



**MINNEHAHA CREEK**  
**WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
QUALITY OF WATER, QUALITY OF LIFE

**Meeting:** Board of Managers

**Meeting date:** 6/26/2025

**Agenda Item #:** 12.1

**Item type:** Board Discussion

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**Title:** Land Acquisition along Minnehaha Creek, St. Louis Park

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**Purpose:**

At the June 26, 2025, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers meeting, staff will present an opportunity to purchase land along Minnehaha Creek in St. Louis Park to restore streambank and ecological integrity, and support existing and future capital projects. The Board may decide to enter closed session in order to discuss the value of the potential acquisition.

**Background:**

MCWD staff have been working closely with the City of St. Louis Park, as well as individual landowners, to advance the Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank Restoration project. While the trail alignment was designed to minimize impacts to private parcels, project feasibility identified several opportunities for additional streambank restoration on private property. Early conversations were held with these property owners, who indicated interest in exploring streambank restoration on their properties.

As design has progressed and additional conversations have been held, the property owners remain interested in supporting the project, but have shifted towards a preference for MCWD to acquire the properties outright. Acquisition of the properties would allow MCWD to complete the additional streambank restoration, while ensuring its ability to conduct work on all parcels necessary to construct the trail connection. The City has been supportive of acquiring these creekside parcels and would continue to be involved in decision making around the ultimate use of the properties.

At the June 26, 2025, Board of Managers meeting, staff will present two land acquisition opportunities along Minnehaha Creek in St. Louis Park, including the range of potential uses for the parcels. Staff will also lead a discussion around costs, financing, and potential agreement structures.

Staff will request a closed session in order to discuss the potential negotiation for acquisition.