COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
PERMIT REVIEW

MEETING DATE: December 9, 2013
AGENDA NUMBER: 18
FILE NUMBER: 2-1-13-121
ITEM: CSAH 51 (University Avenue) Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with 4 Stipulations

APPLICANT: Anoka County Highway Department

PURPOSE: Transportation Improvements to CSAH 51 from approximately CSAH 12 (109th Ave NE) to CSAH 14 (125th Ave) in the cities Coon Rapids and Blaine, MN.

APPLICABILITY:
- Bridges and culverts (1.06 sub 1)
- Any activity involving drainage, filling or alteration of wetlands (1.09)
- Improvement of the bed, bank or shore of lakes and public drainageways (1.10)
- Any land alteration within 1 mile of an impaired water

EXHIBITS:
- Anoka County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 51 (University Avenue) Transportation Improvements Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet & Public Hearing Packet, dated November 21, 2013, received November 22, 2013.
- Wetland Delineation, dated September 20, 2013
- Wetland Delineation revision, dated October 25, 2013, received October 29, 2013

HISTORY & CONSIDERATIONS: This application was initially submitted on November 22, 2013.

LOCATION:
FINDINGS:

**Ditches:** There are public ditches on the property. The public ditches are County Ditch 39, County Ditch 41, and County Ditch 60-3 according to the public drainage map.

County Ditch 39 was established in 1902, County Ditch 41 was established in 1904, and County Ditch 60-3 was established in 1918.

Ditch 39 is a 1 order stream, Ditch 41 is a 4 order stream and Ditch 60-3 is a 2 order stream. All are significant for stormwater conveyance.

Ditch 39 and 41 were inspected in 2010 and Ditch 60-3 was inspected in 2009.

**Erosion and Sediment Control:** Soils affected by the proposal are Isanti, Lino, Markey, Rifle, Rondeau, Sartell, and Zimmerman. Stabilizing vegetation will be proposed for disturbed areas. Adjacent properties and stormwater ponds will be protected from sediment deposition. Project site is greater than 5 acres, an NPDES permit and SWPPP will be required. All wetlands, waterbodies, ponds, infiltration basins and water conveyance systems will be protected from erosion and sedimentation.

**Floodplain:** There is floodplain on the property according to the District model and FEMA. The project does not propose significant impacts within the floodplain. Compensatory storage (17,241 cu. ft.) will be provided for because of the proposed grading in the floodplain.

**Groundwater:** The site is within a wellhead protection zone. Infiltration is proposed within the project.

The site is within a Municipal Drinking Water Supply Area. The site does drain to a municipal Drinking Water Supply Area. The site does include groundwater sensitive areas.

The average groundwater elevation is present at 13 feet below the surface.

Geotechnical information was not included in the EA/EAW.

**Historic Sites:** The proposed project does not include sites of historic or archeological significance.

**Hydraulics:**
A crossing of the ditch is proposed.
The proposed crossing involves the reconstruction of a bridge crossing on Sand Creek (County Ditch 41) and reconstruction of a culvert on where County Ditch 39 crosses CSAH 51.
The proposed bridge and culvert are of sufficient hydraulic capacity. (103E.075)

**Local Planning & Zoning:** The City of Coon Rapids and the City of Blaine have received and reviewed the above plans.

The Cities have not approved the EAW but have been involved in the process.

**Maintenance:** The proposed project does not include a ditch maintenance easement. A maintenance access to all storm water management features is not provided.

Property owners affected by changes in drainage have been notified and invited to Open Houses on February 15, 2012, August 29, 2012, February 12, 2013 and the upcoming December 11, 2013 meeting at the City of Coon Rapids.

Inspection and maintenance of stormwater facilities will be the responsibility of City of Coon Rapids and the City of Blaine.

**Stormwater & Hydrology:** Infiltration is allowed within the project area. The 1 inch infiltration is achieved. The stormwater management system utilizes infiltration ponds, stormwater retention ponds and an existing stormwater pond. Stormwater leaving the site is discharged into a well-defined receiving channel or pipe and routed to a public drainage system. Drainage sensitive uses do exist downstream from the proposed site. The rate of post-development runoff from the site does not exceed predevelopment rates, or rates which would interfere with sensitive downstream land uses. A SAFL Baffle is proposed to be installed for the project in the City of Blaine.

**Water Quality:** The proposed project is not within 1 mile of an impaired water. The proposed project does not cause an exceedence of State water quality standards. The project does not contribute to the adverse impact of wetlands through inundation or volume of flow. All discharges into wetlands are pretreated by a sediment basin/water quality pond, and will be designed correctly. All work adjacent to wetlands, waterbodies and water conveyance systems will be protected from erosion. The proposal will not detrimentally affect the existing water quality of the receiving water. The proposal will not cause extreme fluctuations of water levels or temperature changes.

**Wetlands:** Wetland exists on-site according to the 1987 Federal manual, NWI, PWI and Soil Survey. Wetlands have been delineated. The wetland boundary has been checked.

The wetlands are not DNR protected waters.

The total proposed wetland impact is 4,189 sf. (0.11 ac). The impact is proposed through fill in 3 locations. Wetland A (0.02), Wetland B (0.07) and Wetland C (0.02) as shown below:
TEP members have not received a complete plan.

The project is not wetland dependent.

The project is not exempt.

The applicant has contacted the DNR and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Four alternatives, plus the proposed project, were considered. On-site sequencing does not apply. The avoidance alternatives are considered good faith efforts.
1. The applicant suggests that avoidance is not reasonable because there is no alternative. No alternative exists because: (1) The basic purpose of the project can not reasonably be accomplished at an alternative site, alternative sites are not available, alternative sites are not practical/prudent; (2) The applicant has made a good faith attempt in pursuing alternatives; (3) The applicant has demonstrated that the activity will minimize wetland impacts through: a) modifying the size, scope, configuration, and density of the project, b) attempted to remove or accommodate site constraints including zoning, infrastructure, access, or natural features, and c) otherwise minimize wetland impacts.

**Wetland Replacement Plan:** A wetland replacement plan application has not been submitted.

It is proposed that the wetland impacts for the roadway to meet design and safety standards will be mitigated through the BWSR Road Mitigation Program. Reconstruction of any existing sidewalks and/or trails will be through the purchase of wetland credits from a private, BWSR-approved bank.

**Wildlife:** The proposed project does not include endangered, threatened, special concern species or rare natural communities.

**Performance Escrow:** $ N/A  
**Wetland Escrow:** $ N/A

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<tr>
<th>ISSUES/CONCERNS</th>
<th>NEEDS</th>
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<td><strong>Floodplain:</strong> The EAW indicates no significant floodplain impacts are expected to occur with the transportation plan.</td>
<td>1. Floodplain impacts must be identified and mitigated for if applicable.</td>
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<td><strong>Wetlands:</strong> The TEP has not reviewed any of the wetland impact information.</td>
<td>2. A wetland replacement plan application must be applied for and approved by the TEP.</td>
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<td><strong>Stormwater:</strong> It is proposed that a SAFL Baffle will be installed for the project in the City of Blaine.</td>
<td>3. Plans must be provided on the specifications of the SAFL Baffle.</td>
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<td><strong>Groundwater:</strong> A Geotechnical report has not been completed for the project.</td>
<td>4. A Geotechnical report must be completed and approved.</td>
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**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve with 4 Stipulations
Stipulations:
1. Floodplain impacts must be identified and mitigated for if applicable.
2. A wetland replacement plan application must be applied for and approved by the TEP.
3. Plans must be provided on the specifications of the SAFL Baffle.
4. A Geotechnical report must be completed and approved.