

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 13-078

TITLE: **Ordering of 325 Blake Road Stormwater Management Project**

- WHEREAS, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) has adopted a comprehensive watershed management plan (WMP) in accordance with Minnesota Statutes §103B.231; and
- WHEREAS, the WMP capital improvement program includes the Minnehaha Creek Volume and Load Reduction project, which encompasses the construction of stormwater facilities to manage stormwater from the developed contributing area that presently discharges into Reaches 19-21 of the creek without volume control or water quality treatment;
- WHEREAS, in 2011 the District acquired property at 325 Blake Road for the purposes of stream restoration, stormwater management, corridor improvements, public land expansion and redevelopment opportunities;
- WHEREAS, the MCWD Board of Managers has reviewed the Draft and Final Feasibility Study for a regional stormwater project at 325 Blake Road in the Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed, which study examines the feasibility of collecting and managing stormwater discharging to the creek within Reaches 19-21; and
- WHEREAS, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 103B.251, subdivision 3, the MCWD held a duly noticed public hearing on ordering of the Project on June 27, 2013, at which time all interested parties had the opportunity to speak for and against the Project;
- WHEREAS, the City of Hopkins City Council adopted a resolution of support for the project at their July 9, 2013 Council meeting; and
- WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis Park City Council intends to adopt a resolution of support for the project in August of 2013;
- WHEREAS, the Board of Managers has reviewed the feasibility analysis and associated technical and financial information concerning the project and has considered all input received from interested parties during the course of project development; and
- WHEREAS, the Board of Managers finds that the Project will be conducive to public health and promote the general welfare, and is in compliance with Minnesota Statutes §§103B.205 to 103B.255 and the MCWD's watershed management plan adopted pursuant to §103B.231;
- WHEREAS, at the MCWD Board Workshop dated July 11, 2013 it was moved by Manager White, seconded by Manager Casale and passed 6 - 0 that this resolution be forward to the next Board Meeting for final action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 103B.251 and the WMP, the MCWD Board of Managers orders the 325 Blake Road Stormwater Management Project, with a total estimated cost of \$2,747,100 and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Managers hereby authorizes the solicitation of engineering services for design and construction oversight; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that District staff shall explore means of defraying and fairly allocating project costs and shall make recommendations to the Board of Managers in advance of final design approval by the Board.

Resolution Number 13-078 was moved by Manager Elson, seconded by Manager Shekleton.
Motion to adopt the resolution 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Date: July 25, 2013

J. Casan _____ Date: 12/15/2014
Secretary

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: July 25, 2013

TITLE: Ordering of 325 Blake Road Stormwater Management Project

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 13-078

PREPARED BY: Michael Hayman

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Program Mgr. (Name): James Wisker
 Board Committee Engineer Other

WORKSHOP ACTION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. Consent Agenda.	<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board meeting for discussion prior to action.
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to a future workshop (date): _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to taskforce or committee (date): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to staff for additional work.	<input type="checkbox"/> No further action requested.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

MCWD Staff requests Board action on the following:

1. Formal ordering of the 325 Blake Road Stormwater Management Project
2. Authorization to solicit design/engineering/construction observation services for project implementation

PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:

See attached map

PROJECT TIMELINE:

December 2012-May 2013	Project Feasibility
June 2013	Community Informational Meeting and Public Hearing
July 2013	Project Ordering
2014	Design and Construct Powell Road Diversion
2015	Design and Construct Lake Street Diversion
2016-2018	Design and Construct 325 Blake Facilities and conveyance connection

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number: 325 Blake Road Stormwater Management Project, #TBD
 Current budget: \$2,747,100
 Expenditures to date: \$0
 Requested amount of funding: \$2,747,100
 Is a budget amendment requested? No
 Is additional staff requested? No

PAST BOARD ACTIONS:

September 22, 2011	RBA 11-085	Authorization to Purchase 325 Blake Road
August 23, 2012	RBA 12-080	Authorization to initiate feasibility
June 13, 2013	Review Draft Feasibility	No Action Required
June 27, 2013	Public Hearing for Ordering	No Action Required

SUMMARY:

325 Blake Road is a 16.8-acre property in Hopkins owned by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) that currently houses a cold storage warehouse. The parcel was strategically acquired by MCWD for purposes of expanding the riparian greenway around Minnehaha Creek and improving area wide stormwater management. The portion of the parcel not required to fulfill these purposes will be sold for redevelopment, which will allow the District to recover a significant portion of its initial investment.

The 325 Blake Road parcel is located in a priority project area for the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District within the subwatershed. The site represents one piece of the District's larger strategic initiative to (1) improve the quality and manage the quantity of stormwater runoff; (2) enhance the ecological integrity of the stream system; and (3) facilitate broader community goals of economic development and livability by allowing the restored stream system to be integrated into the developed landscape.

Approximately 329.8 acres of land surrounding 325 Blake Road currently drains to Minnehaha Creek, most of which goes untreated. The District has evaluated the opportunity to capture as much "first flush" stormwater runoff from surrounding watersheds as possible. This water would then be diverted and filtered or infiltrated on the 325 Blake Road site to allow for water quality and base flow improvements to Minnehaha Creek. Feasibility has indicated that phosphorus loads can be reduced by 70 to 90 percent by infiltrating the runoff from the 0.5-inch to 1.25-inch rain events.

Adjacent storm sewer networks and their associated subwatersheds were investigated to determine how much additional untreated low flow could be diverted to the site for treatment. The analysis of storm sewer networks concluded that low flow drainage from approximately 247 acres out of the 329.8 offsite acres (75%) could feasibly be diverted to a treatment facility at 325 Blake Road.

Drainage will be diverted to 325 Blake Road through construction of two primary storm sewer diversions. A portion of the drainage of subwatersheds west of 325 Blake Road (30.3 acres) will be intercepted and diverted via a constructed storm sewer under Lake Street NE. This pipe would travel east under Blake Road into 325 Blake Road.

Drainage from the area south of 325 Blake (216.9 acres) will be captured and diverted on Powell Road through a new storm sewer that would be tunneled under the existing railroad. Additional area may also be available for capture, and will be identified during preliminary design.

As with all capital projects, additional information will be required through the design phase.

Primary design items include:

- Survey to verify existing conditions and add missing information as needed
- Review of soil borings to incorporate infiltration characteristics into the basin design
- Environmental investigations
- Coordination with cities
- Discussion with private landowners for subsurface storm sewer easements
- Preparation of detailed plans and specifications

Construction of the diversions would ideally be completed with other needed street or utility improvements, such as sanitary forcemain or road reconstruction projects. Accordingly, the preliminary timeline for project

construction is spread out over a period of time. It is anticipated that the Powell Road Diversion will be designed and constructed in 2014. The Lake Street Diversion will be designed and constructed in 2015 to coincide with Met Council's sewer project. Finally, the facilities on 325 Blake Road will be designed and constructed in coordination with site demolition and redevelopment in 2016 or later. This phased approach will allow the District to realize greater cost and permitting advantages through multiple project coordination.