement exceeds the maximum criterion (860 mg/L). Recent monitoring shows that chloride concentrations in Crane Lake have been trending higher over the past several years with the potential for significant interannual variability. Crane Lake has very high chloride levels that do not meet MPCA water quality standards and may pose a risk to aquatic life. For example, 2025 chloride measurements ranged from 237 mg/L in August to 369 mg/L in mid-April, which was comparable to 2016, but not as high as was observed in 2021 and 2022. Chloride concentrations in the lake more than doubled between 2016 and 2022, and all concentrations from 2021, 2022 and 2025 failed to meet the MPCA chronic chloride standard.

Chloride monitoring, watershed source load assessment (i.e., determining the source of the pollution from the watershed draining to the lake), and mass balance modeling developed for this study indicated the following:

- Geographic Information System water quality modeling (GIS WQM) developed for the Crane Lake watershed showed that the estimated chloride load from Ridgedale Center, Hennepin County's Ridgedale Campus, and the other (smaller) private properties in the watershed account for 82 percent of the total chloride load to Crane Lake (this includes drainage through all the stormwater ponds that discharge to Crane Lake). None of the public road authorities account for more than 9 percent of the total chloride load, individually—collectively, it is estimated that public road authorities contribute 18 percent of the total average annual chloride load to Crane Lake.

- Effluent from the two Ridgedale ponds accounted for 81 percent of the total chloride load to Crane Lake during the 2024-25 monitoring period, with the south Ridgedale pond contributing 60 percent of the overall watershed chloride load, itself.
- Chloride mass balance modeling from the 2024-25 monitoring season indicated that the watershed chloride load would need to be reduced by 50,700 pounds (25.4 tons), or at least 25 percent of the existing watershed loading. Since the two Ridgedale ponds accounted for 81 percent of the total chloride load to Crane Lake, a 31 percent chloride load reduction from the Ridgedale ponds would have met the water quality goal during the 2024-25 monitoring period.

The following structural measures were considered and evaluated for management concepts, but were not individually recommended for implementation because of the high cost or inability to meet the water quality goals:

- Adaptive level control systems at Ridgedale ponds
- Adaptive level control systems and chloride treatment at Ridgedale ponds
- Plumb Ridgedale roof runoff for direct discharge to Crane Lake

It is possible that implementation of one or more of the structural measures would be beneficial at a future time, in conjunction with chloride source control measure(s). Based on a survey and follow-up correspondence, neither private landowners (including Ridgedale Mall) nor their applicators are tracking the amount of salt applied each winter. In addition, the landowner contracts with private applicators may inadvertently lead to increased salt usage in some cases, either because of the contract pricing and/or because the terms do not provide for or incentivize low salt application techniques. As a result, there are several places or situations where source control measures would greatly reduce the chloride load to Crane Lake. The nonstructural or source control measures that were considered and evaluated for this study included:

- Track application rates in winter deicing operations
- Assist private properties with procuring/contracting winter maintenance
- Implement deicing equipment loan/purchase program
- Provide abrasives to reduce salt use
- Develop watershed business agreement for joint winter maintenance
- Develop alternative salt storage options for private properties
- Develop smart salting retrofit plan at Ridgedale
- Continue to advocate for regulatory controls at broader jurisdiction

Based on consultation with City of Minnetonka staff and the BCWMC Technical Advisory Committee, a three-phased sequence of implementation activities is recommended for next steps within the Crane Lake watershed. Work will start by contacting private landowners in the Crane Lake watershed to report on the

results of this study and offer technical assistance for the relevant source control measures based on the phased approach. The initial phase of implementation will prioritize educating and working with private properties to better understand their existing approach for procuring and contracting for winter maintenance, and offering technical assistance for incentivizing best practices and ensuring that salt application rates are tracked as a part of their winter maintenance contracts. Subsequent phases of implementation will proceed based on the results of the initial phase of implementation. The projected goals for these later phases are to focus on activities such as cost-sharing for upgrades to salt storage and potentially deicing equipment, along with smart salting retrofits involving alternative pavements and snowmelt systems.

## 2 Introduction and Background

Crane Lake is a BCWMC priority 2 shallow lake in the City of Minnetonka, adjacent to the Ridgedale Mall area. It is impaired for chloride and drains to Medicine Lake which is threatened for chloride impairment. The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's (BCWMC) 2019-2020 Crane Lake Water Quality Improvement Project, constructed by the City of Minnetonka in conjunction with the reconstruction of Ridgedale Drive from Plymouth Road to I-394, had the goal of improving water quality and addressing pollutant loads to Crane Lake, which is impaired for chloride. The project included water quality improvements and now all drainage areas within the Ridgedale Drive and Ridgedale Mall area will be treated with a best management practice (BMP) before draining to Crane Lake. Unfortunately, while the project reduces total phosphorus and solids loadings, it was preliminarily unsuccessful in identifying a feasible solution to address the chloride levels in Crane Lake. The City of Minnetonka explored several chloride management options, including working with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) to dispose of the chloride contaminated effluent in the sanitary sewer system. Despite the extensive review of chloride management options, no solution was identified, and the project schedule required moving forward without the chloride management component.

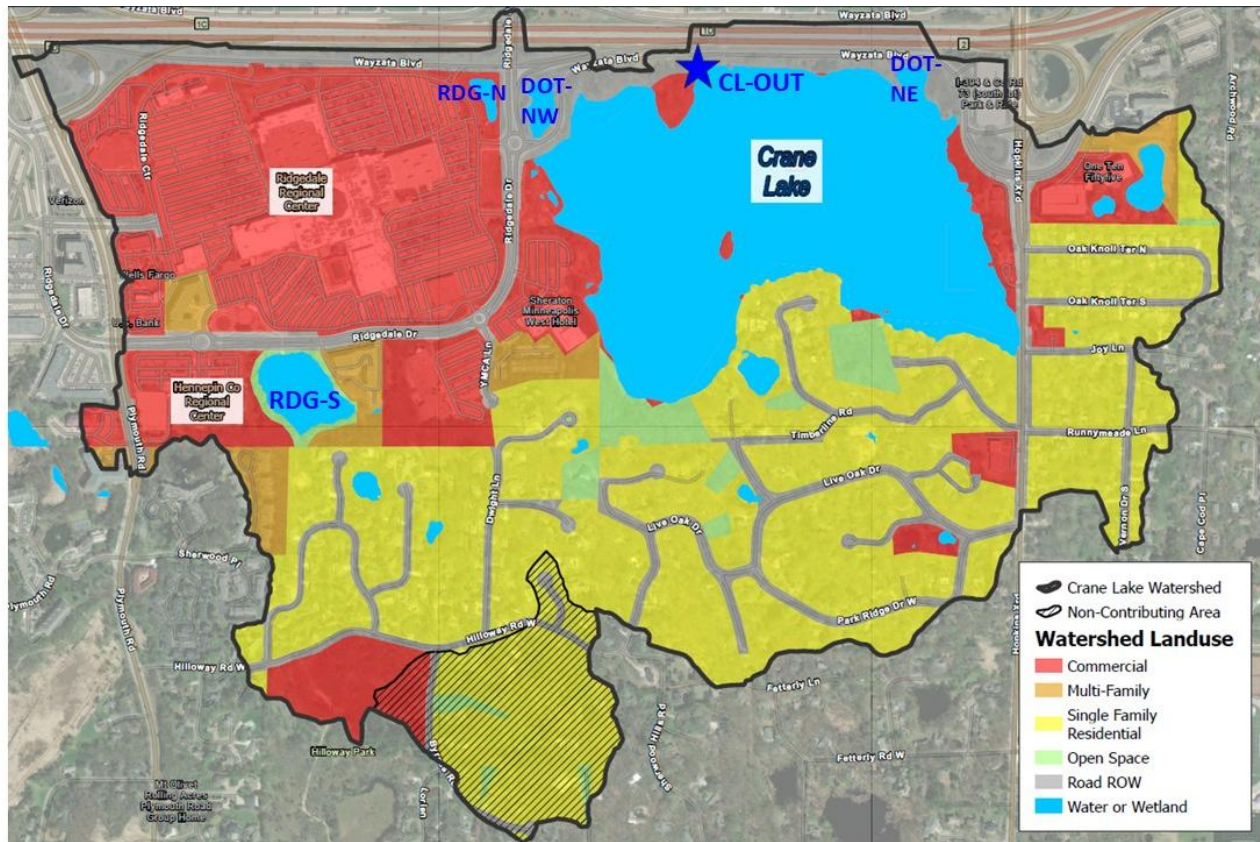
This project in the City of Minnetonka is intended to further quantify all chloride sources in the Crane Lake watershed and identify/prioritize opportunities or practices for reducing chloride levels. Results of this study are intended to inform the implementation of a demonstration project to advance chloride reduction measures in the Crane Lake area and other parts of the watershed. This project is also intended to inform options and methods for salt application and other winter maintenance materials, options for the removal of chlorides prior to reaching Crane Lane, and potential partnerships with Ridgedale Center and road authorities.

This study involves watershed and in-lake chloride monitoring, watershed source load assessment and mass balance modeling, estimating the chloride load reduction needed to the lake, and analyzing multiple alternatives to meet the project goals. As part of this study, Barr also considered permit requirements for the different alternatives and held a meeting with the City of Minnetonka and the BCWMC administrator to discuss and present study results and recommendations.

### 2.1 Crane Lake and Watershed

Figure 2-1 shows the Crane Lake watershed and notes the stormwater monitoring locations used for this study. In 2020 and 2022, the city sampled and monitored chloride concentrations in the Ridgedale Center north and south ponds (RDG-N and RDG-S, shown in Figure 2-1). The monitoring results provided an understanding about seasonal chloride levels and relative source variability from the Ridgedale Center area, as well as potential chloride treatment/improvement options. All monitoring locations were

established by Barr staff for this study, and the equipment was deployed between November 30, 2024 and September 30, 2025.



**Figure 2-1 Crane Lake Watershed Land Use and Monitoring Locations**

Table 2-1 summarizes information on Crane Lake and its contributing watershed. This information was used for mass balance modeling and evaluating treatment objectives. The lake volume, surface area and average depth were calculated from lake bathymetric data. Crane Lake is polymictic, which means that it typically is fully mixed throughout year. Historical lake level monitoring on Crane Lake indicates that water surface elevations have typically exceeded the normal level of the lake during the open water season. As a result, lake outflow (and flushing) is common during all, but the driest years. The lake outlets to the north through locally-named “Ridgedale Creek” and enters Medicine Lake in the southwest bay.

**Table 2-1 Crane Lake Information**

Parameter	Value
Watershed Area	591 acres
Lake Size	30 acres
Average Depth	3.3 feet
Maximum Depth	5.0 feet
Volume	99 acre-feet
Ordinary High Water Level (OHWL)	920.5 ft
Normal Water Level (NWL)	917.1 ft
Downstream Receiving Waterbody	Medicine Lake

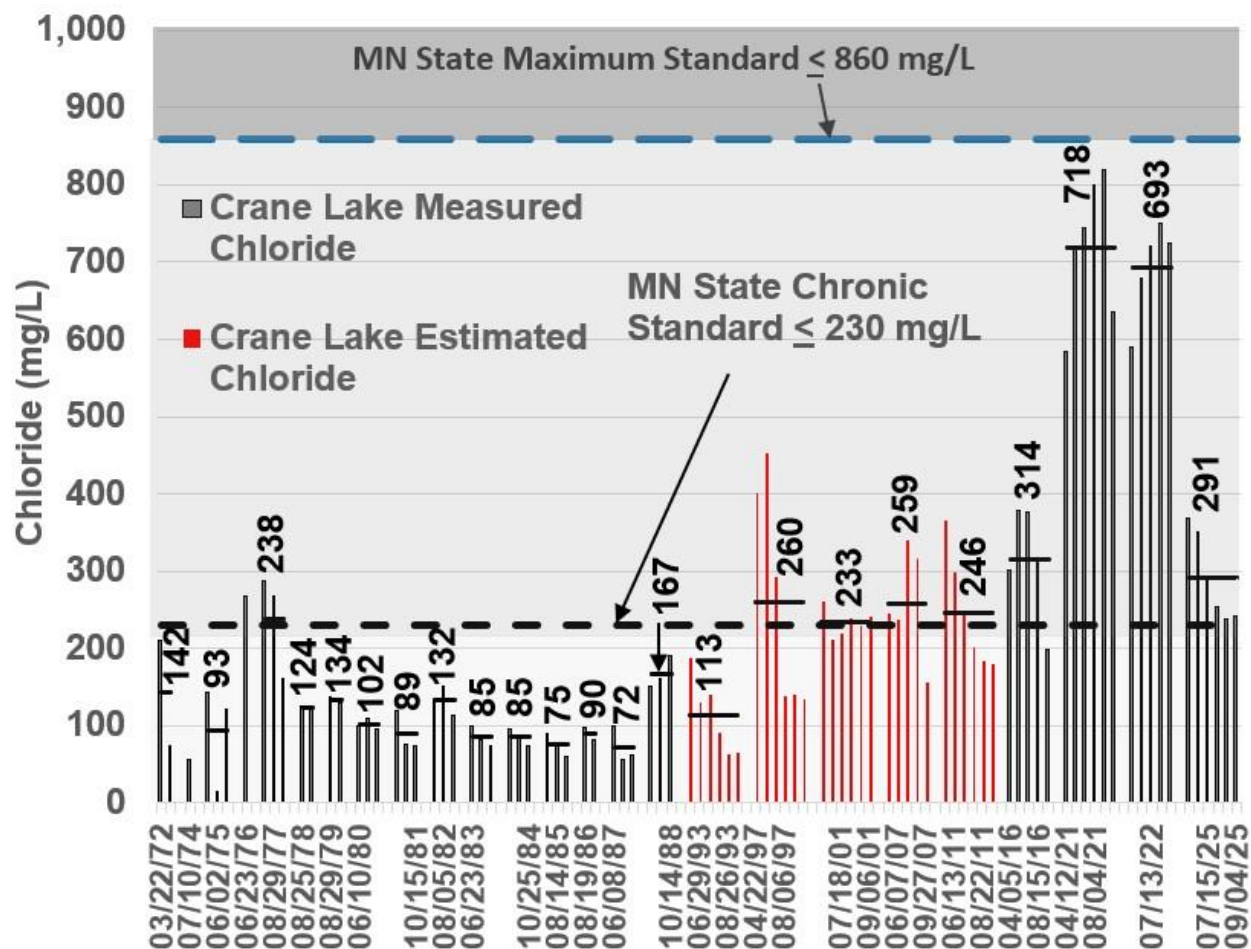
## 2.2 Water Quality and Comparison with State Chloride Standard

Chloride concentrations in lakes throughout the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area have increased since the early 1990s, when many government agencies switched from sand or sand/salt mixtures to salt for winter road maintenance. When snow and ice melt, the salt goes with it, washing into lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater. It only takes 1 teaspoon of road salt to permanently pollute 5 gallons of water. And, once in the surface water system, there is no practical way to remove chloride.

Because high chloride concentrations can harm fish and plant life, the MPCA established maximum and chronic chloride water quality standards. The maximum standard is the highest concentration of chloride that aquatic organisms (zooplankton, bugs, fish, frogs, etc.) can be exposed to for a brief time with zero-to-slight mortality. The chronic standard is the highest chloride concentration that aquatic life can be exposed to indefinitely without causing chronic toxicity. Chronic toxicity is defined as a stimulus that lingers or continues for a long period, often one-tenth of the life span or more. A chronic effect can be mortality, reduced growth, reproduction impairment, harmful changes in behavior, and other nonlethal effects. A lake is considered impaired for chloride if two or more measurements exceed the chronic criterion (230 mg/L) or one measurement exceeds the maximum criterion (860 mg/L) within a 3-year period.

Recent monitoring data shows that Crane Lake has very high chloride concentrations that do not meet MPCA water quality standards and may pose a risk to aquatic life (Figure 2-2). 2025 chloride measurements in the lake ranged from 237 mg/L in August to 369 mg/L in mid-April, which was comparable to 2016, but not as high as 2021 and 2022. All measurements from 2016 through 2025 were well above the chronic chloride standard and below the maximum. Figure 2-2 shows that chloride concentrations in Crane Lake have been trending higher over time with the potential for significant interannual variability. Chloride measurements from 1972 through 1988 met the MPCA chronic chloride standard except for concentrations of 267 mg/L in June 1976, 287 mg/L in June 1977, and 268 mg/L in late August 1977 (see figure below). More than half of the chloride concentrations estimated from specific conductance measurements collected between 1997 through 2011 failed to meet the MPCA chronic chloride standard. 2016 chloride measurements failed to meet the MPCA chronic standard from April through August but met the standard in September. Chloride concentrations in the lake more than doubled between 2016 and 2022, and all concentrations from 2021, 2022 and 2025 failed to meet the MPCA chronic chloride standard.

Crane Lake is located within the larger Medicine Lake subwatershed. BCWMC lake-level data show that Crane Lake frequently discharges, which means that chlorides from Crane Lake eventually reach Medicine Lake. This is a concern because Medicine Lake is also close to being added to the Impaired Waters List for chlorides.



**Figure 2-2 Historical Crane Lake Chloride Monitoring Data**

Statistically significant increases in chloride concentrations over the past 50 years (95-percent confidence level) have reduced zooplankton species diversity in Crane Lake (Barr, 2022). Declines in the number of species and abundance of zooplankton reduce the food supply for planktivorous fish and other organisms in the lake. Studies have documented reductions in zooplankton diversity with increasing chloride concentrations. Consistent with these studies, the number of zooplankton species (diversity) in Crane Lake during the past 22 years has declined significantly (Barr, 2022). The total abundance of zooplankton in Crane Lake also declined during the past 22 years, but a trend analysis indicates the decline was not statistically significant (Barr, 2022).

To remove the lake from the impaired waters list (delist) for chlorides, the MPCA evaluates exceedances of standards for toxic pollutants (including chloride) over consecutive three-year periods. Two or more exceedances of the chronic standard (230 mg/L), or one exceedance of the maximum standard (860 mg/L for chloride), in three years is considered an impairment.

## 3 Monitoring, Modeling and Watershed Load Assessment

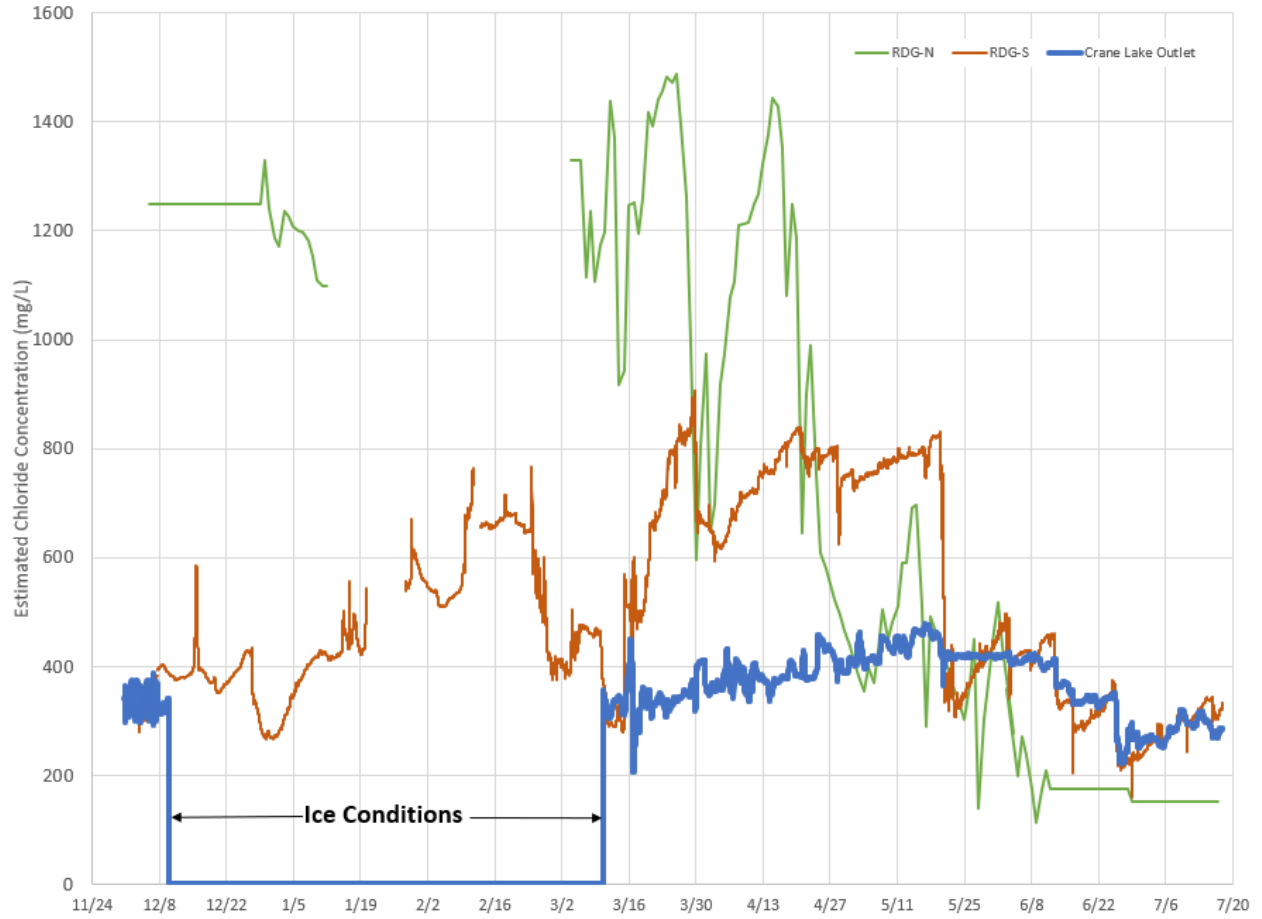
### 3.1 Monitoring and Watershed Modeling

The BCWMC purchased water quality monitoring equipment for this study. Barr programmed and installed the equipment and chloride sampling was performed at outflow locations from Ridgedale north pond (RDG-N), Ridgedale south pond (RDG-S), Crane Lake outlet (CL-OUT), the northwest MNDOT pond (DOT-NW) and MNDOT subwatershed drainage to the northeast pond (DOT-NE) (Figure 2-1). A water quality monitoring probe was installed at each site to collect continuous conductivity and temperature readings which were converted to chloride concentration estimates. Daily outflow volumes at each location were estimated based on P8 modeling estimates using area climatic inputs (hourly precipitation and temperatures) and the information summarized in Table 2-1. Daily outflow volumes were combined with the average daily chloride concentration estimates at each location to estimate daily chloride loads delivered to Crane Lake from the four watershed monitoring locations, as well as the chloride load leaving Crane Lake from the lake outlet during the monitored period (November 30, 2024 to September 30, 2025). The P8 modeling results were also used to estimate the daily unmonitored watershed chloride inflow loads to Crane Lake using an assumed chloride concentration of 100 mg/L (which corresponds with average annual chloride runoff estimates for low density development).

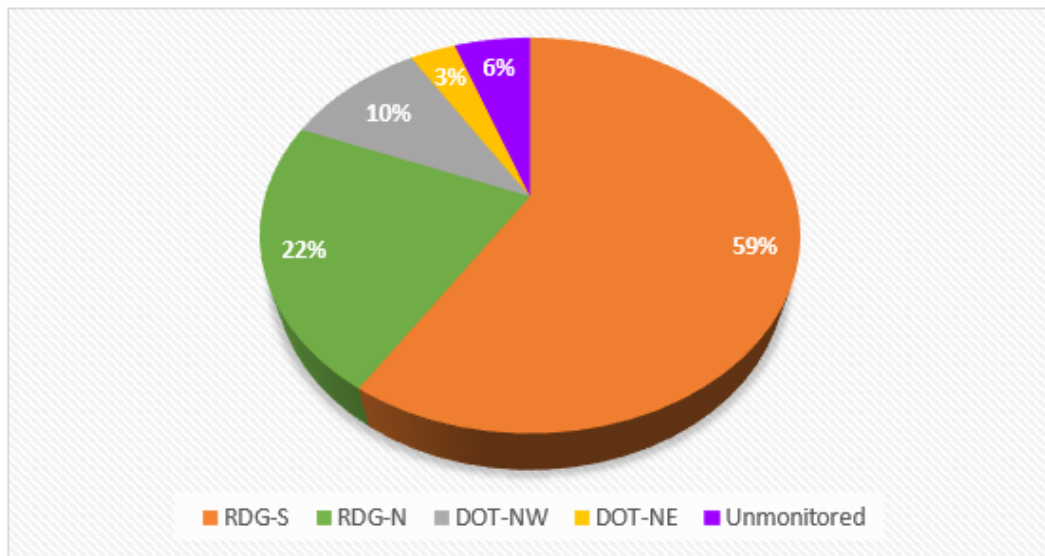
Figure 3-1 shows the continuous chloride concentration estimates from the 2024-25 monitoring season for the two Ridgedale ponds and the Crane Lake outlet. Considering the daily watershed chloride load estimates, the two Ridgedale ponds accounted for 81 percent of the total chloride load into Crane Lake during the 2024-25 monitoring period (see Figure 3-2). The drainage area into these ponds includes 77 acres and 17 acres of which includes the Ridgedale Center and Hennepin County's Ridgedale Campus, respectively, and the other 158 acres of which consists of other commercial and residential areas (shown in Figure 2-1).

Results shown in Figure 3-1 highlight how high chloride from the watershed pond discharges contributed to increasing chloride concentrations in Crane Lake immediately following snowmelt and ice-out conditions (noted in the increases in pond effluent concentrations during these time periods). Based on the modeled climate records, it took 8 inches of rainfall runoff (which occurred between the middle of March and May 21, 2025) before the winter chloride load had flushed through the discharge from both watershed ponds and began to dilute the Crane Lake chloride concentration (Figure 3-1). Figure 3-1 shows that the Crane Lake chloride concentration closely follows the chloride concentration in the outflow from the south Ridgedale pond, which contributes approximately 60 percent of the watershed chloride load (Figure 3-2). The Crane Lake chloride concentration did not drop below the 230 mg/L standard during the rest of the 2025 monitoring season.

Figure 3-1 also shows that chloride concentrations in the north Ridgedale pond are significantly higher than the south Ridgedale pond during the early spring runoff events as it receives all its runoff from the mall area, whereas the south Ridgedale pond receives runoff from the surrounding mixed-use development. Based on the P8 modeling results, the estimated residence times of the north and south Ridgedale ponds are 22 and 57 days, respectively, while the estimated water residence time of Crane Lake is 95 days. Chloride monitoring results shown in Figure 3-1 confirm that it takes more time to flush the chloride and dilute the concentration in Crane Lake than the upstream ponds given its longer residence time.



**Figure 3-1 2024-25 Continuous Chloride Monitoring**



**Figure 3-2 Relative Watershed Chloride Load (2024-25 Monitoring Season)**

## 3.2 Watershed Load Assessment

In addition to collecting the 2024-25 monitoring data, Barr also worked with City of Minnetonka staff to solicit and compile data and input from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT), City of Minnetonka, Ridgedale and other private properties on any available existing monitoring data within the study area, as well as deicing methods and salt application rates that could be used to better define the watershed source load assessment and refine the chloride mass balance modeling. The following information was obtained during this process:

- Annual salt application rates from the City of Minnetonka, 2018-2025
- Annual salt application rates from MNDOT, 2017-2025
- Past Ridgedale pond monitoring from City of Minnetonka, 2018-2020 and 2021-22 winter seasons
- Crane Lake water quality monitoring, shown in Figure 2-2

In addition, the City of Minnetonka received survey responses from five private landowners and the Ridgedale Center. Ridgedale Center referred Barr to communicate directly with the private contractor that has completed snow and ice removal at the Mall for the past six years. The information gathered from this effort is further discussed in Section 4 and was used to inform and suggest potential management actions.

Based on the information received, a GIS water quality model (GIS WQM) was developed and calibrated for the Crane Lake watershed to provide parcel-scale estimates of chloride applied as well as average annual chloride loadings. Figure 3-3 shows the estimated average annual amount of chloride applied within each subwatershed along with the estimated chloride load discharged downstream at key stormwater discharge locations (in tons). Figure 3-4 shows the estimated flow-weighted mean chloride concentration within the discharge from each subwatershed, based on the same GIS WQM results. Both figures show that the high-density development west of Crane Lake is contributing a significantly higher proportion of the watershed chloride load, while the residential land use areas of the watershed are contributing substantially less.

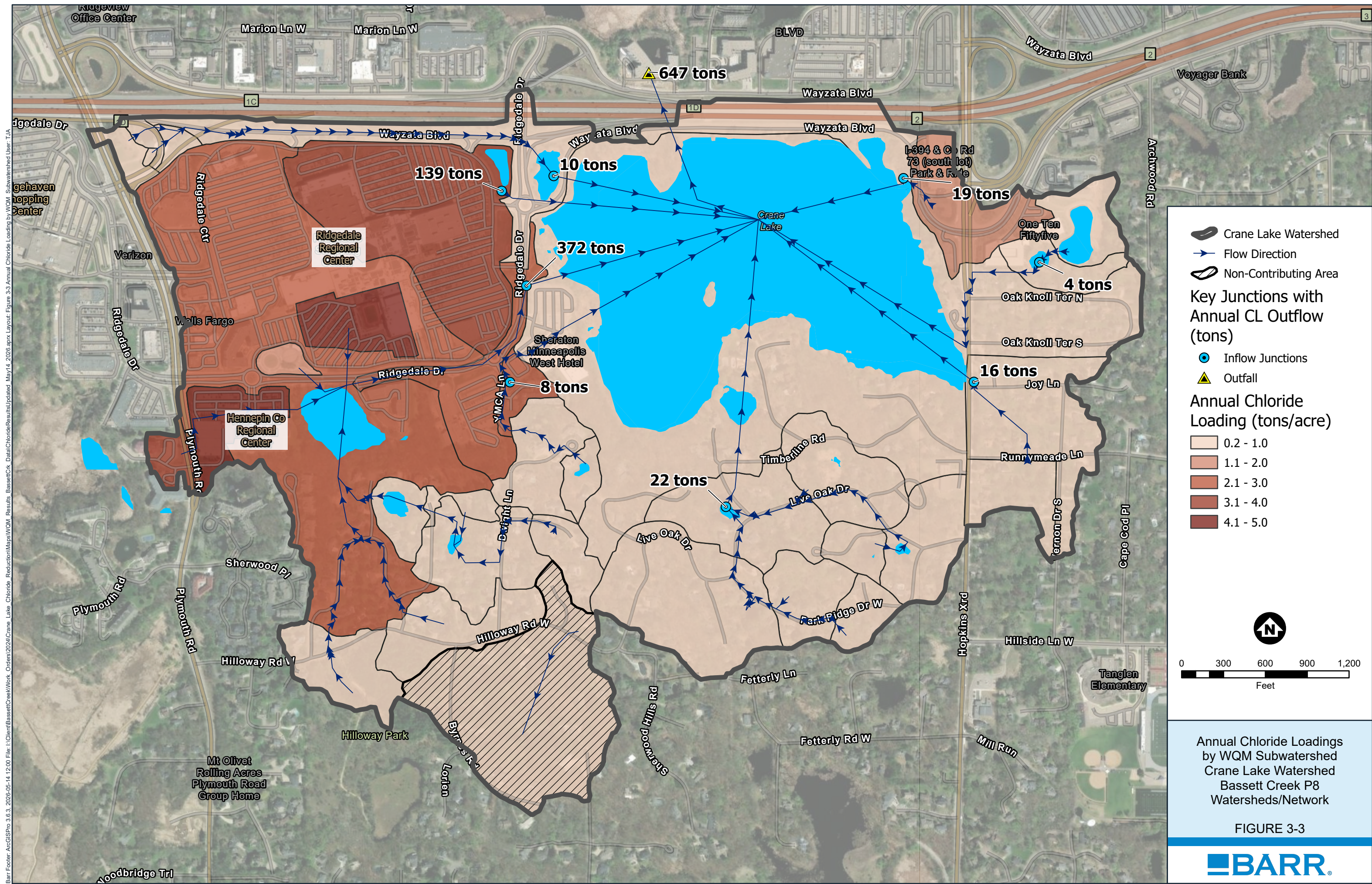
Based on the GIS WQM overall results, Figure 3-5 highlights that the estimated chloride load from Ridgedale Center and the other private watershed sources within the watershed account for approximately 82 percent of the total chloride load to Crane Lake. The Hennepin County component shown in Figure 3-5 includes both Hennepin County Regional Center and the county roads. None of the public road authorities account for more than 9 percent of the total chloride load, individually—collectively, it is estimated that public road authorities contribute approximately 18 percent of the total chloride load to Crane Lake.

## 3.3 Crane Lake Chloride Mass Balance Modeling

The daily Crane Lake water and chloride mass balance modeling results from the 2024-25 monitoring season were used to estimate the chloride load reduction needed to meet the lake chloride goals, along with the potential water quality benefit of source reduction measures and controlling or treating stormwater pond discharge volumes (further discussed in Section 4).

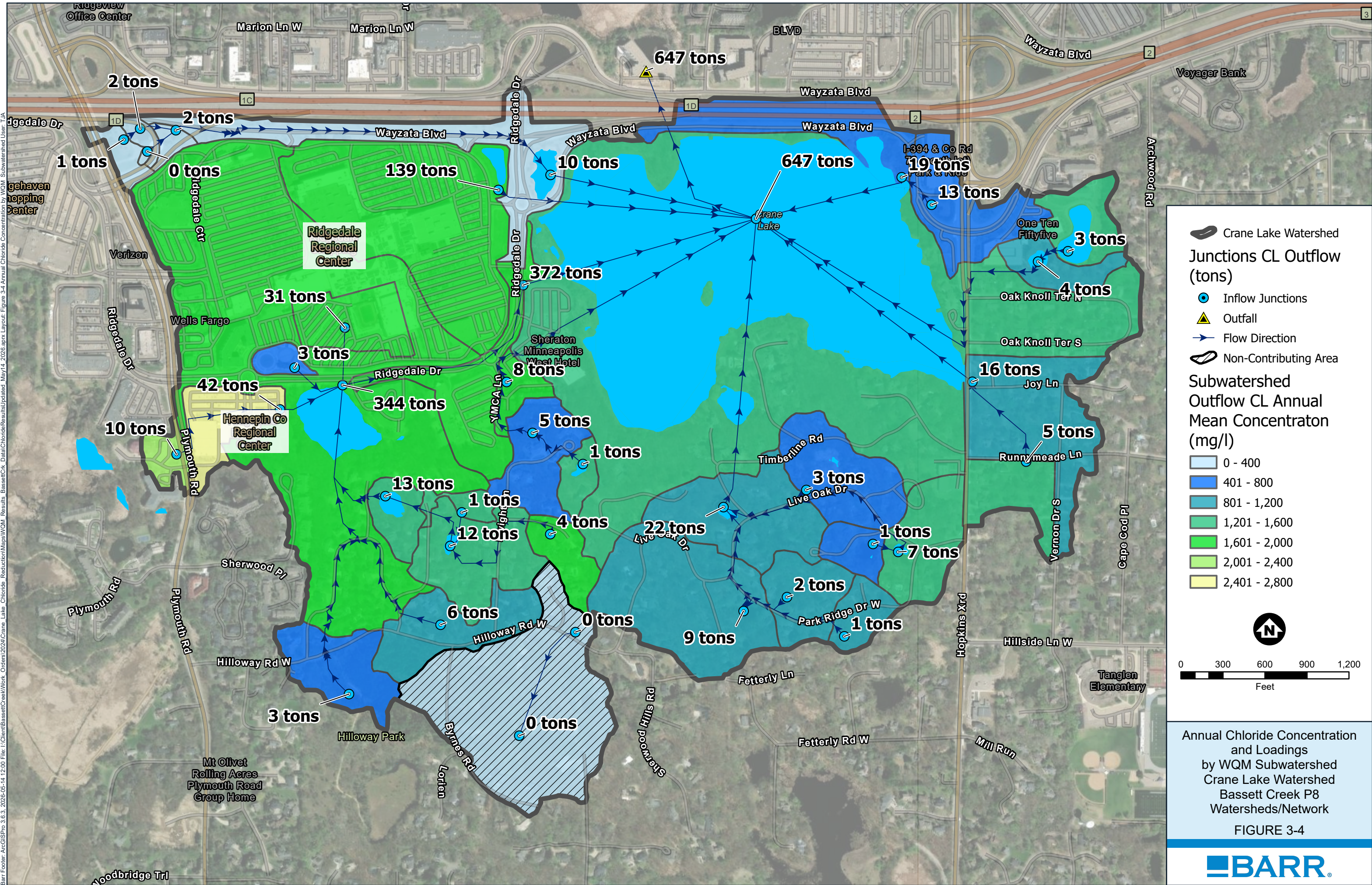
Chloride mass balance modeling from the 2024-25 monitoring season indicates that the watershed chloride load to Crane Lake would need to be reduced by 50,700 pounds (25.4 tons), or at least 25 percent (November 30, 2024—July 17, 2025) in order to meet chloride goals within the lake. Since the

two Ridgedale ponds accounted for 81 percent of the total chloride load to Crane Lake (see Section 3.1), a 26 percent chloride load reduction from the Ridgedale ponds would have met the water quality goal during the 2024-25 monitoring period.



Barr Footer: ArcGISPro 3.6.3, 2026-05-14 12:00 File: I:\Client\BassettCreek\Work Orders\2024\Crane Lake Chloride Reduction\Map\WQM Results BassettCreek\_Data\ChlorideResultsUpdated\_May14\_2026.aprx Layout: Figure 3-3 Annual Chloride Loading by WQM Subwatershed User: TJA

Barr Footer: ArcGISPro 3.6.3, 2026-05-14 12:00, File: I:\Client\BassettCreek\Work Orders\2024\Crane Lake Chloride Reduction\Map\WQM Results BassettCreek\_Data\ChlorideResultsUpdated\_May14\_2026.aprx, Layout: Figure 3-4 Annual Chloride Concentration by WQM Subwatershed User: TJA



2 tons

2 tons

1 tons

0 tons

139 tons

10 tons

647 tons

647 tons

19 tons

13 tons

3 tons

372 tons

31 tons

3 tons

42 tons

344 tons

8 tons

5 tons

1 tons

16 tons

5 tons

10 tons

13 tons

1 tons

12 tons

4 tons

22 tons

3 tons

1 tons

7 tons

6 tons

0 tons

9 tons

2 tons

1 tons

3 tons

0 tons

Mt Olivet  
Rolling Acres  
Plymouth Road  
Group Home

Tanglen  
Elementary

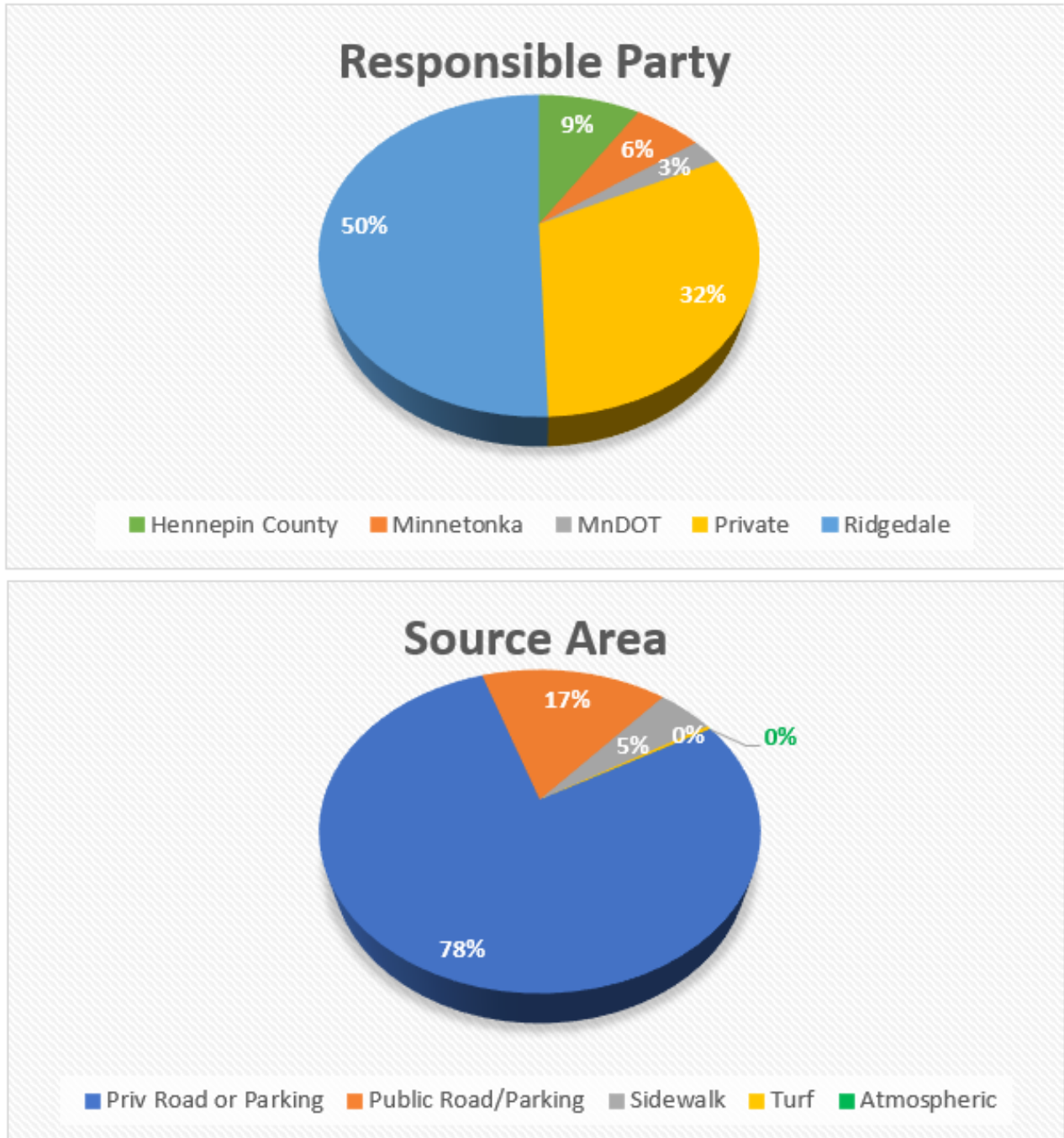


Figure 3-5 GIS WQM Chloride Load Breakdown by Responsible Party and Source Area

## 4 Evaluation of Management Concepts

The Crane Lake contributing watershed area was evaluated to develop potential management strategies, considering all chloride sources or source areas that could potentially be controlled and management practices that could be used for chloride reductions (including pond drawdowns, treatment, source control, etc.). The feasibility of each concept was evaluated and, where possible, optimized based on life-cycle cost-benefit and future assurances for project implementation and compliance.

### 4.1 Structural Measures

#### 4.1.1 Adaptive Level Control Systems at Ridgedale Ponds

Analyses completed within this study estimate that a 26 percent (25.4 tons) chloride load reduction from the Ridgedale ponds in 2024 and 2025 would have resulted in Crane Lake meeting its chloride water quality goal during the November 30, 2024—July 17, 2025 monitoring period.

One approach to controlling chloride loading from the Ridgedale Ponds might be to consider the retrofit of the ponds with adaptive level control systems. Adaptive level control systems typically involve retrofitting the pond outlet so that it can be programmed to be drawn down in advance of stormwater runoff events. This concept has been shown to mitigate downstream flooding and improve the water quality treatment capacity of existing ponds for conventional pollutants (such as total suspended solids and phosphorus). To-date, however, it has not been applied as a way of reducing downstream chloride levels. This concept for this management approach would be to draw down the pond levels and/or close the pond outlets in advance of the winter season, collect and store the high chloride spring runoff and then slowly release the outflow from each pond based on the Crane Lake chloride concentration during the spring and summer seasons.

One implication of this concept is that stormwater runoff that occurred after the pond was full would have to be bypassed until more storage became available. However, as indicated in Section 3.1, chloride concentrations in Crane Lake remain higher than the standard throughout the entire year under current conditions. As a result, adaptive level control systems in the Ridgedale ponds cannot feasibly meet the project goals without some level of chloride treatment and/or source reductions also being implemented.

#### 4.1.2 Combined Adaptive Level Control Systems and Chloride Treatment at Ridgedale Ponds

Chloride treatment options involving ion exchange and reverse osmosis were previously evaluated for the study of chloride extraction/dilution for Parkers Lake (PL-7) (Barr, 2023). Reverse osmosis (RO) was slightly less expensive with life-cycle costs that resulted in a cost of \$11 per pound of chloride removed and a treatment efficiency of 95 percent. Another proprietary treatment option has recently been identified and successfully tested on a pilot scale at a cost of \$8 per pound of chloride removed and a treatment efficiency of 70 percent.

Table 4-1 shows the available storage volumes of both the north and south Ridgedale Ponds, both at their current normal water level and fully drawn down, as well as the potential chloride load that could be captured and treated with RO or via the proprietary treatment technology to improve water quality in Crane Lake. To meet the water quality treatment goal for Crane Lake the estimated annual treatment

costs (based on the estimated unit costs noted above) would range from roughly \$565,000 to use proprietary treatment with both ponds fully drawn down to \$647,000 to use RO treatment with both ponds maintained at the existing normal water level. Regardless of the pond treatment or level control option, the annual costs for this concept are not recommended without first implementing source control measures (i.e, reducing the potential overuse of deicers in the watershed first).

**Table 4-1 Storage and Treatment Potential for Ridgedale Pond Adaptive Level Control Systems**

Pond/Condition	Available Storage Volume (ac-ft)	Chloride Load RO Treated (tons)	Annual RO Treatment Cost	Chloride Load w/ Proprietary Treatment (tons)	Annual Proprietary Treatment Cost
Ridgedale North @ Current NWL	4.91	3.8	\$97,000	2.9	\$54,000
Ridgedale North Completely Drawn Down	11.3	8.9	\$227,000	6.7	\$124,000
Ridgedale South @ Current NWL	30.7	21.6	\$550,000	16.4	\$304,000
Ridgedale South Completely Drawn Down	49.1	31.7	\$807,000	23.8	\$441,000

### 4.1.3 Plumb Ridgedale Roof Runoff for Direct Discharge to Crane Lake

It is anticipated that chloride concentrations in roof runoff from Ridgedale Center is more than an order of magnitude lower than the runoff from the surrounding parking lots and roadways year-round. Under current conditions, this roof runoff is mixed with runoff from areas that have been salted during the winter, which increases the water volume requiring management and the unit costs of treatment, while also correspondingly decreasing the potential for water quality improvement in Crane Lake.

This concept would involve separating the Ridgedale Center roof drain connections from the existing storm sewer system and storing the flow in cisterns for pumping or gravity-piping the flow directly to Crane Lake to improve the chloride assimilation capacity of the lake. This management concept would only be cost-effective if it is implemented with one of the treatment options described in Section 4.1.2 and would not be cost-effective if done in conjunction with nonstructural or source control measures.

## 4.2 Nonstructural/Source Control Measures

As previously discussed, the City of Minnetonka surveyed and received responses from five property owners within the Crane Lake area for use within this study. Ridgedale Center directed Barr to coordinate directly with the private contractor that has completed snow and ice removal on that property for the past six years. The information gathered from this effort follows, including implications for suggested management concepts:

- All private properties utilize private contractors for snow and ice removal

- Contract arrangements typically involve a lump sum amount for the winter season, although a couple landowners are paying the contractor by the number of deicing events with one of those landowners reimbursing the contractor for time and materials
- A couple of landowners initiate the service for each event while the remaining landowners indicated that the contractor decides when to initiate the service, based on weather conditions
  - One contractor indicated that a trace of snow will initiate the service
  - In some cases, the landowner will ask the contractor to return to the site if there are any reports of slippery areas
- Half of the landowners had salt storage on-site while the other contractors working for the other half brought salt to the site for each event
- None of the private landowners or contractors maintained any records about the amounts of salt or alternative deicers applied during any of the past winter seasons.

#### **4.2.1 Track Application Rates in Winter Deicing Operations**

This management concept involves working with City of Minnetonka staff to approach private landowners in the Crane Lake watershed to report on the results of this study and offer technical assistance for the development of a chloride management plan and ongoing tracking of deicing use at their sites. This concept may also require additional incentives to ensure participation and the return of useful information, which in turn, could be used to incentivize the implementation of other nonstructural or source control measures.

#### **4.2.2 Assist Private Properties with Procuring/Contracting Winter Maintenance**

Since some landowners are paying private contractors by the number of deicing events, including instances where the contractor is reimbursed for time and materials, it follows that the methods that some landowners use to solicit and procure winter maintenance services may lead to the overuse of deicers. Oftentimes, private applicators provide bids after receiving a request for proposals (RFP) from private landowners. In this instance, even State certified/trained applicators may need to produce pricing for the same level of service and expected deicers as competitors that may not be trained or certified in smart salting practices. There may also be instances where the RFP does not allow for alternative pricing for other services such as use of deicing liquids such as brine. In these scenarios, it can be very difficult for certified applicators to add on the costs of liquids or other snow management and deicing alternatives after the contract is awarded, making it important to help the landowner to understand the benefits of using better (smart salting) products or methods before the RFP is posted for solicitation.

This management concept recommends, at a minimum, technical assistance to landowners in the review and development of winter maintenance RFPs and procurement documents to support the promotion of smart salting strategies. Alternatively, this concept could involve the development of RFP language or providing other existing examples or guidance that have resulted in implementation of successful practices and/or reductions in salt use at similar sites.

### **4.2.3 Deicing Equipment Loan/Purchase Program**

Traditional winter maintenance practices include the use of plows, rock salt, and a mixture of sand and salt. The predominant strategy for minimizing salt usage during winter road maintenance involves the integration of liquid products rather than relying exclusively on granular materials. Two principal techniques are employed for the administration of liquid winter maintenance agents. The initial method, known as “pre-wetting,” consists of applying both liquid brine and granular salt to the roadway (Minnesota Department of Transportation, 2019). This approach enhances ice melt efficiency and reduces overall salt consumption due to decreased loss from material bounce and scatter (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 2020). The second technique, termed “direct liquid application,” entails the exclusive use of a liquid agent. Frequently referred to as “anti-ice,” this practice is implemented prior to a storm, applying chemicals to inhibit the bonding of snow to the pavement. Additionally, direct liquid applications may be utilized post-storm for de-icing purposes (Minnesota Department of Transportation, 2019).

According to MPCA’s Chloride Management Plan (2020), there are several examples where watersheds and cities have funded equipment upgrades for spread control, salt brining and anti-icing systems that have resulted in salt savings between 19 and 70 percent. Based on these individual examples, costs have generally ranged between \$65,000 and \$80,000 for municipalities to make these upgrades.

One of the survey results for this study indicated that the respondent would like to use liquid deicing products for their winter maintenance activities. The use of liquid deicing products also reduces costs for the landowners with less interior cleaning and corrosion to other building materials. This management concept could involve offering grants or other incentives to private and public winter maintenance entities to upgrade equipment or implement innovative practices.

### **4.2.4 Provide Abrasives to Reduce Salt Use**

In some cases, the addition or use of abrasives will improve traction during colder weather conditions where the conventional salt mixtures are not effective. Likewise, there are other deicer alternatives that work better in colder temperatures. Unfortunately, carbohydrate-based deicers can lead oxygen depletion in downstream water bodies and associated impacts on biota, while acetate-based deicers are more expensive.

This management concept would involve the provision of abrasives to private applicators to discourage the overuse of salt during colder temperatures.

### **4.2.5 Develop Watershed Business Agreement for Joint Winter Maintenance**

A watershed business agreement would provide regular winter maintenance to areas within the Crane Lake watershed through a joint venture with the watershed or city. Businesses in the area would pool resources to fund a third party or local business within the agreement to take over snow removal and winter maintenance for the included parties. The joint business arrangement would additionally aid the maintaining business or third party in designing winter maintenance activities that align with smart salting practices to reduce the amount of chloride entering Crane Lake.

Similar joint business arrangements have already proven effective in the Cities of Edina and Minneapolis. Edina has a joint winter maintenance agreement for the 50th and France Business District that involves the use of city staff for snow management and deicing. The City of Minneapolis service districts have typically involved hiring a private contractor for snow and ice removal. Such a business arrangement has typically involved the appointment of a service district board to gather input and support among local landowners. The service district board or council will typically have to revisit the service agreements and assessments once a year. This concept may also require additional incentives to ensure a good return on chloride load reductions.

#### **4.2.6 Develop Alternative Salt Storage Options for Private Properties**

Since about half of the private landowners indicated that salt storage occurs on-site, it is likely that salt exposure to precipitation and equipment tracking is contributing to elevated levels of chloride in stormwater runoff.

This management concept recommends, at a minimum, technical assistance to evaluate whether there are more feasible or cost-effective options for salt storage such as a central storage site that is covered and designed to minimize salt tracking and can be coordinated for use by private applicators. Alternatively, this management concept could also offer grants for storage or equipment upgrades. It is anticipated that costs for storage or equipment upgrades will generally range between \$25,000 and \$100,000 for temporary structures, after factoring in containment and drainage features.

#### **4.2.7 Develop Smart Salting Retrofit Plan at Ridgedale**

Instead of selecting and implementing individual management concepts, including some of the aforementioned practices, this concept would involve more of a holistic approach to review and discuss all the current practices for snow management and deicing at the site with the landowner and private applicator to identify places where salt savings could be realized from the use of alternative equipment or application methods, better salt storage, abrasives, etc.

This concept could also include installation of alternative pavements (such as permeable pavements or snowmelt systems) at high-traffic locations, especially at locations that are subject to refreeze. Snowmelt systems keep surfaces above freezing so snow or ice melts immediately upon contact. These systems may use electric heating cables, surplus heat from boilers, or geothermal energy. Boiler and geothermal methods circulate heated fluids through pipes or tubes embedded in the pavement. Additionally, control units with sensors monitor temperature, shut off the system when surfaces dry out, and can preheat before a snowstorm arrives.

#### **4.2.8 Regulatory Advocacy**

There is a recognition among private applicators, especially those that are certified by MPCA, that there are significant differences in salt application equipment, calibration and methods used by different contractors at different sites. It has been suggested that the amount of salt being applied by all vendors should be regulated and tracked, as the State is doing with pesticide and herbicide applications to protect

lake water quality and biotic integrity. So many of the private applicators apply far too much salt because of the risk of slip and fall litigation. If the salt applications were regulated and tracked, certified applicators may feel like they could have less liability when there is a slip and fall incident.

This management concept involves working with Minnesota Watersheds and other organizations to advocate for State regulations for private applicators and/or limited liability legislation.

## 5 Alternatives Assessment and Recommendations

Based on consultation with City of Minnetonka staff and the BCWMC Technical Advisory Committee, a three-phased sequence of implementation activities is recommended for next steps within the Crane Lake watershed. Work would begin by contacting private landowners in the Crane Lake watershed to report on the results of this study and offer technical assistance for the relevant nonstructural measures in Section 4 based on the prioritized and phased approach shown in Table 5-1.

There is agreement that the initial phase of implementation should prioritize educating and working with private properties to better understand their existing approach for procuring and contracting for winter maintenance, offering technical assistance for incentivizing best practices through their winter maintenance contracts, and ensuring that salt application rates are tracked. Subsequent phases of implementation should proceed based on the results of the initial phase of implementation. The projected goals for these later phases are expected to focus on activities such as cost-sharing for upgrades to salt storage and potentially deicing equipment, along with smart salting retrofits involving alternative pavements and snowmelt systems. Table 5-1 summarizes planning cost estimates for the recommended sequence of implementation activities. These cost estimates should be refined following the initial phase of work.

The recommended sequence of implementation activities does not include two options described above (4.2.5 and 4.2.8). Creating a watershed business agreement for joint winter maintenance is not a preferred approach by the city at this time but could be revisited as a potential future action if other actions are unsuccessful. Further, BCWMC has actively considered and, when appropriate, participated in other joint agreements and regulatory advocacy activities. It is expected that this will continue moving forward.

**Table 5-1 Recommended Sequence of Implementation Activities and Estimated Costs**

Phase	Nonstructural/Source Control Measure	Estimated Capital Costs <sup>1</sup>
1	Assist Private Properties with Procuring/Contracting Winter Maintenance (Section 4.2.2)	\$30,000
	Track Application Rates in Winter Deicing Operations (Section 4.2.1)	
2	Develop and Provide Funding Toward Alternative Salt Storage Options for Private Properties (Section 4.2.6)	\$200,000
	Develop and Provide Funding Toward Smart Salting Retrofit Plan at Ridgedale (Section 4.2.7)	
3	Deicing Equipment Loan/Purchase Program (Section 4.2.3)	\$100,000
	Provide Abrasives to Reduce Salt Use (Section 4.2.4)	
	TOTAL	\$330,000

<sup>1</sup>—Assumes cost sharing for equipment and facility upgrades. Does not include maintenance costs.

The BCWMC's CIP had a placeholder of \$300,000 for this project. Approximately \$182,100 of the original placeholder budget will remain after feasibility study completion. Staff recommends that the Commission request a levy to implement these three project phases to reduce chloride levels in Crane Lake and remove the lake from the impaired waters list. Minnetonka city staff indicated they do not currently have

capacity to lead these activities but can assist as a partner. Project expenses would include the use of consultants or the Commission Engineer and Administrator for outreach and technical assistance activities. Expenses also include financial incentives for equipment upgrades or salt storage reconfiguration with appropriate agreements developed and enforced. Grant funds may also be available through the MN Pollution Control Agency to support targeted chloride reduction initiatives.

## 6 References

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Minnesota Department of Transportation. (2019). Winter Maintenance Best Practices.

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# Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project—Phase II (2027, CIP Project BC-7) Feasibility Report

*Golden Valley, Minnesota*

|||||



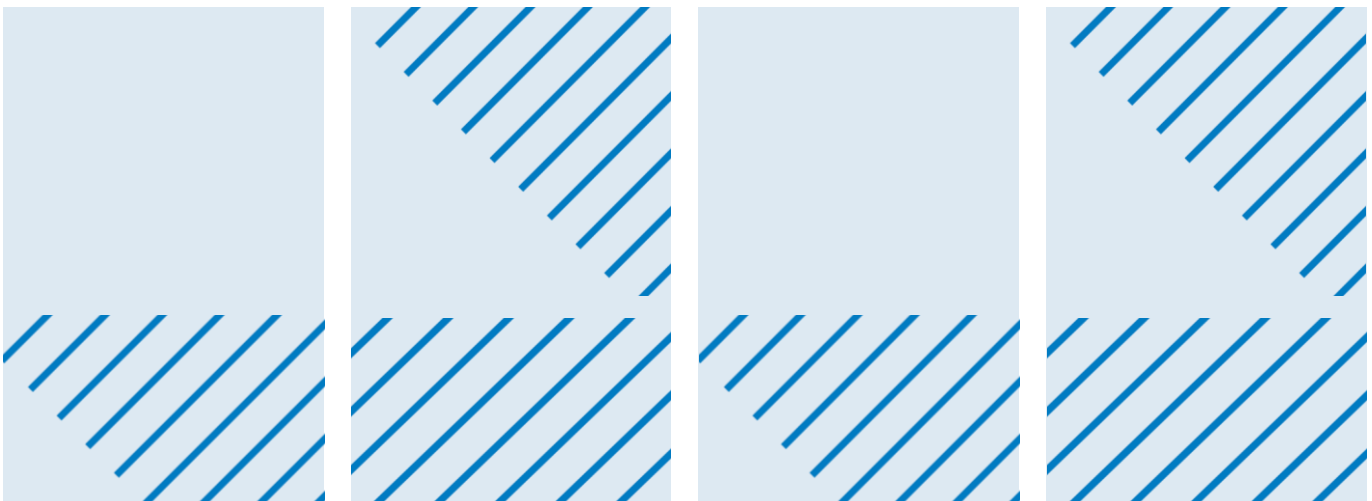
Prepared for  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Prepared by  
Barr Engineering Co.

June 2026

4300 MarketPointe Drive, Suite 200  
Minneapolis, MN 55435  
952.832.2600

[barr.com](http://barr.com)



# 1 Executive Summary

## 1.1 Background

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's (BCWMC) current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) (Table 4-6 in the 2026-2035 Bassett Creek Watershed Management Plan (Plan) reference (1)) includes project ID #15 "Bassett Creek Lagoon Dredging in Theodore Wirth Park (BC-7)" (Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project Phase II).

This study examines the feasibility of implementing a second phase of dredging accumulated sediment from lagoons within Theodore Wirth Park (see Figure 1-1). This study also examines the potential for wetland restoration in one of the lagoons. The goals of the original Main Stem Lagoon Dredging project were to remove accumulated sediment from Lagoons D, E, and F to re-establish an aesthetic and function similar to the original open water design from the 1930's. As described within this feasibility study, the project also has the potential to provide other benefits. If ordered, this project is anticipated to be implemented in 2027. Funding for the project is proposed to come from an ad valorem tax levied by Hennepin County on behalf of the BCWMC.

## 1.2 Site Conditions

The Bassett Creek Main Stem lagoons are located in the City of Golden Valley within the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's (MPRB) Theodore Wirth Regional Park, and along Ĥaĥá Wakpádaŋ/Bassett Creek, which is a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) public watercourse. Lagoon E (2.8 acres), also named Ski Jump Pond, and Lagoon G (4.3 acres), also named The Rapids, are public water basins (MDNR #27065100P). Lagoons D and F (1.2 and 1.5 acres respectively) are not listed as public water basins. Lagoons E, F, and G are located north of Plymouth Ave. N, and Lagoon D to the south (see Figure 1-1).

Land adjacent to the lagoons consists of open grassy areas used for golf and other recreation, wooded uplands, and various wetland communities. The lagoons are bordered along the eastern edge by a recreational trail, which runs alongside the BNSF railroad.

A field wetland delineation was conducted within and adjacent to the Lagoon G project area on September 15, 2025. Six wetlands (with a total area of approximately 5.35-acres) were delineated along or near Bassett Creek within the Lagoon G project area. Wetland community types within and adjacent to the Lagoon G project area include fresh (wet) meadow, shallow marsh, floodplain forest, shrub-carr, and shallow, open water. A Level I Desktop Wetland Determination for Lagoons D, E, and F was completed in 2019 as part of the previous Phase I dredging project.

Sediment sampling showed that concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (as BaP equivalents) and diesel range organics (DRO) are high in all four lagoons; based on this, the accumulated sediments within the lagoons do not meet Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) guidelines for Unregulated Fill (MPCA, 2012), indicating it is not suitable for unrestricted offsite reuse. In addition, BaP equivalents are above the MPCA Industrial Soil Reference Value (SRV), indicating the sediments are not suitable for reuse at other commercial or industrial properties. Based on the sediment sampling results and MPCA guidelines, the dredged material will require landfill disposal.

## 1.3 Project Alternatives

Multiple alternatives were evaluated for removing accumulated sediment, flood risk reduction, improving water quality, restoring wetlands, and improving habitat along Hąhą Wakpádaŋ/Bassett Creek within the project area. The various design options were organized into three potential project alternatives for the purposes of analysis.

### 1.3.1 Alternative 1 – Additional Dredging of Lagoons D, E, and F

Alternative 1 proposes to go back to Lagoons D, E, and F to remove additional accumulated sediment that was missed in Phase I. On average, roughly 2 feet of sediment that was originally intended to be removed as part of the Phase I project remains in each of these lagoons. The goals of this alternative are to build on the improvements from Phase I of the project to achieve an average depth of 6 feet below the estimated normal water level of the lagoons, remove additional contaminants, improve water quality treatment capability, and extend project longevity.

### 1.3.2 Alternative 2 – Dredge Lagoon G

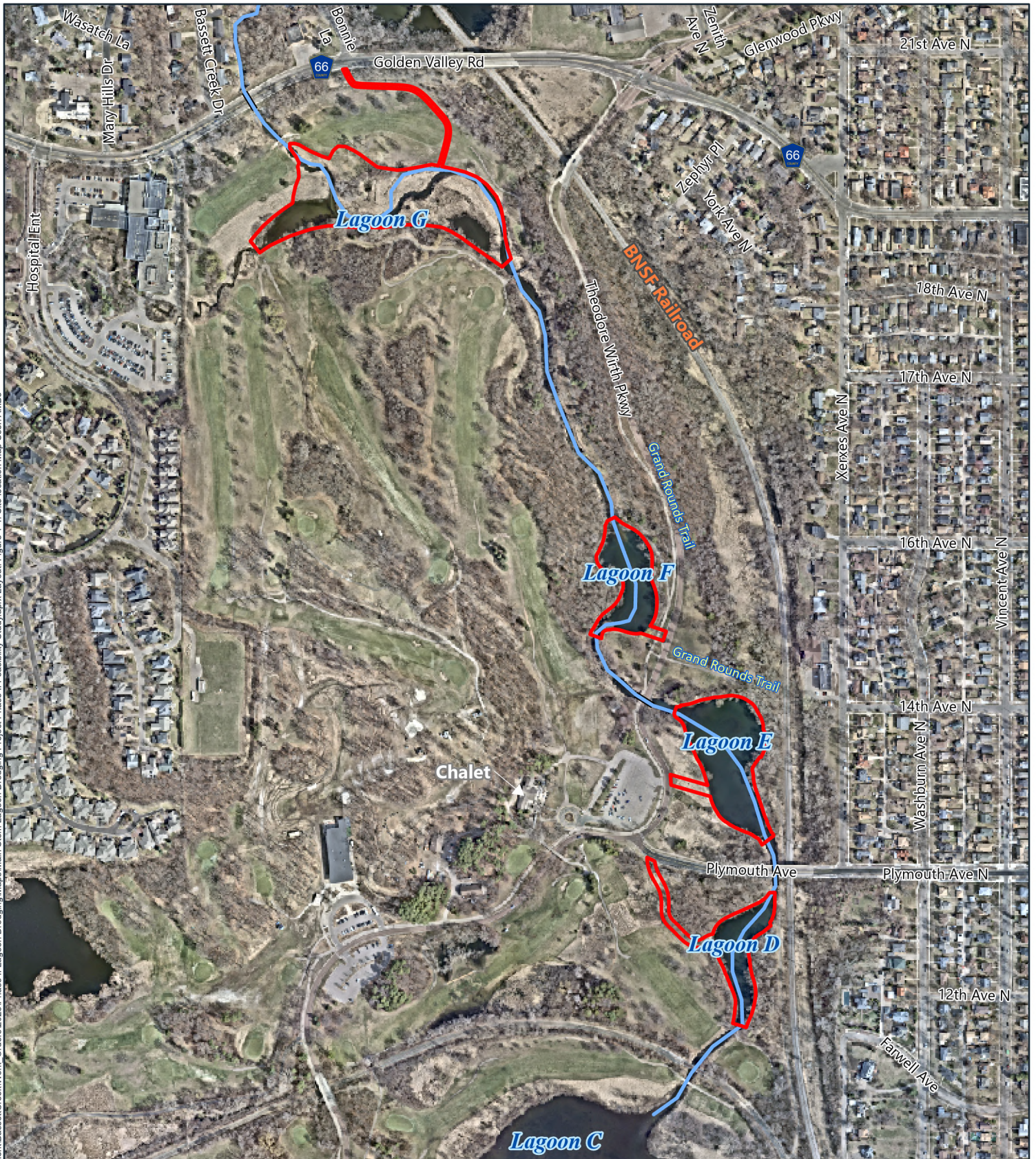
Alternative 2 proposes to build on the concepts from Phase I by moving upstream to Lagoon G. The goals are similar to Alternative 1, focusing on the removal of accumulated sediment from Lagoon G to achieve an average depth of 6 feet below the estimated normal water level, restoring the original design aesthetic and function, removing contaminants, and increasing water quality treatment capability. Dredging would be limited to work within the existing banks and estimated footprint of the original design, and no proposed upland improvements would be included.




### 1.3.3 Alternative 3 - Wetland Restoration and Dredging of Lagoon G

Alternative 3 is focused on the restoration of existing wetland areas within the Lagoon G project area. This alternative includes shallow grading in several areas to the north of the Lagoon, re-connecting multiple wetland areas to the Lagoon, and for removal of existing invasive vegetation. Restoration in wetland and upland areas would focus on replacement with native plant species. In addition, this alternative proposes to incorporate dredging of portions of Lagoon G by focusing on areas where existing wetland vegetation is dominated by invasive species. In addition to providing water quality benefits, this alternative prioritizes ecological and habitat improvements beyond dredging alone.

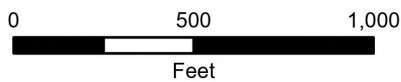
### 1.3.4 Phasing / Combining Alternatives

Consideration was also given to options for phasing of the dredging alternatives – completing all lagoons together or separately. Full descriptions of the alternatives considered are provided in Section 5. Recommendations related to the chosen alternatives are discussed in Section 8.



-  Project Area
-  Open Channel
-  Culvert or Bridge

Imagery: NearMap 04/05/2025



**Site Location Map**  
Main Stem Lagoon Dredging  
Phase II Feasibility Study  
Golden Valley, Minnesota

FIGURE 1-1



## 1.4 Dredging Project Impacts and Estimated Costs

Potential impacts from the dredging project alternatives are discussed in Section 6 and include permit requirements (e.g., MDNR public waters work permit), temporary impacts to wetlands, temporary trail closures and park impacts, and impacts to aquatic species. One significant concern is the need to manage trail usage to maintain pedestrian safety and park use during the project. Continued coordination with the MPRB will be required during design of the project to address and mitigate this issue. Another concern noted by project stakeholders is impacts to turtles that may be present in the lagoons during the proposed work. The BCWMC will continue to coordinate with the MDNR in the design phase, as needed, to consider methods for mitigating impacts from the project to turtles, such as exclusionary fencing.

Overall, the proposed project will result in increased permanent pool volume and sediment storage volume in the lagoons, resulting in a reduction of sediment and phosphorus loading to Hañá Wakpádaŋ/Bassett Creek and all downstream water bodies, including the Mississippi River. For Alternative 3, there would be an additional focus on increased ecological function and benefits for wetlands surrounding Lagoon G.

The feasibility-level opinion of costs for implementing each alternative, as well as the cost per pound of total phosphorus (TP) removed, and total suspended solids (TSS) removed, is shown in Table 1-1. The capital cost estimate includes estimated construction costs, construction contingency, and engineering costs (all costs rounded to the nearest \$1,000).

**Table 1-1 Feasibility Level Cost Estimates Summary - Dredging**

Alternative	Lagoon	Dredged Volume (cy) <sup>(1)</sup>	Capital Cost Estimate <sup>(2)</sup>	TP Load Reduction (lb/yr) <sup>(3)</sup>	TP Reduction (\$/lb/yr) <sup>(4)</sup>	TSS Load Reduction (lb/yr) <sup>(3)</sup>	TSS Reduction (\$/lb/yr) <sup>(4)</sup>
1	D	4,200	\$288,000	80	\$190	21,500	\$1.50
	E	7,650	\$816,000	135	\$310	35,500	\$0.90
	F	2,100	\$485,000	39	\$640	9,400	\$0.70
	ALL	13,950	\$1,417,000	254	\$290	66,400	\$0.80
2	G	33,700	\$3,110,000	510	\$320	132,000	\$1.20
3	G <sup>(5)</sup>	23,000	\$2,476,000	363	\$350	94,000	\$1.34

[1] Sediment from all lagoons is considered contaminated and any dredged material will require landfill disposal.

[2] Includes estimated initial construction cost (with 30% contingency) and design/permitting/ admin costs (estimated at 20% of construction cost for Alternatives 1 and 2, and 25% of construction cost for Alternative 3).

[3] Based on estimated removal from Walker 1987 (reference (2)) relationship applied to average annual TP load from MCES WOMP monitoring at Hañá Wakpádaŋ/Bassett Creek station.

[4] Pollutant reduction cost/lb based on 30-year annualized cost, annualized cost divided by estimated annual pollution load reduction.

[5] Estimated water quality benefits for Alternative 3 based only on the dredging component of the proposed work and excludes any TP or TSS reduction from wetland restoration.

The methodology and assumptions used for the cost estimates are discussed in Section 7, and the cost estimates for all alternatives considered for this study are provided in Table 7-1.

## 1.5 Recommendations

The BCWMC Engineer recommends completing Alternative 3 - Wetland Restoration and Dredging of Lagoon G. As compared to Alternatives 1 and 2, the additional focus on habitat and ecological benefits that are attained with this alternative are more fully aligned with BCWMC goals. This recommendation is contingent upon a future agreement between the BCWMC and MPRB/Golden Valley for the long-term maintenance of the wetland vegetation. If such an agreement cannot be achieved, the BCWMC Engineer recommends completing a dredging-only effort within Lagoon G. Additional information on this alternative is included in Section 8. Some additional considerations for the recommendation are as follows:

- Being that the project area lagoons are connected in series, the dredging in Lagoon G will inherently extend the life span of Lagoons D, E, and F downstream and extend the projected life span of improvements completed in Phase I
- Access to Lagoon G does not require use of the parkway, avoiding impacts to park users and risk of damage to the roadway (parkway is not designed for heavy truck traffic and presented challenges in Phase I)
- Alternative 3 has received the most interest and favorable comments from project stakeholders throughout the feasibility process
- The deeper water in Lagoons D, E, and F creates additional construction challenges for dredging
- The success of Alternative 3 – the Wetland Restoration component at Lagoon G will be dependent on a successful vegetation management strategy and long-term maintenance of the restored areas
- If wetland restoration is not included, dredging only alternatives within Lagoon G target water quality benefits and an open water aesthetic consistent with previous designs while removing contaminated sediment and extending the lifespan of Lagoons D, E, and F downstream.
- The BCWMC Engineer recommends that the BCWMC use the opinions of cost identified in this study to develop a levy request for the selected project and that the project proceed to design and construction. Due to the high cost of this alternative, we anticipate that the BCWMC would likely need to spread the CIP funding over more than one year to construct the project.

## 7 Project Cost Considerations

This section presents the feasibility-level opinion of probable cost of the evaluated alternatives, discusses funding sources, and provides an approximate project schedule.

### 7.1 Opinion of Cost

The opinion of cost is a Class 4 feasibility-level cost estimate as defined by the American Association of Cost Engineers International (AACI International) and uses the assumptions listed below and detailed in the following sections.

1. The cost estimate assumes a 30% construction contingency.
2. Costs associated with design, permitting, and construction observation (collectively “engineering”) are assumed to be 20% of the estimated construction costs for Alternatives 1 and 2, and 25% for Alternative 3.

Class 4 level cost estimates have an acceptable range of between -15% to -30% on the low range and +20% to +50% on the high range. Based on the development of concepts, it is not necessary to utilize the full range of the acceptable range for the cost estimate, and we assume the final project costs may be between -20% and +30% of the estimated project budget. Table 7-1 summarizes the feasibility-level construction cost estimates for each alternative. Appendix C provides the detailed cost-estimate tables for all concepts.

**Table 7-1 Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project Phase II Alternative Cost Summary**

Alternative	Lagoon	Construction Cost Estimate <sup>(1)</sup>	Construction Contingency <sup>(2)</sup>	Engineering <sup>(3)</sup>	Capital Cost Estimate <sup>(4)</sup>
1	D	\$168,000	\$50,000	\$44,000	\$262,000
	E	\$508,000	\$152,000	\$132,000	\$792,000
	F	\$291,000	\$87,000	\$76,000	\$454,000
	ALL	\$958,000	\$287,000	\$249,000	\$1,345,000
2	G	\$2,104,000	\$631,000	\$547,000	\$3,282,000
3	G	\$1,570,000	\$471,000	\$510,000	\$2,551,000

[1] A Class 4 screening-level opinion of probable cost, as defined by the American Association of Cost Engineers International (AACI International), has been prepared for these alternatives. The opinion of probable construction cost provided in this table is made based on Barr’s experience and qualifications and represents our best judgment as experienced and qualified professionals familiar with the project. The cost opinion is based on project-related information available to Barr at this time and includes a conceptual-level design of the project.

[2] Assumed 30% contingency on construction costs.

[3] Assumed costs for design, permitting, and administration are 20% of construction costs for Alternatives 1 and 2, and 25% for Alternative 3

[4] Includes estimated initial construction cost (with 30% contingency) and design/permitting/admin costs (20% of construction cost for Alternatives 1 and 2, and 25% for Alternative 3)

### 7.1.1 30-year Cost

The 30-year cost for each concept was calculated as the future worth of the initial capital cost (including contingency and engineering costs) plus the future worth of any anticipated significant maintenance at the end of the concept’s estimated useful life, assuming a 3% rate of inflation. The annualized cost for each concept was calculated as the value of 30 equal, annual payments of the same future worth as the 30-year cost. Table 7-2 presents the 30-year annualized costs and the annualized costs per pound of total phosphorus (TP) and total suspended solids (TSS) removed for each alternative.

For dredging only alternatives, the analysis assumed that no annual maintenance would occur within a 30-year period because the combined lifespan of the lagoons (time to re-fill) is longer than 30 years, regardless of which lagoons receive additional dredging. Table 7-2 reports the estimated lifespan to be a minimum of 30-years so as not to overestimate the annualized cost of the maintenance.

### 7.1.2 Annualized Pollutant Reduction Cost

Section 6.2 provides the estimated annual total phosphorus loading reductions for each recommended conceptual design alternative. The total phosphorus load reductions were estimated by modifying the predicted phosphorus removal efficiency based on the relative change in volume, from the relationship published in Walker, 1987 (reference (2)) to include the proposed alternatives. The annualized pollutant-reduction cost for each alternative is the estimated annualized 30-year project cost divided by the annual load reduction. Table 7-2 summarizes the annualized pollutant reduction cost.

**Table 7-2 Pollutant Reduction Cost Summary**

Alternative	Lagoon	Estimated Lifespan (years) <sup>(1)</sup>	30-Year Annualized Cost <sup>(2)</sup>	TP Load Reduction (lb/yr) <sup>(3)</sup>	TP Reduction (\$/lb/yr) <sup>(4)</sup>	TSS Load Reduction (lb/yr) <sup>(3)</sup>	TSS Reduction (\$/lb/yr) <sup>(4)</sup>
1	D	30 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$13,400	80	\$170	9,900	\$1.40
	E	30 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$40,500	135	\$300	52,000	\$0.80
	F	30 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$23,200	39	\$600	39,000	\$0.60
	ALL	90 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$68,700	254	\$280	101,000	\$0.70
2	G	63	\$167,500	510	\$330	132,000	\$1.27
3	G	45	\$130,200	363	\$360	94,000	\$1.39

- [1] Lifespan equates sediment volume dredged with sediment removal, based on assumed sediment density of 100 lbs/cubic foot
- [2] Annualized 30-year future worth, assumes 3% inflation rate. Costs for wetland restoration alternative do not include annual vegetation maintenance costs after the establishment period.
- [3] TP and TSS load reductions from Table 6-1 Water quality benefits summary
- [4] Annualized cost divided by estimated annual pollution load reduction
- [5] TSS and TP removal benefits for wetland restoration were not included. Removals represent reductions solely from dredging for Phase II only.
- [6] The estimated lifespan for Lagoons D, E, and F include a minimum time to refill of 30-years to represent the sum of Phase I and Phase II dredging and that the lagoons would fill in series, compounding the time to re-fill of each downstream lagoon

The cost per pound of phosphorus removed for this project is low when compared to other BCWMC CIP projects. There may also be opportunities to optimize the design during final design to reduce overall project costs.

### 7.1.3 Potential Options for Cost Reduction

Following the May 2026 BCWMC meeting, several modifications were proposed and evaluated for opportunities to reduce the cost of Alternative 3. A description of each option follows:

- 3A – Wetland restoration with dredging of east area only to 6' depth (remove west dredging area)
- 3B – Wetland restoration with dredging of east area only to 4' depth (remove west dredging area)
- 3C – Wetland restoration with dredging of both east and west areas to 4' depth
- 3D – Wetland restoration only (no dredging)

Table 7-3 and Table 7-4 summarize the estimated costs and water quality benefits of these options.

**Table 7-3 Cost Summary – Additional Options for Alternative 3**

Alt	Description	Construction Cost Estimate <sup>(1)</sup>	Construction Contingency <sup>(2)</sup>	Engineering <sup>(3)</sup>	Capital Cost Estimate <sup>(4)</sup>	Cost Reduction from Alt 3
3	Wetland Restoration & Dredging	\$1,570,000	\$471,000	\$510,000	\$2,551,000	--
3A	Wetland Restoration & Dredge East Area Only to 6' Depth	\$1,334,000	\$400,000	\$434,000	\$2,168,000	-\$383,000
3B	Restoration & Dredge East Area Only to 4' Depth	\$1,038,000	\$311,000	\$337,000	\$1,686,000	-\$865,000
3C	Restoration & East/West Area Dredging to 4' Depth	\$1,247,000	\$374,000	\$405,000	\$2,026,000	-\$525,000
3D	Wetland Restoration Only (No Dredging)	\$195,000	\$58,000	\$63,000	\$316,000	-\$2,235,000

- [1] A Class 4 screening-level opinion of probable cost, as defined by the American Association of Cost Engineers International (AACI International), has been prepared for these alternatives. The opinion of probable construction cost provided in this table is made based on Barr's experience and qualifications and represents our best judgment as experienced and qualified professionals familiar with the project. The cost opinion is based on project-related information available to Barr at this time and includes a conceptual-level design of the project.
- [2] Assumed 30% contingency on construction costs.
- [3] Assumed costs for design, permitting, and administration are 25% of construction costs.
- [4] Includes estimated initial construction cost (with 30% contingency) and design/permitting/admin costs (20% of construction cost).

**Table 7-4 Pollutant Reduction Cost Summary - Additional Options for Alternative 3**

Alt	Estimated Lifespan (years) <sup>(1)</sup>	30-Year Annualized Cost <sup>(2)</sup>	TP Load Reduction (lb/yr) <sup>(3)</sup>	TP Reduction (\$/lb/yr) <sup>(4)</sup>	TSS Load Reduction (lb/yr) <sup>(3)</sup>	TSS Reduction (\$/lb/yr) <sup>(4)</sup>
3	45	\$130,200	363	\$360	94,000	\$1.39
3A	34	\$110,700	275	\$410	71,000	\$1.60
3B	26	\$197,900	212	\$940	55,000	\$3.60
3C	33	\$103,400	284	\$370	74,000	\$1.40
3D <sup>(5)</sup>	--	--	--	--	--	--

- [1] Lifespan equates sediment volume dredged with sediment removal, based on assumed sediment density of 100 lbs/cubic foot
- [2] Annualized 30-year future worth, assumes 3% inflation rate. Annualized costs for wetland restoration alternatives do not include annual vegetation maintenance costs after the establishment period.
- [3] TP and TSS load reductions from Table 6-1 Water quality benefits summary
- [4] Annualized cost divided by estimated annual pollution load reduction
- [5] TSS and TP removal benefits for wetland restoration were not included.

## 7.2 Funding Sources

The planning level estimated cost for the recommended Alternative 3 is \$2,551,000 (see Section 7.1), including administration, design, permitting, engineering, and construction. The first phase of this project left a budget balance of more than \$1M. After the development of this feasibility study, the project balance will be approximately \$1.08 M. The Commission’s current CIP includes a placeholder of \$800,000 collected over 2027 and 2028 for the next phase of this project. In order to fund Alternative 3, the Commission would need to increase that levied amount. Alternative 3 may also be a good candidate for grant funding, as related to the components associated with the wetland restoration. The BCWMC should continue conversations with MPRB to ensure funding for long-term vegetation maintenance.

## 7.3 Project Schedule

For project construction to occur in 2027/2028, project design should begin in 2026. The BCWMC will hold a public hearing on this project at its meeting on September 17, 2026. Pending the outcome of the hearing, the BCWMC will officially order the project, and the BCWMC will certify to Hennepin County a final 2027 tax levy for this project. Both the City of Golden Valley and MPRB have indicated their preference that BCWMC remain as the project owner to advance the design and construction of the project, similar to Phase I. The construction work would likely begin in the fall of 2027, with final restoration complete in 2028.

Because of northern long-eared bat concerns, tree removal (greater than 3 inches in diameter) should occur during the period from November 1 through April 15, outside of the northern long-eared bat’s active season. Additionally, excavation during the winter would be appropriate to complete the major earthwork during periods with less frequent runoff events. The MDNR may require exclusionary fencing to prevent turtles from entering the lagoons. If so, it would have an impact on the timing of bidding so that the contractor could install the fencing. Other scheduling restraints that are not fully understood at this stage of this project, may also occur as the permitting process begins.

## 7.4 Temporary Easements

The entire project is located on public property owned by the MPRB or City of Golden Valley, and no temporary easements are anticipated for project construction.

## 8 Alternatives Assessment and Recommendations

In developing a recommendation, the BCWMC Engineer considered the implementation of the three Alternatives (i.e., the dredging only of Lagoons D, E, F, and G with or without wetland restoration) as individual projects or as a single combined project for all lagoons. The main considerations included an evaluation of whether the alternatives presented cost-effective TP and TSS loading reductions, offered habitat or ecological improvements, and appeared feasible from a permitting standpoint. Since the Lagoons D, E, and F were already designed, permitted, and partially constructed in Phase I, Alternative 1 may be the easiest path for implementation, although there are questions about the methods needed to remove sediment from the now deepened lagoons with steep side slopes.

### 8.1 Recommendation

The BCWMC Engineer recommends completing Alternative 3 - Wetland Restoration and Dredging of Lagoon G. As compared to Alternatives 1 and 2, the additional focus on habitat and ecological benefits that are attained with this alternative are more fully aligned with BCWMC goals. This recommendation is contingent upon a future agreement between the BCWMC and MPRB/Golden Valley for the long-term maintenance of the wetland vegetation. Staff with the city and with MPRB each expressed a desire to help facilitate long-term maintenance of the wetland in terms of including the work in existing contracts or potentially doing the work with in-house crews. MPRB was also open to further discussions on cost sharing the long-term maintenance work, understanding there would be benefit to golf course aesthetics. There is also a possibility of levying for maintenance activities through Hennepin County.

If such an agreement for long-term wetland vegetation maintenance cannot be achieved, the BCWMC Engineer recommends completing a dredging-only effort within Lagoon G. This recommendation would constitute a dredging effort that balances a project somewhere between Alternative 2 and the dredging only component of Alternative 3A (i.e., dredging of the east portion of Lagoon G to a 6-foot depth). The extent of dredging should be optimized to maximize water quality benefits from the dredging with the available funding.

Some additional considerations for the recommendation are as follows:

- Being that the project area lagoons are connected in series, the dredging in Lagoon G will inherently extend the life span of Lagoons D, E, and F downstream and extend the projected life span of improvements completed in Phase I
- Access to Lagoon G does not require use of the parkway, avoiding impacts to park users and risk of damage to the roadway (parkway is not designed for heavy truck traffic and presented challenges in Phase I)
- Alternative 3 has received the most interest and favorable comments from project stakeholders throughout the feasibility process
- The deeper water in Lagoons D, E, and F creates additional construction challenges for dredging
- The success of Alternative 3 – the Wetland Restoration component at Lagoon G will be dependent on a successful vegetation management strategy and long-term maintenance of the restored areas

- If wetland restoration is not included, dredging within Lagoon G – both Alternative 2 and the dredging only component of Alternative 3A – targets restoring a depth and open water aesthetic consistent with previous designs while removing contaminated sediment and extending the lifespan of Lagoons D, E, and F downstream.

The BCWMC Engineer recommends that the BCWMC use the opinions of cost identified in this study to develop a levy request for the selected project and that the project proceed to design and construction. Due to the high cost of this alternative, we anticipate that the BCWMC would likely need to spread the CIP funding over more than one year to construct the project.

# Memorandum

**To:** Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)  
**From:** Barr Engineering Co. (Josh Phillips, PE)  
**Subject:** Item 5C: Consider Approval of 90% Design Plans and Communication Plan for Bassett Creek Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) – Minneapolis  
BCWMC June 18, 2026 Meeting Agenda  
**Date:** June 11, 2026  
**Project:** 23270051.71 400 002

## **5C Consider Approval of 90% Design Plans and Communication Plan for Bassett Creek Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) – Minneapolis**

### Summary:

**Proposed Work:** Bassett Creek Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1), Minneapolis

**Basis for Review at Commission Meeting:** 90% Design Plans Review and Proposed Communications Plan

**Change Impervious Surface Area:** N/A

**Recommendations for Commission Action:**

- 1) Consider approval of 90% design plans.
- 2) Authorize Commission Engineer to finalize design and solicit bids for the project.
- 3) Consider amending the November 13, 2025 engineering services scope for the Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) to include the proposed communications plan and to increase the approved budget by \$7,000 to \$333,500.

### **Background**

At their March 19, 2026 meeting, the Commission approved the 60% design plans for this project, authorized the Commission Engineer to advance the project to the 90% design stage, and directed the Commission Engineer to develop a proposed communications plan for this project to inform the public of the proposed work.

### **90% Design**

Since March, the Commission Engineer has advanced the plans to the 90% design stage, updated the opinion of probable cost, and prepared draft documents for bidding, contracting, and technical specifications. The opinion of probable cost is attached to this memorandum and the 90% design plans are included with the meeting materials. The draft documents for bidding, contracting, and technical specifications are not attached to this memorandum. Applicable bidding and contracting documents and overall access plans will be provided to the BCWMC Attorney for review and for preparation of site access and staging area agreements. Comments and feedback from the attorney will be incorporated into the final versions of these documents prior to bidding.

The 90% design plans have further refined and defined the construction access locations, but much of the proposed work in the tunnel has not substantively changed, therefore the cost estimate is comparable to what was provided at the 30% and 60% design stages.

## Opinion of Cost

The table below summarizes our Engineer’s Opinion of Probable Costs, based on the 90% design plans. The detailed Opinion of Probable Costs is included as an attachment.

Item Description	Estimated Cost
Mobilization	\$104,000
Water Management / Erosion Control / Traffic Control	\$100,000
Removal and Dispose of Debris and Sediment	\$58,000
Tunnel Repairs	\$615,000
<b>Construction Subtotal</b>	<b>\$877,000</b>
Construction Contingency (20%)	\$175,000
Engineering Budget	\$333,500*
<b>Estimated Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$1,385,500</b>
Estimated Accuracy Range (-5%)	\$1,317,000
Estimated Accuracy Range (+10%)	\$1,525,000

\*Includes \$7,000 recommended for communication plan

## Schedule

The table below outlines the expected schedule for the Double Box Culvert project.

Task	Estimated Schedule
1) Stakeholder Engagement and BCWMC Meetings	Ongoing
2) Public Engagement	Not Applicable
3) Permitting	Not Applicable
4a) 60% Design	March 2026
4b) 90% Design	June 2026
4c) 100% Design	July 2026
5) Bidding Services	August 2026
6) Construction Services	Fall 2026 – Spring 2028

## City of Minneapolis Capital Project Task Force Approval

In addition to Commission approval of the 90% design plans, review and approval of the project at the 90% design stages is also required by the City of Minneapolis.

This project is tentatively scheduled for the June 22, 2026 City of Minneapolis Capital Project Task Force (CPTF) meeting. The Commission Engineer will incorporate any comments from the CPTF meeting into the design plans.

## Proposed Communications Plan

At their March 2026 meeting, the BCWMC requested that Barr develop a communications plan for informing the public and providing information about the Commission’s work on this project. Following that meeting, Barr worked with City of Minneapolis staff to develop a plan for project communications during

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)  
From: Barr Engineering Co. (Josh Phillips, PE)  
Subject: Item 5C: Consider Approval of 90% Design Plans and Communication Plan for Bassett Creek Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) – Minneapolis  
BCWMC June 18, 2026 Meeting Agenda  
Date: June 11, 2026  
Page: 3

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the maintenance and repair project. The proposed plan includes the creation of a project webpage on the BCWMC's website which will provide an overview of the project, describe project goals, partners, project budget, and construction timelines. The City of Minneapolis will also create a project page for inclusion on the city's website, which will include a link to the BCWMC's project page for additional information.

The proposed plan also includes the development of temporary construction signage to be hung within the project area during the timeframe of the repairs / construction activities to provide information on the project, highlight project partners, and include some general information on the importance and public benefit of the effort. The sign will also include a QR code where readers can link back to the BCWMC project page to obtain more information. The sign will be large enough to be viewed from a distance (assuming up to 4 feet X 10 feet) and constructed of vinyl, roll-up material (or similar) that can be fastened with ties to a fence.

The BCWMC administrator will create the content for the BCWMC project page, with support from Barr staff, as needed. Barr will create the layout and graphic design for the temporary construction signage in consultation with BCWMC and City of Minneapolis staff. Up to two construction signs will be printed and displayed within the project area during project activities (for example: along the Cedar Lake Regional Trail and potentially at a construction staging area). Barr will coordinate the printing and installation. Final locations for the signs will be determined in consultation with City of Minneapolis staff and will prioritize both display of the information within high traffic areas while also prioritizing public safety and appropriate handling of information related to public infrastructure. Costs do not include the replacement of sign(s) due to vandalism or other potential damage.

The estimated costs for the proposed communications plan are \$7,000 and these costs have already been added to the cost table in the earlier in this memo.

## **Recommendation for Commission Action**

- 1) Consider approval of 90% design plans.
- 2) Authorize Commission Engineer to finalize design and solicit bids for the project.
- 3) Consider amending the November 13, 2025 engineering services scope for the Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) to include the proposed communications plan and to increase the approved budget by \$7,000 to \$333,500.



CLIENT: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission  
 PROJECT: Bassett Creek Double Box Culvert Repairs (FCP-1)  
 LOCATION: Minneapolis, MN  
 PROJECT #: 23270051.71

SHEET:	1	OF	1
PREPARED BY:	Josh Phillips	DATE:	6/7/2026
ISSUED:	60% Design Review	DATE:	3/12/2026
ISSUED:	90% Design Review	DATE:	6/11/2026
ISSUED:		DATE:	

**Engineer's Opinion of Probable Project Cost**  
**90% Design**

ITEM NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	EST. QUANTITY	UNIT COST	ITEM COST	NOTES
1	Mobilization	LS	1	\$104,000.00	\$104,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
2	Water Management	LS	1	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
3	Temporary Access and Staging Area	LS	1	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
4	Remove Debris	LS	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
5	Removal Sediment	LF	286	\$168.00	\$48,048.00	1,2,3,4,5
6	Haul and Dispose Sediment	TON	5	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
7	Type 1 - Concrete Surface Repair	SF	79	\$108.00	\$8,532.00	1,2,3,4,5
8	Type 2 - Invert Repair	EA	5	\$5,500.00	\$27,500.00	1,2,3,4,5
9	Type 3 - Crack Repair	LF	3,303	\$74.00	\$244,422.00	1,2,3,4,5
10	Type 4 - Fracture Repair	LF	148	\$112.00	\$16,576.00	1,2,3,4,5
11	Type 5 - Tap Repair	EA	1	\$1,860.00	\$1,860.00	1,2,3,4,5
12	Type 6 - Shear Key Repair	LF	770	\$224.00	\$172,480.00	1,2,3,4,5
13	Hydrophilic Grout	GAL	422	\$160.00	\$67,536.00	1,2,3,4,5
14	Type 7 - Intall Manhole Step	EA	52	\$119.00	\$6,188.00	1,2,3,4,5
15	Type 8 - Reinforcement Spacer Repair	LF	1,200	\$50.00	\$60,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
16	Type 9 - Install Fall Protection Anchorage	LS	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	1,2,3,4,5
	CONSTRUCTION SUBTOTAL				\$877,000	1,2,3,4,5,6
	CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY (20%)				\$175,000	1,6,7
	ENGINEERING BUDGET				\$333,500	6,8,9
	<b>ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>				<b>\$1,385,500</b>	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8
	ESTIMATED ACCURACY RANGE		-5%		\$1,317,000	6,7,8
			10%		\$1,525,000	6,7,8
	<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>				<b>\$1,410,000</b>	

Notes

- <sup>1</sup> Limited Design Work Completed (90%). Quantities Based on Design Work Completed.
- <sup>3</sup> Unit Prices Based on Information Available at This Time.
- <sup>4</sup> Limited Soil Boring and Field Investigation Information Available.
- <sup>5</sup> Estimate assumes that projects will not be located on contaminated soil.
- <sup>6</sup> Estimate costs are reported to nearest thousand dollars.
- <sup>7</sup> This feasibility-level (Class 1, 70-100% design completion per ASTM E 2516-11) cost estimate is based on feasibility-level designs, alignments, quantities and unit prices. Costs will change with further design. Time value-of-money escalation costs are not included. A construction schedule is not available at this time. Contingency is an allowance for the net sum of costs that will be in the Final Total Project Cost at the time of the completion of design, but are not included at this level of project definition. The estimated accuracy range for the Total Project Cost as the project is defined is -10% to +15%. The accuracy range is based on professional judgement considering the level of design completed, the complexity of the project and the uncertainties in the project as scoped. The contingency and the accuracy range are not intended to include costs for future scope changes that are not part of the project as currently scoped or costs for risk contingency. Operation and Maintenance costs are not included.
- <sup>8</sup> Estimate costs are to design, construct, and permit each alternative. The estimated costs do not include maintenance, monitoring or additional tasks following construction.
- <sup>9</sup> Engineering costs assume inclusion of the \$7,000 for the proposed communications plan.



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners  
 From: Administrator Jester  
 Date: June 11, 2026

**RECOMMENDATION:** Set a maximum levy of \$2,862,900 for collection by Hennepin County in 2027

A maximum levy request for 2027 must be set at this meeting and submitted to the County by June 18<sup>th</sup>. The final levy will be set in September and can be lower than the maximum amount set at this meeting but cannot be higher. The table on page 2 shows the CIP projects slated for 2027 levy funding along with the current 2026 levy and the projected 2028 levy for context.

The table assumes Commission approval of the following projects and budgets. (The Bassett Creek Main Stem Restoration and Crystal Street Sweeper Cost Share budgets reflect prior approvals + 2.5% administrative cost.)

**Lagoon Dredging Project, Phase II** – Assumes implementation of Alternative 3

Design, Construction, Bidding	\$2,551,000
Feasibility Study	\$106,100
Legal Assistance	\$5,000
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$2,662,100</b>
<u>Budget remaining from Phase I</u>	<u>-\$1,169,467</u>
Additional Levy Needed	\$1,492,633
Administrative Expense	+\$37,316 (2.5% of levy)
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>	<b>\$1,530,000</b> (rounding to nearest hundred)

**Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Project**

Implementation of Phases 1 – 3	\$330,000
Feasibility Study	\$117,900
Legal Assistance	\$5,000
<u>Administrative Expense</u>	<u>\$11,322 (2.5% of levy)</u>
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>	<b>\$464,200</b> (rounding to nearest hundred)

**Double Box Culvert Repairs**

Design, Construction, Bidding	\$1,385,500
Feasibility Study	\$55,000
Legal Assistance	\$5,000
<u>Administrative Expense</u>	<u>\$36,138 (2.5% of levy)</u>
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>	<b>\$1,481,600</b> (rounding to nearest hundred)

Recommended 2027 Levy

Project Name	Project Number	Current 2026 Levy	Potential 2027 Levy	Projected 2028 Levy	TOTAL
Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk Lane to Plym Ice Center	Plymouth 2025 CR-P CIP #23	\$1,300,000			\$2,600,000 (including \$1.3M in 2025)
Dredging accumulated sediment in Main Stem Bassett Creek Lagoons, Wirth Park, Phase II	Golden Valley/MPLS BC-7 CIPv#15		\$765,000	\$765,000	\$1,530,000 (+\$1,169,467 from Phase I)
Crane Lk Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project at Ridgedale Mall	Minnetonka CL-4 CIP #5		\$464,200		\$464,200
Cost Share High Efficiency Street Sweeper for City of Crystal	CIP #30		\$19,300		\$19,300
Flood Control Project Double Box Culvert Repairs	Minneapolis FCP-1 CIP #13	\$950,000	\$331,600	\$200,000	\$1,481,600
Bassett Creek Main Stem Restoration - Regent Ave to Golden Valley Rd	Golden Valley 2024-CR-M CIP #8	\$653,500	\$1,293,600 <sup>1</sup>		\$3,534,600 (includes \$1,587,500 in 2024 and 2025)
SUB TOTAL		\$2,903,500	\$2,873,700	XXX (including several other projects on 5-year CIP)	
City and Grant Funding		-\$400,000 <sup>2</sup>	-\$10,800 <sup>1</sup>		
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>		<b>\$2,503,500</b>	<b>\$2,862,900</b>		

<sup>1</sup> \$10,800 from City of Golden Valley for 2024 CR-M

<sup>2</sup> \$400,000 Clean Water Fund Grant for 2025 CR-P

**Proposed BCWMC 5-year Capital Improvement Program: 2027 – 2031 CIP List (assuming levies as presented in item 5D memo)**

Item 5D.  
BCWMC 6-18-26

Project Name	City	#	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Totals
Medicine Lake Rd & Winnetka Ave Long Term Flood Mitigation Plan Implementation (DeCola Pond F Flood Storage & Diversion)	GV, Crystal, New Hope	BC-2,3,8, 10 CIP #9				\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000			\$2,000,000
Dredging accumulated sediment in Main Stem Bassett Creek Lagoons, Wirth Park	GV/MPLS	BC-7 CIP #15			\$765,000	\$765,000				\$1,530,000 (+\$1,169,46
Bassett Creek Main Stem Restoration: Regent Ave to Golden Valley Rd	GV	2024-CR-M CIP #8	\$953,500 <sup>1</sup>	\$653,500	\$1,293,600					\$3,534,600 (inc.
Crane Lk Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project at Ridgedale Mall	MTKA	CL-4 CIP #5			\$464,200					\$464,200
Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk Lane to 38 <sup>th</sup> Ave. North <sup>2</sup>	Plymouth	2025CR-P CIP #23	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000 <sup>2</sup>						\$2,600,000
Toledo Ave/Minnaqua Pond Stormwater Improvements & Flood Reduction	GV	BC-13 CIP #14				\$500,000	\$500,000			\$900,000
Flood Control Project Double Box Culvert Repairs	MPLS	FCP-1 CIP #13		\$950,000	\$331,600	\$200,000				\$1,481,600
Fernbrook Regional Stormwater Improvements	Plymouth	PC-1 CIP #24				\$500,000	\$2,000,000	\$500,000		\$3,000,000
Cost Share High Efficiency Street Sweeper for City of Crystal (implement results of street sweeping prioritization project)	Crystal	CIP #30			\$19,300					\$19,300
Wirth Lake Aeration	GV	CIP #36				\$150,000				\$150,000
Medicine Lake Improvements (results of TMDL Assessment Project)	Plymouth Med Lk	CIP #1				\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000			\$2,000,000
Northwood Lake Improvements (results of TMDL)	New Hope	CIP #3					\$500,000	\$500,000		\$1,000,000
Lost Lake Improvements (results of TMDL)	Plymouth	CIP #4				\$500,000	\$250,000			\$750,000
Bassett Creek Park water quality improvements or wetland restoration	MPLS	CIP #12					\$350,000	\$350,000		\$700,000
Deep Tunnel Sediment Removal	MPLS	CIP #16						\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Haha Wakpadan / Bassett Creek restoration within Brookview Golf Course	Golden Valley	CIP #18						\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$2,500,000
Bassett Creek Park Pond Dredging and Upstream Improvements	Crystal	CIP #22						\$600,000	\$600,000	\$1,200,000
Implementation of water quality improvement projects resulting from the Upper Mississippi River Bacteria TMDL	Multiple	CIP #34						\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Projects resulting from Bassett Creek Subwatershed Analysis (SWA)	GV	CIP #7							\$500,000+	NA
Bassett Creek Valley floodplain reduction & stormwater mgmt. projects	MPLS	CIP #10							\$1,000,000+	NA
Streambank restoration and channel/habitat improvements on priority streams; various	Multiple	CIP #25							\$600,000+	NA
			2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	
Estimated Total Project Cost			<b>\$2,603,500</b>	<b>2,903,500</b>	<b>\$2,873,700</b>	<b>\$4,615,000</b>	<b>\$5,600,000</b>	<b>\$4,250,000</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	
Estimated Use of BCWMC Closed Project Account Funds			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
City and Grant Funding			\$300,000 <sup>1</sup>	\$400,000 <sup>2</sup>	\$10,800 <sup>1</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
<b>Total Levy</b>			<b>\$2,303,500</b>	<b>\$2,503,500</b>	<b>\$2,862,900</b>	<b>\$4,615,000</b>	<b>\$5,600,000</b>	<b>\$4,250,000</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Golden Valley funding of \$310,800 for 2024CR-M (\$300,000 noted in 2025; \$10,800 noted in 2027) <sup>2</sup> Clean Water Fund Grant for 2025CR-P = \$400,000



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners and Alternates  
From: Administrator Jester on behalf of Administrative Services Committee  
Date: June 10, 2026

#### **RE: Recommendation to Approve Contract for Organizational Assessment Project**

The 2026 Watershed Management Plan includes two evaluation and assessment activities to 1) complete a comprehensive assessment of BCWMC organizational structure and staffing options, benefits, and challenges (EA-4); and 2) complete a comprehensive assessment of funding mechanisms available to BCWMC (EA-5). The two assessments were combined into one project. A request for proposals (RFP) for this project was developed by the Administrative Services Committee and approved by the Commission at their meeting April 16<sup>th</sup>. The RFP was distributed to approximately 15 consultants in late April.

The BCWMC received a proposal from one firm, Strategic Consulting and Coaching (SCC). No other proposals were received. The Administrative Services Committee reviewed SCC's proposal and scored the proposal using a set of pre-determined metrics. Overall, the proposal received high scores from committee members. SCC's proposed project budget is within the Commission's budget for this project.

The committee discussed the proposal at their meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and approved a recommendation that the Commission enter a contract with SCC, pending outcomes of an interview with the consultant's team.

On June 8<sup>th</sup> Committee members Polzin and Pentel and I interviewed Strategic Consulting and Coaching's project manager and several other team members who would be working on this project, if awarded the contract. We had a good discussion with the SCC team, and they provided additional details on their experience with similar projects. We were impressed by their experience and depth of expertise and believe SCC will fulfill the project objectives and develop a comprehensive set of results and recommendations to the Commission.

I checked with two references provided by SCC. Both references reported good experiences with SCC and recommended them for projects like the BCWMC assessment.

For reference, the [RFP can be found with April meeting materials](#). (A few minor edits were made before distribution, including revisions to the project timeline.)

**RECOMMENDATION:** The BCWMC Administrative Services Committee recommends that the Commission approve a contract with Strategic Consulting and Coaching for the Comprehensive Assessment of Organizational Structure and Funding Mechanisms for the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC). Staff recommends that the project be funded with BCWMC Special Project funds.

The contract document is included with meeting materials. The proposal from SCC is considered non-public data and is not included with meeting materials but was sent directly to commissioners and alternates via email.

## ATTACHMENT A

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Professional Services Agreement (this “Agreement”) is effective on the 18th day of June, 2026 (the “Effective Date”) by and between the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, a Minnesota joint powers organization (the “Commission”), and Strategic Consulting & Coaching, LLC, a Minnesota Limited Liability Company (the “Contractor”).

**I. SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED.** The Contractor will perform for the Commission all services (“Services”) related to a comprehensive assessment of organizational structure and funding mechanisms, in accordance with and as provided in its proposal attached hereto as Exhibit A (the “Proposal”). For avoidance of doubt, said Proposal is incorporated into this Agreement as if fully set forth herein. If any terms contained in the Proposal conflict with any terms in this written Agreement, the terms in the Agreement shall prevail. The Contractor will endeavor to perform and complete the Services within timelines contained in the Proposal. All Services provided by the Contractor under this Agreement shall be provided in a manner consistent with the level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by professional consultants currently providing similar services.

**II. COST OF SERVICES.** The Commission agrees to pay the Contractor for providing the Services an amount not to exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_, as provided in the Proposal. Any additional charges must be approved by the Commission in writing before expenses are incurred. No additional commissions, fees, or reimbursement shall otherwise be due under this Agreement. Additionally, the Commission shall not be responsible for payment for any work performed by the Contractor that is not expressly listed on the Proposal unless otherwise expressly agreed to by the Commission in writing. The Contractor shall submit invoices for the Services it provides to the Commission on a monthly basis. The itemized invoices shall identify all work completed, and once approved, invoices submitted will be processed and paid in the same manner as other claims made to the Commission, and in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 471.425.

**III. TERM; TERMINATION.** The term of this Agreement shall begin on the Effective Date and end following completion of and payment for all Services in accordance with the Proposal. Notwithstanding any other provision herein to the contrary, this Agreement may be terminated as follows: (1) the parties, by mutual written agreement, may terminate this Agreement at any time; (2) the Contractor may terminate this Agreement in the event of a material breach of the Agreement by the Commission, upon providing 30 days’ written notice to the Commission, if the Commission fails to cure said breach within those 30 days; and (3) the Commission may terminate this Agreement at any time at its option, for any reason or no reason at all, upon providing 30 days’ written notice to the Contractor. Following termination, the Commission shall pay the Contractor for all Services provided through the date of termination.

**IV. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.** All Services provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be provided by the Contractor as an independent contractor and not as an employee of the Commission for any purpose. Any and all officers, employees, subcontractors, and agents of the Contractor, or any other person engaged by the Contractor in the performance of Services pursuant to this Agreement, shall not be considered employees of the Commission. Any and all actions which arise as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of the Contractor, its officers, employees, subcontractors, or agents, or other

persons engaged by the Contractor in the performance of Services pursuant to this Agreement, shall not be the obligation or responsibility of the Commission.

**V. INDEMNIFICATION.** The Contractor, and any and all officers, employees, and agents of the Contractor, or any other person engaged by the Contractor in the performance of Services pursuant to this Agreement, shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Commission and its officials, employees, contractors and agents from any loss, claim, liability, and expense (including reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses of litigation) arising from, or based in the whole, or in any part, on any negligent act or omission by the Contractor, its officers, employees, and agents, or any other person engaged by the Contractor in the performance of Services pursuant to this Agreement. In no event shall the Commission be liable to the Contractor for consequential, incidental, indirect, special, or punitive damages. Nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a waiver or limitation of any immunity or limitation on liability to which the Commission is entitled under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 466 or otherwise.

**VI. INSURANCE.** The Contractor agrees that before any of the Services can be performed hereunder, the Contractor shall procure at a minimum: worker’s compensation Insurance as required by Minnesota state law; and commercial general liability in an amount of not less than \$1,500,000.00 per occurrence for bodily injury or death arising out of each occurrence, and \$1,500,000.00 per occurrence for property damage. To meet the commercial general liability requirements, the Contractor may use a combination of excess and umbrella coverage.

**VII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** The Contractor shall use best efforts to meet all professional obligations to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of impropriety.

**VIII. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS.** The Parties to this Agreement do not intend to confer on any third party any rights under this Agreement.

**IX. NOTICES.** Any notices permitted or required by this Agreement shall be deemed given when personally delivered or upon deposit in the United States mail, postage fully prepaid, certified, return receipt requested, addressed to:

Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attn: \_\_\_\_\_

Commission: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission  
Attention: Laura Jester  
P.O. Box 250827  
Golden Valley, MN 55427

or such other contact information as either party may provide to the other by notice given in accordance with this provision.

**X. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

**A. Entire Agreement.** This Agreement shall constitute the entire agreement between the Commission and the Contractor, and supersedes any other written or oral agreements between the

Commission and the Contractor. This Agreement can only be modified in writing signed by the Commission and the Contractor.

**B. Data Practices Act Compliance.** Data provided, produced or obtained under this Agreement shall be administered in accordance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13. The Contractor will immediately report to the Commission any requests from third parties for information relating to this Agreement. The Contractor agrees to promptly respond to inquiries from the Commission concerning data requests.

**C. Audit.** The Contractor must allow the Commission, or its duly authorized agents, and the state auditor or legislative auditor reasonable access to the Contractor's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices that are pertinent to all Services provided under this Agreement for a minimum of six years from the termination of this Agreement.

**D. Choice of Law and Venue.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Minnesota. Any disputes, controversies, or claims arising under this Agreement shall be heard in the state or federal courts of Minnesota and the parties waive any objections to jurisdiction.

**E. No Assignment.** This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without the written consent of the other party.

**F. No Discrimination.** The Contractor agrees not to discriminate in providing products and Services under this Agreement on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, status with regard to public assistance, or religion.

**G. Severability.** The provisions of this Agreement are severable. If any portion of this Agreement is, for any reason, held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law, such decision will not affect the remaining provisions of the Agreement.

**H. Waiver.** Any waiver by either party of a breach of any provision of this Agreement will not affect, in any respect, the validity of the remainder of this Agreement.

**I. Compliance with Laws.** The Contractor shall exercise due professional care to comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, ordinances and regulations in effect as of the date the Contractor agrees to provide the Services contemplated herein.

**J. Headings.** The headings contained in this Agreement have been inserted for convenience of reference only and shall in no way define, limit, or affect the scope and intent of this Agreement.

[remainder of page left intentionally blank]

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have executed, or caused to be executed by their duly authorized officials, this Agreement which shall take effect on the date first written above.

**THE COMMISSION:**

**CONTRACTOR:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: Secretary

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**  
The Proposal

[to be inserted]



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission MEMO

Date: June 10, 2026  
From: Laura Jester, Administrator  
To: BCWMC Commissioners  
RE: **Administrator's Report**

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

**CIP Projects** (more resources at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.>)

**2020 Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-5), Minneapolis:** A feasibility study by the Commission Engineer was developed in 2018 and approved in January 2019. The study included wetland delineations, soil borings, public open houses held in conjunction with MPRB's Bryn Mawr Meadows Park improvement project, and input from MPRB's staff and design consultants. Project construction year was revised from 2020 and 2022 to better coincide with the MPRB's planning and implementation of significant improvements and redevelopment Bryn Mawr Meadows Park where the project will be located. A public hearing for this project was held September 19, 2019. The project was officially ordered at that meeting. In January 2020 this project was awarded a \$400,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR; a grant work plan was completed and the grant with BWSR was fully executed in early May 2020. The project and the grant award was the subject of an article in the Southwest Journal in February: <https://www.southwestjournal.com/voices/green-digest/2020/02/state-awards-grant-to-bryn-mawr-runoff-project/>. In September 2020, Minneapolis and MPRB staff met to review the implementation agreement and maintenance roles. BCWMC developed options for contracting and implementation which were presented at the November meeting. At that meeting staff was directed to develop a memorandum of understanding or agreement among BCWMC, MPRB, and city of Minneapolis to recognize and assign roles and responsibilities for implementation more formally. The draft agreement was developed over several months and multiple conversations among the parties. At the May 2021 meeting the Commission approved to waive potential conflict of the Commission legalcounsel and reviewed a proposal for project design by the Commission Engineer. The updated design proposal and the design agreement among all three parties were approved at the June 2021 meeting. Four public open houses were held in the park in 2021 to gather input on park concepts. Project partners met regularly throughout design to discuss schedules, planning and design components, and next steps. Concept designs were approved by the MRPB Board in late 2021. Staff met with MnDOT regarding clean out of Penn Pond and continue discussions. 50% design plans were approved by the Commission at the January 2022 meeting; 90% design plans were approved at the March 2022 meeting along with an agreement with MPRB and Minneapolis for construction. The agreement was approved by all three bodies. Commission Engineers finalized designs and assisted with bidding documents. Bids were returned in early August. At the meeting in August, the Commission approved moving forward with project construction (through MPRB), and approved a construction budget (higher than previously budgeted) and an amended engineering services budget. MPRB awarded the construction contract. In late November the contractor began the initial earthwork and started on portions of the stormwater pond excavations. By late December the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of construction was complete with the ponds formed and constructed. The contractor began driving piles in late January and began installing underground piping in early February. At the March meeting, the Commission approved an increase to the engineering services budget and learned the construction budget is currently tracking well under budget. The change order resulting from the City of Minneapolis' request to replace a city sewer pipe resulted in extra design/engineering costs that were approved by the Administrator so work could continue without delays. The MPRB will reimburse the Commission for those extra costs and will, in-turn, be paid by the city. In early May construction was focused in the Morgan / Laurel intersection. The right-of-way storm sewer work is complete including the rerouting of some of the existing storm infrastructure and installation of the stormwater diversion structures. Construction of the ponds is complete and stormwater from the neighborhood to the west is now being routed through new storm sewers to the ponds. Vegetation is currently being

established around the ponds. At the October 2023 meeting the Commission approved an amendment to the agreement with MPRB and Minneapolis in order to facilitate grant closeout. At the December 2023 meeting the Commission approved a partial reimbursement to MPRB for \$400,000. Corrections to a weir that was installed at the wrong elevation were made in spring 2024. A final grant report was submitted to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources in late January 2024 and the final grant payment was recently received. Project as-built drawings were completed and an operations and maintenance plan is being finalized. August 2025 update: St. Anthony Falls Lab is using the new ponds as part of a study to understand how stormwater pond plant communities affect functioning of stormwater ponds, and how pond design, maintenance and management can be adapted to promote conditions that maximize water quality benefits in urban and road-impacted areas. Project partners recently met to agree on a timeline for completing all documents and agreements between MPRB and Minneapolis. A final project report and reimbursement request are expected at the August Commission meeting. Project website:

<http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bryn-mawr-meadows-water-quality-improvement-project>

Original Project Budget: \$1,835,000.00; Remaining Funds: \$1,079,310.44 (Funds will be used to reimburse MPRB and City of Minneapolis upon receipt of final report and reimbursement request with appropriate documentation.)

**2020 Jevne Park Stormwater Improvement Project (ML-21) Medicine Lake (No change since July 2023):** At their meeting in July 2018, the Commission approved a proposal from the Commission Engineer to prepare a feasibility study for this project. The study got underway last fall and the city's project team met on multiple occasions with the Administrator and Commission Engineer. The Administrator and Engineer also presented the draft feasibility study to the Medicine Lake City Council on February 4, 2019 and a public open house was held on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The feasibility study was approved at the April Commission meeting with intent to move forward with option 1. The city's project team is continuing to assess the project and understand its implications on city finances, infrastructure, and future management. The city received proposals from 3 engineering firms for project design and construction. At their meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Medicine Lake City Council voted to continue moving forward with the project and negotiating the terms of the agreement with BCWMC. Staff was directed to continue negotiations on the agreement and plan to order the project pending a public hearing at this meeting. Staff continues to correspond with the city's project team and city consultants regarding language in the agreement. The BCWMC held a public hearing on this project on September 19, 2019 and received comments from residents both in favor and opposed to the project. The project was officially ordered on September 19, 2019. On October 4, 2019, the Medicine Lake City Council took action not to move forward with the project. At their meeting in October 2019, the Commission moved to table discussion on the project. The project remains on the 2020 CIP list. In a letter dated January 3, 2022, the city of Medicine Lake requested that the Commission direct its engineer to analyze alternatives to the Jevne Park Project that could result in the same or similar pollutant removals and/or stormwater storage capacity. At the March meeting, the Commission directed the Commission Engineer to prepare a scope and budget for the alternatives analysis which were presented and discussed at the April 2022 meeting. No action was taken at that meeting to move forward with alternatives analysis. In May and June 2023, Commission staff discussed the possibility of incorporating stormwater management features into a redevelopment of Jevne Park currently being considered by the City of Medicine Lake. After review of the preliminary park design plans, the Commission Engineer and I recommended implementation of the original CIP Project to the City. Project webpage:

<http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=467>.

Original Project Budget \$500,000; Remaining Funds: \$ 443,609.25 (Funds are held until a viable project is identified or Commission officially closes the project and returns funds to the Closed Project Account.)

**2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project and Carp Management, Golden Valley (SL-3):** Repairs to the baffle structure were made in 2017 after anchor weights pulled away from the bottom of the pond and some vandalism occurred in 2016. The city continues to monitor the baffle and check the anchors, as needed. Vegetation around the pond was planted in 2016 and a final inspection of the vegetation was completed last fall. Once final vegetation has been completed, erosion control will be pulled and the contract will be closed. The Commission Engineer began the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring Project last summer and presented results and recommendations at the May 2018 meeting. Additional effectiveness monitoring is being performed this summer. At the July meeting the Commission Engineer reported that over 200 carp were discovered in the pond during a recent carp survey. At the September meeting the Commission approved the Engineer's

recommendation to perform a more in-depth survey of carp including transmitters to learn where and when carp are moving through the system. At the October 2020 meeting, the Commission received a report on the carp surveys and recommendations for carp removal and management. Carp removals were performed through the Sweeney Lake Water Quality Improvement Project. Results were presented at the February 2021 meeting along with a list of options for long term carp control. Commission took action approving evaluation of the long-term options to be paid from this Schaper Pond Project. Commission and Golden Valley staff met in March 2021 to further discuss pros and cons of various options. At the September 2021 meeting, the Commission approved utilizing an adaptive management approach to carp management in the pond (\$8,000) and directed staff to discuss use of stocking panfish to predate carp eggs. Commission Engineers will survey the carp in 2022. At the April meeting, the Commission approved panfish stocking in Schaper Pond along with a scope and budget for carp removals to be implemented later in 2022 if needed. Commission staff informed lake association and city about summer activities and plans for a fall alum treatment. Approximately 1,000 bluegills were released into Schaper Pond in late May. Carp population assessments by electroshocking in Sweeney Lake and Schaper Pond were completed last summer. A report on the carp assessment was presented in January. Monitoring in Schaper Pond in 2023 and a reassessment of carp populations in 2024 were approved in early 2023. Carp box netting in 2024 is also approved, as needed. A carp survey of Schaper Pond and Sweeney Lake were recently completed which found higher than expected carp numbers in Sweeney Lake. Carp Solutions completed box netting in Sweeney Lake in late September 2024. At the October meeting the Commission Engineer reported that 191 carp were removed bringing the carp density to about 31.3 kg/hectare, less than the 100 kg/hectare threshold for water quality problems. A more detailed report on carp population status and recommendations for further monitoring in Schaper Pond was presented and approved at the January 2025 meeting. Monitoring on the pond got underway last summer. Challenges during the 2025 monitoring season included heavy rains and impacts to a city manhole that house monitoring equipment which had to be removed. An amendment to the effectiveness monitoring budget was approved at the October 2025 meeting. At the February meeting, Commission Engineers presented results of the 2025 monitoring and the Commission approved a cost benefit analysis of long-term carp management with the remaining project funds. Carp surveys in Schaper Pond and Sweeney Lake took place in May. Results will be reported at a future meeting. Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=277>.

Original Project Budget: \$612,000; Remaining Funds: \$ 7,103

**2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2) (No changes since August 2024):** At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters.

Water monitoring continues to determine if/when a second alum treatment is necessary. Monitoring results from 2023 were presented at the July 2024 meeting. Results show continued excellent water quality. The CIP funding remains in place for this project as a 2<sup>nd</sup> treatment may be needed in the future. Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=278>.

Original Project Budget: \$163,000; Remaining Funds: \$71,962.18

**2013 Four Seasons Area Water Quality Project (NL-2) (No change since April):** At their meeting in December 2016, the Commission took action to contribute up to \$830,000 of Four Seasons CIP funds for stormwater management at the Agora development on the old Four Seasons Mall location. At their February 2017 meeting the Commission approved an agreement with Rock Hill Management (RHM) and an agreement with the City of Plymouth allowing the developer access to a city-owned parcel to construct a wetland restoration project and to ensure ongoing maintenance of the CIP project components. At the August 2017 meeting, the Commission approved the 90% design plans for the CIP portion of the project. At the April 2018 meeting, Commissioner Prom

notified the Commission that RHM recently disbanded its efforts to purchase the property for redevelopment. In 2019, a new potential buyer/developer (Dominium) began preparing plans for redevelopment at the site. City staff, the Commission Engineer and I have met on numerous occasions with the developer and their consulting engineers to discuss stormwater management and opportunities with “above and beyond” pollutant reductions. Concurrently, the Commission attorney has been working to draft an agreement to transfer BCWMC CIP funds for the above and beyond treatment. At their meeting in December, Dominium shared preliminary project plans and the Commission discussed the redevelopment and potential “above and beyond” stormwater management techniques. At the April 2020 meeting, the Commission conditionally approved the 90% project plans. The agreements with Dominium and the city of Plymouth to construct the project were approved May 2020 and project designers coordinated with Commission Engineers to finalize plans per conditions. In June 2021, the City of Plymouth purchased the property from Walmart. The TAC discussed a potential plan for timing of construction of the stormwater management BMPs by the city in advance of full redevelopment. At the August 2021 meeting, the Commission approved development of an agreement per TAC recommendations. The city recently demolished the mall building and removed much of the parking lot. At the December meeting the Commission approved the 90% design plans and a concept for the city to build the CIP project ahead of development and allow the future developer to take credit for the total phosphorus removal over and above 100 pounds. At the July meeting, the Commission approved an agreement with the city to design, construct, and maintain the CIP project components and allow a future developer to use pollutant removal capacity above 100 pounds of total phosphorus. A fully executed agreement is now filed. The updated 90% project plans were approved at the September 2023 meeting. Changes to those plans were needed to address permitting requirements resulted. Those changes were presented at the November 2024 meeting and were administratively approved by the Commission Engineers. Construction of the wetland restoration is complete (see photo). The Commission approved a reimbursement request at the March 2026 meeting. Project webpage: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=282>.

Original Project Budget: \$990,000; Remaining Funds: \$ 235,544.67 (Funds will be used to reimburse City of Plymouth upon receipt of final report and reimbursement request with appropriate documentation.)

**2021 Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project (PL-7):** The feasibility study for this project was approved in May 2020 with Alternative 3 being approved for the drainage improvement work. After a public hearing was held with no public in attendance, the Commission ordered the project on September 17, 2020 and entered an agreement with the city of Plymouth to implement the project in coordination with commission staff. The city collected additional chloride data in winter 2020 in order to better pinpoint the source of high chlorides loads within the subwatershed. Partners involved in the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI) are interested in collaborating on this project. A proposal from Plymouth and BCWMC for the “Parkers Lake Chloride Project Facilitation Plan” was approved for \$20,750 in funding by the HCCI at their meeting in March. The project will 1) Compile available land use data and chloride concentrations, 2) Develop consensus on the chloride sources to Parkers Lake and potential projects to address these sources, and 3) Develop a recommendation for a future pilot project to reduce chloride concentrations in Parkers Lake, which may be able to be replicated in other areas of Hennepin County, and 4) help target education and training needs by landuse. A series of technical stakeholder meetings were held to develop recommendations on BMPs. A technical findings report was presented at the July 2022 meeting. At the September 2022 meeting, the Commission approved a scope and budget for a study of the feasibility of in-lake chloride reduction activities which was presented at the November 2022 meeting. The Commission directed staff to develop a scope for a holistic plan for addressing chloride runoff from the most highly contributing subwatershed. Commission and Plymouth staff continue to work on outreach and engagement with properties in the subwatershed, primarily through activities by WMWA’s coordinator position. At the March 2025 meeting the Commission approved a contract with Bolton and Menk for assessment of salt storage and other practices at 4 properties. In November 2025, the Commission approved a reimbursement agreement with Hennepin County in order to utilize grant funding for this project. A final report from Bolton & Menk was reviewed, discussed among partners, and included with Commission meeting materials in May 2026. Also in May, the Commission approved an agreement with Bolton & Menk for a second phase of this project. Project website: [www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/parkers-lake-drainage-improvement-project](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/parkers-lake-drainage-improvement-project)

Original Project Budget: \$485,000; Remaining Funds: \$ 231,668.38

**2022 Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Facility (ML-12) (No change since June 2025):** The feasibility study for this project was approved in June 2021 with public engagement and a project kick-off meeting in the following months. The project was officially ordered by the Commission in September 2021. The city hired Barr Engineering to develop the project designs. The BCWMC received a \$300,000 Clean Water Fund grant from BWSR in December 2021 and the grant agreement approved in March 2022. 50% design plans were approved in February 2022 and 90% plans were approved at the May 2022 meeting. Construction began in November 2022 and winter construction was finished in late January 2023. Activities in spring 2023 included completing grading (topsoil adjustments); paving (concrete, bituminous); light pole and fixture install; benches install; site clean up and prep for restoration contractor. In late May 2023, Peterson Companies completed their construction tasks and the project transitioned to Traverse de Sioux for site restoration and planting. A small area of unexpected disturbance from construction was added to the overall area to be restored with native plants through a minor change order. Site restoration, planting, and seeding was completed in late June 2023. A final grant report was submitted to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources in late January 2025 and all grant funds were received. The Commission approved reimbursement requests from Golden Valley at their October 2024 and March 2025 meetings. The project was featured in the “Snap Shots” newsletter from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources. A final reimbursement request and report will be submitted after final vegetation establishment. [www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/medley-park-stormwater-treatment-facility](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/medley-park-stormwater-treatment-facility)

Original Project Budget: \$1,500,000; Remaining Funds: \$141,862.80 (Funds will be used to reimburse City of Golden Valley upon receipt of final report and reimbursement request with appropriate documentation.)

**2022 SEA School-Wildwood Park Flood Reduction Project (BC-2, 3, 8, 10) (No change since December 2023):** The feasibility study for this project was approved in June 2021. Study development included meetings with and input from city staff, Robbinsdale Area School representatives, technical stakeholders, and the public. In September 2021, a resolution was approved to officially order the project, submit levy amounts to the county, and enter an agreement with the city to design and construct the project. The city hired Barr Engineering to develop the project designs. 50% Design Plans were approved at the January 2022 meeting. A public open house was held September 2022 and 90% were approved at the October 2022 Commission meeting. Six construction bids were received in late February 2023 with several of them under engineer’s estimates. The city contracted with Rachel Contracting and construction got underway in early spring 2023. By late June excavation was completed and the playground area was prepped and ready for concrete work to begin on July 5. The city hired Landbridge Ecological for restoration work in summer 2023. At the end of July 2023, utility crews lowered the watermain and installed the storm sewer diversions into the park from along Duluth Street. The hydrodynamic separator was also set (with a crane). Crews also worked on the iron-enhanced sand filter and the outlet installation, stone work on the steepened slopes, trail prep, bituminous paving, and concrete work (curb and gutter, pads, and ADA ramps). The preconstruction meeting for the restoration work was held with work to begin late August or early September 2023. The city awarded the contract for the DeCola Pond D outlet work to Bituminous Roadways Inc. in August 2023. The SEA School site construction is complete and restoration work is complete. The DeCola Pond D outlet replacement and site restoration is also now complete. Project webpage: [www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/sea-school-wildwood-park-flood-reduction-project](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/sea-school-wildwood-park-flood-reduction-project).

Original Project Budget: \$1,300,000; Remaining Funds: \$1,215,950 (Funds will be used to reimburse City of Golden Valley upon receipt of final report and reimbursement request with appropriate documentation.)

**Bassett Creek Restoration Project: Regent Ave. to Golden Valley Rd. (2024 CR-M), Golden Valley:**

A feasibility study for this project got underway in fall 2022. A public open house was held March 1<sup>st</sup> with 30 residents attending. The draft feasibility report was presented at the April meeting. A final feasibility report was presented at the June meeting where the Commission approved the implementation of Alternative 3: to restore all high, medium, and low priority sites. A Clean Water Fund grant application for \$350,000 was recently developed and submitted to BWSR. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at its September meeting and officially ordered the project and set the final levy. An agreement with the city of Golden Valley for design and construction was approved at the November 2024 Commission meeting. The Commission (Commission Engineers) will design the project and provide engineering services. A scope of work for engineering services was approved at the March meeting. A drone survey of the entire stretch was completed in early April. A project kick-off meeting was held with city and commission staff on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Field and desktop surveys are continuing. Meetings regarding utility easements and communications planning were recently held. A public open house on the project was held on June 5<sup>th</sup>. At the June meeting the Commission

approved a scope and budget for a wetland delineation and architectural survey which are unexpected requirements for a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. That work is getting underway. Additionally, Administrator Jester approved a scope and budget for an archeological survey that was included in the original engineering services scope as a contingency task with approval delegated to the Administrator. Commission Engineers presented the 50% designs at the July meeting. At the August meeting, commissioners reviewed a reprioritization of eroded sites and discussed cost saving and implementation options. Commissioners approved a new project budget to accommodate repair of new and expanded erosion and vegetation restoration on public and private properties along the project corridor. A public open house was held October 30<sup>th</sup>. Letters to residents along the project were sent by Golden Valley requesting temporary easements for the project. 90% plans were approved at the November meeting. An amendment to the engineering services budget and overall project budget were approved in January. The city recently awarded a contract for construction and vegetation restoration to MNL (Minnesota Native Landscapes). Permitting is wrapping up and an easement agreement with Met Council is in development. A pre-construction meeting was held with the contractor June 10<sup>th</sup>. Construction is slated to begin this summer. Project website: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bassett-creek-restoration-project-regent-ave-golden-valley-r>

Original Project Budget: \$1,941,000; Amended Project Budget: \$3,534,580; Remaining Funds: \$ 2,918,786

**Sochacki Park Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-14) (No change since March):** This project was added to the CIP through a minor plan amendment as approved at the March 2023 Commission meeting with CIP funding set at \$600,000. The project involves a suite of projects totaling an estimated \$2.3M aimed improving the water quality in three ponds and Bassett Creek based on a subwatershed analysis by Three Rivers Park District (TRPD). A memorandum of understanding about the implementation process, schedules, and procedural requirements for the project was executed in April 2023 among BCWMC, TRPD, and the cities of Golden Valley and Robbinsdale. A feasibility study funded by TRPD was approved in September 2023. The Commission held a public hearing on this project at the same meeting and officially ordered the project and set the final levy. A cooperative agreement with TRPD and Robbinsdale was approved at the April 2024 meeting. Three Rivers Park District contracted with Barr Engineering to develop project designs. A Phase II Environmental Assessment was completed last year. Soil contamination (including PCBs) was found in some areas to be above MPCA action levels.

The following are recent (2025) updates for the project: MPCA approved the response action plan; TRPD cleared the federal environmental review requirements for the project and were issued a release of funds for the HUD grant; additional test pits were completed for soil pre-characterization, and the extent of contaminants is less than anticipated, especially with regards to PCBs; Hennepin County ERF grant for \$447,000 was awarded for remediation efforts. A technical stakeholder meeting was held in March week with permitting agencies. Project design will get underway soon with 50% plans coming to the Commission within the next few months. TRPD is hoping to bid the project this fall. Project webpage: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/sochacki-park-water-quality-improvement-project>.

Original Project Budget: \$600,000; Remaining Funds: 586,500.00

**Plymouth Creek Restoration Project Dunkirk Lane to 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. North (2026 CR-P) (No change since June):** A scope and budget for a feasibility study was approved at the October meeting. A project kick off meeting was held November 3<sup>rd</sup> and a technical stakeholder meeting was held December 5<sup>th</sup>. Field investigations and desktop analyses are complete. Site prioritization ranking criteria are being developed and concept designs are being developed. A public open house was held on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Residents who attended are in favor of the project and had questions about impacts to trees, potential construction activities in specific reaches, and buckthorn removal. The feasibility study was approved at the May meeting with Option 3a being approved for implementation. At the June meeting the Commission approved a maximum levy for 2025 that includes funding for this project which was approved by the Hennepin County Board August 6<sup>th</sup>. At its September meeting, the Commission held a public hearing on this project and approved a resolution officially ordering the project, setting the 2025 levy, and entering an agreement with the City of Plymouth for design and construction. The city will hold a public open house on this project in spring 2025 after the city contracts with an engineering firm. A Clean Water Fund grant for \$400,000 was awarded by BWSR. The grant agreement and sub-grant agreement were approved at the April meeting. The City of Plymouth hired Moore Engineering for project designs. Commission Engineers sent requested data, surveys, and models to Moore Engineers at the request of the City of

Plymouth. A public meeting will be scheduled for later this year. A pre-permitting meeting was held with permitting agencies on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Commission Engineer’s review and comments on 60% designs for Phase I were approved at the October meeting. A public open house was held on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. 90% designs were approved at the December meeting. The City of Plymouth recently awarded a construction contract to JC Hallett Construction. A pre-construction meeting was scheduled for mid-May. Project webpage: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/plymouth-creek-restoration-dunkirk-lane-38th-ave-n>.

Original Project Budget: \$2,600,000; Remaining Funds: \$2,444,443.92

**Double Box Culvert Repair Project (FCP-1) (See Item 5C):** This project was officially ordered in September 2025 after completion of the [feasibility study](#) in June. A stakeholder kick-off meeting was held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. At the meeting in March, the Commission approved the 60% design plans. 90% plans will be considered for approval at this meeting.

Original Project Budget: \$1,504,000 Remaining Funds: \$ 1,404,063

**Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project, Minnetonka (CL-4) (See Item 5A):** At the meeting in July, the Commission approved a scope and budget for the feasibility study for this project. The Commission Engineer is gathering background information. A project kick off meeting was held in September 2024. In summer 2025, water quality sampling and continuous chloride monitoring at the five pond monitoring sites was completed. Last summer, Commission Engineers compiled and analyzed the field and laboratory monitoring results and developed watershed chloride load assessment modeling, which was calibrated based on the water quality monitoring data. At the meeting last month, Commission Engineers presented the draft feasibility study. The TAC discussed possible options for source control at their meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Commission Engineers and I met with Minnetonka staff on June 9<sup>th</sup> to gather additional feedback on possible implementation activities. The final feasibility study will be presented at this meeting. Project webpage: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/crane-lake-chloride-reduction-demonstration-project>.

Original Project Budget: Project not yet officially ordered

**Main Stem Bassett Creek Lagoon Dredging Project (BC-7) (See Item 5B):**

The goals of the original Main Stem Lagoon Dredging project (Phase I) were to improve water quality in the creek by removing accumulated sediment from Lagoons D, E, and F to re-establish an aesthetic and function similar to the original open water design from the 1930’s. The original project resulted in deepening the lagoons to 4 feet instead of the intended 6 feet. A feasibility scope and budget for a second phase of the project was approved in August 2025 and revisions were approved in March 2026 to evaluate an additional option of wetland restoration on Lagoon G. The draft feasibility study was presented at the May meeting and a final feasibility study will be presented at this meeting. Project webpage: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=506>

Original Project Budget: \$2,759,000 Remaining Funds: \$ 1,057,258

**Administrator Activities May 14 – June 9, 2026**

Subject	Work Progress
<b>CIP and Technical Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Main Stem Bassett Creek Restoration Project</a>: Attended weekly coordination meetings including one with the DNR</li> <li>• <a href="#">Crane Lake Chloride Reduction Demonstration Project</a>: Discussed project alternatives at TAC meeting; arranged and participated in meeting with Minnetonka staff to gather additional feedback on potential implementation activities</li> <li>• <a href="#">Lagoon Dredging Project</a>: Participated in meeting with Golden Valley on project implementation roles and long-term maintenance options; arranged and hosted meeting with MPRB staff to get more clarity on project implementation roles and long-term maintenance options</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Medicine Lake Management</u>: Reviewed/edited notice on starry stonewort treatment from TRPD; met with MPCA and Plymouth staff to discuss PFOS in fish impairment</li> </ul>
<b>Education and Outreach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended June WMWA meeting; assisted with agenda development and drafted meeting notes</li> <li>• Arranged and participated in WMWA strategic planning subgroup and made revisions to WMWA agreement</li> <li>• Attended Watershed Equity Alliance meeting</li> <li>• Coordinated volunteers for Turtle Fest and delivered education materials</li> <li>• Posted 2025 water quality graphs online</li> <li>• Met with Hennepin County staff re: transition of projects in absence of WMWA conservation specialist staff</li> <li>• Reviewed maps/information with potential sites for multi-family housing project through WMWA; sent information to cities requesting assistance</li> </ul>
<b>Administration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed agenda; reviewed invoices and submitted expenses spreadsheet to Plymouth; reviewed financial report; drafted May meeting minutes; reviewed memos, reports, and documents for Commission meeting; printed and disseminated meeting information to commissioners, staff, and TAC; updated online calendar; drafted meeting follow up email; ordered catering for June Commission meeting</li> <li>• Participated in pre-meeting call with Commission Engineer and Chair Cesnik</li> <li>• Developed rubric with metrics for scoring proposals for organizational assessment; reviewed proposal submitted; checked references; arranged and participated in meeting with proposer's team; drafted memo on behalf of Administrative Services Committee with recommendation</li> <li>• Developed agenda and materials for Administrative Services Committee meeting, attended meeting</li> <li>• Communicated with residents about conditions in several lakes including Medicine, Westwood, and Parkers</li> <li>• Facilitated/corresponded re: collecting samples to assess blue green algae in Parkers and Westwood Lakes</li> <li>• Distributed proposed 2027 operating budget to member cities</li> <li>• Drafted and sent invoice to Breck School for pre-application engineering input</li> <li>• Prepared TAC meeting agenda and participated in meeting</li> <li>• Communicated with congressional representatives re: FEMA grant</li> <li>• Provided interview for Fruen Mill documentary</li> <li>• Posted Communications and Administrative Assistant job announcement; collated resumes and created spreadsheet to track; reviewed some resumes; fielded some questions</li> <li>• Developed and submitted comments to Clean Water Council on chloride reduction program needs including additional funding and support</li> <li>• Posted 2026 Watershed Management Plan online and sent notice to review agencies</li> <li>• Participated in meeting re: Golden Valley campus redevelopment</li> </ul>
<b>MN Watersheds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended Metro Watersheds quarterly meeting, St. Paul</li> <li>• Reviewed and prepared comments on resolutions submitted to MN Watersheds</li> <li>• Attended monthly meeting of MN Association of Watershed Administrators</li> </ul>