

Technical Memorandum

To: Linda Loomis, Administrator
Lower Minnesota River Watershed District

From: Meghan Litsey, CPESC
Della Schall Young, CPESC, PMP

Date: December 08, 2022

Re: Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Municipal
Coordination Update

In November 2022, Linda Loomis, district administrator, and Young Environmental Consulting Group (Young Environmental) initiated annual municipal coordination meetings with the municipalities in the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD). The purposes of the coordination meetings include continued collaboration and information sharing, review and discussion of upcoming projects and programs, and potential resource and cost sharing coordination on natural resources projects.

Linda Loomis and Young Environmental scheduled 90-minute meetings with city engineering and water resources staff from each of the municipalities to discuss topics, including municipal and individual permits, recent and upcoming projects and programs, and the gully inventory and assessment program's previous and upcoming activities. Coordination meetings were held during the week of November 14, 2022, with the following entities:

- City of Chanhassen
- City of Mendota Heights
- City of Eden Prairie
- City of Carver
- City of Savage
- City of Bloomington

Summary notes from the November 2022 municipal coordination meetings are included in Attachment 1.

In general, discussions with each municipality were productive, particularly regarding the LMRWD's permitting program and gully inventory and assessment program. The meetings provided dedicated discussion on implementation of the LMRWD's rules and how the LMRWD and cities can share information and resources as cities prepare to complete updates to their city code. In addition, many municipalities were interested in learning more about the gully inventory and assessment program, and initial collaboration efforts were discussed in preparation for the 2023 fieldwork. Discussions with the cities included Rule C, the Floodplain and Drainage Alteration Rule, and the planned floodplain modeling efforts.

Next Steps

Linda Loomis and Young Environmental will continue hold municipal coordination meetings with the following entities in December 2022 and January 2023:

- City of Burnsville
- City of Chaska
- City of Lilydale
- City of Mendota
- City of Shakopee
- City of Eagan
- Metropolitan Airports Commission

A survey will be distributed to Dakota, Scott, and Hennepin Counties in December 2023 in lieu of holding individual coordination meetings with these groups.

Meetings summaries from the December 2022 and January 2023 municipal coordination meetings and the results from the counties survey will be included in an update to the board of managers in January 2023.

Attachments:

1. November 2022 Municipal Coordination Meeting Summaries

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination—City of Chanhassen

Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022
Start Time: 1:00 p.m.
End Time: 2:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information-sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and share costs on projects that protect or enhance natural resources

INVITEES: Joe Seidl, Charles Howley—City of Chanhassen

HOSTS: Linda Loomis—Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District; Della Young, Hannah LeClaire, Meghan Litsey, Erica Bock—Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda Loomis)

Linda thanked the city for its partnership and provided an update on LMRWD board of manager positions.

2. Introductions (All)

3. Municipal Permit (Della Young)

a. Progress on obtaining a Municipal Permit

Joe's predecessor started the process to obtain a municipal permit, but the LMRWD still needs an official application from the City.

The City is still working on navigating the best path forward. There aren't many projects within the LMRWD, and the City sees some advantages to having separate permitting processes between the City and the LMRWD. The City doesn't think taking on LMRWD municipal permit at this time and is anticipating a mass update of the city code this winter.

Joe asked whether there are cities that don't have a municipal permit. Della said Eden Prairie and Chaska do not. Della offered the topic for comment because the city is required to update its MS4 permit, and there are similar requirements in LMRWD's Rule B—Erosion and Sediment Control and Rule D—Stormwater Management. Della said the LMRWD could review the updates to the city code for

Summary

alignment to the LMRWD rules.

- i. Discuss the process for permitting projects within watershed districts

Erica provided language from Ch. 19 regarding surface water management permits. Representatives for the City said it's trying to figure out the best way to navigate between the watershed management organizations, and the City doesn't intend to take permitting authority from the Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District.

4. Individual Permits (Hannah LeClaire)

Charlie asked about an example project, what rules would be triggered, the cost, how long it would take, and the overall permitting process. Hannah reviewed the application process and materials provided on the LMRWD's website.

The group discussed permit fee schedules, specifically the cost to review a permit application compared to the current permit fees and how that is generally not enough funding.

Della suggested that the LMRWD could share information about review costs with the City to help the City understand the potential costs of taking on the Municipal Permit.

Hannah asked whether the City would want notification of permit applications that the LMRWD receives for projects within the City's boundaries. The City representative said yes.

- a. Active permits

- i. LMRWD No. 2021-002 CSAH 61 Drainage Ditch

This permit was issued at the end of 2021, but work didn't start until June 2022.

- b. 2022 Inspections (Figure 1)

Hannah reviewed the total number of projects inspected. There was no discussion.

- i. Total number of projects inspected:

- LMRWD No. 2019-065 TH 101 Chanhassen
- LMRWD No. 2019-085 MN Bluffs LRT Regional Trail Repair
- LMRWD No. 2020-100 Peterson Farms Maintenance Road

- ii. Zero sites had follow-ups or maintenance issues.

- c. Upcoming projects

- i. LMRWD No. 2022-024 Gedney Pickles Holding Pond Restoration (conditionally approved by LMRWD Board of Managers)

- ii. LMRWD No. 22-031 RSI Marine pre-permit review

- iii. Charlie updated the LMRWD on an upcoming project: extending sewer and water down TH 101 and CSH 61, which is identified in the 5-year plan but has no hard deadline.

Summary

d. Work without a permit

i. 535 Lakota Lane update

Linda provided background on the area. The property had work done without a City or LMRWD permit. Both the City and LMRWD tried to contact property owners, but the property owners took offense and did not respond. Linda does not know the status. A letter of correction has been filed by the LMRWD with the district court, and the LMRWD is waiting on a ruling before taking any corrective action.

Della highlighted the partnership with the City regarding compliance issues on the site, devising a strategy for mitigation, and moving through the problem effectively and efficiently.

5. Recent and Upcoming Projects and Programs

a. Rule Revisions (Hannah LeClaire)

Hannah provided an update on the revisions of the LMRWD's rules.

b. Watershed Management Plan Amendment (Meghan Litsey)

Meghan provided an update on the Watershed Management Plan Amendment.

i. Upcoming CIP Projects

- Gully Inventory and Assessment Program—Reassessment of Existing Gullies

c. Gully Inventory (Della Young)

i. [Link](#) to 2020 Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment

ii. Review the Priority Regions (Figure 2)

- High Priority Region 10
 - Located on the eastern portion of Bluff Creek Park watershed, it contains gullies that are along the same hillslope, share similar characteristics, and are geographically close.
- High Priority Region 11
 - Located within a stream along the Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail across from Trails End Road. Sites share similar characteristics and the same drainage basin.
- High Priority Region 12
 - Located in the Richard T. Anderson Conservation Area. Sites share similar characteristics and access conditions.

iii. Discuss opportunities for partnering on high priority sites

- Planned projects

Summary

- Funding opportunities

Charlie said the City is aware of these areas but is not sure what can be done. The gullies are mostly on private land, and the City is hesitant to spend public dollars for private improvements.

Della said that the LMRWD does not have the answers, but a feasibility study is likely the next step as well as a follow-up meeting on high priority areas. Some of these areas could receive grants, and it would be great to prepare for the next steps. The LMRWD's next round of gully inventory is to document progression and to potentially collect the documentation needed to generate legislative action. The LMRWD would be seeking knowledge sharing for the upcoming project.

6. Other Discussion (Della Young)

- a. Seminary Fen Stewardship Plan

Della provided an update regarding the completion of the Seminary Fen Stewardship Plan.

- b. Assumption Creek H&H Analysis

Della shared that the analysis was complete, and Young Environmental will share a copy of the report with the City.

7. Next Steps (Meghan Litsey)

- a. Generate and share a meeting summary.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Mendota Heights

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022
Start Time: 8:30 a.m.
End Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information-sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and share costs on projects that protect or enhance natural resources

INVITEES: Ryan Ruzek, Krista Spreiter—City of Mendota Heights

HOSTS: Linda Loomis—Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Young, Hannah LeClaire, Meghan Litsey—Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda Loomis)

Linda thanked the city for its partnership and provided an update on LMRWD board positions.

2. Introductions (All)

3. Municipal Permit (Della Young)

a. Rule A: Administrative and Procedural Requirements (audit)

Della explained that *audit* is a daunting term, and it is more of a way to understand how the City has been managing permits in accordance with the requirements of LMRWD Rule A—Administrative and Procedural Requirements. An audit is planned for the first quarter of the year.

4. Individual Permits (Hannah LeClaire)

a. Upcoming projects

Hannah informed the City that there are no active projects at this time.

Della recommended sharing notification of projects coming up in the LMRWD. Krista asked whether the LMRWD would like notification about projects that are outside the LMRWD but discharge to the LMRWD; for example, the Lake August feasibility study has a natural outlet to the Minnesota River. Della said that the LMRWD would like to be involved.

Summary

Linda commented that the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD) and City of Prior Lake have a similar operation with the Prior Lake Outlet Channel and recommended the City talk either to the PLSLWD or City of Prior Lake about this.

The LMRWD should be notified of potential slope-stabilization issues.

5. Recent and Upcoming Projects and Programs

a. Rule Revisions (Hannah LeClaire)

Hannah provided an update on the revisions of the LMRWD's rules.

b. Watershed Management Plan Amendment (Meghan Litsey)

Meghan provided an update on the Watershed Management Plan Amendment.

i. Upcoming CIP Projects

- Gully Inventory and Assessment Program—Reassessment of Existing Gullies

c. Gully Inventory (Della Young)

i. [Link](#) to 2020 Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment

ii. Review the Priority Regions (Figure 2)

- High-Priority Region 21

- Sites grouped together based on geographic proximity to one another, similar characteristics, and similar erosion progression

Sites around High-Priority Region 21 are a combination of high to moderate priority. Della said work in the future surrounds high-priority sites to see whether erosion is progressing or stable.

- High-Priority Region 22

- Large gully channel

The City tried to get MnDOT to address High-Priority Region 22.

Della said that we could try to approach the City's contact at MnDOT to discuss what has been done, how a feasibility analysis might be implemented, and whether it makes sense to move that analysis forward.

- High-Priority Region 23

- Sites grouped together based on geographic proximity to one another, shared access locations, and ultimate discharge location of Gun Club Lake Fen

Summary

The LMRWD has been working with the DNR on this recently. There is a scar in the fen, but the DNR has not made a determination yet.

The City said there is a potential MnDOT 494 pond project, southwest from high priority site 23.

The LMRWD will share the Gun Club Lake H&H report with the City.

- iii. Discuss opportunities for partnering on high-priority sites (Meghan Litsey)
 - Planned projects
 - Funding opportunities

6. Other Discussion (All)

Della asked if the City had any concerns on the LMRWD's Rule C—Floodplain and Drainage Alteration requirements. The city mentioned Burnsville's comments on LMRWD Rule C—Floodplain and Drainage Alteration. The LMRWD plans to meet with the City of Burnsville and other interested municipalities to discuss floodplain management.

7. Next Steps (Meghan Litsey)

- a. Generate and share a meeting summary.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Eden Prairie

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Start Time: 10:30 a.m.

End Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information-sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and share costs on projects that protect or enhance natural resources

INVITEES: Rod Rue, Patrick Sejkora—City of Eden Prairie

HOSTS: Linda Loomis—Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Young, Hannah LeClaire, Meghan Litsey—Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda Loomis)

Linda thanked the City for its partnership and provided an update on LMRWD board positions.

2. Introductions (All)

3. Individual Permits (Hannah LeClaire)

- a. Discuss the process for communicating LMRWD permit requirements
- b. Active permits
 - i. LMRWD No. 2022-007 Engineered Hillside
 - ii. LMRWD No. 2022-026 10621 Spyglass Drive

The year 2022 was when LMRWD first completed inspections.

Engineered Hillside and Spyglass will be inspected in 2023.

- c. Year 2022 inspections (Figure 1)
 - i. Total number of projects inspected: one
 - LMRWD No. 2020-103 Prairie Heights Development
 - ii. One site had follow-ups and maintenance issues:

Summary

- Lack of erosion control BMPs
- Rill erosion along infiltration basin (ongoing)

Prairie Heights is a unique project because it is in two watershed districts, the LMRWD and RPBCWD, and the infiltration basins are technically in the RPBCWD. The contractor and the RPBCWD were notified of the issues, and the LMRWD wanted to notify the City to keep it informed.

d. Upcoming projects

i. Peterson Wetland Bank

Peterson Wetland Bank is an ongoing project led by Lori Haak with the City.

The LMRWD transferred authority of the Pioneer Trail project to the RPBCWD.

The feasibility study is advancing on Dell Road, and WSB has been trying to set up a meeting with the RPBCWD.

4. Recent and Upcoming Projects and Programs

a. Rule revisions (Hannah LeClaire)

Hannah provided an update on the revisions of the LMRWD's rules.

Della asked if the City had any concerns about the LMRWD's Rule C—Floodplain and Drainage Alteration requirements. The City indicated that it does not have any involvement with Rule C.

b. Watershed Management Plan Amendment (Meghan Litsey)

i. Upcoming CIP Projects (Hannah LeClaire)

- Area 3 Bluff Stabilization Project update
 - When was the last time the outfall was repaired or replaced?
 - What are your goals for the design of the outfall?
 - Does the City have a hydraulic report for the original outfall design?

Hannah from Young Environmental is the new point of contact for the project. The project is partnered with Barr Engineering and Inter-Fluve. Young Environmental is designing the outfall from the pond. Young Environmental wants to keep the City involved on the design to meet its expectations.

The City has been notified by the MPCA that it approves of the removal of the pond in the floodplain.

Hannah has plans for the outfall from 1986 and was wondering whether this is the last time work was completed on the outfall. Rod replied that it was redone about 10 years ago (2013?) when Barr

Summary

Engineering completed reinforcement on the bank. Patrick is going to look at the City's records for the pipe work.

City goals for the design include capturing as much of the water as possible in the pipes and minimizing surface flow. For the outfall, there are no specific goals other than protecting it and having access for City inspections and maintenance.

Della asked about access and easements in the area. Easements shown in the plan set from Barr Engineering (which Hannah already has) are mostly accurate.

Hannah asked for the elevation of ditch checks, if known, and clarified that the pipe won't be extended.

Della said that Young Environmental needs design constraints upstream and asked what kind of piping is needed when the pond is removed to attenuate the volume coming in. Rod said that the original design does not follow Atlas 14 precipitation estimates.

Linda asked whether the pond is on City property, and Patrick responded it is in an easement.

Hannah said that Young Environmental will bring the City into coordination with Inter-Fluve.

- Gully Inventory and Assessment Program—Reassessment of Existing Gullies

c. Gully inventory (Della Young)

i. [Link](#) to 2020 Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment

ii. Review the Priority Regions (Figure 2)

- High-Priority Region 13
 - Sites are located within the Richard T. Anderson Conservation area near the border of the City of Chanhassen

The City is aware of the gully issue but unaware of any planned projects.

- High-Priority Region 14
 - HPR 14 is located along the banks of the Minnesota River. The region includes two channels consisting of two gully sites each and one large slump along the Minnesota River.
- New-Priority Sites (2 sites)

iii. Discuss opportunities for partnering on high-priority sites (Meghan Litsey)

- Planned projects
- Funding opportunities

Summary

The LMRWD will use Patrick as a point of contact to navigate the departments and contacts that need to be included in a feasibility study and to decide what information the LMRWD needs to collect to make informed decisions. Young Environmental will monitor the gullies in 2023.

The timing of a feasibility study is to be determined. In the LMRWD CIP, there are dollars set aside for inventory assessment, and whatever is leftover can be spent on high-priority sites.

5. Other Discussion (All)

There was no discussion.

6. Next Steps (Meghan Litsey)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Carver

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Start Time: 1:30 p.m.

End Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information-sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and share costs on projects that protect or enhance natural resources

INVITEES: Brent Mareck, Aaron Schmidt, Bob Bean—City of Carver

HOSTS: Linda Loomis—Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Young, Hannah LeClaire, Meghan Litsey—Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda Loomis)

Linda thanked the City for its partnership and provided an update on the LMRWD board.

2. Introductions (All)

3. Municipal Permit (Della Young)

a. Rule A: Administrative and Procedural Requirements (audit)

The audit is designed to get a sense of the City's permitting process, not as a punitive conversation. The LMRWD wants to learn about the City's process to understand whether there are any changes required.

b. Rule C: Floodplain and Drainage Alteration

Carver does not have Rule C authority in its permit. The LMRWD has received comments on the restrictive nature of Rule C, and the LMRWD will hold separate meetings on the floodplain requirements.

Something the City would like to discuss with the LMRWD is taking on Rule C because it makes sense from an administrative standpoint. Della said that the one caveat would be self-regulation, and the LMRWD would retain regulatory authority over the Carver Levee project.

Summary

The City said code updates for the MS4 permit and other items related to the floodplain are in progress. Della said the next steps in the process would be to have the City go to the LMRWD's website and complete the LGU application and highlight applicable rules, including adding Rule C. Advance notification was requested from the City so the LMRWD can plan accordingly.

4. Individual Permits (Hannah LeClaire)

a. Active permits

There was no discussion.

b. Year 2022 Inspections (Figure 1)

i. Total number of projects inspected: one

- LMRWD No. 2020-110 CSAH 11 Reconstruction

ii. Zero sites had follow-ups or maintenance issues

c. Upcoming projects

i. Spring Creek 3rd Street Culvert Replacement

The permit for the Spring Creek Project would have to come through LMRWD if Carver does not have its Rule C authority yet. The City indicated that Bolton & Menk would be submitting an application for this project soon.

5. Recent and Upcoming Projects and Programs

a. Rule Revisions (Hannah LeClaire)

Hannah provided an update on the revisions of the LMRWD's rules.

b. Watershed Management Plan Amendment (Meghan Litsey)

Meghan provided an update on the Watershed Management Plan Amendment.

i. Upcoming CIP Projects

- Spring Creek Vegetation Management
- Spring Creek Site 1 and 2 Stabilization Project
- Spring Creek Site 3 Design Feasibility Study

LMRWD will forward the link to the Spring Creek H&H reports completed in 2021.

Regarding project improvements at Spring Creek, the City is not going to spend public dollars on private property improvements. The LMRWD wants to proactively address this situation to prevent catastrophic failure, and the City would like to continue the dialogue on the issue but is not prepared to commit to anything at this time.

Young Environmental is coordinating the development of a vegetative management plan and two designs have been prepared and need finalizing.

Summary

- Gully Inventory and Assessment Program—Reassessment of Existing Gullies
- c. Gully Inventory (Della Young)
 - i. [Link](#) to 2020 Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment
 - ii. Review the Priority Regions (Figure 2)
 - High-Priority Region 1
 - Located within Spring Creek Channel’s valley wall, making one large gully system
 - High-Priority Region 2
 - Sites located within shared access locations
 - High-Priority Region 3
 - One large gully channel
 - High-Priority Region 4
 - One large gully system with two head cuts
 - High-Priority Region 5
 - Stream channel with multiple slumps and finger gullies forming along its valley wall
 - High-Priority Region 6
 - Sites grouped by proximity, shared access conditions, erosion progression, and characteristics
 - High-Priority Region 7
 - Grouped by shared characteristics, access conditions, and geographic proximity of all three sites
 - High-Priority Region 8
 - One large gully system forming a stream channel
 - High-Priority Region 9
 - Large gully formed by a pipe outfall discharging and creating a channel
 - New-Priority Sites (2 Sites)

The City indicated that several of the gullies are within the Hawthorn Development, and the Surface Water Management Plan for the project noted this. Della said that as the City reviews the gully report, the City should let the LMRWD know whether there are opportunities to partner or combine resources to address an area.

Summary

The City asked to be updated when Spring Creek and gully inventory field work is going to be completed in the event that residents call and ask questions about what is going on.

- iii. Discuss opportunities for partnering on high-priority sites
 - Planned projects
 - Funding opportunities

6. Other Discussion (Della Young)

- a. Carver Levee project update

The City was notified that it will be awarded \$2.5 million in federal funding (through the HUD program). This will allow the project to continue moving forward with design. The total project cost is \$12 million. Linda asked whether the City plans to lobby for funds and requested that the City let the LMRWD know so that it is aware and knowledgeable. The LMRWD can have its legislative liaison help inform legislators about the project.

7. Next Steps (Meghan Litsey)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Savage

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Start Time: 2:30 p.m.

End Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and share costs on projects that protect or enhance natural resources

INVITEES: Jesse Carlson, Seng Thongvanh – City of Savage

HOSTS: Linda Loomis – Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District; Della Young, Hannah LeClaire, Meghan Litsey – Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda Loomis)

Linda thanked the City for its partnership and provided an update on the LMRWD board.

2. Introductions (All)

3. Municipal Permit (Della Young)

a. Progress on obtaining a Municipal Permit

In 2023, the City has set aside budget for City zoning ordinance updates and plans to update water resource items. The City plans to start this at the beginning of the new year and have the ordinance updates adopted by council members in midsummer. The City said that it may be looking into creating more of a design guide, similar to the City of Prior Lake.

- Della said that if the City has draft deliverables of certain sections of the updated code, the LMRWD can look into it so that it's in line with the LMRWD rules.
- Della asked if the City had any concerns about the Rule C-Floodplain rule revisions. The City of Savage indicated that it's interested in discussing this topic. The biggest concern for the City is along Credit River from McColl to the Minnesota River and how that floodplain extends. The City says there are some issues with the current modeling, and this should be looked at closer.

Summary

The model is currently 1-D but probably needs a 2-D model. The City can send the report to the LMRWD.

- With Katy Thompson moving on from Young Environmental, the City asked who the new liaison from the LMRWD would be. Della recommended emailing the permit@lowermnriverwd.org, and it will be delegated from there.

4. Individual Permits (Hannah LeClaire)

- a. Active permits
 - i. LMRWD No. 2021-025 TH 13
 - ii. LMRWD No. 2021-033 Minnesota MASH & 130th St. Extension
- b. 2022 Inspections (Figure 1)
 - i. Total number of projects inspected: 2
 - LMRWD No. 2021-031 Caribou Coffee
 - LMRWD No. 2021-034 Circle K Holiday Station Stores
 - ii. Zero sites had follow-ups or maintenance issues

Caribou and Circle K Holiday projects are complete and can be closed.

MN Mash did some preliminary grading. The City did some pond excavation work this year, and storm sewer work will be completed next year.

- c. Upcoming projects

The City received watershed-based implementation funding for the Eagle Creek bridge stabilization project. The City will set up an agency meeting to discuss the concept plan and submittal requirements. LMRWD recommended the City submit a work plan to BWSR, if it hasn't already, and the agreement would be through the BWSR.

The Credit River stream assessment is planned for 2023 from TH 13 to Hanrehan Blvd.

5. Recent and Upcoming Projects and Programs

- a. Rule Revisions (Hannah LeClaire)

Hannah provided an update on the revisions of the LMRWD's rules.
- b. Watershed Management Plan Amendment (Meghan Litsey)

Meghan provided an update on the Watershed Management Plan Amendment.

- i. Upcoming CIP Projects
 - Gully Inventory and Assessment Program – Reassessment of Existing Gullies
 - Schroeder Acres Project Status

Summary

The City needs to send final plans and request final closeout from the BWSR to be reimbursed for the project.

- c. Gully Inventory (Della Young)
 - i. [Link](#) to 2020 Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment
 - ii. Review the Priority Sites (Figure 2)
 - Savage Bluffs High Priority Region
 - Area includes the southern border of the LMRWD within Savage and the bluffs that drop into Savage Fen Natural Science Area
 - Eagle Creek High Priority Region
 - Comprises two gullies directly contributing to Eagle Creek

The LMRWD will revisit high priority areas in 2023.

The City completed a ravine stabilization project in 2016 (smallest area on Figure 2), and another project was completed closer to City Hall. The LMRWD will share the Gully Report, and the City can let the LMRWD know which gullies they are aware of and determine potential next steps.

- iii. Discuss opportunities for partnering on high priority sites
 - Planned projects
 - Funding opportunities

6. Other Discussion (Della Young)

- a. Dredge Site Maintenance Project

LMRWD updated the City on the dredge site plans, including using the LMRWD engineering pool for designs.

- b. Credit River Outfall Repair

The City hopes to complete the project in 2023. The City needs an erosion and sediment control permit with the LMRWD. The City also needs to go to USACE and schedule the work.

- c. Floodplain (Compensatory Storage) Analysis

Della asked for the City's thoughts on pursuing this. The City said its number one priority would be to do additional floodplain analysis specific to 2-D modeling updates to see how the area would be affected during a flood. Regarding developing the floodplain analysis, the City said it has no need to discuss or look at this now.

Summary

The LMRWD has paused on the comments from the City of Burnsville regarding Rule C until the LMRWD could have discussions during the coordination meetings. The LMRWD will maintain Rule C until additional data is forthcoming. The LMRWD will revisit this topic with the TAC at a later date.

- d. [Link](#) to 2022 Trout Streams Gaps Analysis and Management Plan – Final Report

The City would like more intentional documentation on how to manage trout waters and was wondering about stocking Eagle Creek.

Last fall the DNR stocked brook trout in Eagle Creek and found that brown trout are reproducing but brook trout are not.

There was a discussion about how to manage beaver dams and who is responsible for that along Eagle Creek and south of the dredge site.

7. Next Steps (Meghan Litsey)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary.

Summary



PROJECT NAME: LMRWD Municipal Coordination – City of Bloomington

Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022
Start Time: 10:00 a.m.
End Time: 11:30 a.m.
Location: Virtual meeting using Teams

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

- To continue the established collaboration and information sharing framework
- To review recent and upcoming LMRWD and City projects and programs
- To assess resources and share costs on projects that protect or enhance natural resources

INVITEES: Steve Gurney, Bryan Gruidl, Jack Distel—City of Bloomington

HOSTS: Linda Loomis—Naiad Consulting and Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Della Young, Hannah LeClaire, Meghan Litsey—Young Environmental Consulting Group

AGENDA:

1. Welcome (Linda Loomis)

Linda thanked the City of Bloomington for its partnership and gave an update on the LMRWD board of managers and open positions.

2. Introductions (All)

3. Municipal Permit (Della Young)

a. Rule A: Administrative and Procedural Requirements (audit)

Bloomington was the first to get its municipal permit over a year ago. It does not have permitting authority for Rule C. The audit is to get a sense for how things are going and to help make the process more efficient per LMRWD Rule A—Administrative and Procedural Requirements.

The City said its rules are slightly more restrictive than LMRWD and thinks it could use help through Rule F—Steep Slopes. It could use help getting landowners to understand and trying to define the area.

The City feels like it is struggling with project creep. Della advised that it may be worthwhile to look at standard plans or BMPs to prevent this and said the LMRWD can meet with the City this winter to discuss it further.

Summary

The City said it struggles with projects getting after-the-fact permits (asking for forgiveness not for permission). The LMRWD is willing to get more involved when these situations arise.

4. Individual Permits (Hannah LeClaire)

a. Active permits

i. LMRWD No. 2021-023 106th Street Improvement

This project has been completed

ii. LMRWD No. 2020-132 77th Street Underpass

This is a City of Richfield project and will be removed.

iii. LMRWD No. 2022-002 MBL Nicollet River Crossing

iv. LMRWD No. 2022-013 Normandale and 98th Intersection Improvements

This is not in MnDOT ROW. MnDOT is involved because of state aid funding. The City was wondering if it has state funding, but the project is a city-led project, if the LMRWD permits the project. Della said that the LMRWD and the City should talk about the project ahead of time and determine how to move forward.

b. Year 2022 Inspections (Figure 1)

i. Total number of projects inspected: three

- LMRWD No. 2020-132 77th Street Underpass
- LMRWD No. 2021-023 106th Street Improvement
- LMRWD No. 2021-049 Stump Road Maintenance

ii. Follow-ups/Maintenance Issues

- The 77th Street Underpass had standing water runoff under the bridge. The LMRWD received photo confirmation that the violation during the project inspection was fixed.

c. Upcoming projects

5. Recent and Upcoming Projects and Programs

a. Rule Revisions (Hannah LeClaire)

Hannah provided an update on the revisions of the LMRWD's rules.

b. Watershed Management Plan Amendment (Meghan Litsey)

Meghan provided an update on the Watershed Management Plan Amendment.

i. Upcoming CIP Projects

- Gully Inventory and Assessment Program—Reassessment of Existing Gullies

Summary

c. Gully Inventory (Della Young)

- i. [Link](#) to 2020 Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment
- ii. Review the Priority Regions (Figure 2)
 - High-Priority Region 15
 - Two gullies located within the same long stream channel

This is near a scenic easement area and some City drainage. There is potential to address some pipe issues at this location or at the end of Palmer Road.
 - High-Priority Region 16
 - Two gullies within the same channel
 - High-Priority Region 17
 - Three gullies grouped together due to geographical proximity and ease of access
 - High-Priority Region 18
 - Gullies found within Mound Springs Park

This area is by the Indian mounds and could be coordinated with Parks and Rec, a different branch in the City. There is unofficial access to the Minnesota River from a recreation standpoint.
 - High-Priority Region 19
 - Gullies located within the Ike's Creek high-value resource area
 - High-Priority Region 20
 - Includes all of the gullies that lay near the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center and could be accessed along the Long Meadow Lake Trail

The City is aware of the locations, and some are on private property, which is not necessarily under the City's control; the City is hesitant to do work on private property. However, if a gully is combined with stormwater outfall or direct drainage, the project would be within the City's ability to maintain its infrastructure.

Della said the goal now is to continue to review the high-priority sites and start an initial feasibility study.

There is a public education component on how to prevent or manage erosion because people are dumping stuff over the bluff and direct downspouts over the bluff. Della offered that the LMRWD could look into creating a campaign about

Summary

this topic and target specific landowners. The City could also attach an informational brochure to permits.

If there are staff going out in 2023, the LMRWD is to let the City know, and the City might be able to send some staff to come along. Della said that a schedule will be provided in advance when this work is anticipated.

- iii. Discuss opportunities for partnering on high-priority sites (Meghan Litsey)
 - Planned projects
 - Funding opportunities

6. Other Discussion (Della Young)

- a. American Square Condo Development (USFWS)

American Square changed its name to The Ardor. It was unable to acquire the failed parking garage adjacent to the project. This project is moving forward, but the scope has changed.

There was a perception that the City issued a variance from the rules on the project, and the LMRWD wanted to talk about the concern USFWS raised that there was a variance. The City said there was no variance and was not sure where the confusion came from.

- b. Other Discussion

The City asked if there was any monitoring at Ike's Creek by the LMRWD. Monitoring is through USFWS, and it is partnered with MCES. Linda is in communication with the USFWS. Young Environmental is not intimately engaged in the project. Linda hasn't seen the data yet, but she believes they are being put into the state's systems. She will look into this to see if we can get more information.

7. Next Steps (Meghan Litsey)

- a. Generate and share meeting summary
- b. Coordinate audit of Municipal Permit