



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point
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MEMO

TO: Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers

FROM: Randy Anhorn

DATE: December 30, 2020

RE: District's 2021 Draft Plan

Background

Attached is the 2021 draft workplan that identifies tasks listed in the District's Water Management Plan, items coming out of Board discussions at various meetings and workshops and continuation of select studies that were initiated in 2020.

While the majority of the items in the draft workplan are tasks the District undertakes every year (e.g., fulfilling administrative needs to meet state statute requirements, monitoring and data analysis, education and outreach and continue to implement the District's regulatory program), there are numerous engineering tasks specific to 2021.

The list of potential engineering tasks specific to 2021 include:

- Engage TAC on flood risk and resiliency analysis, AIS, HAB monitoring, water conservation and emerging topics
- Project management for raingarden construction and landscape as part of building addition
And Phase 3 of Discovery Point landscape restoration
 - Design have been completed and quotes received
- Investigate strategically expanding (& repairing) the number of groundwater observation well sites.
- Continue to assess data sharing opportunities (web-based)
- Submit collected monitoring data to MPCA and others (data clearinghouse)
 - Currently ongoing (Barr)
- Undertake Phase 2 of Atlas-14 update, (flood risk vulnerability assessment) and increase in working with cities on highwater outlet and modeling
 - Barr SOW to be discussed at the January 20, 2021 Board meeting
- Fully implement new MS4 cost-share grant tracking/inspection software (Houston Engineering)
 - Evaluate added options of recently implemented permit and cost-share grant inspection and tracking software
- Conduct walk through of South Branch of Nine Mile Creek to identify areas for restoration and stabilization to be undertaken in 2022-2024
- Annual maintenance plan review and walk through of North Branch and Lower Valley portions of Nine Mile Creek (were Barr designed projects)
- Undertake UAA updates for Arrowhead and Indianhead lakes
- Undertake UAA updates for Holiday, Rose and Wing lakes

- Promote water conservation initiatives—including working with cities in their water efficiency rebate programs, education and identify highest commercial/industrial/public users and conduct audits and identify, promote and incentivize the implementation of conservative measures
- In partnership with partners, develop an AIS rapid response plan for Priority Creeks, and Priority 1 lakes (mainly in-house)
- Complete High-Quality Wetland Analysis Study (Current Barr Project)
 - Develop restoration and/or protection plans to address identified high-quality wetland areas and sensitive habitats.
- Continue to implement Normandale Lake Projects
 - Herbicide treatment for curly-leaf pondweed management
 - Carp management (Carp Solutions)
- Implement Lake Cornelia and Edina Projects
 - Rosland Park stormwater filtration BMP Project (underway)
 - Identified fisheries management practices [aka carp/goldfish control] (WSB)
 - Start initial work with the City on Lynmar Park infiltration retrofit project
 - Public Outreach
 - Conceptual designs
 - City Council and District Board meetings
 - Engineer's report
 - Maintenance agreement with City
 - Final design
 - Out for Bid
- Undertake pre-herbicide treatment needs to obtain DNR permit for curly-leaf pondweed herbicide treatment on SE Anderson Lake in 2022
- Project oversight of first of two years of required maintenance on non-profit stormwater BMP projects
- Undefined site/problem specific issues that are not identified in the workplan to assist partner cities seem to arise each year.

Request

No action required. The presented is for informational purposes to promote discussion on engineering needs as part of the District's 2021 workplan

NMCWD 2021 Workplan

Administration	
Accounting and Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate annual audit. Continue to work with Treasurer and accountant to maximize fund investments. Develop 2022 budget and fulfill required public participation process for levy/taxation submittal.
Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and hold Board Retreat (team building, vision, prioritization). Hold workshops on policy and educational topics.
Internal Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Governance manual Continually review bylaws and internal manuals, as necessary. Maintain Personnel Committee.
Advisory Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage TAC on flood risk and resiliency analysis, AIS, HAB monitoring, water conservation and emerging topics. Engage CAC on cost-share grants, education and events and volunteer management Facilitate recruitment of CAC members.
Discovery Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raingarden construction and landscape as part of building addition On-going building maintenance. Create long-term maintenance fund. Implement Phase 3 of Discovery Point landscape restoration Ongoing landscape maintenance of previous Discovery Point restoration.
Professional Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider engineering pool firms for various District needs
Programs	
Data Collection, Assessment & Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue current data collection program at permanent sites. Investigate strategically expanding (& repairing) the number of groundwater observation well sites. Undertake strategic monitoring at sites to assess future projects and issues. Continue to assess data sharing opportunities (web-based) Submit collected monitoring data to MPCA and others (data clearinghouse) Develop and distribute annual monitoring report.
Education and Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement environmental education & outreach plan and review at year end. Manage partnership activities with other organizations and stakeholders. Coordinate public engagement for District projects.
District Hydrologic & Hydraulic (H&H) Model & Atlas -14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate maintenance of the District's H&H model. Continue to coordinate model update with cities and other partners if additional information is collected or becomes available. Partner with cities on regional flooding issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake Phase 2 of Atlas-14 update, (flood risk vulnerability assessment) and increase in working with cities on highwater outlet and modeling
Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review program and recommend modifications where necessary. Review cost-share grant applications and recommend funding implementation. Track and inspect current and past grant projects Fully implement new MS4 cost-share grant tracking/inspection software.
Regulatory Controls and Permitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement regulatory program. Continued review of regulatory program to maximize efficiencies. Evaluate added options of recently implemented permit and cost-share grant inspection and tracking software. Review delegated permit approval authority of administrator Discuss potential rule revisions Continually review and amend District rules, as necessary
Technical Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical assistance to cities and residents to promote the incorporation on water and natural resources benefits into their projects.
Water Management Plan Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continually review and identify needs for amendments to the Plan Conduct walk through of South Branch of Nine Mile Creek to identify areas for restoration and stabilization to be undertaken in 2022-2024 Annual maintenance plan review and walk through of North Branch and Lower Valley portions of Nine Mile Creek Undertake UAA updates for Arrowhead and Indianhead lakes. Undertake UAA updates for Holiday, Rose and Wing lakes. Promote water conservation initiatives—including working with cities in their water efficiency rebate programs, education and identify highest commercial/industrial;/public users and conduct audits and identify, promote and incentivize the implementation of conservative measures
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with the MPCA on the Lower MN River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) and TMDL.
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the District's AIS Strategy (in partnership with partners). In partnership with partners, develop an AIS rapid response plan for Priority Creeks, and Priority 1 lakes.
Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop wetland restoration and or protection plans as a result of 2020 wetland inventory identifying the District's highest quality wetlands and sensitive habitats. Continually identify potential restoration and protection sites and look to establish a District wetland bank.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to administer the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) requirements where we are the WCA LGU and participate on Technical Evaluation Panels in those that we are not. Complete High-Quality Wetland Analysis Study.
Capital Projects	
Edina Streambank Stabilization/Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct spring survey of vegetation and repair needs to determine areas that need to be replanted under warranty. Undertake needed repair maintenance
Normandale Lake Water Quality Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake projects identified in the Normandale Lake water quality feasibility study that are identified for implementation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herbicide treatment for curly-leaf pondweed management Carp management Continue lake WQ monitoring to evaluate effectiveness of projects per adaptive management approach
Lake Cornelia & Edina Water Quality Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake projects identified in the Lake Cornelia and Lake Edina water quality feasibility study that identified for implementation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herbicide treatment for curly-leaf pondweed management, Rosland Park stormwater filtration BMP Identified fisheries management practices [aka carp/goldfish control]. Start initial work with the City on Lynmar Park infiltration retrofit project Continue lake WQ monitoring to evaluate effectiveness of projects per adaptive management approach
SE Anderson Lake Water Quality Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake pre-herbicide treatment needs to obtain DNR permit for curly-leaf pondweed herbicide treatment in 2022.
Stormwater Facilities Fund (SFF) Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find opportunities to use SFF dollars to replace lost stormwater management requirements (volume retention and water quality) from applicants not fully meeting District stormwater requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close-out City of Edina Braemar cold storage SFF above and beyond project
Regional Flood Study Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with cities (and other partners) to identify and study regional stormwater management needs/issues and implement solutions.
Repair and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In coordination with partner cities, undertake inspections of past projects to determine needs for any repair and maintenance of project areas. In partnership with partners cities, implement repair and maintenance needs.
Non-Profit Stormwater BMP Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct first of two years of required maintenance on non-profit stormwater BMP projects.