

Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Water Management Plan

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3.0 Impact on Other Units of Government

3.1 Background

From its inception, the District has recognized its obligation to control flood waters. The District intends to continue to assure that its Plan implementation will control and alleviate damage to public and private properties and improvements from uncontrolled surface waters. A 100-year flood envelope was established assuming ultimate watershed land use development conditions, predicated upon the comprehensive plans and flood control planning of municipalities within the District. By assuming ultimate development conditions, the District avoided frequent recomputation of the flood envelope caused by changing land uses within the watershed. Regional runoff detention basins and floodways took into account the greater volumes and rates of runoff from impervious surfaces expected to be created by the future urbanization of the tributary watershed. Public and private capital expenditures were minimized by prohibiting development within flood prone areas and guiding development outside of the flood profile through floodplain zoning implemented through municipal adoption of District flood profiles. Structures outside the flood envelope were not subject to the cost of flood proofing and other inherent risks. This comprehensive approach is conservative and provides a higher degree of flood protection while also protecting wetland and open space areas of the floodway. The District has also promoted conservation of wetland areas outside the flood envelope as a means of reducing runoff rates, through detention, and for improving the quality of runoff discharging into lakes and streams.

The District intends to continue working with its constituent municipalities to protect public and private property through coordinated floodplain management. The District intends to utilize the authority granted by the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act to review municipal Surface Water Management Plans and will continue to review local land use development proposals. By coordinating planning, municipalities and the District should be able to avoid excessive capital costs and fairly distribute the obligation of property owners to control flood waters. Construction of stormwater detention and retention (i.e., infiltration) basins will increase the need for regular maintenance. However, District experience has shown that stormwater management techniques, coupled with development controls, can protect water resources.

Use Attainability Analyses (UAAs) conducted for Nine Mile Creek and the District's 15 major recreational lakes have shown that water quality conditions commensurate with desired beneficial uses can reasonably be achieved and maintained assuming ultimate watershed development conditions and continued use of Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)-recommended best management practices (BMPs). Results of these UAAs are presented and discussed, by water resource, in Section 5.0 Assessment of Problems of this Plan. Project recommendations from the UAAs form the basis for Section 4.0 General Statement of Goals and Policies and Section 8.0 Implementation Priorities, which factor into the District's capital improvement program.

3.2 Public Input to this Plan

Pursuant to Policy 61 of the Metropolitan Council Regional Plan for Surface Water Management and the rules of the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) concerning public input to the District's planning process, the District sought planning advice from its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), composed of representatives from the Engineering or Public Works Departments of each municipality within the District. Committee representatives met to assess and discuss impacts of the District Plan on other units of government, and related planning issues. Following this initial coordination effort, formal letters were sent to local, regional, and state review agencies requesting them to identify topics that they would like to see addressed in the District's revised Plan (see Table 3-1). A series of public Water Forums was then hosted by the cities of the District. In addition to the general public, representatives from the local, regional, and state review authorities for the Plan were invited to attend. Table 3-2 identifies the water forum venues and dates, and major topics discussed. Comments received at the water forums focused on the need to solve lake and stream water quality problems, primarily. Increased public education and more frequent contact with municipal officials were also identified as desirable. A survey, prepared by the District, was randomly sent to 10,000 households within the District requesting the public's opinion regarding the state-of-the-waters within the District. The District received 444 survey responses that were considered in the preparation of this Plan.

Pursuant to the public water forum meetings held in each District municipality, separate meetings were scheduled with City staff to solicit their input to the planning process. Again, these staff were generally associated with the municipal Public Works or Engineering Departments. Table 3-3 lists the dates of these meetings, all held at the District's administrative offices. Similar meetings held with the District's TAC and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) are listed in Table 3-4.

Table 3-1 NMCWD Water Management Plan Input Request Tabulation

Request List	Request Date	Response/Participants
Hennepin County	October 27, 2005	
Hennepin Conservation District	October 27, 2005	
Bloomington	October 27, 2005	Participant in Forum
Eden Prairie	October 27, 2005	Participant in Forum
Edina	October 27, 2005	Participant in Forum
Hopkins	October 27, 2005	Participant in Forum
Minnetonka	October 27, 2005	Participant in Forum
Richfield	October 27, 2005	Participant in Forum
Metropolitan Council	October 27, 2005	November 23, 2005
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	October 27, 2005	
Minnesota Department of Health	October 27, 2005	
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	October 27, 2005	
Board of Water and Soil Resources	October 27, 2005	
Minnesota Department of Transportation	October 27, 2005	
Minnesota Department of Agriculture	October 27, 2005	

Table 3-2 Municipal Water Forum Meetings

Venue	Meeting	Major Issues Addressed
Bloomington City Hall	May 3, 2005	Normandale Lake water quality. Trails within the Nine Mile Creek corridor
Eden Prairie City Hall	May 5, 2005	Bryant Lake water quality Lake Smetana water quality Runoff detention pond maintenance
Edina City Hall	May 10, 2005	Lake Cornelia water quality Buckthorn Nine Mile Creek fisheries Shoreline erosion Health of wetlands Hybrid cattails
Minnetonka City Hall	May 17, 2005	Glen Lake water quality Bryant Lake water quality County Ditch 34 wetlands Mosquito control Exotic/invasive lake weeds Public education
Hopkins Center for the Arts	May 24, 2005	Culvert improvements Shady Oak Lake water quality Streambank erosion

Table 3-3 Water Management Plan Update Meetings with District Cities

Municipality	Date	Time
Hopkins	Friday, January 20, 2006	9:00 a.m.
Eden Prairie		10:30 a.m.
Bloomington	Monday, January 30, 2006	8:00 a.m.
Edina		10:30 a.m.
Richfield	Monday, February 6, 2006	9:00 a.m.
Minnetonka	Thursday, March 30, 2006	7:00 a.m.

Table 3-4 Water Management Plan Meetings with the Technical Advisory Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee

Municipality	Date	Time
Hopkins	Friday, January 20, 2006	9:00 a.m.
Eden Prairie		10:30 a.m.
Bloomington	Monday, January 30, 2006	8:00 a.m.
Edina		10:30 a.m.
Richfield	Monday, February 6, 2006	9:00 a.m.
Minnetonka	Thursday, March 30, 2006	7:00 a.m.