

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Board Room
Coon Creek Watershed District Offices
Monday, April 10, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Board of Managers:

Matthew Herbst, President; James Hafner, Vice President; Patrick Parker, Secretary; Mary Campbell, Treasurer; Dwight McCullough, Member at Large

Note: Individuals with items on the agenda or who wish to speak to the Board are encouraged to be in attendance when the meeting is called to order.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda** (*Additions/Corrections/Deletions*)
- 3. Announcements**
- 4. Open Mic/Public Comment**

*Members of the public at this time may address the Board, for **up to three minutes**, on a matter not on the Agenda. Individuals wishing to be heard must sign in with their name and address at the door. Additional comments may be accepted in writing. Board action or discussion should **not** be expected during the presentation of public comment/open mic. Board members may direct staff to research the matter further or take the matter under advisement for consideration at a future Board meeting.*

CONSENT ITEMS

The consent agenda is considered as one item of business. It consists of routine administrative items or items not requiring discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board member, staff member or a member of the audience.

- 5. Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2023**
- 6. Approve Bills for Payment**

POLICY ITEMS

- 7. Approve 2022 Annual Report**
- 8. Water Education Grant 23-03 Salt Symposium Sponsorship**

PERMIT ITEMS

- 9. 23-10 Northdale Blvd Water Main Replacement & Mill and Overlay**
- 10. Fleet Star Trucking & Trailer**
- 11. Hidden Forest 4th Addition**
- 12. Southside Entertainment District**
- 13. Westrum House**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 14. Comprehensive Plan: Identifying Alternative Courses of Action**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 15. CCWD on NMTV about local flooding**

ADJOURN

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS' MEETING

The Board of Managers of the Coon Creek Watershed District held their regular meeting on, Monday, April 10, 2023, at the Coon Creek Watershed District Office.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: Mary Campbell, Jim Hafner, Matthew Herbst, and Dwight McCullough and Patrick Parker.

Staff Present: Corinne Elfelt, Tim Kelly, Michelle Ulrich

Staff Present via Zoom: Dawn Doering, Erin Edison, Jon Janke, Abbey Lee, and Abby Shea

Others: Erin Lind (CAC)

2. Approval of the Agenda: Board Member McCullough made a motion to add the City of Ham Lake's petition to initiate a boundary amendment between Coon Creek Watershed District and the Sunrise Watershed Management Organization as Discussion Item 13, seconded by Herbst. Motion carried with five yeas (Board Members Mary Campbell, Jim Hafner, Matthew Herbst, Dwight McCullough and Patrick Parker) and no nays.

Board Member McCullough made a motion to add Permit Review Items 9 – Coon Rapids CDJR EV Charging Station and 10 – Blaine 2023 SW Street Reconstruction to the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Board Member Campbell. Motion carried with five yeas (Board Members Mary Campbell, Jim Hafner, Matthew Herbst, Dwight McCullough and Patrick Parker) and no nays.

Board Member Campbell moved to Approve the Agenda as amended. Seconded by Board Member McCullough. Motion carried with five yeas (Board Members Mary Campbell, James Hafner, Matthew Herbst, Dwight McCullough and Patrick Parker) and no nays.

3. Announcements: 1) Jon Janke will replace Tim Kelly for the next board meeting. 2) Board Members Hafner and Herbst have been recommended for reappointed to the Board of Managers to the County Commissioners. Action on the appointments will take place on April 11, 2023.

4. Open Discussion: No one was present to address the Board.

CONSENT ITEMS

5. Approval of Minutes of March 27, 2023

6. Administrator's Situation Report

7. Advisory Committee Report

8. Approval of Bills for Payment: Claims totaling \$114,342.34 on the following disbursement(s) list will be issued and released upon Board approval.

April 10, 2023	
To	Amount
A1 Floor & Carpet	1,056.25
Anoka County MN	172.86
Connexus Energy	198.62
Emmons & Olivier Resources Inc	8,526.50
Hans Hagen Homes	3,091.80
Houston Engineering	13,088.75
League of MN Cities	24,069.00
Loffler	148.89
Metro iNet	4,498.00
Michelle Ulrich PA	5,694.25
Respec	9,518.75
Stantec	39,472.15
US Bank	4,768.34
Xcel Energy	38.18
	114,342.34

The following Permit Items were moved to the Consent Agenda by motion:

9. Coon Rapids – CDJR EV Charging Stations Permit Review: The purpose of this project is the construction of an electric vehicle charging station located on the north side of west parking lo at 10541 Woodcrest Dr NW in Coon Rapids, Minnesota.

Staff recommendation is approve with two conditions and no stipulations as follows:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$2,135.00.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4)

2. Provide a note on the erosion and sediment control plan that disturbed soils and stockpiles will be temporarily or permanently stabilized within 24 hours after construction activity in that area has temporarily or permanently ceased.

Stipulations: None

10. Blaine 2023 SW Street Reconstruction Permit Review: The purpose of this project is the reconstruction of streets and utility improvement in the South West quadrant of the City of Blaine, Minnesota.

Staff recommendation was to approve with five conditions and three stipulations as follows:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$5,600.00.

Stormwater Management (Rule 3)

2. Sheet C5.02 shows a SAFL Baffle proposed within structure SS-5, however, SS-5 does not include a sump. Clarify or relocate the SAFL Baffle to be within a sump structure (SS-4).
3. Detail 2 on sheet C1.13 indicates wood chips are proposed to cover filtration basin. Update detail 2/C1.13 to be consistent with 1/C1.13 on basin cover type.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4)

4. Provide proof of NPDES permit application.
5. Provide a note on the erosion and sediment control plan that disturbed soils and stockpiles will be temporarily or permanently stabilized within 24 hours after construction activity in that area has temporarily or permanently ceased.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. If dewatering is required, provide DNR dewatering permit prior to construction. If a DNR permit is not required, provide well-field location, rates, discharge location, schedule and quantities prior to construction.
2. Completion of post construction infiltration tests on the Filtration Trench, Infiltration Trench #8-10, Infiltration Cells #1-7 and #11, by filling the basin to a minimum depth of 6 inches with water and monitoring the time necessary to drain, or multiple double ring infiltration tests to ASTM standards. The Coon Creek Watershed District shall be notified prior to the test to witness the results.
3. Submittal of as-builts for the stormwater management practices and associated structures listed in Tables 2 and 3, including volume, critical elevations and proof of installation for hydrodynamic separators.

Board Member Campbell moved to Approve the Consent Agenda Items seconded by Board Member Herbst. Motion carried with five yeas (Board Members Mary Campbell, James Hafner, Matthew Herbst, Dwight McCullough and Patrick Parker) and no nays.

POLICY ITEMS

PERMIT ITEMS – These items were moved to Consent Agenda

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. Board Meeting and Board Tour Times: As a follow up to the discussion by the Board on March 13, 2023, Administrator Kelly asked for the Board's input as to what time they would like to hold the June 12, 2023, Board Meeting and Board Tour.

The consensus of the Board was board members would have lunch on their own before attending a Noon Board Meeting with the Board Tour to follow at no earlier than 1:00 p.m. Water and snacks to be available on the bus. The Board also requested the tour be no longer than three hours.

Board Member Campbell asked that the County Commissioners be invited along with appropriate city staff and interested parties.

12. 2024 Program and Budget Guidance: Administrator Kelly introduced the information from the staff report.

Board Member Hafner asked if any Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) have come up to the deadline? Kelly stated he did not believe so, but was uncertain.

Kelly highlighted that the District would benefit from an analysis of the value of the District's work. He stated that it would help the District determine if we are charging enough for our services and if we are sufficiently charging the contributors to the TMDL's. Kelly stated this is especially an issue for the District since 33% of the District is tax exempt land.

Board Member Hafner asked if the Watershed Comprehensive Plan was to be done by the end of the year. Administrator Kelly indicated that it is. Hafner then expressed his concern about the District partners and their knowledge of the extent of the funds that will be needed for them to contribute, as MS4's, to meeting the TMDL requirements. Kelly stated that subwatershed plans will be used to help the partners understand their roll in the lowering of the TMDL's. Board Member Hafner stated that the cities should be made aware of their obligations as soon as possible and there is a need to get city staff on board and then the councils. Hafner expressed concern that we might be waiting too long to get the partners involved so they will understand their roll and the costs.

Administrator Kelly said it would be helpful to have an audience analysis due to the growth and diversity of the District. Board Member Hafner noted interest in what public engagement is being used to reach those that might not be aware within the District.

Board Member Parker felt there are two different messages, messages for those that are aware of issues with water and those that need to be made aware.

Board Member McCullough reminded staff and fellow board members of having signs placed at creek and ditch crossings that provide the name of the waterway and include Coon Creek Watershed District's logo.

Board President Herbst stated the Board will have to take a close look at the budget due to the high costs of addressing the TMDL issues and other changes.

Board Member Hafner voiced his concern that cities have not come to the realization that water is as important as infrastructure and roads. Hafner asked Kelly when we planned to address the issues with the Technical Advisory Committee. Kelly stated he would be bringing it to the TAC in June or July.

Administrator Kelly stated he would also bring this back on the May 8 board meeting agenda.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

13. Ham Lake petition to move an area to Sunrise Watershed Management

Organization: Board Member McCullough stated he had received an email from Ham Lake Engineer, Tom Collins, after attending the Ham Lake Council Meeting where the issue of an area of Coon Lake had been proposed in 2017 to become part of the Coon Creek Watershed District.

Administrator Kelly explained that although there had been a petition in 2017, a letter of concurrence had not been received from the City of Ham Lake and therefore the petition did not proceed. Kelly explained that the first step will be to arrange a meeting with Tom Collins and Anoka Conservation District (ACD) to review the previous documentation. Anoka Conservation District would be responsible for obtaining the Letter of Concurrence from the City of Ham Lake before submitting the petition to the Board of Water and Soil for review. Kelly said he was reaching out to arrange the needed meeting.

President Herbst requested that the Board be kept updated on this change.

~~13-14.~~ County Transition: Kelly noted there is no new information from the county on the transition. Kelly did inform the Board that Requests for Proposals had been sent and the District received proposals from two accounting firms, three payroll firms and five human resource firms.

14.15. Strib Article – Flood insurance information for Homeowners: Article in recent Star Tribune noted that flood insurance is not a part of typical homeowner's insurance.

ADJOURN

Board Member Herbst moved to adjourn at 6:41 p.m., seconded by Board Member Parker. Motion carried with five yeas (Board Members Mary Campbell, James Hafner, Matthew Herbst, Dwight McCullough and Patrick Parker) and no nays.

President

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 6
ITEM: Bills to Be Paid

FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted
POLICY IMPACT: Policy

REQUEST
 Approve bills

BACKGROUND

Claims totaling \$196,583.31 on the following disbursement list will be issued and released upon Board approval.

April 24, 2023	
To	Amount
Anoka County MN	179,893.41
League of MN Cities	9,089.00
Poop 911 of MN	731.40
Respec	1,170.00
United States Geological Survey	4,135.50
Well Groomed Lawns	1,564.00
	196,583.31

delete before upload	Vendor #	Div	CheckID	RefDt	Ref	Desc	DistAmt	GIKey	GIObj	JIGr	JIKey	JLObj	Units	UnitPrice	Recv Addr Cd	DutyCd	Payment Fiscal Year
	Invoice #			Invoice date	Invoice #									unit rate	Servaddress		
VENDOR																	
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	140,728.68	8699560112	60110				1	140,728.68	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	399.00	8699560112	60260				1	399.00	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	10,477.65	8699560112	60716				1	10,477.65	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	10,554.72	8699560112	60717				1	10,554.72	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	14,396.00	8699560112	60714				1	14,396.00	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	1,971.97	8699560112	60713				1	1,971.97	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	37.08	8699560112	60715				1	37.08	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	663.52	8699560112	60720				1	663.52	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	248.12	8699560112	60721				1	248.12	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
ANOKA COUNTY MN	129757	CCWD	CC	04/14/2023	CCWD-0323	SALARY/BENEFITS EXP-MAR 2023	416.67	8699560112	63052				1	416.67	RH	HOLD	CHK 2023
LEAGUE OF MN CTIES	127765	CCWD	CC	04/18/2023	40002738 W/C	ACCT40002738 WORK COMP 2023-2024	9,089.00	8699560112	62373				1	9,089.00	RO	GEN	CHK 2023
POOP 911 OF MSP LLC	520897	CCWD	CC	04/01/2023	1031-166881	4 WEEKS CLEAN UP SERVICE APR 23	190.80	8699560612	61549				1	190.80	RO	GEN	CHK 2023
POOP 911 OF MSP LLC	520897	CCWD	CC	04/01/2023	1031-166981	4 WEEKS CLEAN UP SERVICE APR 23	540.60	8699560112	63595	86122201	63595		1	540.60	RO	GEN	CHK 2023
RESPEC	212882	CCWD	CC	04/01/2023	INV-0423-009	PROJ 03304.0008 2ND QTR FLXCRUM	1,170.00	8699560112	63010				1	1,170.00	RO	GEN	CHK 2023
US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	202239	CCWD	CC	04/12/2023	91061972	CLUST 600007418 1ST QTR 2023	4,135.50	8699560512	61549				1	4,135.50	RO	GEN	CHK 2023
WELL GROOMED LAWNS INC	212885	CCWD	CC	03/31/2023	24172	CCWD PLOW MAR 2023	1,564.00	8699560112	61250				1	1,564.00	RO	GEN	CHK 2023
							196,583.31							196,583.31			

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 7
ITEM: Approve 2022 Annual Report

AGENDA: Policy

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve 2022 Annual Report for Submittal to the State of Minnesota

PURPOSE & SCOPE OF ITEM

This Annual report summarizes financial and program activities for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022 and is required to be filed each year with the State Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Department of Natural Resources.

BACKGROUND

The Coon Creek Watershed District was established in 1959 under the Minnesota Watershed District Law (Minnesota Statutes 103D). The District is a special purpose unit of government that addresses comprehensive water and related resource management within the 107 square mile District. The District includes the drainage area of Coon Creek as well as several other smaller watersheds that also drain directly to the Mississippi.

The Coon Creek Watershed District (District) is required to annually report on a variety of activities. These requirements and the state and federal laws that mandate the reporting are:

1. The Minnesota Watershed Act (M.S. 103D.351)
2. The Metropolitan Water Management Act (M.S. 103B.231)
3. The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (M.S. 103A)
4. The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program.

The Board reviewed and discussed sections of the 2022 Annual report at the March 13 & 27 and April 10 Board meetings.

COORDINATION

The Annual report was discussed briefly at the April 12 CAC meeting

FACTS

The report

- a) Reports the progress on implementing the 2013 – 2023 Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
- b) Evaluates District management and operations.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

1. None

OPTIONS

1. Approve report as presented
2. Approve report with corrections
3. Direct staff to request an extension

RECOMMENDATION

Review and approve the report for submittal to the state

Coon Creek Watershed District

2022 Annual Report

Board of Managers

President	Matthew Herbst
Vice-President	Jim Hafner
Treasurer	Mary Campbell
Secretary	Patrick Parker
At Large	Dwight McCullough

District Administrator

Tim Kelly

763-755-0975

tkelly@cooncreekwd.org

Approved by Board of Managers April 24, 2023

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Reporting Requirements

The Coon Creek Watershed District (District) is required to annually report on a variety of activities. These requirements and the state and federal laws that mandate the reporting are:

1. The Minnesota Watershed Act (M.S. 103D.351)
2. The Metropolitan Water Management Act (M.S. 103B.231)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The Objectives of the Required 2022 Annual Report are to:

1. Provide an Overview of Coon Creek Watershed District.
2. Provide an Assessment of the Financial Condition and Audit Status of the District.
3. Review 2022 Program Activities and Projects and Implementation of the 2013 – 2023 Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.
4. Frame the Primary Problems Faced by gaining understanding of the program operating environment and the nature of the problem set.
5. Provide Strategic and Budget Guidance for 2024 District Program Budgets.

OVERVIEW OF COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Background

The Coon Creek Watershed District was established in 1959 under the Minnesota Watershed District Law (Minnesota Statutes 103D).

The District is an independent special purpose unit of government that addresses comprehensive water and related resource management within the 107 square mile District. The District includes the drainage areas of Coon Creek and five smaller watersheds that also drain directly to the Mississippi River.

District Mission

The District mission is derived from the nine principle directives and 38 mandates and rules from the state and federal governments.

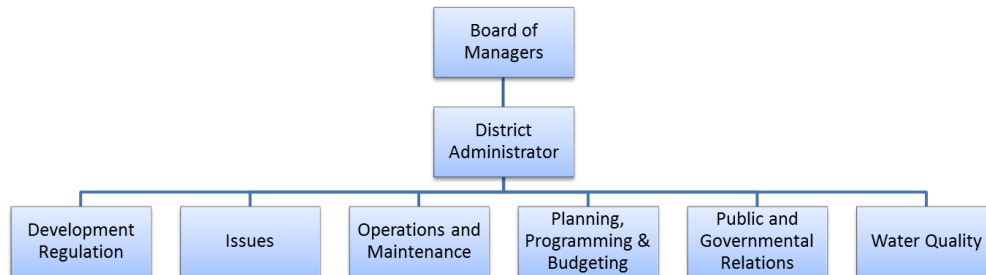
To prevent property damage, maintain hydrologic balance and protect water quality for the safety and enjoyment of the public and sustain the provision of the beneficial uses of water within the watershed.

Intent: To maintain and improve surface and ground water will require public involvement, intergovernmental collaboration, performance-based regulation and the on-going monitoring, maintenance, and operation within the District. In the end the public should experience a safe, enjoyable, and usable water resource, and a fishery and wildlife population adapted to an urban environment.

Vision

The District will focus on the drainage basin of Coon Creek and remain ready, willing, and able to collaborate, encourage, deter and correct a range of water resource related problems issues and concerns. The District is prepared and capable of pursuing this task alone or as part of a joint effort with the cities, Anoka County and the Anoka Conservation District. At the heart of the District's strategy is to leverage **the natural capabilities and capacities of the landscape, the adaptive and innovative evidence-based practices and the empowerment of professional, citizen based, and collaborative work efforts** that result in short and long-term beneficial use of the resource and that enable city staff and decision makers to achieve success in preventing, repairing, and correcting water resource problems and issues.

Coon Creek Watershed District 2021 Organizational Chart



District Goals

The District has adopted five mission goals and three issue goals. Pursuit of these goals is articulated in the District Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

1. To prevent property damage from flooding, erosion or degraded water quality
2. To ensure balance between inflow, outflow and storage of water
3. To protect and enhance water quality
4. To provide for multiple beneficial uses including the safety and enjoyment by the watershed's residents
5. To preserve and enhance wildlife
6. To be proactive in aquatic invasive species management through education and projects that improves lake and stream water quality and/or reduces the risk of entry of invasive species.
7. To gather and disseminate weather data and climatic information and provide meteorological expertise in support of water and related resource management decisions and weather-related management activities.
8. To manage groundwater dependent ecosystems under the principles of multiple use and sustainability, while emphasizing protection and improvement of soil, water and vegetation, particularly because of effects upon aquatic and wildlife resources.

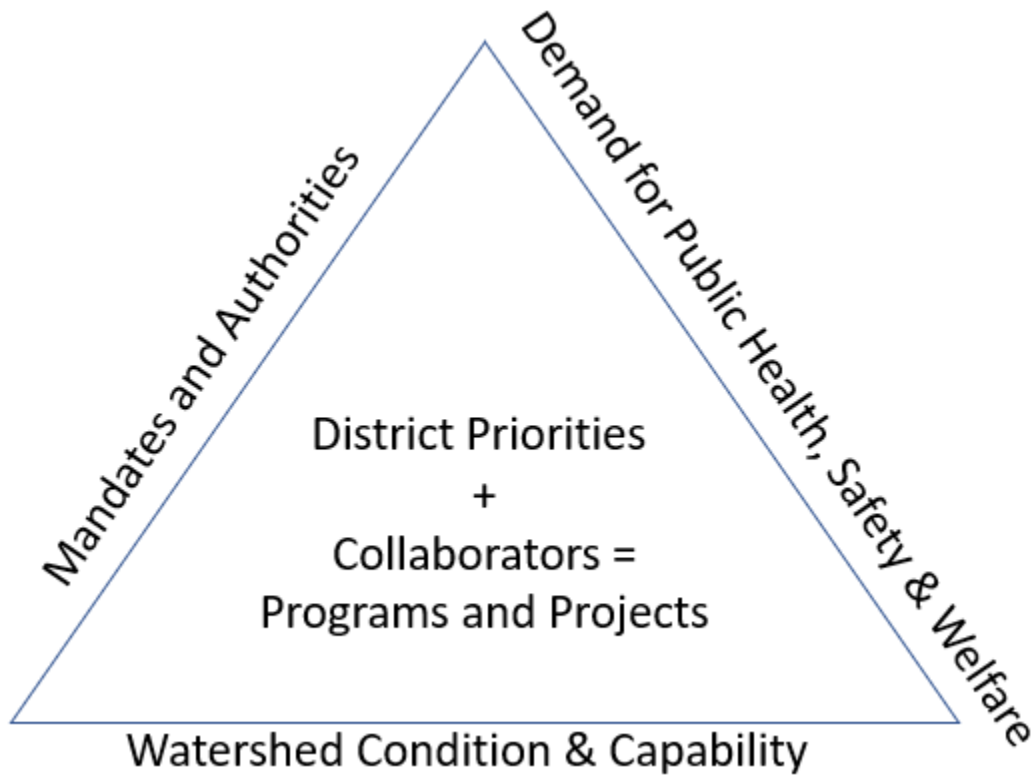
Management Priorities

1. Protect Drinking Water Supplies
2. Prevent Flooding
 - Improve water quality in impaired or impacted waters
 - Maintain and enhance water quality in waters that are not impaired
3. Groundwater Recharge
4. Aquatic Life
5. Recreation

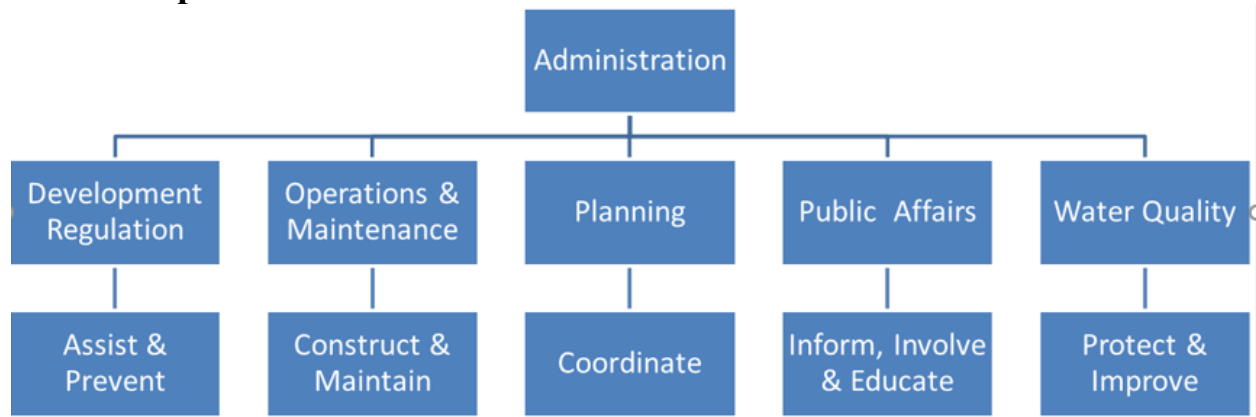
- 6. Hunting & Fishing
- 7. Irrigation
- 8. Watering: Livestock & Wildlife
- 9. Aesthetics
- 10. Industrial Use and Cooling

Strategy and Concept of Operations

The District’s current strategy and concept of operations is founded on watershed-based collaborative management actions.



Lines of Operation and Effort



District Finances

2022 Financial Condition

Description	Cash Balance
Special Revenue Funds	1/1/2023
509 Management Fund (8612)	1,963,209.17
Illicit Discharge Detection	750.00
Rapid Response Reserve	40,000.00
509 Operational Funds Balance	1,922,459.17
ACD WCA Block Grant	0.00
FY19 BWSR WBF Pleasure IESF Grant (901)	0.00
FY19 MPCA 319 MSCCR Grant (903)	0.00
FY19 BWSR CWF Woodcrest IESF Grant (904)	0.00
FY19 BWSR CWF MSCCR Grant (905)	0.00
FY20 BWSR WBF Coon Creek Park (2001)	6,715.63
FY21 BWSR WBF Aurelia Park (2101)	0.00
FY21 BWSR CWF PC BIESF (2102)	39,592.09
FY22 PCA 319 PET WASTE (2201)	(675.75)
FY22 BWSR CWF ECIESF (2202)	172,500.00
FY22 BWSR WBIF Retrofits (2203)	108,189.00
Fiduciary Funds	
Escrow Trust (8641)	2,104,111.12
Total Cash Balance: All Funds	<u>4,067,320.29</u>

Audit of 2022

Anoka County performs the accounting for the district and the district's accounts and general ledger are incorporated into the County database. To save time and money both audits are performed by the same audit team at the same time. The implication of this is that the 2022 audit will not be available until the fall of 2023.

2022 Budget

On September 13, 2021, the Board of Managers unanimously adopted the following budget for 2022. Also shown is the performance of both revenues and expenditures through December 2022.

Revenue Sources	2022 Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Variance	Pct Var
Property Taxes	3,027,370	3,027,370	2,975,201	(52,169)	-2%
Special Assessments	-	-	-	-	0%
Fees & Charges	641,785	641,785	322,847	(318,938)	-50%
Grants	465,374	465,374	857,508	392,134	84%
Other Revenue	25,926	25,926	56,409	30,483	118%
Fund Balances	77,302	77,302	37,077	(40,225)	-52%
	4,237,757	4,237,757	4,249,042	11,285	0%
Expenditure Sources	2022 Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Variance	Pct Var
Salaries & Benefits	1,538,808	1,538,808	1,363,511	(175,297)	-11%
Professional Services	933,346	933,346	640,227	(293,119)	-31%
Operating Expenses	208,846	208,846	152,298	(56,548)	-27%
Program Expenses	1,403,755	1,403,755	466,230	(937,525)	-67%
<i>Carryover Expenses</i>	<i>1,307,072</i>	<i>1,307,072</i>	<i>1,254,164</i>	<i>(52,909)</i>	<i>-4%</i>
Capital Equipment	75,700	75,700	66,306	(9,394)	-12%
	4,160,455	4,160,455	2,688,573	(1,471,882)	-35%

Review of 2022 Performance and Effectiveness

Evaluation of the 2013 – 2023 Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Where We Are At

In August, 2023 the current Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the Coon Creek Watershed District will expire. Upon conclusion of the 2013 – 2023 Comprehensive Plan, the District will have clearly arrived in the “water quality era”. While public drainage and enforcement of the Wetlands Conservation Act remain central themes in management, water quality concerns have taken center stage and dominate discussions, and budgeting.

The District contains 11 impaired waters. Seven of those waters are creeks and ditches impaired for aquatic life and recreation. Three are lakes. Two lakes are impaired for aquatic consumption due to high mercury levels in fish. One lake, Laddie Lake, is impaired for Aquatic life due to excess chlorides. The final impaired water is the Mississippi River which is the District’s western border and a major receiving water. The Mississippi River is impaired for aquatic consumption due to mercury and PCBs, aquatic recreation due to fecal contamination, and aquatic life due to excess phosphorus.

The stressors contributing to these impairments include suspended solids, phosphorus, poor habitat, altered hydrology, chloride levels, low dissolved oxygen levels and *E. coli*.

The most significant emerging issue is the lowering of water within the vadose zone. This upper most part of the surficial aquifer provides an estimated 100% to 50% of the water to the lakes, streams, and wetlands within the watershed. It is also showing signs of high chloride level and is discharging that pollutant to streams, contributing to impairment of surface water resources.

Added to these natural conditions we are faced with aging infrastructure, labor shortages and limited financial resources. The District is already making efforts to further optimize its management processes and practices. A key approach is to increase integration of its planning, programming, budgeting, and implementation efforts, particularly flood risk management and water quality protection and restoration.

How We Got Here

The District was established in 1959 in response to the promises offered by Federal Law PL-566 and the potential increase in the efficiency and effectiveness of agricultural production. The focus was on money for improved drainage. Those funds were never realized, and the District relied in the assessment process provided through the drainage law to repair the system. The period

between 1960 and 1987 was characterized by legal and political controversy and challenges surrounding the conduct of the District and the equity of its cost apportionments.

In 1987 the District completed its first Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan under the Metropolitan Water Management Act. At that time the District was largely rural, and the landscape was dominated by farms growing shallow rooted crops, and seasonally flood wetlands. The developed areas in the lower portion of the watershed were experiencing flooding. The watershed management focus was on catch up, mitigating and balancing the provision of both established drainage rights up stream and flood control downstream in a financially equitable way.

In 1991 the Wetland Conservation Act placed the District at ground zero of the competition and conflict between drainage, development, and the preservation of wetlands. From 1991 to 2003 (The wetland era) the District was immersed in reviewing, managing and balancing the effects of urban growth in one of the fastest growing areas of the state and nation. The District's response was to:

- Adopt a management strategy based on 'Growth Management' and "Sensitive Lands" land use management.
- Strict adherence to:
 - the law and the principles of established use or right (or first in time)
 - the wetland delineation requirement of Normal Circumstances (not normal conditions) as described and litigated at the Federal Level through Regulatory Guidance Letter 90-07 and its requirements.
 - Recognition that 98% of all wetlands in the District needed to be evaluated as either problem and/or disturbed (new atypical) conditions under the 1987 Federal Delineation manual.
 - A commitment to advocate solving the development, agriculture, natural resource management problems.
 - Reliance on a finding of facts and an acceptance that the result "is what it is".

In 2003 the District developed its second comprehensive plan anticipating a future focus on water quality. In 2004 the District was recognized as a special Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), ushering in the "Water Quality Era". The District completed a minor amendment to its rules and standards to address "non-degradation" of the District's receiving waters. In 2006, the District also saw its first water quality impairments (Coon, Sand Pleasure and Springbrook Creeks for Aquatic Life) under the Federal and state program.

The "Water Quality Era" has increased program responsibilities 50%, increased required tasks 83% and staffing needs almost 200%. The District has evolved from being an organization primarily responsible for ditch maintenance and wetland preservation, to an organization

responsible for drainage, water quality, flood risk management systems, and aquatic wildlife habitat management.

Also, in 2006, the recession struck emphasizing a need for certainty in decision making and control of costs by a constituency that prizes thrift, practicality, and minimum government involvement. The tightened operating environment made investing in long term, less tangible, non-utilitarian benefits, common characteristics of many natural resource concerns, extremely challenging.

At this time the District began to formally transition toward a ‘natural infrastructure’ asset-based management approach. This approach was, founded on a sensitive lands/geologic sensitivity view of the resource which emphasized ecological function, the value as natural infrastructure and the public out of the pocket cost to repair, replace or mitigate the consequences of imbalanced decision making.

This effort remains supported by well-defined legislative requirements and enforcement. The District also began moving to more formal planning, programming, and budgeting approach. In this new management framework, the District focused on the costs and consequences of mismanagement and evolving and connecting the planning, programming, budgeting and implementation systems and activities.

In 2013 the District developed and adopted its third Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. In 2014, the District began developing an asset management program for all of its activities and continued to adhere to the doctrine adopted in 1991. The asset management approach defined each program and activity the District needed to meet the legislative requirements or through the expectations of citizens. The approach has provided a clear relationship between the provision of the beneficial uses of the District’s water resources and investments in the prevention and protection of people and property from natural catastrophes or expensive unintended consequences provided by the District. This combination of asset management and sensitive lands management allows the District to make more defensible and compelling investments and provides needed transparency for elected and appointed officials and citizens.

How We’ve Done

The 2013 to 2023 Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan was approved by the BWSR in August 2013. The District’s Mission was to:

- Manage groundwater and the surface water drainage system to
 - Prevent property damage
 - Maintain hydrologic balance and
 - Protect water quality.

for the safety and enjoyment of citizens, and the preservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat.

The District's goals were distilled from the various legislative mandates as they apply to the watershed. The goals were to:

1. Prevent property damage from flooding, erosion, and degraded water quality.
2. Ensure balance between inflow, outflow, and storage of water.
3. Ensure that water is protected from contamination.
4. Provide for a variety of beneficial uses including the safety and enjoyment of the watershed's residents.
5. Preserve and enhance wildlife.

The dominant concerns at the time were:

1. Preventing flooding.
2. Improving water quality in impaired or impacted waters.
3. Maintaining and enhancing water quality in waters that are not impaired.

Emerging issues were:

1. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
2. Changes in precipitation intensity, duration, and apparent return frequency
3. The decline in surficial groundwater and the effect on groundwater dependent resources

Goal 1: Preventing Property Damage

The District has done an excellent job at protecting property damage by:

- Enforced erosion and sediment control rules to prevent the loss of topsoil and sedimentation restricting recreational use and aquatic life of waters within the watershed.
- Regulating the low floor and low entry point to structures to prevent flooding from ground water and flooding.
- Avoiding adverse impacts associated with the use and modification of floodplains and with the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands.
- Prohibiting development within the floodway and new construction in wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative.
- Continued bank stabilization & repair projects.
- Performing regular surveys to evaluate flood hazards and storm damage occurrences and their hazards and to develop treatment programs where needed.
- Responding quickly and effectively to alleviate the effects of natural disasters and reduce the threat to life, public health, and property.
- Assist in preventing, treating, and controlling aquatic invasive species where they have degraded the water quality of natural water bodies restricting recreational use, aquatic life or enjoyment.
- Identifying minor sub-watersheds providing water within the drinking water supply Management Area.
- Ensuring District participation in State and local early flood warning systems.

- Preparing public service announcements used to caution against strong currents and under tows that may exist in the watershed during times of high water.
- Providing opportunity for early public review of plans or proposals for actions in floodplains.
- Identifying critical events and conditions that lead to local flooding and water quality problems.

Goal 2: Ensuring Hydrologic Balance

The District has done a satisfactory job in ensuring hydrologic balance. It has done very well if the increased randomness of precipitation is considered. The following actions and policies support this assessment:

- The update of the hydrologic model using XPSWMM. The model has both the ability to scale, account for reverse flows, and account for varying hydraulic conditions.
- Working with the cities within the District and DNR to update the Floodplain management model to be used by FEMA in the old National Flood Insurance Program and New National Resiliency Program.
- Having DNR recognize the model as the Best Available Science and information on local surface water hydrology.
- Strict administration of the District's Drainage Sensitive Use policy which reduces discharge volume from developed land, reduces peak flows and thereby protects established drainage rights.
- Established and evolved a watershed wide precipitation tracking and reporting system and water content information on snowpack that has improved flood predictions and spring flood preparedness.
- Modified regulatory standards to ensure that the rate, volume, and quality of water entering wetlands matches wetland type and need.
- Worked with USGS to establish a real-time, continuous discharge monitoring station at the outlet of Coon Creek.
- Raised a warning flag to DNR, the Northeast Groundwater Management group, and Minnesota geologic survey that the surficial ground water aquifer is at risk, and places the lakes, wetlands and other groundwater dependent surface water resources with needs to be evaluated separately from the routine assessments of "groundwater".

Goal 3: Addressing Water Quality

The District has done an excellent job at addressing the water quality problems, issues, and concerns of the watershed.

- Hired a water quality coordinator and specialist competent in Aquatic Invasive Species, Clean Water Act requirements and the continued monitoring, evaluation and response to TMDLs.

- Secured \$3,616,729.58 in state and federal grant funds to further water quality restoration objectives.
- Constructed the first and largest Iron Enhanced Sand Filter (IESF) amended with biochar filter media that treats runoff from nearly a square mile catchment. And have since constructed three additional IESF and biochar filters. Continue to monitor and report on the treatment success as well as the maintenance needs and costs to operate and maintain this practice. All have significant effect on load reductions and progress towards meeting approved TMDL standards.
- Restored three segments of creek within the watershed where no upstream or downstream conflicts can occur due to flow modification. Techniques involved re-meandering, reconnection to the floodplain and flow modification and was conducted in close collaboration and with the support of the DNR, MPCA, BWSR. Anoka Conservation District and the Cities of Andover and Coon Rapids.
- Applied for and was accepted into the MPCA's pilot small watersheds program that provides guaranteed federal funding in excess of \$1.2 million dollars for water quality restoration projects over 16 years starting in 2022.
- Stabilized 28,326 LF of channel (5.36 Mile) of active erosion, reducing sediment and attached phosphorus loads by 2951 Tons TSS/yr and 2507 Lbs TP/yr, respectively.
- Initiated and was successful in treating and largely eliminating Hybrid Eurasian Watermilfoil from Crooked Lake with the support and assistance of the Crooked Lake Area Association, DNR, and the Cities of Coon Rapids and Andover.
- Initiated semiannual early detection inspections of all lakes and aquatic habitats likely to support colonization of "at risk" AIS.

Goal 4: Providing Beneficial Uses

The Coon Creek watershed is a "working" watershed, where a host of beneficial uses are in demand and experience high levels of use. The District has done an excellent job, under a performance based multiple use management doctrine to produce and provide opportunities and access to the quantity and quality of water demanded. Actions supporting this assessment include:

- Routine maintenance conducted to accomplish objective while minimizing alterations and facilitating channel equilibrium.
- Monitoring of lake and stream quality.
- Completion of a Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) with MPCA.
- Completion of a Nine Key Elements Document for Coon and Sand Creeks with MPCA.
- Updated Crooked Lake Management Plan.
- Developed Ham Lake Management Plan .
- Actively worked to address recreation impairments via bacteria source tracking, implementation of pet waste management program, and testing of innovative biochar-amended filtration media.

Goal 5: Preserving And Enhancing Wildlife

Wildlife is clearly the legal responsibility of the State and the Federal government. The District has done a good to excellent job in fulfilling its supportive responsibilities, given the history, constraints, and restraints under which it operates. Actions supporting this assessment include:

- Early encouraged or required reconnaissance and preapplication meetings that include review of threatened and endangered species and rare plant communities recorded or potentially on the site.
- Coaching on project alternatives and modifications that can avoid or reduce potential impacts.
- Strong encouragement of applicants to contact DNR immediately and coaching on the nature of both their project and the probable and potential resulting impacts to wildlife resources.
- Strict refusal to issue permits involving threatened, endangered species or rare plant communities until a DNR decision or permit can be shown.
- Strict refusal to make decisions or enforce state rules or wishes involving the avoidance, impact, taking or loss of threatened and endangered species or rare natural communities because of philosophical or moral appeals on the part of DNR staff.
- Successful restoration of fishery habitat in three locations and an analysis of barriers to aquatic organism passage to be addressed.
- The successful planning to avoid and protect threatened and endangered species on approximately 50 developments and subdivisions over the past 10 years.
- Implementation of Aquatic Invasive Species prevention and management activities .

Goal 6: Aquatic Invasive Species

The District has done an excellent job in preventing, detecting and facilitating the education, inspection, intervention and treatment of aquatic invasive species within the watershed. Significant actions in the past 10 years include:

- Assisted in the formation of the Ham Lake Lake Association and continued operation of the Crooked Lake Area Association.
- Updated and developed lake management plans for Crooked and Ham Lake in collaboration with their respective lake associations and the Cities of Andover and Coon Rapids in the case of Crooked Lake.
- Conducted public information and education program for lake residents and interested parties on AIS and identification of key species.
- Launched and administered a volunteer zebra mussel spotter program for early detection of zebra mussels.
- Facilitated and coordinated the assessment, grant acquisition and treatment of Crooked and Ham Lakes for hybrid Eurasian Watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed.
- Established a rapid response fund to address either new minor colorizations or to supplement cost share for major occurrences.

- Developed and implemented a twice annual inspection program of key habitats.
- Annually review, refresh and brief stakeholders on trends and risks of new AIS species.
- Successfully defended against invasive common reed (*Phragmites australis*) through early detection, herbicide treatments, and post-treatment monitoring; reduced infested area by 98%.
- Successfully eradicated pale yellow iris.

Goal 7: Addressing Changes In Precipitation Patterns

The District has done a good job in adjusting to changes in the effects of higher intensity and shorter duration rainfall events. Key District actions in the past 10 years include:

- Adopted Atlas 14 as the best available information for planning and sizing infrastructure.
- Evolved precipitation monitoring network to better assess the length and intensity of storms.
- Evolved stream level monitoring to enable real-time data viewing through telemetry-enabled devices.
- Expanded local information and communication network to include ongoing implications of impending weather conditions and hydrologic implications for current conditions.
- Established a system that has been key in coordinating and documenting storm damage for grants, adapting and updating select standards and providing the foundation for planning and anticipating issues ranging from flooding to aquatic invasive species monitoring.
- Required staff to remain current on evidence-based research, findings and developments, on best practices in their areas of responsibility.
- Collaborated with cities to consider in frequency and occurrence of precipitation in planning and decision-making involving infrastructure construction, replacement, and rehabilitation.

Goal 8: The Effect of Declining Regional Surficial Groundwater on Groundwater Dependent Resources

The District has been working towards gaining the attention, interest and assistance required to accurately assess nature, structure and function of this concern. Actions taken in the past 10 years to address this goal have included:

- Development of a detailed conceptual model and water budget of the vadose zone within the district.
- Presentation to DNR North-east Ground Water Management Area project managers during scoping to address larger Anoka Sand Plain surficial/unconfined aquifer issues.
- Collection of continuous lake and wetland level data at long-term monitoring sites.

Lessons Learned

The planning and management approach adopted in 2013 needs updating and continual evolution to enable the District and its collaborators to adapt and succeed through and beyond 2034. The following lessons will be incorporated into the fabric of the 2024-34 Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan:

1. **Water Management involves the continual combination, recombination and evolution of physical, social, and political/economic factors and trends.** These factors combine at multiple scales to influence water resource decision making, even when they originate from the resource itself or the actions of non-government groups.
2. **The physical, social and management factors and trends, are ‘open’ systems,** available to constant inputs creating an operating environment characterized by volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA). The result is often a profound sense of struggle on the part of local managers.
3. **Short- and long-term water management is characterized by a fog and friction created from the risk and uncertainty in the physical, social and management domains.** The risk and uncertainty is the product and a dynamic combination of human perception, and chance. These two variables tend to distort, cloak, and twist the course of events, regardless of the advances in science, technology, or computing power.
4. **Planning and the planning process is more important than ever.** Not to decide and commit to a rigid schedule of projects and activities, this has proven unrealistic and impractical. Its value is in facilitating and communicating common understanding of problems, and identifying available options and their consequences, and to facilitate unified action.
5. **Management actions need to be practical and relevant to those financially affected.** The reliance on a proactive, multiple use utilitarian management approach that focuses on physical consequences, even if when those consequences will occur is uncertain, is more effective than the traditional defensive based conservation, “just say no” strategy that increasingly dominates the natural resource and environmental debates.
6. **Where you are going is more important than where you are at.** The performance, evolution, and potential of physical, social and management systems is more important than their current condition. But immediate and short-term condition and capacity are important too.

Implications

1. Fulfillment of the responsibilities for drainage, flood prevention, wetland conservation and water quality restoration will be challenging.
2. We cannot predict what kinds of specific water management problems, issues, or concerns, or for what purposes or priorities other land and water management organizations will be engaged in over the next ten years.
3. We can only speculate about potential and probable problems and issues, how they might occur and the costs they may cause to either prevent, mitigate, or recover from their effects.
4. We can, however, state with certainty, that the fundamental foundation and nature of water management within the Coon Creek Watershed will not change in sense that the mix of political and economic aims, pressures, and hesitations will continue to condition water management operations.
5. The likely result will be an operating environment characterized by:
 - Volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA) in the physical, social and political economic environments in which it operates.
 - Increasing pressure to meet water quality targets, anticipate flood risk, and account for the effects of changes in precipitation.
 - A growing obligation and need to manage aging infrastructure within limited budgets and resources.

2023 - 2024 Situational Assessment

Introduction

The 2024 budget will be the first year implementing the 2024 to 2034 comprehensive plan. This report is also the first introduction to a formalized planning, programming, budgeting and implementation or execution system that evolves and formalizes the existing system and ensures operations consistent with the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Describe the current and expected conditions of the operating environment that impacts District operations and fulfillment of our responsibilities.
2. Identify and appraise existing and emerging critical problems, issues & concerns for 2024 Budget that either presents a risk to the public health and safety or the District's ability to efficiently and effectively address those priorities.
3. Identify the disposition, capability, and capacity of other MS4s and organizations that may be involved.
4. Identify the disposition and capability of other non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations that have a significant interest.
5. Describe the critical aspects of the public interest that impact water management operations.
6. List the assumptions being considered for development of the 2024 annual budget and plan.

Current Operating Environment

The District's operational environment is a composite of the conditions, circumstances, and influences that affect its capacity and capability to pursue its responsibilities and have influence on the decisions of the Board of Managers.

Economic Environment

- Increased demand on land and water resources is playing a significant role creating rapidly increasing economic scarcity and magnifying the conflicts relating to competing demands at the local and state levels.
 - Property values within the district have increased an average of seven percent annually over the past five years and have risen 84% in the past ten years.
 - The District tax rate has shown a zero percent increase over the past five years and has decreased eight percent over the past ten years.

- Waiting for certainty is not a viable option. Choosing the best direction and actions for the future will require strong practical vision, leadership and consensus.
- Expect owners, planners, and regulators to start asking about the resilience of water resource assets in the broadest sense. Those without resilience plans should expect a grilling.
 - In 2022 The FEMA restructured its program that addressed floodplain insurance to address resiliency. The new program orientation covers more and more types of natural catastrophes but requires steps on the part of local government to ensure resiliency for coverage.

Information Environment

- The pace of technological change is accelerating almost exponentially.
- During the next two decades, technological innovations—including automation, online collaboration tools, artificial intelligence, and additive manufacturing—will reshape some fundamental aspects of how and where people work.

Infrastructure Environment

- Expect to see planning, programming, and budgeting approaches that enable a much more agile and adaptive planning, development and delivery.
 - The District is piloting an “evolved” planning, programming budgeting, and execution system.
 - Anoka County is adopting a new budgeting system.
- Expect a focus on “enhancing” asset utilization and optimizing performance as a way to better “sweat” existing assets.
 - An increasing number of District and city projects over the past three years have involved “enhancement” or “retrofitting” existing storm water treatment facilities to increase either the efficiency, effectiveness or capacity of the facility or practice.
- The industry will need to address the way that evolving technology makes some legacy assets obsolete.
- Expect to see new infrastructure financial vehicles that provide sustainable inflation protected long-term annuity returns, particularly if treasury rates remain low.
- Expect owners, planners, and regulators to start asking about the resilience of water resource assets in the broadest sense. Those without resilience plans should expect a grilling.
 - In 2022 The FEMA restructured its program that addressed floodplain insurance to address resiliency. The new program orientation covers more and more types of natural catastrophes but requires steps on the part of local government to ensure resiliency for coverage.
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Physical Environment

- The District contains eleven waters that are impaired:
 - Seven streams
 - Three lakes
 - Mississippi River
- Impairments are driven by seven stressors creating approximately 30 dynamic occurrences or situations.
- Overall, the District is in poor condition exhibiting low geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to its natural condition. However, it is in fair condition for an urban system exhibiting expected physical, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to a modified urban system that has “worked” for more than 100 years.
- The majority of the system requires constant maintenance and repair to prevent or discourage flooding and/or damage to the channel itself.
- The physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the system individually and in combination do not meet federal and state water quality standards over the majority of the watershed system.

Political Environment

- Diverse actors in the water management arena who have divergent interests and goals are increasingly competing to promote and shape water management norms on a range of issues, creating greater challenges for local water management organizations.
 - HF2354 (Pursell) Drainage registry information portal established, and money appropriated.
 - HF1680 (Hansen) Sustainable diversion limits on groundwater appropriations provided.
 - HF2304 (Curran) Issuance authorized and modification of water use permits prohibited, White Bear Lake Area Water Use Work Group established, comprehensive plan required, and money appropriated.
 - HF1900 (Hollins) Renewal of environment and natural resources trust fund provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.
 - HF2778 (Hansen) Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources membership and terms modified.
- Some watershed and local water management organizations are retreating from their longstanding role as norms leaders and protectors, as populist influence grows.
- At the same time, increasingly prescriptive policies led by BWSR, MDNR and MPCA are reinterpreting local water management autonomy norms, offering alternatives to what they view as non-environmental centric norms, such as drainage, floodplain management and storm water management in urbanizing areas. advocating norms and standards to promote, in their view more comprehensive or holistic goals.

Social Environment

- The District will add approximately 1,930 people each year and reach an estimated population in 2033 of 200 - 218 thousand. The demand for and value of water and related resources is highly predictable.
- Over the next two decades, people are likely to demand more from their political and government leaders, potentially prompting those leaders to be more responsive and possibly accountable but also risking societal divisions, broader enforcement, and less coherent policies.
- During the past decade, public activism—direct public action intended to impart social or political change—has been on the rise, including high-profile protests and demonstrations.
- The combined increases in prosperity, education, urbanization, and access to communication technologies are equipping people to express their interests and needs and seek more government action.
- As public activism continues to expand and potentially becomes more sophisticated, governments of all types will seek avenues to respond—either by attempting to appease public demands or by actively cutting off or eliminating avenues for activism.
- Over time, this dynamic will offer the prospect for more accountable leadership and improved democratic health, but in the near term, it could increase factionalism and reduce policy coherence and effective strategic planning.

Water Management Environment

- During the next two decades, water conflicts most likely will be driven by the same factors that have historically prompted problems, issues and concerns—ranging from resource protection, economic or regulatory disparities, and ideological differences to the pursuit of power and influence.
- The ways in which water management is conducted will change as new technologies, applications, and doctrines emerge and as additional actors gain access to these capabilities.
- The combination of improved sensors, automation, and artificial intelligence (AI) and other advanced technologies will produce more accurate, better connected, faster, longer range, and more effective practices and treatment devices, primarily available to the most advanced organizations but some within reach of smaller city and non-governmental actors.
- The proliferation and diffusion of these systems over time will make more assets vulnerable, heighten the risk of problems due to equipment failure, and make water management more complex and involved, though not necessarily more effective.

Critical and Emerging Issues for 2024

Issues Surfaced During the Planning Process

Four high priority issues were identified during the Management Plan Scoping and Prioritization process:

1. Water quality
2. Population growth and audience evolution
3. Wetland loss
4. Ground Water x Surface Water Interactions

Water Quality: Pace of Work and Time Remaining to address TMDL Load Reductions

Situation

The District contains eleven streams that do not meet state or Federal water quality standards for select beneficial uses of water and are therefore classified as impaired. These impairments are to be addressed by limiting stressors to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) by 2045. The process of pursuing these TMDLs is a process called load reduction. Load reductions must be achieved for:

1. Total Suspended Solids
2. Total Phosphorus
3. Poor habitat
4. Altered hydrology.
5. Chloride
6. Dissolved Oxygen
7. E coli

The District is currently engaged in conducting studies to target the source of some stressors, conducting projects to resolve or neutralize the source or cause of others, regulating land use changes to prevent or mitigate stressors and conducting education and outreach to the public, engineers and developers to further prevent and provide alternatives.

Achieving the TMDL by addressing some of the more pervasive and influential stressors, such as altered hydrology and E coli, will require construction, modification, restoration, and enhancement of new and existing infrastructure, (eg. ponds and filters) and restoration of natural infrastructure (eg. streams, ditches and ditch banks).

Issue: The Water Quality bill has come due

The current pace of investment, (\$1-2 million per year) is not sufficient to achieve the end state of meeting state and federal standards by 2045. In addition, economic and investment best practices indicates that to be successful in a dynamic and fluid situation, you should have 80% of the infrastructure in place in the first 20% of the time. This means 80% of the total cost (Estimated at

\$100 million) should be made in the first 20% of the time between now and 2045 (2028). This computes to an additional investment of \$20 million a year for the next 4-5 years. The District's share is estimated at \$6 million per year for the next four years and \$1.5 million per year for the following 16 years. These figures are in 2023 dollars and assume no significant increase in fuel, labor, or material costs.

Population Change and the Development of a New Audience

Situation

The District is required, under both state and Federal law, to conduct activities to inform, educate, involve, and engage the public to ensure awareness, reflect their concerns and recruit them over the long term to assist in preventing and/or exacerbating the water resource problems of the District, particularly water quality.

The 2020 census became available in 2021 and related data and studies in 2022. The data indicates that Coon Creek Watershed District has both grown in population and indicates a shift in the tastes and preferences of the public that we serve. Every two to three years the District conducts a paired comparison survey of priorities and preferred beneficial uses of water. Those results are presented to the Board of Managers and are reflected in planning and policy priorities. However, the intent of the Federal and state requirements are to influence behavior through education of consequences and alternatives. The priorities and attitudes available through the census and the biannual survey are poor precursors to actual behaviors and why trying to "enlighten" and/or make an audience "love us" ("us" may be substituted by any environment concern, water quality, the conservation movement, Coon Creek WD, EPA DNR, BWSR, , etc.) using mass advertising techniques is destined to fail.

Issue: We Need to Consider a Different Approach to Understanding our Publics

Understanding our audiences is not a "nice to have" but an imperative pre-requisite for success. Increased population and diversity of perspective and opinion requires staff to know how and why citizens and the public do certain things to be effective.

The resources and guidance available from the state and EPA largely rely on generic communication models applicable to all groups and cultures. The District's Public Affairs staff have done an excellent job at modifying, customizing, and improvising available resources to keep costs down and meet our statutory requirements. However, effective communication efforts must be tailored to the local dynamics and with respect to the behaviors one is seeking to change.

With the new census and the new Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, the District needs to conduct a Target Audience Analysis (TAA) of the District's population. A TAA aims to address our understanding of our citizens by constructing a robust profile of the audiences and how they

can be appropriately influenced through bottom-up messaging constructed from a process of measurement and research, and subsequently derived from reliable knowledge of the audience.

This is a significant change from the way PR and marketing surveys are usually conducted. The traditional approach is based on sending pre-determined messages in volume to mass audiences in the hope that they will resonate with some portions of that audience. This, of course, fits with the traditional way that the environmental and natural resource agencies conduct their business, where themes and messaging are crafted centrally and distributed downwards to local agencies.

Experience from over 30 years tells us, that the training, resources and messaging packages from Washington DC (EPA) and St Paul (BWSR, MPCA & DNR) are often a diluted and distant memory by the time they reach local agencies, and they may actually have no relevance at ground level. Working out who to influence, why, how, when, and whether it is possible, constitutes an increase in effectiveness and a potential decrease or more efficient cost.

Wetlands: Continued Apparent Loss and State Unresponsiveness

Situation:

The acres of jurisdictional wetland appear to be decreasing. The District, as the Local Governmental Unit administering the Wetland Conservation Act is responsible for their preservation.

What we know is that approximately 90% of the wetlands within the watershed are hydrologically classified as seasonally flooded or seasonally saturated. The implication is that these resources typically only meet the “hydrology criteria” (one of three criteria required for protection) in spring and are often dry the remainder of the year.

The District wetlands provide an important cost reduction benefit through storage and treatment of water in the soils and then in the basin itself. Sometimes they perform this function more efficiently and effectively than constructed infrastructure, other times they do not. In both cases, they perform this and other landscape functions people find beneficial.

Issues:

1. We appear to be losing wetlands, the issue is why: There are several hypotheses, but no systematic investigations that looks at water source, residence time and water loss.
2. We are spending time defending some of our programs and actions, the issues are staff time, time away from problem solving and being put on the defense.

Ground water - Surface water Interactions

Situation

Groundwater is prevalent in the District and Anoka Sand Plain. It breaches the surface in the upper part of the watershed and is the principal source of drinking water for public and private water supplies. The origin of that water come from two different sources:

1. **Bed rock aquifers**: The St. Peter, The Mt Simon – these sources are confined by their size, type of rock, and their water bearing capacity. For the most part, this water is thousands of years old.
2. **The surficial aquifer**: Water contained in 300 feet of mixed sand, silt and gravel on top of the bed rock and below our feet. These sources are unconfined, and water moves easily both vertically and horizontally at rates of feet per day. This water’s origin is primarily rainfall and migration from up gradient (Columbus and Washington County). This water is typically days to months old.

Under normal circumstances the surficial aquifer will fluctuate three to ten feet in a year and recover over winter and spring returning to an elevation where it has left chemical signatures in the soil in the form of staining. The depth of fluctuations vary across the watershed but trend downward the closer to the Mississippi River. Fluctuations are driven by evapotranspiration of plants, water appropriations from dewatering or domestic use and drainage of soils. Discounting the effect of the drought and the hydrologic impact of the changes in precipitation and storm type, recovery of water levels is slowing and not achieving full recovery over an increasingly large area of the watershed. This trend, if true, has extreme significance for drinking water availability and surface waters such as lakes, wetlands and water quality treatment ponds.

Issue

1. The trend needs to be verified, its driving forces quantified, its timing and sequencing identified and the needs and feasibilities to mitigate the impacts identified and organized.

Management Issues and Functions

The District's capacity and capability to:

- Engage in meaningful water management activities,
- Fulfill its legislative mandates, and
- Respond to and meet both the public's demand for health and safety and its needed and desired use the water resource for sustained economic benefit.

in 2024 and on to 2034 is critical for long range and annual planning and budgeting.

To inform the Board of Managers and enable them to effectively govern requires an assessment of the capacity and capability, (or readiness) of the District to operate and accomplish its mission essential tasks. While readiness lacks a statutory definition, management literature defines it as "the ability to conduct work, accomplish assigned tasks while preparing for future challenges" (Betts, 1995, Powell, 2012).

The degree to which the District can meet various demands and satisfy its legislative requirements is determined by three criteria that together define capability:

1. **Joint Capability Areas**: Assessment of nine groups of field activities or systems, that comprise and describe those tasks that are essential for accomplishing the legislative goals.
2. **Planning**: Assessment of District's ability to produce/provide long and short-term plans and an assessment of the mission critical tasks
3. **Readiness Deficiencies**: An assessment of shortfalls of resources to meet the requirements of reporting programs assigned goals and responsibilities.

Joint Capability Areas

Joint Capability Areas are the strategic administrative and program management functions that serve as the major inputs or drivers of District activities. Their analysis can provide a side-by-side comparison of program contributions to joint water management and a tool that will assist decision-makers in deciding whether to move resources between program budgets.

Situational Awareness: Is the ability to understand the dispositions, tendencies, and intentions, as well as characteristics and conditions of the operational environment that bear on District and water management decision making by leveraging all sources of physical, social and political economic information. The goal and intent is to provide managers at all levels the knowledge needed about the physical, social and managerial circumstances affecting a project, program or problem, issue or concern.

Finding: Program staff do not, as of yet sufficiently understand the District’s and their program’s operating environment and management situation based on a general inability to articulate those forces and trends influencing and defining the context and need for the District’s and their programs organization and mode of operation.

Sustainment: Is the ability to supply, support, and sustain staff, and programs and provide the District with the agility and freedom to effectively respond and address problems, issues and concerns at or near their period of emergence.

Finding: The District’s ability to provide adequate support to retain District staff has been compromised by Anoka County’s recent and unexpected decision to separate and no longer provide the administrative services of accounting, health insurance, human resources, and payroll to the District.

Finding: The degree to which the District uses its tax capacity is insufficient to pay for the capital work needed, on the District’s part, to retrofit and rehabilitate the system to address water quality impairments. However, taxation and cost reduction are significant political issues and keeping taxes down are political priorities for the Board’s appointing authority.

Conclusion:

The District has three principal issues or shortfalls that have significant impact on the District’s capacity or capability to execute mandated tasks and duties:

1. **Situational Awareness:** The degree of adequate situational awareness and adaptive management orientation by all program coordinators
2. **Sustainment:** The District’s ability to provide adequate support in the form health insurance to retain District staff.
3. **Sustainment:** Adequacy of funding to address water quality capital investment needs

Assessment of District Planning

Assesses the capability or probability of achieving annual and comprehensive objectives. This assessment reflects the District’s ability:

- To develop relevant and timely comprehensive and annual operating plans/budgets
- Assess the District’s Mission Essential Tasks (METs)

The assessment and analysis are composed of:

Staff allocation and readiness: Looks at the reason each program was established and the requirements and objectives it is required to meet within the context of the sufficiency of staffing, equipment, equipment condition and training to accomplish or address the priorities and objectives in the annual and comprehensive plans.

Finding: The analysis showed that achieving objectives may be questionable in some circumstances due to:

1. Equipment readiness: Due primarily to depreciation more than performance
2. Training Deficiencies: In select mission essential tasks – especially situational awareness

Analysis of the Mission Essential Tasks of the District: District operations are built around a core of four kinetic principles (Leadership, positioning, projects and protection) which are augmented, supplemented and/or supported by four more (intelligence, information, sustainment and public engagement) relies on mission essential tasks METs to organize the individual duties and steps of a project. METs are the physical means that the District and Program Coordinators use to perform tasks and accomplish objectives. They are made up of the specified and implied tasks that the District must perform to accomplish its mission, goals and objectives. Their purpose is to provide a structure to identify training requirements and qualifications, establish program or work group purpose and drive progress towards accomplishing goals and objectives.

Findings: The District struggles at the program level to achieve the objective of gathering social, political, and economic information for decision making which hinders our ability to anticipate, position the program or District and efficiently and effectively accomplish objectives

Conclusion:

The District ability to achieve Comprehensive and Annual planned goals and objectives is likely. There is currently an adequate supply of critical requirements, legislative depth and financial capacity.

Deficiencies in Capacity and Capability

This analysis assesses the District’s ability to successfully execute the comprehensive and annual plans by:

- Identifying the ability of different programs and authorities to intervein in a timely manner.
- Analyzing the use of different programs, the variance and impact of providing the critical requirements of funding, material/authority, and qualified staff, and the effect of any deficiencies on the risk to achieving management objectives.

The following are deficiencies and short comings which are significant and are not currently being addressed:

1. Administrative Support and Service Separation from Anoka County

Issue: Sustainment – Attracting and Retaining Qualified Staff

Major Points:

- Anoka County wishes to end its administrative support of the District.
- Notice of that decision was informally provided in February, 2022 with an initial expectation that all services would end by end of April.
- The April and December deadlines were impractical due to:
 - Funds available to replace services.
 - Time and logistics to find replacement services.
 - Time to collect and have available funding to pay for those services.
 - Cost of replacement of same health coverage
- Services include accounting, health insurance, human resources, and payroll.
- Health care is a critical benefit that has allowed us to attract and retain staff talent of a caliber to address the water resource problems in the District.
- Funding availability and cash flow indicate that a more realistic start date may be June, 2024 for accounting and payroll services and December, 2024, at the earliest, for health insurance.

Situation

In February, 2023 Anoka County notified the District that it intended to end its 30 year arrangement with the District to provide the services of:

- Accounting & Audit Support
- Banking and access to the MAGIC Fund
- Health Insurance
- Payroll
- At present, Anoka County would like to transfer accounting and payroll services by December 31, 2023, and Health Insurance by end of 2024.
- Given the timing of the property tax levy and the first tax settlement (June 2024), preliminary cash flow projections indicate that the most likely date for a smooth transition would be late June early July 2023.

Impact

1. Replacing the quality of Health Insurance is a primary strategic factor in attracting and retaining qualified and talented staff. The cost of doing that is, at present, unknown.
2. Replacing the professional services of accounting HR and payroll is in process and should be known before budget review.

Recommendation:

Stay the course.

1. RFPs are due in early April.
2. Interviews are scheduled for mid-April.
3. Selection was originally discussed for early May.

4. Begin transition of accounting and payroll in June.

However, regardless of the costs of bringing on additional professional services and the fact that these expenses will be unbudgeted, indicates that the RFPs will serve the greatest benefit for:

1. Assessing price/cost of these services
2. Determining a good/best fit
3. Assessing flexibility/feasibility/suitability of firms to delay or defer payment until June 2024

2. Water Quality: Pace of Work and Time Remaining to address TMDL Load Reductions

Issue: Facilities and Installations: Water quality fails to meet minimum standards for health, safety welfare and enjoyment.

Major Points:

- The District contains eleven streams that do not meet state or federal water quality standards.
- Reducing the pollutant loadings to acceptable levels is to be achieved by 2045.
- The “impairments” also serve as indicators that the water resource is at significant risk being unable to provide the beneficial uses on which we depend.
- The current pace and volume of money being invested is insufficient to either accomplish the task by 2045 or show a good faith effort.

Situation

The District contains eleven streams that do not meet state or Federal water quality standards for select beneficial uses of water and are therefore classified as impaired. These impairments are to be addressed by limiting stressors to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) by 2045. The process of pursuing these TMDLs is a process called load reduction. Load reductions must be achieved for

1. Total Suspended Solids
2. Total Phosphorus
3. Poor habitat
4. Altered hydrology.
5. Chloride
6. Dissolved Oxygen
7. E coli

The District is currently engaged in conducting studies to target the source of some stressors, conducting projects to resolve or neutralize the source or cause of others, regulating land use

changes to prevent or mitigate stressors and conducting education and outreach to the public, engineers and developers to further prevent and provide alternatives.

Achieving the TMDL by addressing some of the more pervasive and influential stressors, such as altered hydrology and E coli, will require construction, modification, restoration, and enhancement of new and existing infrastructure, (eg. ponds and filters) and restoration of natural infrastructure (eg. streams, ditches and ditch banks).

The current pace of investment, (\$1-2 million per year) is not sufficient to achieve the end state of meeting state and federal standards by 2045.

Impact:

Economic and financial best practices indicate that investing in infrastructure/equipment under a deadline should be guided by Pareto's Law where 80% of the infrastructure/equipment should be in place in the first 20% of the timeline. This means 80% of the total cost (estimated at \$100 million) should be made in the first 20% of the time between now and 2045 (2028). This computes to an additional investment of \$20 million a year for the next 4-5 years. The District's share is estimated at slightly less than \$ 6 million per year for the next four years and \$1.5 million per year for the following 16 years.

Recommendation:

1. Develop more accurate 10- and 20-year forecasts of costs
2. More accurately allocate costs between the District and other MS4s for consideration in District CIP and annual budgets for 2024 and 2025.

Risk Assessment

Purpose

The Risk Assessment is informed by the full scope of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan and provides the Board of managers the District Administrator's assessment of the nature and magnitude of strategic and management risk in pursuing the missions and mandates called for in State and Federal legislation and rule. By considering the range of operational, future challenges, force management, and institutional factors, the risk assessment provides a comprehensive assessment of the ability of the District to meet legislative requirements in the near-term.

Risk is the probability and consequence of an event adversely affecting either the public health, safety and welfare or the resource's ability to continue to produce and provide beneficial uses. Risk is classified within one of four risk levels (low, moderate, significant or high). Accurately assessing risk allows the Board and Administrator to make informed decisions across disparate processes.

The assessment consists of four elements:

1. **Problem framing**: a look at the strategic operating environment, identifying the items or elements which are valued (Risk to what?)
2. **Risk Assessment**: Identifying and scaling threats (Risks from what?)
3. **Risk Judgement**: Developing a risk profile (How much risk?) and evaluating the risk (How much risk is OK?)
4. **Risk Management**: Recommendations, on actions to accept, avoid, mitigate, or transfer risk (What should be done about risk?)

1. Strategic Environment and Framing the Problem

The District is a special unit of government under Minnesota state law who is charged with comprehensive management of water and related resources within the boundaries of the District. The District mission is:

To manage surface and groundwater systems and contributing land to provide for and balance the competing uses of development, drainage, flood prevention and the protection and restoration of water quality and habitat for the benefit of our communities now and in the future.

And has been granted the authority to:

1. Levy property taxes to raise revenue to develop and implement the programs and work identified in the approved comprehensive plan
2. Adopt rules to regulate the development and affect of land use changes adverse to water management goals

To achieve this mission, the District is to address:

- Ground water: Its availability and quality for drinking water as well as supply to surface water and base flows to creeks, lakes and wetlands.
- Public Drainage: Its structure and function as both an essential piece of infrastructure to the agriculture economy but as a water resource that provides beneficial uses.
- Water Quality: The water in 11 lakes and streams within the district do not meet state or Federal water quality standards for three different beneficial uses.
- Water Quantity: The public safety and specific properties and public infrastructure as well as agricultural land is at risk from flooding.
- Wetlands: wetlands are at risk of being adversely impacted or lost due to drainage, fill or conversion.

The reason the legislature has authorized the District to pursue the legislated goals and the mission and provided the District with taxing and regulatory authority is to:

- Protect the public health, safety, and welfare (103A.211, & 103D.201)
- Protect the watershed’s capacity to continue to produce and provide beneficial uses.
- (103D.201)
- Operate and maintain those natural and manmade structures and functions necessary for the ongoing provision of beneficial uses. (103B, 103D & 103E)
- Restore adverse changes to the most sustainable productive capacity the resource can attain. (103B, 114D, 33 U.S.C §§ 1251 et seq.)
- Minimize capital costs associated with repair, replacement, or restoration of property and or water resources (103B.201)

Based on the trends identified in the “Alternatives” portion of the Comprehensive plan and summarized in this report, the emerging operating environment influencing the District’s capability and capacity to address water resource concerns is increasingly characterized by the simultaneous and connected challenges of

- contested norms and
- persistent disorder.

The evolution of these challenges are already being seen and, in all probability will be evident across the watershed, the Anoka Sand Plain and the State over the next 10 years.

2. Risk Assessment (Risk From What?)

The criticality of any problem, issues or concern is a measure of the risk to the public health, safety, and welfare and/or productivity capacity of the watershed in the event of failure. The more critical the problem, issue, or concern, the higher the risk to which the Cities and the watershed district are exposed. This risk may come in the form of flooding, reduced access to clean water, and impairment of water bodies in the case of:

- Natural assets such as drinking water or floodplain

- Physical assets such as pipes, BMPs, etc.

The risk in the case of programmatic assets is different, but significant regardless.

Strategic Management Risks

Risks stemming from the physical, social and managerial trends identified earlier.

Risk	Probability	Consequence
<u>Overt Ideological Competition:</u> Irreconcilable ideas communicated and promoted by identity networks through overt and disruptive actions.	Very Likely (80-100%)	Damage to interests and/or long-term impacts
<u>Threats to Local Water Management Authority:</u> Encroachment, erosion or disregard of laws, rules and investments that provide the context and medium on which the state and local economies operate through coercion.	Likely (50-80%)	Damage to interests and/or permanent of defining system
<u>Antagonistic Hydropolitical Balancing:</u> Increasingly ambitious governmental and nongovernmental units maximizing their own influence while actively limiting the ability to manage and protect the water resource.	Likely (40-70%)	Damage to interests and/or short to mid-range impacts
<u>Disruption of the Watershed or Subwatershed Commons:</u> Denial or compulsion of access to resources that are essentially unregulated but available to all.	Very Likely (80-100%)	Damage to interests and/or long-term impacts
<u>Shattered and Reordered Efforts:</u> Agencies, groups unable to cope with internal political fractures, environmental stressors, or deliberate external interference.	Likely (40-60%)	Damage to interests and/or long-term impacts

Program Operation Risks

Risk to District Mission stemming from District’s ability to achieve goals and objectives identified within the Comprehensive plan. This ability considers the District’s ability to execute current, planned and contingency operations in 2024 and beyond to 2034, the ability to access staff to implement those plans and limit the financial, legal and political risk.

Risk Subset	Risk Drivers	Consequence
Current Mission/Staff	Achieve Annual Objectives	Modest: Can achieve most objectives at acceptable cost.
	Meet Board/Administrator Staffing Requirements	Minor: Operational staffing at 90%. No critical shortfalls
Current & Future Mission/Staff	Achieve Comprehensive &/or Annual Plan Objectives	Modest: Limited delays. Acceptable costs
	Meet Budget Requirements	Modest: Shortfalls cause minor plan deviations. No critical shortfalls
	Authorities	Minor: Full authority provided to achieve all objectives
	Resources Available to meet required timelines.	Minor: Substantially as planned. Minimal costs
	Partnerships and collaboration	Minor/Modest: Partnerships mostly effective
	Messaging	Modest: Key messaging effective
	District Capability vs problem/issue/ concern	Modest: Dominant in essential capabilities
Future Mission/Staff	District Readiness: Capability & Capacity	Modest: Issues and shortfalls have limited impact on capacity and capability to perform required tasks and responsibilities
	Stress on Staff	Modest: District possesses the required resources and trained to undertake most

Risk Subset	Risk Drivers	Consequence
		of its legislative mission for which it is organized
	Modernization/Critical Maintenance	Minor: As planned. Minimal cost
	Staff Development & Design	Modest: Meets priority legislative requirements. No critical shortfalls.
	Investment in Operational Imperatives	Major: Achieves minimal operational imperatives.

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 8
ITEM: Water Education Grant 23-03

POLICY IMPACT: Policy
FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted

REQUEST

Review Water Education grant application 23-03 and award grant of \$500 for Bronze Sponsorship of annual Salt Symposium .

BACKGROUND

In September 2023, the Board budgeted \$3700 for water education grants. The Board originally approved the Activity Description for Water Education grants December 2007.

On April 17, 2023, Kathryn Farber of Bolton & Menk Consulting, Inc, applied for a \$1000 Water Education grant to help cover the cost of providing an annual 2-day Salt Symposium held virtually. The 2023 Salt Symposium is August 1st and 2nd.

This two-day event brings industry, maintenance, academic and environmental professionals together to learn about the impacts of chloride on our environment and methods to reduce salt and chloride use. Professionals from across the nation will share their expertise on current research initiatives on topics including water softeners, wastewater, fertilizers, and snow and ice management.

Silver Sponsor - \$1,000

- Logo placement on conference materials, 2 complimentary registrations, 3 break period advertisement slides, 1 customized audience poll or promotional link sent via conference chat.

Bronze Sponsor - \$500

- Logo placement on conference pamphlet and other materials, 1 complimentary registration, 2 break periods advertisement slides, 1 customized audience poll or promotional link sent via conference chat.

In previous years (2019, 2021, 2022) CCWD sponsored at the \$500 Bronze level.

ISSUES/CONCERNS:

Staff are concerned about recommending the \$1000 Silver Sponsorship level because the remaining balance of \$850 this early in 2023 only allows for 1 or 2 more grants:

Available Funds	\$1850	
Request	\$ 1000	Balance = \$850
Eligibility	Government agencies within CCWD	
Eligible Expenses	The project is eligible.	Education about critical water quality pollutant.
Evaluation Criteria	<p>Priority will be given to proposals which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information to the public and decision-makers regarding water resources. 2. Opportunities for the public to participate or volunteer in water quality activities. 3. Educational opportunities for K-12 children concerning water quality. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. Yes; audience is water resource- related professionals 3. No

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Water Education Grant 23-03 for \$500 Bronze sponsorship level.

Available Funds	\$1850	
Grant Award	\$500	Balance = \$1350

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 9
ITEM: 23-10 NORTHDALE BLVD WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT / ANOKA COUNTY MILL AND OVERLAY

AGENDA: Permit

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to review, discuss, and consider approving Permit Application Number P-23-036 23-10 NORTHDALE BLVD WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT / ANOKA COUNTY MILL AND OVERLAY.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Permit Application Number P-23-036 with 2 conditions and 0 stipulations, as stated in the Application Review Report dated 4/20/2023.

ATTACHED

Application Review Report for Permit Application Number P-23-036.

Permit Application Review Report
Date: 04/20/2023

Applicant/Landowner:

City of Coon Rapids
Attn: Mark Hansen
11155 Robinson Dr
Coon Rapids, MN 55433
mhansen@coonrapidsmn.gov
763-7676-465

Contact:

Same as applicant

Project Name: 23-10 NORTHDALE BLVD WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT / ANOKA COUNTY MILL AND OVERLAY

Project PAN: P-23-036

Project Purpose: Replacement of a 1/2 mile of watermain, mill and overlay pavement, and replace sidewalk, driveways, and curbs as needed.

Project Location: Northdale Blvd from Quince St. to Ilex St., Coon Rapids.

Site Size: size of project parcel – 4.08 acres; size of disturbed area - 4.08 acres; size of existing impervious - 2.64 acres; size of proposed impervious 2.64 acres.

Applicable District Rule(s): Rule 2, Rule 4

Recommendation: Approve with 2 Conditions and 0 Stipulations

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$4,040.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4)

2. Provide a note on the erosion and sediment control plan that disturbed soils and stockpiles will be temporarily or permanently stabilized within 24 hours after construction activity in that area has temporarily or permanently ceased.

Stipulations: None

Exhibits:

Exhibit Type	Exhibit Author	Signature Date	Received Date
Project Narrative	City of Coon Rapids	undated	03/30/2023
Construction Plans	Anoka County	03/14/2023	03/30/2023
Construction Plans	City of Coon Rapids	03/28/2023	03/30/2023

Findings:

Description: The proposed project includes a ½ mile of 18-inch watermain replacement on Northdale Boulevard between Quince Street and Ilex Street via open cut methods. The project will also perform mill & overlay work along Northdale Blvd. The project will disturb 4.08 acres and add no new impervious. The site drains toward Lower Coon Creek.

Fees and Escrows (Rule 2.7): The applicant is a government agency and is therefore exempt from an application fee or a review and inspection fee deposit. The applicant will be required to submit a performance escrow in the amount of \$4,040.00. This corresponds to a base escrow of \$2,000, plus an additional \$500 per acre of disturbance (4.08 acres of disturbance proposed).

Stormwater Management (Rule 3.0):

The proposed project does not create a cumulative total of 10,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface, or 5,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface for non-residential or multifamily residential within one mile of and draining to an impaired water. The proposed project is not a public linear project where the sum of the new and fully reconstructed impervious surface is equal to one or more acres. Stormwater Management standards do not apply.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4.0)

Rule 4.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities of 1 acre or more.

The proposed project drains toward Lower Coon Creek. The soils affected by the project include Zimmerman and Sartell, and have a soil erodibility factor of 0.15 or greater. Disturbed areas are not proposed to be stabilized within 24, as required. The proposed erosion and sediment control plan includes inlet protection and street sweeping. The erosion control plan does not meet District requirements because disturbed soils and soil stockpiles are not proposed to be stabilized within 24 hours after construction activity in that area has temporarily or permanently ceased.

Wetlands (Rule 5.0)

The proposed project does not include activities which result in the filling, draining, excavating, or otherwise altering the hydrology of a wetland. Rule 5.0 does not apply.

Floodplain (Rule 6.0)

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities within the floodplain as mapped and modeled by the District. Rule 6.0 does not apply.

Drainage, Bridges, Culverts, and Utility Crossings (Rule 7.0)

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair, or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a bridge profile control or culvert structure on a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse. The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which involve a pipeline or utility crossing of a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse.

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair, or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a conveyance system that extends across two or more parcels of record not under common ownership and has a drainage area of 200 acres or greater. Rule 7.0 does not apply.

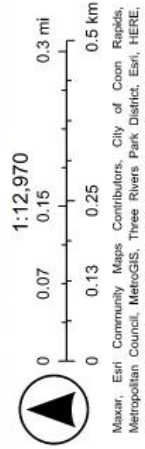
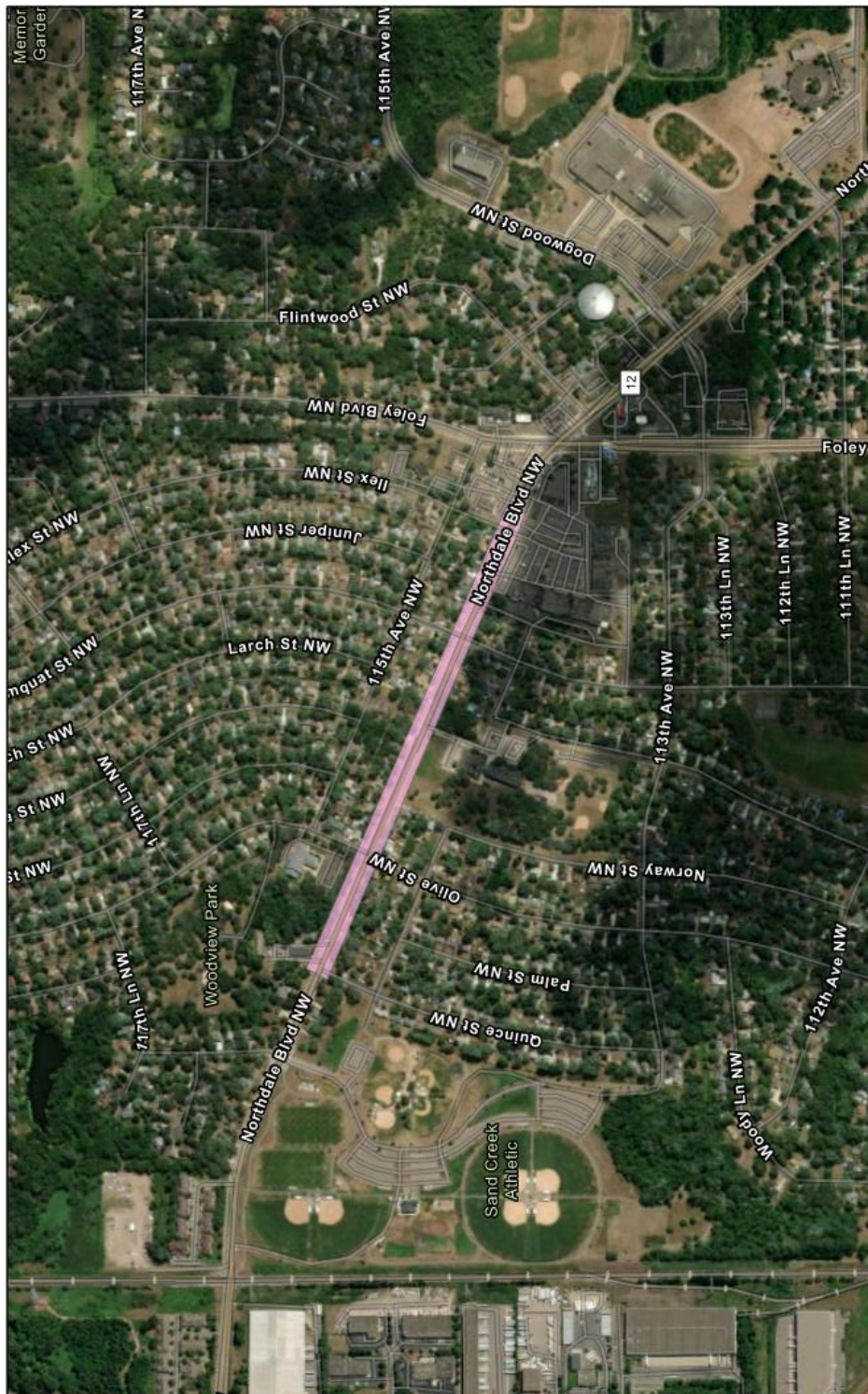
Buffers (Rule 8.0)

The proposed project does not include a land disturbing activity on land adjacent or directly contributing to a Public Water, Additional Waters, High or Outstanding Ecological Value Waters, a Public Ditch, or Impaired Waters/waters exceeding state water quality standards. Rule 8.0 does not apply.

Variations (Rule 10.2)

The proposed project is not requesting a variance from the District's rules, regulations, and policies. Rule 10.2 does not apply.

P23-036



4/12/2023

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 10
ITEM: Fleet Star Trucking and Trailer

AGENDA: Permit

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to review, discuss, and consider approving Permit Application Number P-23-033 Fleet Star Trucking and Trailer.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Permit Application Number P-23-033 with 6 conditions and 3 stipulations, as stated in the Application Review Report dated 4/20/2023.

ATTACHED

Application Review Report for Permit Application Number P-23-033.

Permit Application Review Report

Date: 04/20/2023

Applicant/Landowner:

CSF Development LLC
Attn: Jesse Osborne
16800 HWY 65
Ham Lake, MN 55304
jesse@storageworldmn.com
651.403.0782

Contact:

Larson Engineering, Inc.
Attn: TJ Rose
3524 Labore Lake
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
trose@larnsonengr.com
651-481-9120

Project Name: Fleet Star Trucking and Trailer

Project PAN: P-23-033

Project Purpose: Construction of truck and trailer lot, office space, loading dock, repair garage, and associated stormwater treatment features.

Project Location: SW of the intersection of Buchanan St NE and 166th Ave NE, Ham Lake. It is within the previously permitted Creekside Farms Development - CCWD Permit 21-033.

Site Size: size of parcel - 9.2 acres; size of disturbed area - 7.39 acres; size of existing impervious - 0.0 acres; size of proposed impervious area - 4.9 acres.

Applicable District Rule(s): Rule 2.7, Rule 3, Rule 4, Rule 6, Rule 8

Recommendation: Approve with 6 Conditions and 3 Stipulations

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount \$5680.00.

Stormwater Management (Rule 3)

2. To understand downstream impacts, and to reflect accurate high water levels, include all contributing drainage areas to the existing north pond and south infiltration basin (including drainage areas from previous 21-033 project) in the HydroCAD models.
3. SHSAM results indicate SAFL Baffles are proposed within the sump catch basins, however, this is not reflected on the plan set. Include a detail for SAFL Baffle and annotations on the utility plan to indicate which structures the SAFL Baffles are to be installed in.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4)

4. Provide proof of NPDES permit application.
5. Provide a note on the erosion and sediment control plan that soil stockpiles will be temporarily or permanently stabilized within 24 hours of inactivity.

Buffers (Rule 8)

6. Provide 16.5 ft buffer along private ditch with monumentation at a maximum every 200 ft.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. Submittal of as-builts for the stormwater management practices and associated structures listed in Tables 2 and 3, including volume, critical elevations, and proof of installation for hydrodynamic separators.
2. Completion of a post construction infiltration test on the Infiltration Basin by filling the basin to a minimum depth of 6 inches with water and monitoring the time necessary to drain, or multiple double ring infiltration tests to ASTM standards. The Coon Creek Watershed District shall be notified prior to the test to witness the results.
3. If dewatering is required, provide DNR dewatering permit prior to construction. If a DNR permit is not required, provide well-field location, rates, discharge location, schedule, and quantities prior to construction.

Exhibits:

Exhibit Type	Exhibit Author	Signature Date	Received Date
Stormwater Management Report	Larson Engineering	04/10/2023	04/10/2023
Geotechnical Report	Haugo	01/05/2021	03/01/2023
Landscape Plans	Aune Fernandez Landscape Architects	03/30/2023	04/10/2023
Construction Plans	Larson Engineering	04/10/2023	04/10/2023

Findings:

Description: The project proposes to construct a new truck and trailer lot, office space, loading dock, repair garage, and associated stormwater features. The parcel is 9.2 acres with 0 acres of existing impervious. The project will disturb 7.39 acres and create 4.9 acres of new impervious. The site drains west to Prairie Creek.

Fees and Escrows (Rule 2.7): The applicant has submitted a \$4,810 application fee and deposit which corresponds with the nonrefundable application fee (\$10), project type of >10 acres (\$4,500), and addition to base fee (\$300). The applicant will be required to submit a performance escrow in the amount of \$5,680. This corresponds to a base escrow of \$2,000, plus an additional \$500 per acre of disturbance (7.39 acres of disturbance proposed).

Stormwater Management (Rule 3.0):

Rule 3.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities creating a cumulative total of 10,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface.

The Hydrologic Soil Group (HSG) of soils on site are HSG B. Curve Numbers have been shifted down one classification to account for the impacts of grading on soil structure.

Rate Control: Peak stormwater flow rate at each point of site discharge does not increase from the pre-development condition for the 24-hour precipitation event with a return frequency of 2-, 10-, 100- years as shown in Table 1.

Point of Discharge	2-year (cfs)		10-year (cfs)		25-year (cfs)		100-year (cfs)	
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
Ex. North Pond	5.59	4.42	8.81	7.75	11.38	10.16	16.07	15.74
Ex. South Infiltration	2.8	2.56	5.13	433	7.12	5.77	10.99	8.51

Basin								
Private Ditch	2.21	2.05	5.25	4.44	8.05	6.59	13.72	10.92

Table 1.

Volume Control: The proposed project is new development; therefore, the volume reduction requirement is equal to 1.1 inches over the area of all impervious surface. The amount of proposed impervious required to be treated is 197,762 ft².

The applicant is proposing the Stormwater Management Practices (SMPs) described below:

Drainage Area	Impervious required to be treated (ft ²)	Proposed SMP	TP Removal Factor	Required treatment volume	Volume Provided Below Outlet (ft ³)
Infiltration Basin	111,514	Infiltration Basin	1	10,018.8	10,785
Ex. North Pond	45,302	Ex. North Pond	0.5	8,276.4	131,348
Ex. South Infiltration Basin	40,946	Ex. South Infiltration Basin	1	3,920.4	45,486
				TOTAL 22,215.6	TOTAL 187,619

Table 2.

The following pretreatment has been provided:

SMP ID	Pretreatment Device/Method	Percent TSS Removal
Infiltration Basin	Catch basin sump with SAFL Baffle	80

Table 3.

Pretreatment is required to be designed such that the device/method provides removal of 80% TSS entering an infiltration or filtration Stormwater Management Practice. The proposed project meets pretreatment requirements as shown in Table 3.

The volume reduction requirements are met as shown in Table 2.

Water Quality: Stormwater treatment on site must remove at least 80% of the average annual post development TSS per discharge location. The following TSS removal has been provided:

Discharge Point	TSS Removal Provided
Ex. North Pond	80
Ex. South Infiltration Basin	80
County Ditch	80

Table 4.

The TSS removal standard is met at each discharge point as shown in Table 4.

Discharges to Wetlands: Stormwater from the proposed project is not being discharged into any wetlands, therefore this section does not apply.

Landlocked Basins: The proposed drainage system does not outlet to a landlocked basin, therefore this section does not apply.

Low Floor Freeboard: The proposed project is new development including buildings and habitable structures. Therefore, SMPs must be designed such that the lowest basement floor elevations are at least 2 feet above the 100-yr high water level and 1 foot above the emergency overflow. The lowest basement floor elevation proposed is 912 MSL. The applicable 100-year high water level is at 908.73 ft MSL and the applicable emergency overflow is at 908.75 ft MSL. The freeboard requirement is met.

Easements: Maintenance easements for all stormwater management practices have been provided

on the plans.

The proposed project is a new plat or development project and includes a public ditch. Therefore, ditch maintenance easements must be provided on the plat. The Public Ditch within the project is Prairie Creek, so a maintenance easement of 100 ft (50 ft on either side of the centerline) must be provided. This maintenance easement has been provided.

The proposed stormwater management practices will not be maintained as part of standard municipal public work activities. Therefore, a maintenance agreement that meets District standards will be required.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4.0)

Rule 4.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities of 1 acre or more.

The proposed project drains to Prairie Creek. The soils affected by the project include Zimmerman and Rifle, and have a soil erodibility factor of 0.15 or greater. Disturbed areas are not proposed to be stabilized within 24 hours, as required. The proposed erosion and sediment control plan includes inlet protection, rock construction entrance, erosion control blanket, street sweeping and silt fence. The erosion control plan does not meet District requirements because soil and soil stockpiles are not proposed to be stabilized within 24 hours or inactivity.

Wetlands (Rule 5.0)

The proposed project does not include activities which result in the filling, draining, excavating, or otherwise altering the hydrology of a wetland. Rule 5.0 does not apply.

Floodplain (Rule 6.0)

Rule 6.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities within or adjacent to the boundary of the 100-year flood elevation as mapped and modeled by the District. The regulatory floodplain elevation is 900.8 ft MSL. The application proposes the placement of 3,042 cubic yards of fill within the floodplain. Compensatory storage is required. The proposed project provides 3,243 cubic yards of compensatory storage, which exceeds the required 1:1 ratio and is within the relevant reach.

Drainage, Bridges, Culverts, and Utility Crossings (Rule 7.0)

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair, or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a bridge profile control or culvert structure on a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse. The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which involve a pipeline or utility crossing of a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse.

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a conveyance system that extends across two or more parcels of record not under common ownership and has a drainage area of 200 acres or greater. Rule 7.0 does not apply.

The proposed project includes the repair or replacement of an element of a conveyance system owned by a government entity and the hydraulic capacity of the system will not change. Rule 7.0 does not apply.

Buffers (Rule 8.0)

Rule 8.0 applies because the proposed project includes a land disturbing activity that requires a permit under another District Rule and is on land adjacent or directly contributing to Additional Waters.

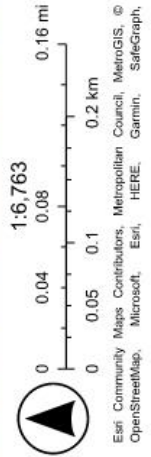
A continuous buffer is not proposed on the plans. Because the resource is an additional water, the average buffer width must be 16.5 ft, with a minimum width of 16.5 ft and a maximum width of 16.5 ft. Total buffer area required is 15,675 square feet. The total buffer area provided is 0 square feet,

which is less than the requirement. Permanent monumentation at each parcel line, and every 200 ft as needed, has not been proposed on the plan.

Variations (Rule 10.2)

The proposed project is not requesting a variance from the District's rules, regulations, and policies. Rule 10.2 does not apply.

P-23-033



4/19/2023

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 11
ITEM: Hidden Forest East Fourth Addition

AGENDA: Permit

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to review, discuss, and consider approving Permit Application Number P-23-023 Hidden Forest East Fourth Addition.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Permit Application Number P-23-023 with 7 conditions and 3 stipulations, as stated in the Application Review Report dated 4/20/2023.

ATTACHED

Application Review Report for Permit Application Number P-23-023.

Permit Application Review Report
Date: 04/20/2023

Applicant/Landowner:

HFN Properties, LLC
Attn: Jeff Stalberger
17404 Ward Lake Dr
Anoka, MN 55304
stally68@msn.com
612-799-7417

Contact:

Plowe Engineering, Inc.
Adam Ginkel
6776 Lake Dr. Ste 110
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
adam@plowe.com
651-361-8235

Project Name: Hidden Forest East Fourth Addition

Project PAN: P-23-023

Project Purpose: Construction of a 22-lot single family home development with associated stormwater features, streets, and utilities.

Project Location: Stutz Street NE and 149th Avenue NE, Ham Lake.

Site Size: size of parcel - 112.96 acres; size of disturbed area - 36.9 acres; size of existing impervious area - 0.0; size of proposed impervious area - 5.538.

Applicable District Rule(s): Rule 2.7, Rule 3, Rule 4, Rule 5, Rule 6, Rule 7, Rule 8

Recommendation: Approve with 7 Conditions and 3 Stipulations

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$18,900.00.

Stormwater Management (Rule 3)

2. Include the proposed 100-year rate in Table 4 for discharge to Carlos Avery.
3. Pond 4 outlet pipe size is inconsistent between storm sewer profile and proposed HydroCAD model. Update for consistency.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4)

4. Provide proof of NPDES permit application.
5. Provide a note on the erosion and sediment control plan that disturbed soils and stockpiles will be temporarily or permanently stabilized within 24 hours after construction activity in that area has temporarily or permanently ceased.

Rule 5.0 – Wetlands

6. Submittal of Wetland Bank Credit Withdrawal Verification.
7. Submittal of final Takings Permit from the MnDNR.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. Submittal of as-builts for the stormwater management practices and associated structures listed in Table 2, including volume, critical elevations, and proof of installation for hydrodynamic separators.
2. If dewatering is required, provide DNR dewatering permit prior to construction. If a DNR permit is not required, provide well-field location, rates, discharge location, schedule and quantities prior to construction.
3. Submittal of as-built (invert, pipe material, pipe size) for culvert installation within County Ditch 44-5.

Exhibits:

Exhibit Type	Exhibit Author	Signature Date	Received Date
Updated Water Level Reading	Braun Intertec	02/16/2023	03/17/2023
Soil Borings	Tradewell Soil Testing	10/16/2020	02/14/2023
High Water Level Memo	Braun Intertec	01/06/2023	02/14/2023
Soil Borings	Tradewell Soil Testing	12/23/2020	02/14/2023
Soil Borings	Tradewell Soil Testing	10/31/2022	02/14/2023
Geotechnical Evaluation Report	Braun Intertec	12/08/2022	02/14/2023
County Ditch Culvert Sizing	Plowe Engineering Inc.	02/17/2023	02/17/2023
Storm Sewer Sizing	Plowe Engineering, Inc.	04/11/2023	04/11/2023
Permit Application	Applicant	02/02/2023	02/14/2023
Wetland Replacement Application	Applicant	02/13/2023	02/14/2023
Wetland Permit Application	Kjolhaug	02/14/2023	02/14/2023
Stormwater Drainage Report	Plowe Engineering, Inc.	04/11/2023	04/11/2023
Construction Plans	Plowe Engineering, Inc.	04/11/2023	04/11/2023

Findings:

Description: The proposed project includes the construction of streets, storm sewer, stormwater management BMPs, house pad preparation, and restoration for a new single family home development. The size of the project parcel is 112.96 acres. There is no existing impervious. The project will create 5.538 acres of new impervious. The site drains west via County Ditch 44-5.

Fees and Escrows (Rule 2.7): The applicant has submitted a \$11,050.00 application fee and deposit which corresponds with the nonrefundable application fee (\$10), project type of >20 acres (\$10,000.00), and addition to base fee (\$1,040.00). The applicant will be required to submit a performance escrow in the amount of \$18,900.00. This corresponds to a base escrow of \$2,000, plus an additional \$500 per acre of disturbance (29.8 acres of disturbance proposed).

Stormwater Management (Rule 3.0):

Rule 3.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities creating a cumulative total of 10,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface.

The Hydrologic Soil Group (HSG) of soils on site are HSG B. Curve Numbers have been shifted down one classification to account for the impacts of grading on soil structure.

Rate Control: Peak stormwater flow rate at each point of site discharge increases from the pre-development condition for the 24-hour precipitation event with a return frequency of 2-, 10-, 100-years as shown in Table 1. The project will impact Drainage Sensitive Use areas. The proposed 100-year peak flow rate exceeds the existing 25-year peak flow rate as shown in Table 1. The rate increase has been reviewed and no adverse impacts are expected as a result. The rate control standard is met to the maximum extent practicable.

Point of Discharge	2-year (cfs)		10-year (cfs)		25-year (cfs)		100-year (cfs)	
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
Wetland 1	40	40.88	85.26	86.76	125.84	126.84	203.82	203.32
Wetland 2	0.13	0.32	4.18	5.29	10.79	12.62	30.02	32.49
Wetland 11	27.62	28.21	61.68	62.5	85.61	86.06	110.04	110.33
Carlos Avery	0.04	1.24	0.29	3.04	0.84	4.73	3.2	8.11

Table 1.

Volume Control: The proposed project is new development; therefore, the volume reduction requirement is equal to 1.1 inches over the area of all impervious surface. The amount of proposed impervious required to be treated is 191,885 ft².

The applicant is proposing the Stormwater Management Practices (SMPs) described below:

Drainage Area	Impervious required to be treated (ft ²)	Proposed SMP	TP Removal Factor	Required treatment volume	Volume Provided Below Outlet (ft ³)
Pond 1	84,536	Pond 1	0.5	15,498	32,802
Pond 2	11,876	Pond 2	0.5	2,177	6,524
Pond 3	78,876	Pond 3	0.5	14,461	55,781
Pond 4	16,597	Pond 4	0.5	3,043	45,959
				TOTAL = 35,179	TOTAL = 143,066

Table 2.

The volume reduction requirements are not met as shown in Table 2. Infiltration may not be used as a volume control practice because the practice(s) would need to be placed in areas with less than three feet of separation from the bottom of the infiltration system to the seasonally saturated soils or the top of bedrock. Geotechnical information from 2020-2023 has been submitted which indicates that seasonally high saturated soils will make infiltration infeasible throughout the project site. Because the volume reduction standard cannot be met due to these site constraints, the project proposes the use of wet ponds. The volume control standard has been met to the maximum extent practicable.

Water Quality: Stormwater treatment on site must remove at least 80% of the average annual post development TSS per discharge location. The following TSS removal has been provided:

Discharge Point	TSS Removal Provided
Wetland 1	80
Wetland 2	80
Wetland 11	80
Carlos Avery	80

Table 3.

The TSS removal standard is met at each discharge point as shown in Table 3.

Discharges to Wetlands:

Stormwater from the proposed project is being discharged into the following wetlands:

Wetland ID	1	1A	2	3	3-2	3-6	4	6	8	9	10	11
Wetland Type	SS	SS	SS	SS	SS	SS	SS	MS	SS	SS	MS	MS
Bounce 2-yr (ft)	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.12	0.02	0.02
Bounce 10-yr (ft)	0.11	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.60	-0.07	0.00	0.11	0.07	0.01	0.01
Bounce 100-yr (ft)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Difference of Discharge Rate Into Wetland 100- Yr (cfs)	-27.28	1.28	4.42	-0.14	1.76	1.79	-2.67	-0.08	7.33	-0.18	0.7	1.01
Inundation on 2-yr (hrs)	0.96	0.00	0.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Inundation on 10-yr (hrs)	-4.08	-0.96	15.12	16.08	0.96	1.34	*	0.00	*	*	0.00	0.00
Run out Control (ft)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Table 4.

The proposed project exceeds the standard for Wetland 1A, 2, 3-2, 3-6, 8,10 and 11 for discharge rate which cannot exceed the existing rate. This has been reviewed and no adverse impacts are expected due to the relative wetland size.

Low Floor Freeboard: The proposed project is new development including buildings and habitable structures. Therefore, SMPs must be designed such that the lowest basement floor elevations are at least 2 feet above the 100-yr high water level and 1 foot above the emergency overflow. All proposed houses meet low floor requirements. The freeboard requirement is met.

Maintenance:

Easements: Maintenance easements for all stormwater management practices have been provided on the plans.

The proposed project is a new plat or development project and includes a public ditch. Therefore, ditch maintenance easements must be provided on the plat. The Public Ditch within the project is County Ditch 44-5, so a maintenance easement of 100 ft (50 ft on either side of the centerline) must be provided. This maintenance easement has been provided.

Maintenance Agreements: All proposed stormwater management practices will be maintained as part of standard municipal public work activities. Therefore, no maintenance agreement will be

required.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4.0)

Rule 4.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities of 1 acre or more.

The proposed project drains to Ditch 44. The soils affected by the project include Markey, Isanti, Zimmerman and Lino and have a soil erodibility factor of 0.15 or greater. Disturbed areas are not proposed to be stabilized within 24 hours, as required. The proposed erosion and sediment control plan includes inlet protection, perimeter control, rock construction entrance, and street sweeping. The erosion control plan does not meet District requirements because disturbed soils and soil stockpiles are not proposed to be stabilized within 24 hours.

Wetlands (Rule 5.0)

Rule 5.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes activities which result in the filling, draining, excavating or other altering of the hydrology of a wetland.

The applicant submitted a joint application form requesting a Replacement Plan decision on 02/14/2023. The application was noticed to the TEP on 02/21/2023. Wetland impacts are proposed through fill in 6 locations. The applicant has provided an alternatives analysis which discusses wetland impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation. A wetland impact summary is outlined below.

Wetlands were delineated under PAN (W22-032 and 20-143). The boundary and type application were reviewed and approved. The Notice of Decision was issued on 11/03/2022.

Wetland	Impacts (sf)	Type (T/P)	Replacement Ratio	Required Mitigation (sf)
7	6,886	Permanent	2:1	13,772
3-6	397	Permanent	2:1	794
3	156	Permanent	2:1	312
1 East	922	Permanent	2:1	1,844
1 West	177	Permanent	2:1	354
1 North	4,121	Permanent	2:1	8,242

Table 5

Impact replacement will be mitigated through the purchase of wetland bank credits from bank 1698. Bank 1698 is within the required bank service area (BSA 7).

Floodplain (Rule 6.0)

Rule 6.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities within or adjacent to the boundary of the 100-year flood elevation as mapped and modeled by the District. The regulatory floodplain elevation ranges from 894-899.9 ft MSL. The application proposes the placement of 516 cubic yards of fill within the floodplain. Compensatory storage is required. The proposed project provides 1177 cubic yards of compensatory storage, which exceeds the required 1:1 ratio and is within the relevant reach.

Drainage, Bridges, Culverts, and Utility Crossings (Rule 7.0)

Rule 7.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair, or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a bridge profile control or culvert structure on a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse.

The regulated waterway is County Ditch 44-5. The proposed culvert opening includes riprap on the shoulder and bank to minimize soil erosion. The culvert crossing provides equivalent hydraulic capacity to existing conditions by matching current slope, bank width, and will maintain appropriate velocities. This is consistent with MnDOT's Minnesota Guide for Stream Connectivity and Aquatic Organism Passage Through Culverts.

Buffers (Rule 8.0)

Rule 8.0 applies because it includes a land disturbing activity that requires a permit under another District Rule and is on land adjacent or directly contributing to High or Outstanding Ecological Value Waters.

A continuous 25 ft buffer is proposed on the plans. It is proposed to be established and maintained in seed mix MnDOT 33-261, which is perennially rooted vegetation. Because the resource is a High or Outstanding Ecological Value Waters, the average buffer width must be 15 ft, with a minimum width of 10 ft and a maximum width of 25 ft. Permanent monumentation at each parcel line, and every 200 ft has been proposed on the plan.

VariANCES (Rule 10.2)

The proposed project is not requesting a variance from the District's rules, regulations, and policies. Rule 10.2 does not apply.

P-23-023



4/13/2023

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 12
ITEM: South Side Entertainment District

AGENDA: Permit

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to review, discuss, and consider approving Permit Application Number P-23-024 South Side Entertainment District.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Permit Application Number P-23-024 with 3 conditions and 2 stipulations, as stated in the Application Review Report dated 4/20/2023.

ATTACHED

Application Review Report for Permit Application Number P-23-024.

Permit Application Review Report
Date: 04/20/2023

Applicant/Landowner:

PinPoint Equity Group
Attn: Micheal Breese
2456 Arnold Palmer Dr
Blaine, MN 55449
mike@pinpointeg.com
612-978-3688

Contact:

BKBM Engineers
Attn: Kevin Bohl
6120 Earle Brown Dr., Ste 70
Minneapolis MN 55430
kbohl@bkbm.com
763-843-0427

Project Name: South Side Entertainment District

Project PAN: P-23-024

Project Purpose: construction of a new restaurant, retail building, parking lot and associated stormwater treatment features.

Project Location: At the southwest corner of the intersection of Radisson Road NE and 105th Ave NE, Blaine.

Site Size: size of parcel - 2.98 acres; size of disturbed area - 3.97 acres; size of existing impervious area - 0.23 acres; size of proposed impervious area - 2.34 acres.

Applicable District Rule(s): Rule 2.7, Rule 3, Rule 4

Recommendation: Approve with 3 Conditions and 2 Stipulations

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$3,985.00

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4)

2. Provide a note on the erosion and sediment control plan that disturbed soils and stockpiles will be temporarily or permanently stabilized within 7 days after construction activity in that area has temporarily or permanently ceased.
3. Provide proof of NPDES permit application.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. Submittal of as-builts for the stormwater management practices and associated structures listed in Tables 2 & 3, including volume, critical elevations, and proof of installation for hydrodynamic separators.
2. Completion of a post construction infiltration test on the underground infiltration system by filling the basin to a minimum depth of 6 inches with water and monitoring the time necessary to drain, or multiple double ring infiltration tests to ASTM standards. The Coon Creek Watershed District shall be notified prior to the test to witness the results.

Exhibits:

Exhibit Type	Exhibit Author	Signature Date	Received Date
Stormwater Management Report	BKBM Engineers	04/14/2023	04/14/2023
Soil Boring Logs	Braun Intertec	01/20/2023	02/10/2023
Landscape Plans	DF/Damon Farber Landscape Architects	02/27/2023	03/01/2023
Construction Plans	BKBM Engineers	01/13/2023	04/18/2023

Findings:

Description: The project proposed to construct a new restaurant, retail building, parking lot and associated stormwater treatment features. The project parcel is 2.97 acres. The project proposes 2.34 acres of new impervious. The area generally drains north toward County Ditch 41.

Fees and Escrows (Rule 2.7): The applicant has submitted a \$4,010.00 application fee and deposit which corresponds with the nonrefundable application fee (\$10), project type of 2-4 acres (\$4,000.00). The applicant will be required to submit a performance escrow in the amount of \$3,985.00. This corresponds to a base escrow of \$2,000, plus an additional \$500 per acre of disturbance (3.97 acres of disturbance proposed).

Stormwater Management (Rule 3.0):

Rule 3.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities creating a cumulative total of 10,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface.

The Hydrologic Soil Group (HSG) of soils on site are HSG B. Curve Numbers have been shifted down one classification to account for the impacts of grading on soil structure.

Rate Control: Peak stormwater flow rate at each point of site discharge increases from the pre-development condition for the 24-hour precipitation event with a return frequency of 2-, 10-, 100-years as shown in Table 1. The rate control standard is met to the maximum extent practicable.

Point of Discharge	2-year (cfs)		10-year (cfs)		100-year (cfs)	
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
North	0	0	0	0.3	0	4.01
West	0.9	0.63	3.81	1.35	13.06	3.24
East	0.94	1.15	1.64	1.86	3.36	3.53

Table 1.

Volume Control: The proposed project is new development; therefore, the volume reduction requirement is equal to 1.1 inches over the area of all impervious surface. The amount of proposed impervious required to be treated is 118,266 ft².

The applicant is proposing the Stormwater Management Practices (SMPs) described below:

Drainage Area	Impervious required to be treated (ft ²)	Proposed SMP	TP Removal Factor	Required treatment volume	Volume Provided Below Outlet (ft ³)
UG Infiltration	118,266	UG Infiltration	1	10,841	21,119

Table 2.

The following pretreatment has been provided:

SMP ID	Pretreatment Device/Method	Percent TSS Removal
STRM #5	Sump and CDS Hydrodynamic Separator	87
STRM #9	Sump and CDS Hydrodynamic Separator	91
STRM #14	Sump and CDS Hydrodynamic Separator	87
STRM #24	Sump and CDS Hydrodynamic Separator	82
STRM #29	Sump and CDS Hydrodynamic Separator	90

Table 3.

Pretreatment is required to be designed such that the device/method provides removal of 80% TSS entering an infiltration or filtration Stormwater Management Practice. The proposed project does meet pretreatment requirements as shown in Table 3.

The volume reduction requirements are met as shown in Table 2.

Water Quality: Stormwater treatment on site must remove at least 80% of the average annual post development TSS per discharge location. The following TSS removal has been provided:

Discharge Point	TSS Removal Provided
North	93.8

Table 4.

The TSS removal standard is met at each discharge point as shown in Table 4.

Discharges to Wetlands: Stormwater from the proposed project is not being discharged into any wetlands, therefore this section does not apply.

Landlocked Basins: The proposed drainage system does not outlet to a landlocked basin, therefore this section does not apply.

Low Floor Freeboard: The proposed project is new development including buildings and habitable structures. Therefore, SMPs must be designed such that the lowest basement floor elevations are at least 2 feet above the 100-yr high water level and 1 foot above the emergency overflow. The lowest basement floor elevation proposed is 900 MSL. The applicable 100-year high water level is at 905.63 MSL and the applicable emergency overflow is at 904 MSL. The freeboard requirement is not met from the underground system high water level. Darcy law calculations have been provided which show the high water line will not impact the low floor.

Maintenance:

Easements: Maintenance easements for all stormwater management practices have been provided on the plans.

Maintenance Agreements: The proposed stormwater management practices will not be maintained as part of standard municipal public work activities. Therefore, a maintenance agreement that meets District standards will be required.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4.0)

Rule 4.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities of 1 acre or more.

The proposed project drains to County Ditch 41. The soils affected by the project include cut and fill. Disturbed areas are not proposed to be stabilized within 7 days, as required. The proposed erosion and sediment control plan includes rock construction entrance, street sweeping, silt fence, and inlet protection. The erosion control plan does not meet District requirements because disturbed soils and stockpiles are not proposed to be stabilized within 7 days after construction activity has temporarily or permanently ceased.

Wetlands (Rule 5.0)

The proposed project does not include activities which result in the filling, draining, excavating, or otherwise altering the hydrology of a wetland. Rule 5.0 does not apply.

Floodplain (Rule 6.0)

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities within the floodplain as mapped and modeled by the District. Rule 6.0 does not apply.

Drainage, Bridges, Culverts, and Utility Crossings (Rule 7.0)

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair, or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a bridge profile control or culvert structure on a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse. The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which involve a pipeline or utility crossing of a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse.

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a conveyance system that extends across two or more parcels of record not under common ownership and has a drainage area of 200 acres or greater. Rule 7.0 does not apply.

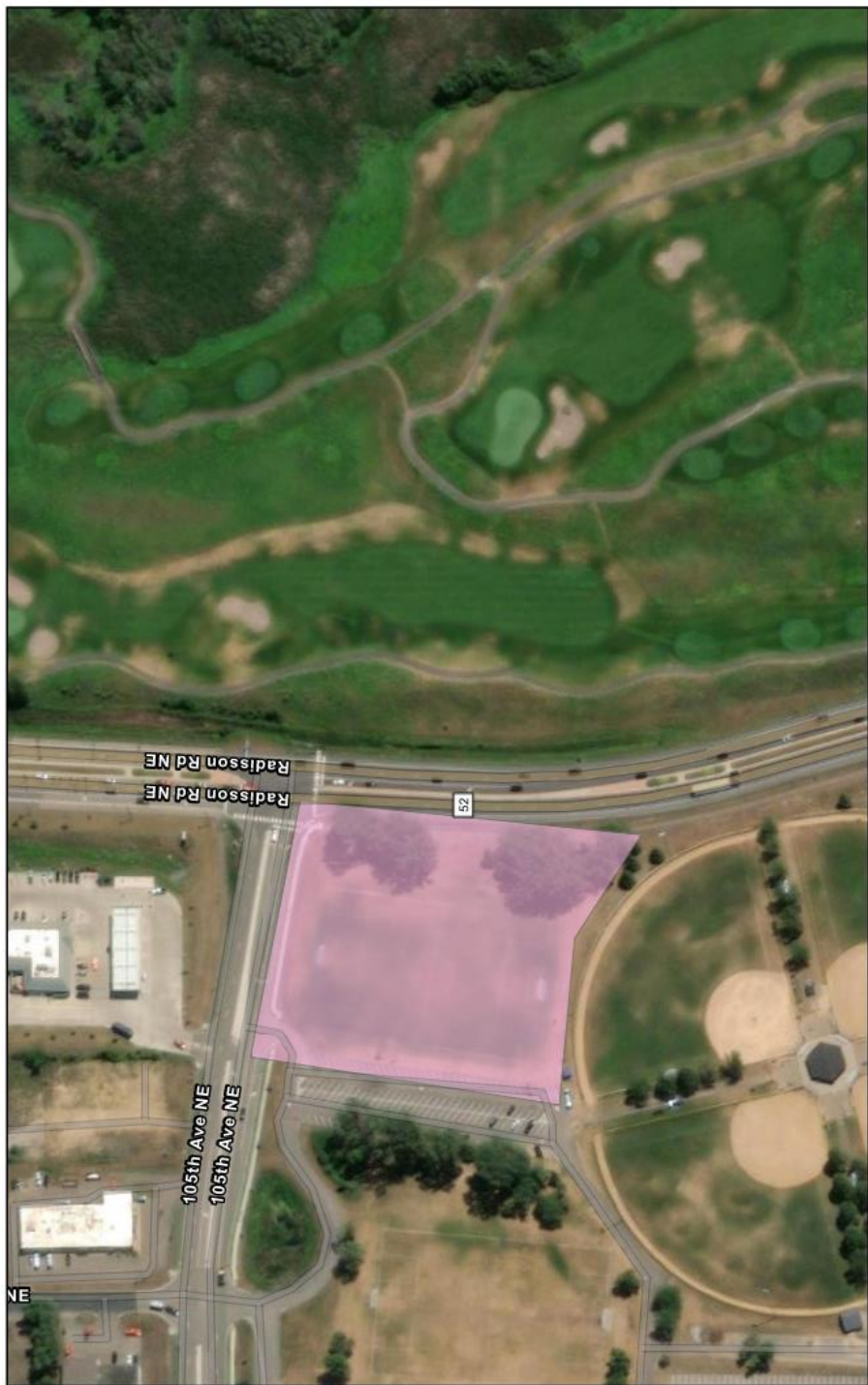
Buffers (Rule 8.0)

The proposed project does not include a land disturbing activity on land adjacent or directly contributing to a Public Water, Additional Waters, High or Outstanding Ecological Value Waters, a Public Ditch, or Impaired Waters/waters exceeding state water quality standards. Rule 8.0 does not apply.

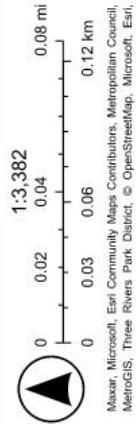
Variances (Rule 10.2)

The proposed project is not requesting a variance from the District's rules, regulations, and policies. Rule 10.2 does not apply.

P23-024



4/20/2023



COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 13
ITEM: Westrum Single Family Home

AGENDA: Permit

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to review, discuss, and consider approving Permit Application Number P-23-040 Westrum Single Family Home.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Permit Application Number P-23-040 with 2 conditions and 0 stipulations, as stated in the Application Review Report dated 4/20/2023.

ATTACHED

Application Review Report for Permit Application Number P-23-040.

Permit Application Review Report
Date: 04/20/2023

Applicant/Landowner:

Andrew Westrum
Attn: Andrew
349 Michigan Street
St Paul, MN 55102
andrewwestrum@gmail.com
763-458-4163

Contact:

Donnay Homes
Attn: Tony Westrum
8931 MONTEGUE TER N
BROOKLYN PARK, MN 55443
tonywestrum@donnayhomes.com
612-919-4086

Project Name: Westrum Single Family Home

Project PAN: P-23-040

Project Purpose: Construction of a single-family home.

Project Location: 132nd Avenue NE, 0.3 miles west of Terrace Road and 132nd Avenue NE intersection, Blaine.

Site Size: size of parcel - 5.4 acres; size of disturbed area - 0.5 acres; size of existing impervious - 0.0 acres; size of proposed impervious 0.05 – acres.

Applicable District Rule(s): Rule 2, Rule 4, Rule 5, Rule 6, Rule 8

Recommendation: Approve with 2 Conditions and 0 Stipulations

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Procedural Requirements (Rule 2.7)

1. Submittal of an application fee in the amount of \$760.00.
2. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$2,250.00.

Stipulations: None

Exhibits:

Exhibit Type	Exhibit Author	Signature Date	Received Date
Joint Application	Andrew Westrum	04/13/2023	04/13/2023
Site Plan	Demarc Land Surveying & Engineering	02/09/2023	04/19/2023

Findings:

Description: Construction of a single-family home. The project will disturb approximately 0.5 acres and create 2,200 sf of new impervious. The site drains south toward the large wetland area and ultimately into County Ditch 23.

Fees and Escrows (Rule 2.7): The applicant will be required to submit a \$760.00 application fee and deposit which corresponds with the nonrefundable application fee (\$10), and a single-family home project type (\$750.00). The applicant will be required to submit a performance escrow in the amount of \$2,250.00. This corresponds to a base escrow of \$2,000, plus an additional \$500 per acre

of disturbance (0.5 acres of disturbance proposed).

Stormwater Management (Rule 3.0):

The proposed project does not create a cumulative total of 10,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface, or 5,000 sf or more of new or fully reconstructed impervious surface for non-residential or multifamily residential within one mile of and draining to an impaired water. The proposed project is not a public linear project where the sum of the new and fully reconstructed impervious surface is equal to one or more acres. Stormwater Management standards do not apply.

Soils and Erosion Control (Rule 4.0)

Rule 4.0 applies to the proposed project because it is a land disturbing activity that requires a permit under another District rule.

The proposed project drains toward County Ditch 23. The soils affected by the project include Zimmerman and Rifle and have a soil erodibility factor of 0.15 or greater. Disturbed areas are proposed to be stabilized within 24 hours, as required. The proposed erosion and sediment control plan includes silt fence and construction entrance. The erosion control plan meets District Requirements.

Wetlands (Rule 5.0)

Rule 5.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes activities which result in the filling, draining, excavating or other altering of the hydrology of a wetland.

The applicant submitted a joint application form requesting an Exemption decision on 03/21/2023. The application was noticed to the TEP on 3/22/2023. Wetland impacts are proposed through fill in 1 location. A wetland impact summary is outlined below.

Wetlands onsite were delineated under PAN 21-082. The boundary and type application was reviewed and approved. The Notice of Decision was issued on 07/26/2021.

Wetland	Impacts (sf)	Type (T/P)	Replacement Ratio	Required Mitigation (sf)
1	380	Permanent	-	0

The TEP agrees that the proposed project meets the requirements for an Exemption under Exemption (8420.0420) Subpart 8. The Notice of Decision will be issued.

Floodplain (Rule 6.0)

Rule 6.0 applies to the proposed project because it includes land disturbing activities within or adjacent to the boundary of the 100-year flood elevation as mapped and modeled by the District. The regulatory floodplain elevation is 890 ft MSL. The application proposes the placement of 11 cubic yards of fill within the floodplain. This a one-time deposition of less than 50 cubic yards, therefore compensatory storage is not required.

Drainage, Bridges, Culverts, and Utility Crossings (Rule 7.0)

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair, or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a bridge profile control or culvert structure on a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse. The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which involve a pipeline or utility crossing of a creek, public ditch, or major watercourse.

The proposed project does not include land disturbing activities which construct, improve, repair or alter the hydraulic characteristics of a conveyance system that extends across two or more parcels of record not under common ownership and has a drainage area of 200 acres or greater. Rule 7.0 does not apply.

The proposed project includes the repair or replacement of an element of a conveyance system owned by a government entity and the hydraulic capacity of the system will not change. Rule 7.0 does not apply.

Buffers (Rule 8.0)

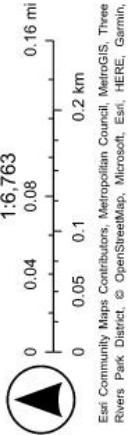
Rule 8.0 applies because it includes a land disturbing activity that requires a permit under another District Rule and is on land adjacent or directly contributing to a Public Water.

A continuous buffer is proposed; it is proposed to be established and maintained in perennial vegetation. Because the resource is a Public Water, the average buffer width must be 50 ft and a minimum of 30 ft. Permanent monumentation at each parcel line is not required.

Variances (Rule 10.2)

The proposed project is not requesting a variance from the District's rules, regulations, and policies. Rule 10.2 does not apply.

P23-040



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4/20/2023

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: April 24, 2023
AGENDA NUMBER: 14
ITEM: Comprehensive Plan: Identifying Alternative Courses of Action

AGENDA: Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED

Discuss and Receive

PURPOSE & SCOPE OF ITEM

The purpose is twofold:

1. To frame the problem and gain additional understanding of the operating environment and the nature of the problem. This greater understanding allows the Board and Administrator to visualize budgets, programs and projects over the next year and ten years, provide an economic context to the examination of what the District must accomplish, when and where it must be done and more importantly why it must be done.
2. To improve the plan development by refining options in light of capabilities and very real restraints and constraints as well as factors particular to the District's operating environment, such local willingness and ability to pay.

BACKGROUND

At the April 10 Board meeting and at the April 12 CAC and April 13 TAC meetings there was extensive discussion on the existing and emerging issues and priorities for the 2024 budget and the 10-year Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan and the initial estimate of what it will cost to achieve the TMDL and how costs would be apportioned.

The attached document (an initial draft of the "Alternatives" section of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan) is a first attempt to structure and address some of those issues with a mind to moving ahead and identifying substantive alternatives for consideration, before a full plan and budget are documented.

This interim step is intended to address the fact that no amount of subsequent planning can solve or adequately address a problem insufficiently understood. Framing the problem, which includes the blunt assessment of the operating environment and a statement of the problems, issues and concerns and their implications as well as the financial costs involved is critical.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

- 1. The Sense of Urgency:** The tone and tenure of the discussions at all three meetings reflected the directness of the problem and condition assessment provided in the report. The conversations built to and reflected a sense of impending doom and urgency. That was not the intent. However, what should be taken away is that the statements provided are directly stated and reflect a high level of certainty. Now is the time to remember Kipling's guidance from "If"

**If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;**

Success is your and all that's with it.
- 2. Payment and Sharing Costs:** The report shows three scenarios on breaking down and sharing costs for implementing the TMDL portion of the plan. The scheme is developed based on percent contributing area of each city minus the acreage of water resources (Ponds, lakes, wetlands and streams/ditches). The latter is posted to the District as the amount we would pay. This is the approach used in the subwatershed plans.
- 3. Estimated Total Cost to Achieve TMDL:** The report provides a simple economic model that estimates the investments required to achieve the TMDL by 2045. It is substantial (\$100 million over the next 20 years). It is an initial approximation of costs, for discussion purposes and involves several assumptions both reasonable and best guess.

IMPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE/ORGANIZATION

1. The water quality era is upon us and the water quality bill has come due.
2. The information presented is intended to initiate problem solving discussion versus a rejection of the valid problems, issues and concerns identified. There are options to reduce costs, however, the District needs the information to rationally change the game with the state agencies overseeing enforcement and making monies available for pursuit of these goals
3. The analysis and/or a more refined model serve as an articulation of issues that need to be discussed with the state after there is substantial effective agreement between all of the MS4s within the watershed

CONCLUSIONS

In the week since the model was presented to the TAC, there have been several developments at the state agency and legislature which could affect these costs. It is important to remember that the District and the cities with whom we work are not the only MS4s facing these costs

QUESTIONS and DISCUSSION

Identifying Alternative Courses of Action

This Section addresses the statutory requirement and general standard to evaluate and identify alternatives for amending the watershed plan (MS 103B.231 Subd 4 (b)(2)).



Purpose

To identify one or more options for how the legislative missions might be accomplished in accordance with and as a result of the scoping and prioritization process that started the problem framing process.

Intent

To do this we will consider the legislative goals, the nature, structure and function of the problems, issues and concerns and continuous update and monitoring of those problems, issues and concerns, the landscape, hydrology, staff and collaborator capability and priorities, threats to the public health, safety and welfare, citizen tastes and preferences and options for employment of best management and other practices.

Objectives:

1. To frame the nature of the problem
2. Describe current and desired future condition of the water resource
3. Describe the condition of the water resource sought in 2034
4. Describe broad operational approach to achieve that condition
5. Provide initial estimates of supportability
6. Adopt mission statement for 2024 – 2034 operations
7. Provide management intent
8. Provide guidance for developing alternative courses of action

Current and Desired 2034 Condition of Watershed

Introduction

While the long-term goal and end state for the water resources within the Coon Creek Watershed District is characterized by:

- A watershed that exhibits high geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition.
- A drainage network that is generally stable.
- Physical, chemical, and biologic conditions suggest that soil, aquatic, and riparian systems are predominantly functional in terms of supporting beneficial uses.

However, reversing and restoring 130 years of intensive land use and water management in 10 to 20 years is not practical or feasible. Catching up, repairing and assessing the condition and capability of the watershed while protecting the public have been the primary focus for the past three Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans. A review of the major factors influencing management and a view to accomplishments for 2034 follows.

Current Conditions

At present the Coon Creek Watershed exhibits:

Physically

- Low geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to its natural potential condition.
- An unstable drainage network over the majority of the watershed.
- Physical, chemical and biological conditions that suggest the water, soil, riparian, and aquatic systems providing beneficial uses either marginally or fail to support beneficial uses.

Socially

- The District exhibits high growth in people and demands on water resources as well as increased volatility and shifts in expectations and involvement.
- The majority of development is residential with select redevelopment of older commercial features and infrastructure – particularly roads and highways.
- Population, suburbanization, and an increase in diversity of needs and values suggest significant shifts and diversity in tastes, preferences and expectations. However, this increase in population and socio-economic diversity indicate a high probability of individuals and groups that no longer identify with a sense of physical place, which could foster an increase in dissatisfaction and another cycle of demand for radical change that has no well thought out end state.

Managerially

- Many of the rules and norms that govern local water management are coming under increasing pressure. Some entities are dissatisfied with the current condition of the resource and or the existing constraints and requirements and are beginning to exercise their power and influence. Furthermore these interests appear to be seeking the financial capacity and political capability to compel change at the expense of either the water resource, and/or the tax payers.
- The past 15-20 years has encouraged the development of increasingly sophisticated, reliable and accurate technology for monitoring and understanding the condition and changes in water resources. As water resource problems, issues and concerns begin to combine and affect multiple demands and requirements, water managers could find themselves facing water resource problems that a beyond current analytical capabilities and may require making tradeoffs between demands and state and federal requirements.

Initial Statement of 2034 Conditions Sought

For 2034 the comprehensive watershed management effort will seek to foster a watershed that Exhibits:

- Moderate geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to its natural potential condition.
- Portions of the watershed may exhibit an unstable drainage network.
- Physical, chemical and biological conditions will suggest that soil, riparian, and aquatic systems while still at risk, exhibit signs of being marginally recovered in supporting beneficial uses.

Initial Operational Approach

The Coon Creek Watershed District will face a wide range of emerging – and often unforeseen – challenges in the future water environment featuring both contested norms and persistent disorder. Specific Federal and State legislative and program objectives to address these challenges will be many, multi-faceted, and tailored to a specific time, place, and set of circumstances or generalized over the entire state. However, the collective and joint operating environment of the District relies on a range of strategic goals to describe the overall terms of State and local financial commitment and articulate an acceptable end state for any particular strategic water resource initiative. These are:

- Protect the public health, safety, and welfare.
- Protect the watershed's capacity to continue to produce and provide beneficial uses.
- Operate and maintain those natural and manmade structures and functions necessary for the ongoing provision of beneficial uses.
- Restore adverse changes to the most sustainable productive capacity the resource can attain.
- Minimize capital costs associated with repair, replacement, or restoration of property and or water resources.

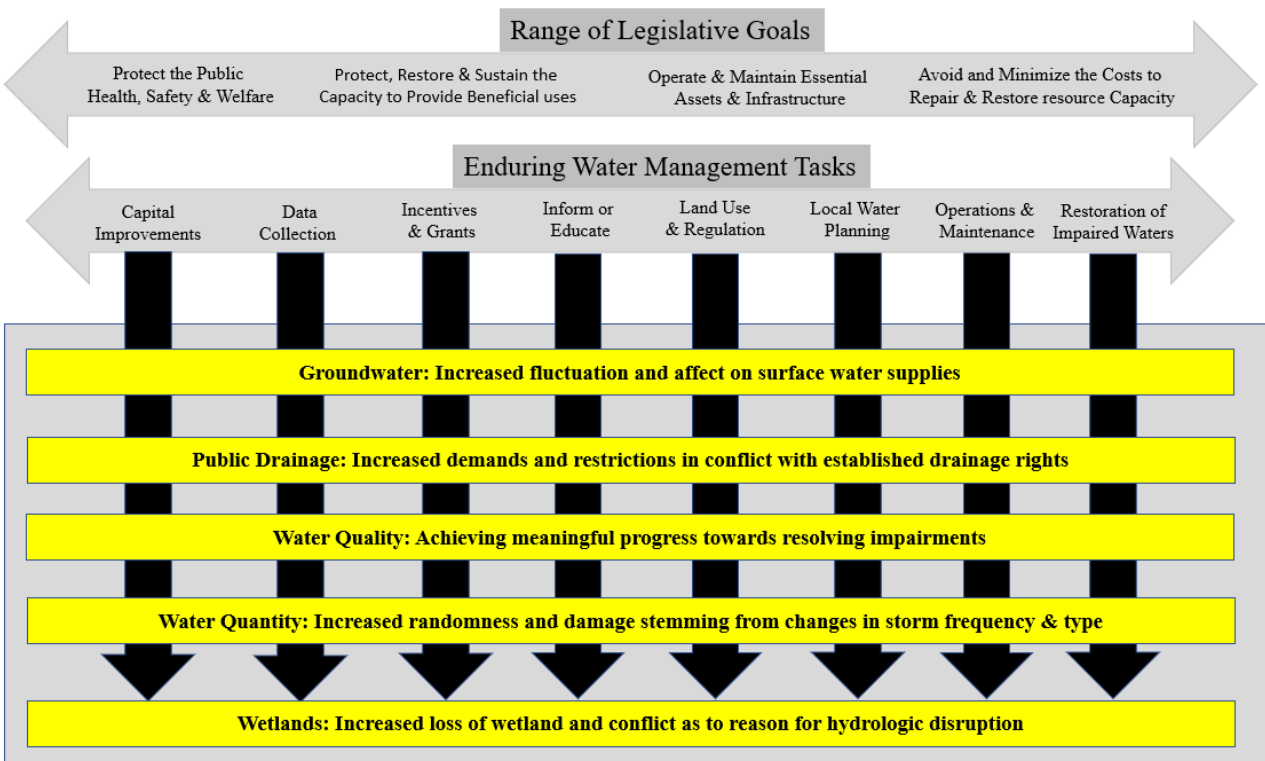
This range of legislative goals suggests differing levels of engagement, commitment, or overall posture by the watershed district and other local water managers. Moreover, this range of goals represents a continuum and may change over time as circumstances, or a particular issue or situation evolves. At the low end of this continuum, the District or other Local Water Managers might reactively manage threats to the public or the resource or otherwise respond to the consequences of natural disasters. At the high end, the District or other Local Water Managers might proactively solve a problem by imposing a standard or requirement related to water resources that requires compliance with its rules.

The role of the District or other Local Water Managers is to apply financial and regulatory power to support the achievement of legislative goals in concert with other elements of governmental power. To effectively pursue this range of goals, the District and other local water managers must conduct eight types of management activities to address an array of identified problems, issues and concerns and in response to a range of phenomena. These are:

1. **Capital Improvements**: To enhance the overall function of the watershed by improving the physical structures, systems, and facilities that provide services to the community. Capital Improvement Projects are generally large and expensive, and the assets they install, replace, or rehabilitate will likely be required for decades of public use.
2. **Data Collection**: To glean actionable insights that can help local water managers succeed in terms of effectiveness and efficiency of capital, authority and staff expertise.
3. **Incentives & Grants**: To encourage the construction, enhancement or expansion of infrastructure and/or best practices to address water management in a timely manner.
4. **Information & Education**: To improve decision making and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the actions of collaborators and stakeholders.
5. **Land Use & Regulation**: To achieve state and federal water management goals and purposes. These include protection of the public health, safety and welfare, the prevention of avoidable costs, impacts and unintended consequences to other people, and to ensure to on-going, and sustained provision of the goods, services and beneficial uses provided by water and related resources.
6. **Local Water Planning**: To identify municipal actions to ensure effective compliance with the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, stormwater management needs and storm water pollution prevention plan requirements.
7. **Operation & Maintenance**: To maintain publicly and privately owned and/or maintained facilities (hard, soft and natural water resource assets) to the maximum extent possible in support of the purpose and goals of the legislative mandate and approved Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

8. **Restoration of Impaired Waters:** To initiate or speed the recovery of an asset or ecosystem after disturbance, degradation or impairment. Restoration activities may also be designed to reestablish natural disturbance regimes.

To appreciate the breadth and depth of evolving local water management activities, the range of legislative goals and associated water management tasks must be examined across the contexts of the future.



Enduring Strategic Goals, Management Tasks and Contexts for Future Management

Initial Estimates of Supportability

Supportability addresses the District’s ability to provide sufficient capacity and capability to:

1. Perform current operations.
2. Address the identified problems, issues and concerns
3. Respond to the additional requirements stemming from the next comprehensive management plan and/or additional mandates and rule changes.

Indicators of supportability are focused on two areas:

1. Capacity: The number of District staff authorized and funded to implement the District Comprehensive and annual plans. Its focus is on the ability of District programs to conduct work.
2. Capability: Is the number or amount of District staff at a required level of readiness necessary to execute those programs and projects identified in the annual and comprehensive plans.

Current Condition: The District and other local water management agencies possess most, but not all the required resources to undertake the full mission for which they are directed, organized and designed.

Factor	Condition
Physical, programmatic & Natural Assets	The District possesses the required resources to undertake most of its legislative mission for which it is organized or designed.
Equipment	
Staffing	The District possesses the required staff and is trained to undertake the full mission for which it is organized or designed.
Sustaining and Funding	The District is evaluating the capital costs to restore and repair the impaired waters and is not prepared or potentially financially capable, at this time, to undertake the investment required to achieve the legislative mission for which it is organized or designed.
Training	The District possesses the required training at this point in time to undertake the full mission for which it is organized or designed.

Initial Funding Estimates

The largest anticipated expense in the next ten years is water quality. The District and collaborating MS4s need to address eighteen separate impairments on eleven water resources involving seven physical, chemical and/or biological stressors. Starting in 2024 this group must

begin to annually report progress towards achieving the total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) that indicate resolution of the impairments.

To reverse 130 years of intensive single use management and restore the system to achieve the TMDLs will require a combination of prevention, restoration of stream and ditch channels, construction, and enhancement of existing best management practices and storm water treatment facilities. The work and projects to achieve this goal, assuming no additional impairments are made, was researched and identified by Coon Creek Watershed District staff.

Estimating Costs

The initial estimated cost to achieve the TMDLs that are in existence in March, 2023 is \$100 million dollars over the next 20 years. Costs were estimated based on:

- Pollutant reductions achieved to date.
- Remaining pollutant reductions needed.
- Historic costs for pollutant removal adjusted for inflation.

Assumptions

The District analyzed three alternatives to achieve the TMDL goal, assuming the following:

1. The goal is achievement of the TMDL by 2045 (Note: on 4/17/23 the Minnesota House adopted language moving compliance date up to 2040)
2. Current operations of the District and Cities would continue.
3. Revenue does not include
 - a. Grants
 - b. Reduction in total costs due to combined, leveraged or compounding results which would reduce need and costs.
4. Percent Contributions/Payments across the watershed
 - a. Each storm water authority would pay based on the percent of land/runoff to affected water resources.
 - b. The Watershed District's contribution is the percent based on the sum of the surface area of all water resources within the watershed (which was deducted from the municipal acreage)
5. Investment would begin in 2024.
6. There would be a three-year lag between the completion of projects and realization of a measurable benefit and its contribution to achieving the TMDL.
 - a. Benefit is calculated based on the additive percent of the total investment too date.
7. A critical mass of 80% of infrastructure or scheduled changes is needed to see results.

Scenario 1

LUG	Pct Contributions	2024-2043	20 year Total	Percent TMDL Achievement
Andover	11.4%	569,500	11,390,000	40%
Anoka Co Hwy	2.7%	137,000	2,740,000	40%
Blaine	16.9%	844,000	16,880,000	40%
Columbus	2.8%	141,000	2,820,000	40%
Coon Creek Watershed District	22.8%	1,137,500	22,750,000	40%
Coon Rapids	18.1%	902,500	18,050,000	40%
Fridley	2.0%	99,000	1,980,000	40%
Ham Lake	22.2%	1,109,000	22,180,000	40%
Spring Lake Park	1.2%	60,500	1,210,000	40%
Total	100.0%	5,000,000	100,000,000	40%

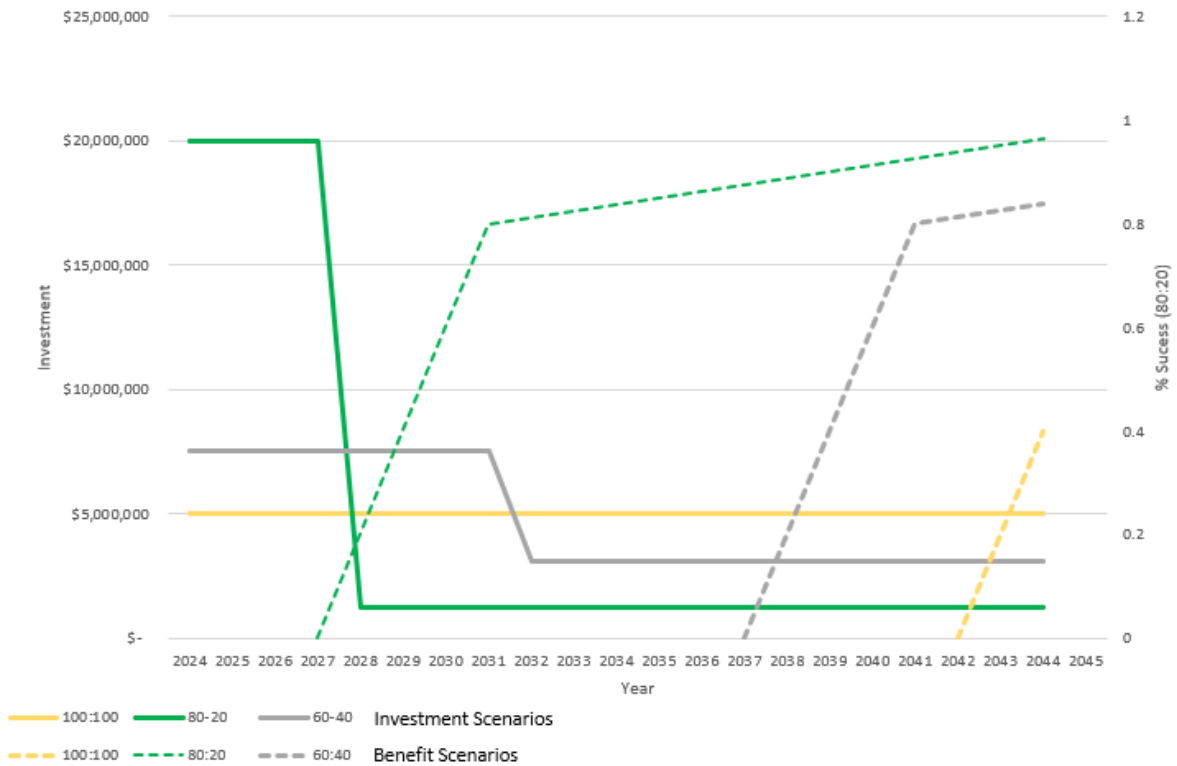
Scenario 2: 60:40

LUG	Pct Contributions	2024-2031	2032-2043	20 year Total	Percent TMDL Achievement
Andover	11.4%	854,250	379,667	11,390,000	80%
Anoka Co Hwy	2.7%	205,500	91,333	2,740,000	80%
Blaine	16.9%	1,266,000	562,667	16,880,000	80%
Columbus	2.8%	211,500	94,000	2,820,000	80%
Coon Creek Watershed District	22.8%	1,706,250	758,333	22,750,000	80%
Coon Rapids	18.1%	1,353,750	601,667	18,050,000	80%
Fridley	2.0%	148,500	66,000	1,980,000	80%
Ham Lake	22.2%	1,663,500	739,333	22,180,000	80%
Spring Lake Park	1.2%	90,750	40,333	1,210,000	80%
Total	100.0%	5,000,000	3,333,333	100,000,000	80%

Scenario 3: 80:20

LUG	Pct Contributions	2024-2027	2028-2043	20 year Total	Percent TMDL Achievement
Andover	11.4%	2,278,000	142,375	11,390,000	100%
Anoka Co Hwy	2.7%	548,000	34,250	2,740,000	100%
Blaine	16.9%	3,376,000	211,000	16,880,000	100%
Columbus	2.8%	564,000	35,250	2,820,000	100%
Coon Creek Watershed District	22.8%	4,550,000	284,375	22,750,000	100%
Coon Rapids	18.1%	3,610,000	225,625	18,050,000	100%
Fridley	2.0%	396,000	24,750	1,980,000	100%
Ham Lake	22.2%	4,436,000	277,250	22,180,000	100%
Spring Lake Park	1.2%	242,000	15,125	1,210,000	100%
Total	100.0%	20,000,000	1,250,000	100,000,000	100%

Investment Alternatives for Achieving the TMDLs



Evaluation

Criteria	Scenario 1	Scenario 2: 60:40	Scenario 3: 80:20
Feasible: Accomplishes Task within available time	40%	80%	100%
Acceptable: Worth the cost	No Feedback	No	No
Suitable: Accomplishes the task & purpose	Yes	Yes	Yes
Distinguishable: Alternatives differ from each other	Yes	Yes	Yes
Complete: Addresses all required tasks	Yes	Yes	Yes

Proposed Mission Statement

To manage surface and groundwater systems and contributing land to provide for and balance the competing uses of development, drainage, flood prevention and the protection and restoration of water quality and habitat for the benefit of our communities now and in the future.

Management Intent

To shift the biogeochemical integrity of the watershed to a moderate condition by 2034 will require the District:

- To significantly ramp up and broaden the revenues collected through property taxes and the funds invested in the restoration and rehabilitation of waters and lands contributing to flooding, water quality problems, and particularly those conditions adversely altering hydrology of the District's streams and conveyances.
- To orchestrate a whole governmental approach with the cities within the District to ensure common understanding of the problems, and facilitate efficiencies in reducing cost and conduct of work.
- A fusion of direct and indirect capabilities on the part of local water management entities to change, or maintain the physical, social and/or political economic conditions of the watershed.

By 2034

- Intergovernmental collaboration on water management will be increasingly integrated and rooted in the water resource problems, issues and concerns of the watershed.
- Portions of the watershed may still exhibit some signs of biogeochemical instability.
- Physical, chemical and biological conditions of impaired stream will suggest that soil, riparian, and aquatic systems remain at risk, or marginally recovered, in supporting beneficial uses.

Preliminary Guidance for Developing Plans and Courses of Action

Our collective goal for 2034 is to improve the condition of the watershed from its current state of low geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity to moderate integrity relative to their natural potential condition. This will require doubling our efforts to slow and reverse the current conditions and harmful trends.

To provide an incentive and to gauge our progress we have two tools and benchmarks for progress and success.

1. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Compliance. By the year 2045 we are to address and resolve the stressors impairing our ability to use and enjoy select waters of the District.
2. Watershed Condition Assessment: By the year 2045

based upon physical and biological characteristics and processes affecting hydrologic and soil functions.

Decisive Actions

1. EPA/PCAs acknowledgement of either TMDL satisfaction of substantial progress (70% - 80%)
2. 2030 Watershed Assessment indicates a Class II condition

To achieve these goals will require a focus on restoration and rehabilitation of all of the resources identified in MR 8410 (groundwater, public drainage, water quality, water quantity, and wetlands)

Preliminary Guidance for 2024 - 2026

In developing program and projects to support and achieve the decisive actions there are several alternative strategies that can alter the costs and benefits listed above and adapt to expected and unexpected changes. Generally, alternatives are of four types:

1. Informative
2. Strategy
3. Funding
4. Policy

Information Alternatives

Not every supportability shortfall can be addressed by the District Board or Administration, State or County Legislative actions or decisions, or even legislation or appropriations. Those actions are purely informative and provide information to shape mitigation decisions and provide clarity of strategic risk. Others will be more direct and impact funding, priorities and other functions of the District.

The Board's risk assessment. Staff input into the ongoing and annual risk assessment of the Administrator is the first instance where strategic capacity and capability shortfalls can be addressed. Following the Board's annual budget guidance, mitigation can be to:

1. Accept the risk and consequence of not being reappointed.
2. Provide or seek additional resources.
3. Revise strategic requirements.

Each alternative will directly or indirectly consider the District's capacity and capability to conduct work.

Strategy Alternatives

Strategy alternatives are typically a result of one of the following:

1. Regular reviews of performance and effectiveness.
2. The adoption or amendment to the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.
3. Adoption of a new law requiring establishment of a new program or group of related activities.
4. Change in governance and management philosophy and/or priorities at the County or State.

Strategic requirements (that is contextual factors such as, State and Federal mandates, funding and management priorities, Legislated end states, staff and programs available for management cooperation) form the denominator for these assessments. Adjustments to these factors by increasing or decreasing the requirements for District involvement acts as a lever for District capacity and capability.

Funding

Funding is the easiest factor to quantify shortfalls and solutions for Board members and senior leadership. Funding alternatives are often approached without adequate acknowledgement or integration of the time required to apply and invest resources to increase District and local capacity and capability. During planning and budgeting, funding can have the greatest impact and benefit on aggregate District capability, however, District-wide impacts tend to not be visible in the year, or even decade, of execution and serve as a lagging indicator. The model above used an optimistic 3 years.

Policy and Procedures

Policy and procedures include those actions the Board of Managers or Administration can take within their authorities, without additional funds or approval from the legislature. Some policy alternatives can be undertaken within the prerogatives of the Administrator (organizational and staff structure and design, staff skill growth, and equipment distribution), while other policies require the approval of the Board of Managers (addition of staff, funding for professional services, or modernization timelines).

The decisive operation is the focal point around which commanders develop the entire operation and prioritize effort.