

**Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Land & Water Partnership Initiative
Technical Advisory Committee**

Meeting #1
October 5, 2022
1:00 – 3:00 PM

MCWD Office – 15320 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka
Board Room - Lower Level

Agenda

- 1:00-1:20 **Welcome and Introductions**
- 1:20-1:30 **Initiative Purpose and TAC Work Plan**
- 1:30-2:05 **Partnership Examples and Discussion**
- 2:05-2:15 **Break**
- 2:15-2:50 **Introduction to the Land & Water Partnership Program**
- 2:50-3:00 **Wrap-up and Next Steps**
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Attachments:

- Meeting 1 Pre-Read Memo
- TAC Membership



Title: TAC Meeting 1 Pre-Read

Prepared by: Becky Christopher, MCWD Policy Planning Manager

Meeting Purpose:

This first meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will cover:

- Initiative purpose and TAC work plan
- Partnership examples and discussion
- Introduction to the Land & Water Partnership program

Background:

The [Land & Water Partnership Initiative](#) is focused on strengthening partnerships that support MCWD's emphasis on impactful, collaborative projects that benefit the watershed and our communities. Our vision of a balanced urban ecology, where natural and built environments exist in balance to create value and enjoyment, is only possible through partnership with those who plan and implement changes on the landscape. That is why we have been working to develop program improvements that strengthen the connection between land use and water planning, enhance our opportunity for collaboration, and identify new project opportunities.

We have experienced numerous examples where partnership and integrated planning have provided mutual benefit and produced greater outcomes than could have otherwise been achieved. We also recognize that working in a more collaborative way requires effort from both the District and our partners. We want to work with the TAC to create systems that support this partnership approach. We are seeking TAC input to:

- Help shape a new program that will support partner projects through technical and financial assistance
- Advise on improvements to our permitting program to streamline process and promote early coordination
- Explore ideas for on-going engagement and collaboration

Meeting Description:

At the October 5, 2022 TAC Meeting, we will cover the following topics:

TAC Work Plan and Expectations

MCWD is planning a series of 6-7 TAC meetings for this initiative, scheduled approximately once per month (proposed schedule to be provided at Meeting 1). For each meeting, we will send a brief (2-5 page) pre-read the week before the meeting to help TAC members prepare. There will also be requests for review and comment on materials following some of the meetings, and we will provide at least two weeks for TAC members to respond to these requests. Future meeting packets will include a summary of the prior meeting. All meeting materials will be posted on the [MCWD's TAC webpage](#).

Each meeting is anticipated to last two hours and will be held in person at the MCWD Offices (pending changes in COVID transmission levels). We aim to make our time in the meetings engaging and focused not only on gathering the TAC's input but also on building relationships and connection. The TAC includes 18 members and 10 alternates representing cities, counties, and other local partners from across the watershed (see attached list).

Partnership Examples and Discussion

At the meeting, we will also frame examples of the types of partnership opportunities we're seeking and the benefits we've seen by integrating our work with public and private partners. We will then break into small groups to hear about TAC members' experiences and perspectives.

We will ask TAC members to consider the following questions:

- What potential value do you see in partnering with MCWD?
- Where can partnership opportunities come from?
- What will it take to make it successful?

Introduction to the Land & Water Partnership Program

MCWD has developed a framework for a new program that will provide technical and financial resources to support partner-led projects that provide significant, regional water resource benefit. The goals of this program are to:

- Increase early coordination and integration of land use and water planning
- Leverage opportunities created through land use change to improve water resources
- Provide service and value to communities across the watershed

The MCWD's 2017 Watershed Management Plan includes "opportunity-driven" projects aimed at addressing nutrient impairments throughout the watershed. This program would provide a pathway for partner-led projects that help address these impairments to be integrated into the District's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to receive financial and technical support. The program is intended to promote early coordination by also providing financial and technical support during the concept development and feasibility stages of a project. As proposed, the program would be available to public partners and private developers/landowners that have the capacity to lead project implementation.

This first meeting will provide an introduction to the program goals, scope, and structure. In subsequent meetings, we will seek the TAC's input on program schedule, submittal requirements, and evaluation criteria to help ensure that the program is clear, reasonable, and provides value to our partners.

**Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Technical Advisory Committee Members
for the Land & Water Partnership Initiative**

| Organization | Primary Representative | Alternate |
|--|--|--|
| City of Edina | Jessica Vanderwerff Wilson, Water Resources Manager | |
| City of Hopkins | Ryan Krzos, City Planner | |
| City of Maple Plain | Dylan Hoflock, Public Works Superintendent | |
| City of Medina | Dusty Finke, City Planner | |
| City of Minneapolis | Elizabeth Stout, Water Resources Manager | Shahram Missaghi, Water Resources Coordinator |
| City of Minnetonka | Sarah Schweiger, Water Resources Engineering Coordinator | Leslie Yetka, Natural Resources Manager |
| City of Orono | Melanie Curtis, Planner | Laura Oakden, Community Development Director |
| City of Plymouth | Chris LaBounty, City Engineer | Ben Scharenbroich, Water Resources Supervisor |
| City of Richfield | Chad Donnelly, Assistant Utility Superintendent | |
| City of St. Louis Park | Erick Francis, Water Resources Manager | Phil Elkin, Engineering Services Manager; Mike Bahe, Natural Resources Manager |
| City of Victoria | Cara Geheren, City Engineer | |
| City of Wayzata | Mike Kelly, City Engineer | Emily Goellner, Community Development Director |
| Bolton and Menk, representing Greenwood, Mound, Orono, St. Bonifacius, Shorewood, Woodland | Bob Bean, Water Resources Project Engineer | |
| WSB, representing Deephaven and Excelsior | Rebecca Haug, Sr. Project Manager | |
| Carver Soil and Water Conservation District | Mike Wanous, District Manager | |
| Hennepin County | Drew McGovern, Senior Water Resources Engineer | Karen Galles, Land and Water Supervisor; Kris Guentzel, Senior Water Resources Specialist |
| Metropolitan Council | Jen Kostrzewski, Principal Environmental Scientist | |
| Three Rivers Park District | Kelly Grissman, Director of Planning | Jami Markle, Director of Natural Resources |