

Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)
From: Barr Engineering Co. (Greg Wilson, P.E., Karen Chandler, P.E.)
Subject: Item 5B– Consider Budget Amendment for Engineering Services for the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring (CIP Project SL-3)
BCWMC October 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda
Date: October 9, 2025

5B. Consider Budget Amendment for Engineering Services for the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring (CIP Project SL-3)

Recommendations:

1. Consider amending the January 2025 engineering services scope to increase the approved budget by \$11,100 to \$53,100 for the Commission Engineer to complete the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring.

Background

At their January 2025 meeting, the Commission approved a budget of up to \$42,000 from the remaining [Schaper Pond Diversion Project](#) CIP funds for the [2025 Schaper Pond effectiveness monitoring](#). The recommended monitoring is consistent with monitoring completed by the Commission Engineer in 2017, including automatic sampling and flow monitoring, and sample analysis for total phosphorus (TP), total dissolved phosphorus (TDP), total suspended solids (TSS), volatile suspended solids (VSS) and particle size distributions at the Schaper outlet, Hwy 55 inlet and Railroad inlet sites (see Figure 1) to allow for detailed computations of pollutant load reductions for Schaper Pond. With the carp population now below the water quality threshold and assuming no construction or other impacts from the watershed, the monitoring results are intended to show the effectiveness of the floating water baffle diversion in Schaper Pond at reducing TP and TSS concentrations.

Out of Scope Work Associated with Erosion Issue at Railroad Inlet to Schaper Pond

City of Golden Valley staff notified the Commission Engineer that on June 27, 2025 they discovered a maintenance issue in the manhole immediately upstream of the Schaper Pond railroad inlet pipe. As a result, City staff asked the Commission Engineer to remove the water quality monitoring equipment from the next manhole upstream of the manhole with the maintenance issue so that the City's contractor could use the "monitoring" manhole to bypass storm flows during planned construction to fix the maintenance issue. The Commission Engineer removed the water quality equipment on July 7, 2025. At that time, City staff thought that the contractor would complete work by the first week of August, so there was good potential that the Commission Engineer could still re-install the monitoring equipment and obtain good monitoring data by the end of the summer. The construction schedule for the City's contractor was delayed twice. In response, Barr had multiple calls with City staff to discuss other alternatives for the monitoring effort, and we held an on-site reconnaissance meeting to see if the monitoring equipment could be installed further upstream. Following field reconnaissance and further discussion with City staff, we determined that all the other upstream monitoring options are within the railroad right-of-way and would not work for the monitoring equipment, and we decided to proceed with collecting grab samples

from the Railroad inlet to Schaper Pond. As a result of these issues, we incurred additional project costs for the following work:

- Removing and storing the monitoring equipment
- Ongoing meetings/correspondence/coordination with city staff in response to schedule changes
- Site reconnaissance to consider and evaluate alternative monitoring locations
- Internal communications with Barr staff to coordinate schedule and monitoring plan changes
- Training additional staff to cover scheduling conflicts for storm event monitoring throughout the extended fall timeframe
- Developing updates and communicating changes with the Commission

This work was necessary in order to adapt to the City’s request for us to remove the monitoring equipment but still provide a sufficient solution to achieve the original intent of the study. The modified monitoring plan also saved any additional costs that would have otherwise been incurred if we’d needed to fully terminate the pond effectiveness monitoring for the 2025 season (i.e., removing all the other equipment as well) and instead re-initiate the work in a future year in order to collect a full season’s worth of monitoring data.

The above tasks were not included in the original work scope and budget for the Project.

While the erosion issue has extended the time it will take to complete the monitoring, we are still expecting to complete the data analysis, interpretation and summary memorandum by the end of 2025 and will be ready to present the results at the BCWMC meeting in January 2026.

Recommendation: The Commission Engineer recommends amending the January 2025 engineering services scope to increase the budget by \$11,100 to \$53,100 to complete the out-of-scope work associated with the erosion issue at the northwest inlet to Schaper Pond.

Impact on Overall Schaper Pond (SL-3) CIP Budget: The table below summarizes the status of the overall Schaper Pond (SL-3) CIP budget, considering work-to-date and future work.

Status of overall Schaper Pond (SL-3) CIP Budget	
Original Schaper Pond (SL-3) CIP budget	\$612,000.00
Remaining CIP budget (as of 9/26/2025)	\$37,815.54
Future costs for Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring Project:	
• Remaining monitoring project budget	\$ 6,276.50
• Requested out-of-scope work	\$11,100.00
• Recommended (not yet approved) 2026 carp survey work	\$12,000.00
Total future costs:	\$29,376.50
Total estimated remaining future CIP budget	\$ 8,439.04