



Title:	Authorization to distribute Capital Improvement Plan for annual review and comment
Resolution number:	25-037
Prepared by:	Gabriel Sherman (952) 641-4510 gsherman@minnehahacreek.org
Reviewed by:	Michael Hayman, Director of Project Planning
Recommended action:	Authorization to distribute the revised draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), including the five-year “Multi-year CIP,” to MCWD counties and municipalities for 30-day review and comment.
Schedule:	June 2025 – Release of draft CIP for 30-day review August 2025 – Revisions and approval of 2025 CIP
Budget considerations:	Not applicable
Past Board action:	Not applicable

Summary:

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is a mission-driven organization that centers its work on the delivery of high-impact capital projects that integrate water and natural resources with the built environment. MCWD has progressively improved its approach to capital project planning through cycles of implementation and deliberate reflection that have increased the sophistication and efficacy of its capital project implementation model.

2024 marked another exciting change and opportunity for MCWD to continue advancing its capital project program and refining its Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) initiative. 2024 was the inaugural year for MCWD’s Land and Water Partnership (LWP) Program. For consistency and transparency, the CIP now also reflects projects moving through that partnership program.

Each year, as described in MCWD’s Watershed Management Plan (WMP), MCWD revises and distributes its 10-year CIP (Attachment 1) to its member cities and counties for 30-day review and comment. The purpose of this annual process is to allow MCWD to adjust its 10-year CIP based on feasibility analysis of projects described in the WMP, identification of new project opportunities through coordination with land use planning, shifts in District priorities, and assessment of staff and financial capacity. As projects are continually being developed, this process also allows MCWD to provide its stakeholders with a greater level of specificity. The MCWD uses the annual distribution of its CIP to remind its communities of MCWD’s implementation approach and its desire to coordinate and align its plans and investments with its member communities. The CIP will be accompanied by a cover letter that reinforces MCWD’s model of integrated planning and promotes early coordination, while highlighting some of the changes to the 2026 CIP.

Annual circulation of the draft CIP for review and comment will include two additional Multi-Year CIP tools:

- The five-year CIP table, which shows the forecasted project timelines and cost estimates for capital projects from 2026-2030 (Attachment 2).

- Project summary pages, which provide high level information on each project including its goals, scope, and justification; a summary of its near term workplan; and its projected schedule and budget (Attachment 3).

The CIP will be distributed to the municipalities and counties for a 30-day review and comment period. Following the comment period, any comments received will be brought to the Board for consideration, with revisions to the final 2026 CIP being made prior to approval.

Supporting documents (list attachments):

- Attachment 1: Draft 2026 CIP
- Attachment 2: Draft five-year CIP Table
- Attachment 3: Complementary project summary pages



RESOLUTION

Resolution number: 25-037

Title: Authorization to distribute Capital Improvement Plan for annual review and comment

WHEREAS the MCWD’s Watershed Management Plan (Plan), adopted on January 11, 2018, included a proposed 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP);

WHEREAS the Plan requires that the MCWD annually release its revised draft CIP for 30-day review and comment to the counties and municipalities in the MCWD;

WHEREAS the Draft CIP has been revised to reflect current MCWD priorities and provide added specificity for projects that are currently in development;

WHEREAS release of the Draft 2026 CIP includes MCWD’s Multi-Year CIP effort, designed to improve clarity around near-term project initiatives, create a better framework to forecast the capital budget and funding needs over multiple years, and improve the effectiveness of the CIP as a communications tool for MCWD and its partner communities;

WHEREAS the Draft CIP and draft Multi-Year CIP was reviewed by the MCWD Citizen Advisory Committee on May 14, 2025, and by the MCWD Planning and Policy Committee, as part of its 2026 budget review process, on June 12, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes staff to distribute the Draft CIP for 30-day review and comment.

Resolution Number 25-037 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: 6/26/2025

Secretary Date: _____

DRAFT Minnehaha Creek Watershed District 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Plan

Subwatershed	Capital Projects	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources*	Proposed Implementation Year
Minnehaha Creek	Arden Park Stream Restoration and Stormwater Management	\$5,020,272	MCWD levy, City of Edina (\$2,732,870), BWSR grant (\$125,000)	Complete - 2020
	Minnehaha Creek FEMA Flood Damage Repairs	\$900,000	MCWD levy, FEMA grant (\$336,459)	Complete - 2020
	325 Blake Road Regional Stormwater and Greenway	\$5,639,250	MCWD levy, BWSR grants (\$495,000), PFA grants (TBD)	2025-2028
	Cottageville Park Phase II Riparian Restoration	\$1,400,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions	2025-2028
	Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank Restoration	\$885,000	MCWD levy, City of St. Louis Park (\$390,000), Hennepin Co grant (\$200,000)	2025-2027
	Minnehaha Parkway Stormwater Management	\$3,293,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2025-2029
	Meadowbrook Golf Course Ecological Restoration	\$2,500,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2026-2029
	Meadowbrook Greenway Expansion	\$950,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2026-2029
	Boone-Aquilla Floodplain	\$500,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2028-2030
	Louisiana Trail Greenspace and Stormwater	\$300,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2028-2030
	West Blake Greenway Enhancement	\$420,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2029-2031
	Hiawatha Golf Course Restoration	\$1,940,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2028-2030
	Channel/Streambank Restoration	\$3,120,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$2,450,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay	East Auburn Stormwater Enhancement Project	\$327,500	BWSR grant (\$262,520), City of Victoria (\$64,980)	Complete - 2018
	Wassermann West External Load Reduction and Landscape Restoration	\$2,761,786	City of Victoria (\$2,184,660), BWSR grant (\$93,879), MCWD levy	Complete - 2021
	Wassermann Internal Load Management	\$335,900	MCWD levy, BWSR grant (\$284,720)	Complete - 2022
	Six Mile Marsh Prairie Restoration (Trail)	\$347,851	MCWD levy	Complete- 2023
	East Auburn Wetland Restoration	\$610,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions	2024-2026
	Turbid-Lundsten Wetland Restoration	\$3,150,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2025-2027
	Halsted Bay Watershed Load Management	\$13,000,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2027-2029
	Mud Lake Watershed Load Reductions	\$3,090,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2029-2031
	Pierson Lake Headwaters Restoration	\$367,800	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2028-2030
	Whole Lake Drawdown	\$770,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
	Internal Load Management	\$980,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$2,000,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
	Stream Restoration	\$870,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
	Wetland Restoration	\$3,000,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Long Lake Creek	County Road Six Pond Retrofit	\$728,000	MCWD levy	2024-2026
	Holbrook Park Regional Stormwater Treatment	\$1,300,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, BWSR grant (\$174,940)	2026-2029
	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$1,320,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Painter Creek	Morningside Ravine Stabilization (Medina-led project)	\$414,821	MCWD levy (LWP program \$171,621), BWSR grant (\$243,200)	2024-2025
	Potato Marsh Restoration	\$870,000	MCWD levy, USACE Section 206, partner contributions, grants	2028-2030
	South Katrina Marsh Restoration	\$1,270,000	MCWD levy, USACE Section 206, partner contributions, grants	2028-2030
	SOBI Marsh Restoration	\$240,000	MCWD levy, USACE Section 206, partner contributions, grants	2029-2031
	Upper and Lower Painter Marsh Restoration	\$2,800,000	MCWD levy, USACE Section 206, partner contributions, grants	2029-2031
	Stream Restoration	\$2,990,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
	Wetland Restoration	\$330,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Christmas Lake	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$200,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Dutch Lake	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$780,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Gleason Lake	Maple Creek Pond Improvement Project (Plymouth-led project)	\$100,000	MCWD levy (LWP program)	Complete - 2023
	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$600,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Lake Minnetonka	Montgomery Ave Stormwater Management (Deephaven-led project)	\$325,000	MCWD levy (LWP program \$125,000), BWSR grant (\$200,000)	2025-2027
	Halsted Bay Internal Phosphorus Load Reduction	\$1,400,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	2027-2028
	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$1,000,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Lake Virginia	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$650,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Langdon Lake	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$230,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based
Schutz Lake	Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$250,000	MCWD levy, partner contributions, grants	Opportunity-based

MCWD 5-Year CIP Projection

	2026		2027		2028		2029		2030		
	Estimated Cost*	Est. Budget	Category	Est. Budget	Category	Est. Budget	Category	Est. Budget	Category	Est. Budget	Category
MINNEHAHA CREEK SUBWATERSHED											
Arden Park Stream Restoration and Stormwater Management	\$5,020,272	<i>Complete</i>									
Minnehaha Creek FEMA Flood Damage Repairs	\$900,000	<i>Complete</i>									
325 Blake Road Regional Stormwater and Greenway	\$5,639,250	\$2,150,000	Construction	\$1,720,000	Construction	\$430,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--
Cottageville Park Phase II Riparian Restoration	\$1,400,000	\$700,000	Construction	\$560,000	Construction	\$140,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--
Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank Restoration	\$885,000	\$708,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--	--	--	--	--
Minnehaha Parkway Stormwater Management	\$3,293,000	\$250,000	Design	\$2,749,993	Construction	[Carryover]	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--
Meadowbrook Golf Course Ecological Restoration and Greenway Expansion	\$2,500,000	\$500,000	Design	\$1,000,000	Construction	\$1,000,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--
Boone-Aquilla Floodplain	\$500,000	--	--	\$50,000	Planning	\$100,000	Design	\$400,000	Construction	Warranty	--
Louisiana Trail Greenspace and Stormwater	\$300,000	--	--	\$40,000	Planning	\$60,000	Design	\$240,000	Construction	Warranty	--
West Blake Greenway Enhancement	\$420,000	--	--	--	--	\$25,000	Planning	\$84,000	Design	\$336,000	Construction
Hiawatha Golf Course Restoration	\$1,940,000	--	--	--	Planning	\$388,000	Design	\$1,552,000	Construction	Warranty	--
Channel/Streambank Restoration	\$3,120,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$2,450,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
SIX MILE CREEK HALSTED BAY SUBWATERSHED											
East Auburn Stormwater Enhancement Project	\$227,500	<i>Complete</i>									
Wassermann Internal Load Management	\$335,900	<i>Complete</i>									
Six Mile Marsh Prairie Restoration (Trail)	\$247,851	<i>Complete</i>									
Wassermann Lake Preserve	\$2,761,786	<i>Complete</i>									
East Auburn Wetland Restoration	\$688,000	\$610,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--	--	--
Turbid-Lundsten Wetland Restoration	\$3,150,000	\$2,850,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--	--	--
Halsted Bay Watershed Load Management	\$13,000,000	\$55,000	Planning	\$2,600,000	Design	\$5,200,000	Construction	\$5,200,000	Construction	Warranty	--
Mud Lake Watershed Load Reductions	\$3,090,000	--	--	\$50,000	Planning	\$25,000	Planning	\$618,000	Design	\$2,472,000	Construction
Pierson Lake Headwaters Restoration	\$367,800	--	--	--	--	\$73,560	Design	\$294,240	Construction	Warranty	--
Whole Lake Drawdown	\$770,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Internal Load Management	\$980,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$2,000,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Stream Restoration	\$870,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Wetland Restoration	\$3,000,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
LONG LAKE CREEK SUBWATERSHED											
County Road Six Stormwater Pond Retrofit	\$728,000	\$541,643	Construction	\$17,105	Construction	\$11,400	Warranty	--	--	--	--
Holbrook Park Regional Stormwater Treatment	\$1,300,000	\$174,000	Design	\$1,126,000	Construction	[Carryover]	Construction	[Carryover]	Warranty	--	--
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$1,320,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
PAINTER CREEK SUBWATERSHED											
Morningside Ravine Stabilization	\$414,821	<i>Complete</i>									
Potato Marsh Restoration	\$870,000	--	TBD	Planning	TBD	Design	--	--	--	--	--
South Katrina Marsh Restoration	\$1,270,000	--	TBD	Planning	TBD	Design	--	--	--	--	--
SOBI Marsh Restoration	\$240,000	--	--	--	TBD	Planning	TBD	Design	TBD	--	--
Upper and Lower Painter Marsh Restoration	\$2,800,000	--	--	--	TBD	Planning	TBD	Design	TBD	--	--
Stream Restoration	\$2,990,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Wetland Restoration	\$330,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$980,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
CHRISTMAS LAKE											
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$200,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
DUTCH LAKE											
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$780,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
GLEASON LAKE											
Maple Creek Pond Improvement Project	\$100,000	<i>Complete</i>									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$600,000	<i>Opportunity Driven</i>									
LAKE MINNETONKA											
Halsted Bay Internal Phosphorus Load Reduction	\$1,400,000	<i>Planning Phase to run concurrent with Halsted Alum Facility</i>				\$280,000	Design	\$1,120,000	Construction	--	--

Montgomery Ave Stormwater Management	\$325,000	\$32,500 Design	\$260,000 Construction	--	--	--	--	--	--
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$1,000,000 <i>Opportunity Driven</i>								
LAKE VIRGINIA									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$650,000 <i>Opportunity Driven</i>								
LANGDON LAKE									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$230,000 <i>Opportunity Driven</i>								
SCHUTZ LAKE									
Stormwater Volume and Pollutant Load Reduction	\$250,000 <i>Opportunity Driven</i>								
BUDGET SUMMARY	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030				
Planning Budget	\$55,000	\$140,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0				
Capital Budget	\$8,516,143	\$10,033,098	\$7,682,960	\$9,508,240	\$2,808,000				
Total	\$8,571,143	\$10,173,098	\$7,732,960	\$9,508,240	\$2,808,000				

KEY

Opportunity Driven: projects in the CIP that are dependent on factors external to MCWD, including projects that would be identified through the Land and Water Partnership

[Carryover]: Funds for design and construction are typically levied in the year that project phase is initiated. If the activity spans multiple years, it will use carryover from the previous year and not impact the following years' levy.

MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

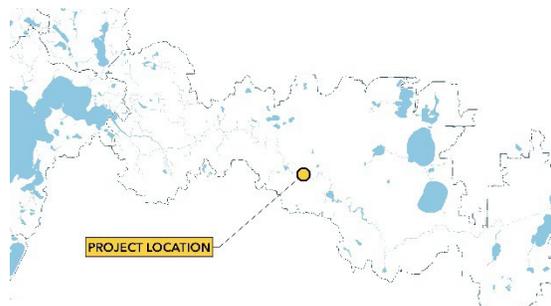
Greenway to Cedar Trail Connection and Streambank Restoration

LOCATION

St. Louis Park (Minnehaha Creek)

TARGET WATERBODY

Minnehaha Creek



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Planned streambank stabilization, riparian restoration, and construction of a trail connection along Minnehaha Creek from the Minnehaha Creek Preserve to the Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail. This link in the Minnehaha Creek Greenway will be planned in partnership with the City of St. Louis Park and Metropolitan Council and timed to coincide with Southwest LRT (SWLRT) construction completion.

GOALS

Provide a key connection between existing and future MCWD projects upstream and downstream of the rail corridor, increasing pedestrian and bicyclist safety and improving recreation and transportation access to the Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail and future SWLRT stations at Blake Road and Louisiana Avenue. The overall ecological integrity of the stream corridor will be improved through approximately 1,500 lineal feet of streambank stabilization and riparian restoration.

JUSTIFICATION

Upstream and downstream Minnehaha Creek Greenway projects are currently separated by freight rail and the future Southwest LRT line, and there is no direct pedestrian or bicycle connection between these investments or the Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail. The bridge crossing at Minnehaha Creek is the site of past creek manipulation, and Minnehaha Creek is currently impaired for fecal coliform bacteria, chloride, low dissolved oxygen, and fish and macroinvertebrate communities. Lake Hiawatha, Minnehaha Creek's receiving waterbody, is impaired for nutrients due to sediment and nutrient loads transported by Minnehaha Creek and both waterbodies have TMDLs.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

In 2025, MCWD will finalize design and partnership agreements, including a design and construction agreement with St. Louis Park. Construction is targeted for 2026 and will be coordinated between MCWD and the other agencies who own or operate the SWLRT right-of-way.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

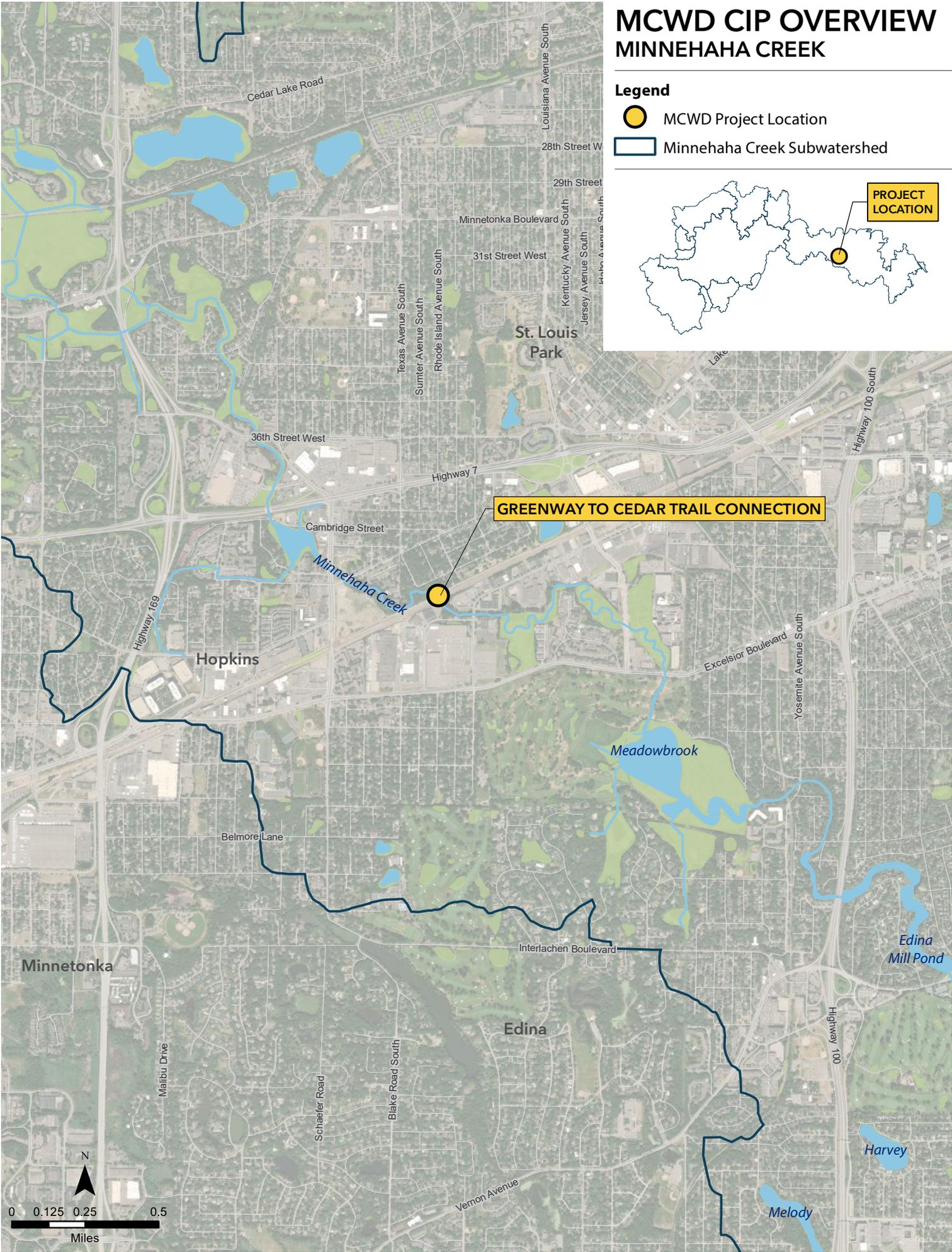
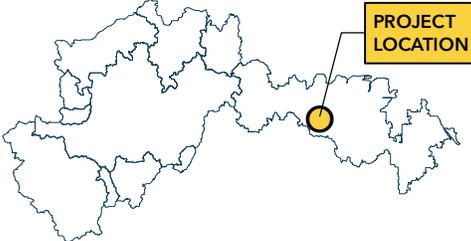


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

MINNEHAHA CREEK

Legend

-  MCWD Project Location
-  Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

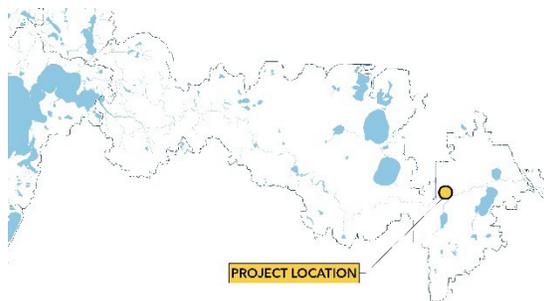
Minnehaha Parkway Stormwater Management

LOCATION

Minneapolis (Minnehaha Creek)

TARGET WATERBODY

Minnehaha Creek, Lake Hiawatha



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Partnership with the City of Minneapolis and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) to create a shared implementation framework for the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan, a 30-year vision to enhance recreation, improve ecological function of the creek corridor, improve public safety, address flooding, and improve water quality in the Minneapolis segment of the Minnehaha Creek corridor.

GOALS

The Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan includes 35 water resource projects, which together would re-meander 2.65 miles of creek, restore 51.8 acres of upland landscape, reduce annual phosphorus loading to Lake Hiawatha by 434 lbs/year; increase floodplain storage by 56 acre-feet; and create six new creek access points.

JUSTIFICATION

Minnehaha Creek is an iconic regional and cultural natural resource. It is an impaired water body for multiple parameters, including fecal coliform bacteria, chloride, low dissolved oxygen, and fish and macroinvertebrate communities. Further, the MPCA has listed downstream receiving water body Lake Hiawatha as impaired for excess nutrients. Minnehaha Creek is further impacted by rapidly fluctuating water flows that contribute to bank erosion and impair the biotic integrity of the stream.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

The focus for 2025-2026 will be designing the Cedar Avenue stormwater BMP and ecological restoration and the 52nd St/Newton Avenue spillway projects. Of the projects assessed in the Phase I feasibility study, these two were recommended to advance into design based on cost-benefit and infrastructure needs. A Phase II feasibility study will also be conducted in 2025-2026 to assess several additional projects identified in the Master Plan and continue developing the shared implementation plan between MCWD, MPRB, and Minneapolis to identify and implement future priority capital improvements in the Minnehaha Parkway. The below schedule and budget is for Phase II feasibility and Phase I design and construction.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

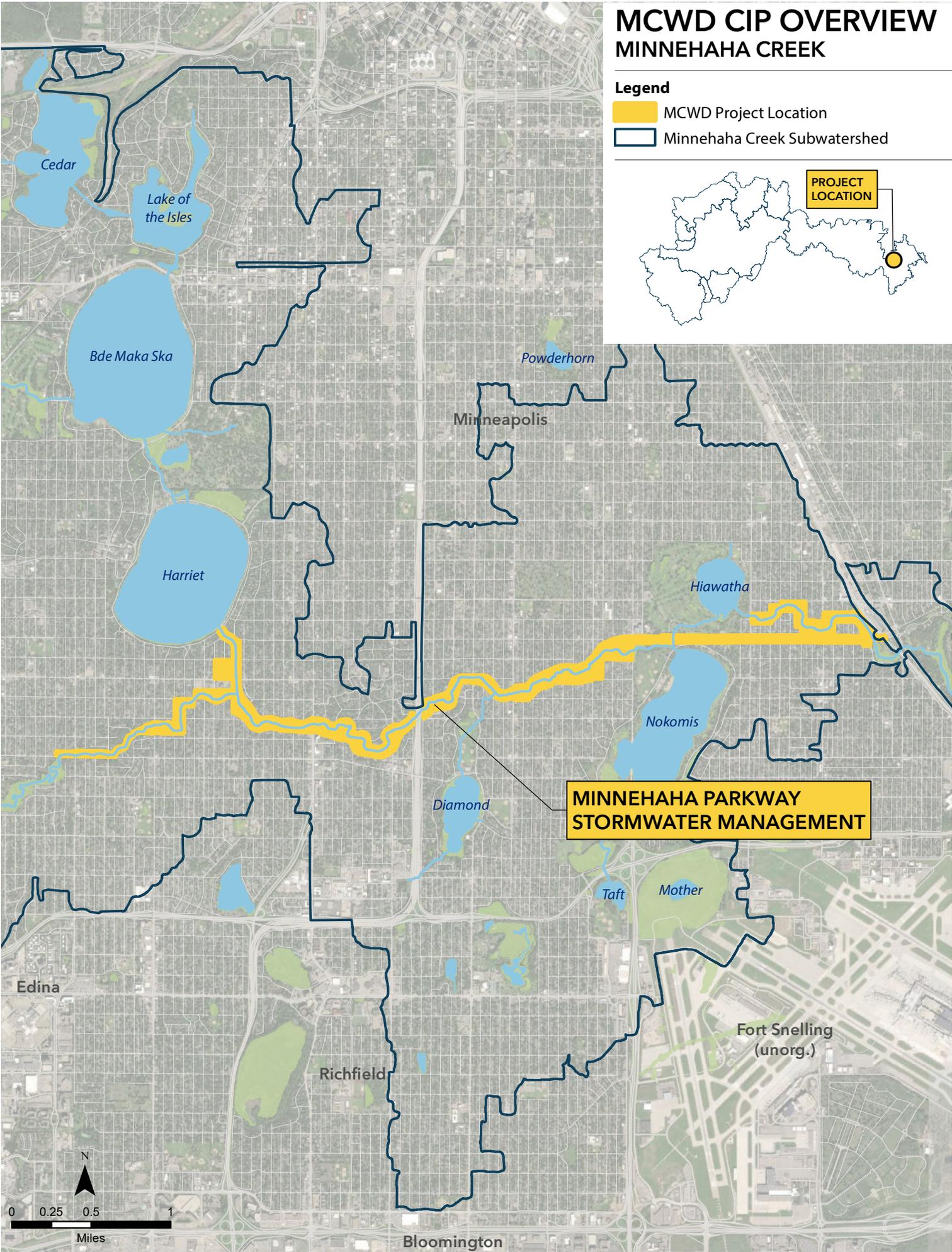
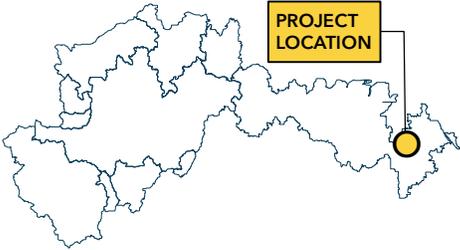


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

MINNEHAHA CREEK

Legend

-  MCWD Project Location
-  Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

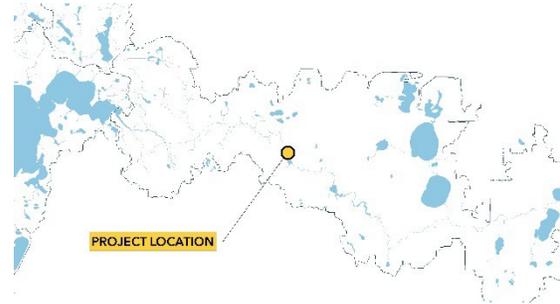
OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

Meadowbrook Golf Course Ecological Restoration and Greenway Expansion

LOCATION

St. Louis Park, Hopkins, and Edina (Minnehaha Creek)



TARGET WATERBODY

Minnehaha Creek

DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Reevaluate plan to reconfigure and enhance Meadowbrook Golf Course to restore and improve the ecological integrity of the Minnehaha Creek stream corridor, enhance on-site flood storage and resilience, and connect the Minnehaha Creek Greenway through Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board land to the City of Edina parks and trails system.

GOALS

The project would improve the ecological integrity and upland areas of the golf course along a 1,200-foot stretch of the Minnehaha Creek corridor, improve water quality in Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha through buffers and improved stormwater management, and restore wetland function. It may explore the potential to reduce flooding impacts to Meadowbrook Golf Course and surrounding neighborhoods via the creation of additional storage, and connect the Minnehaha Creek Greenway to the City of Edina parks and trails system.

JUSTIFICATION

The project is within a degraded section of the Minnehaha Creek corridor, which historically experienced ditching, wetland loss, and habitat fragmentation. Minnehaha Creek is currently impaired for fecal coliform bacteria, chloride, low dissolved oxygen, and fish and macroinvertebrate communities. Lake Hiawatha, Minnehaha Creek's receiving waterbody, is impaired for nutrients due to sediment and nutrient loads transported by Minnehaha Creek and both waterbodies have TMDLs. This project would connect to the upstream Minnehaha Creek Corridor, supporting both recreation access and ecological integrity through this contiguous stretch of restored greenway.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

The Meadowbrook Golf Course Project underwent feasibility and design in 2015-2016. MCWD has identified 2025 as a possible target to reinitiate project planning and partnership development. Advancing the project, either as designed or of a modified scope, is contingent on developing partnership agreements with MPRB. The timeline below is reliant on partnership alignment, and therefore illustrative only.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

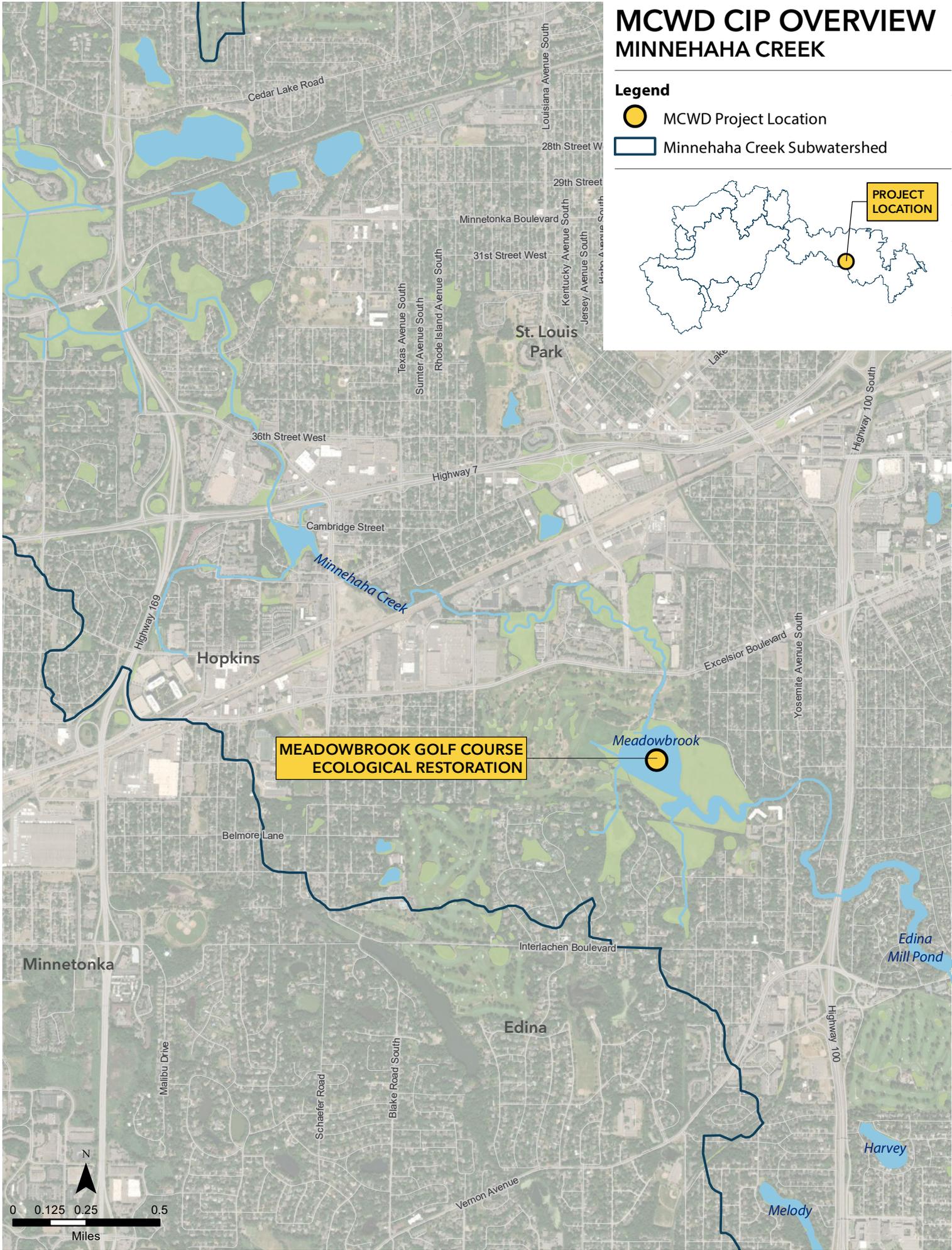
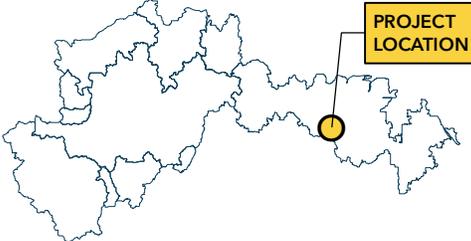


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

MINNEHAHA CREEK

Legend

-  MCWD Project Location
-  Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

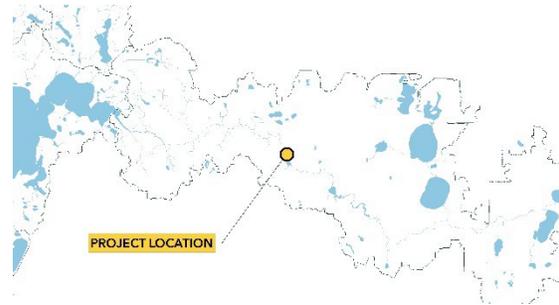
Boone-Aquila Floodplain Restoration

LOCATION

St. Louis Park (Minnehaha Creek)

TARGET WATERBODY

Minnehaha Creek



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Evaluate opportunity for floodplain restoration, stormwater management, and enhanced recreational access along Minnehaha Creek in the Aquila neighborhood of St. Louis Park near Target-Knollwood.

GOALS

This project may improve the ecological integrity along approximately 1,000-feet of an urbanized stretch of Minnehaha Creek, explore expansion of floodplain storage over a three-acre area, enhance riparian habitats, and provide safe recreational access to Minnehaha Creek and connections to the Minnehaha Creek Greenway.

JUSTIFICATION

Historic development of this urban stretch of Minnehaha Creek resulted in filling large areas of floodplain, localized flooding, and impervious surfaces within the floodplain. Minnehaha Creek is currently impaired for fecal coliform bacteria, chloride, low dissolved oxygen, and fish and macroinvertebrate communities. Lake Hiawatha, Minnehaha Creek's receiving waterbody, is impaired for nutrients due to sediment and nutrient loads transported by Minnehaha Creek and both waterbodies have TMDLs.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

The ability to design and execute a project is dependent on landowner interest in either integrating a project on their property through redevelopment or conveying property to MCWD. MCWD will consider 2026 to reinstate project planning, which may include technical review and data collection to better evaluate potential project developments, evaluation of partnership and land acquisition opportunities, and developing conceptual design and implementation scenarios. The timeline below is illustrative only based on the hypothetical advancement of a project out of the planning phase.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

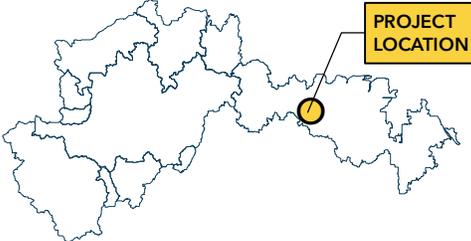


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

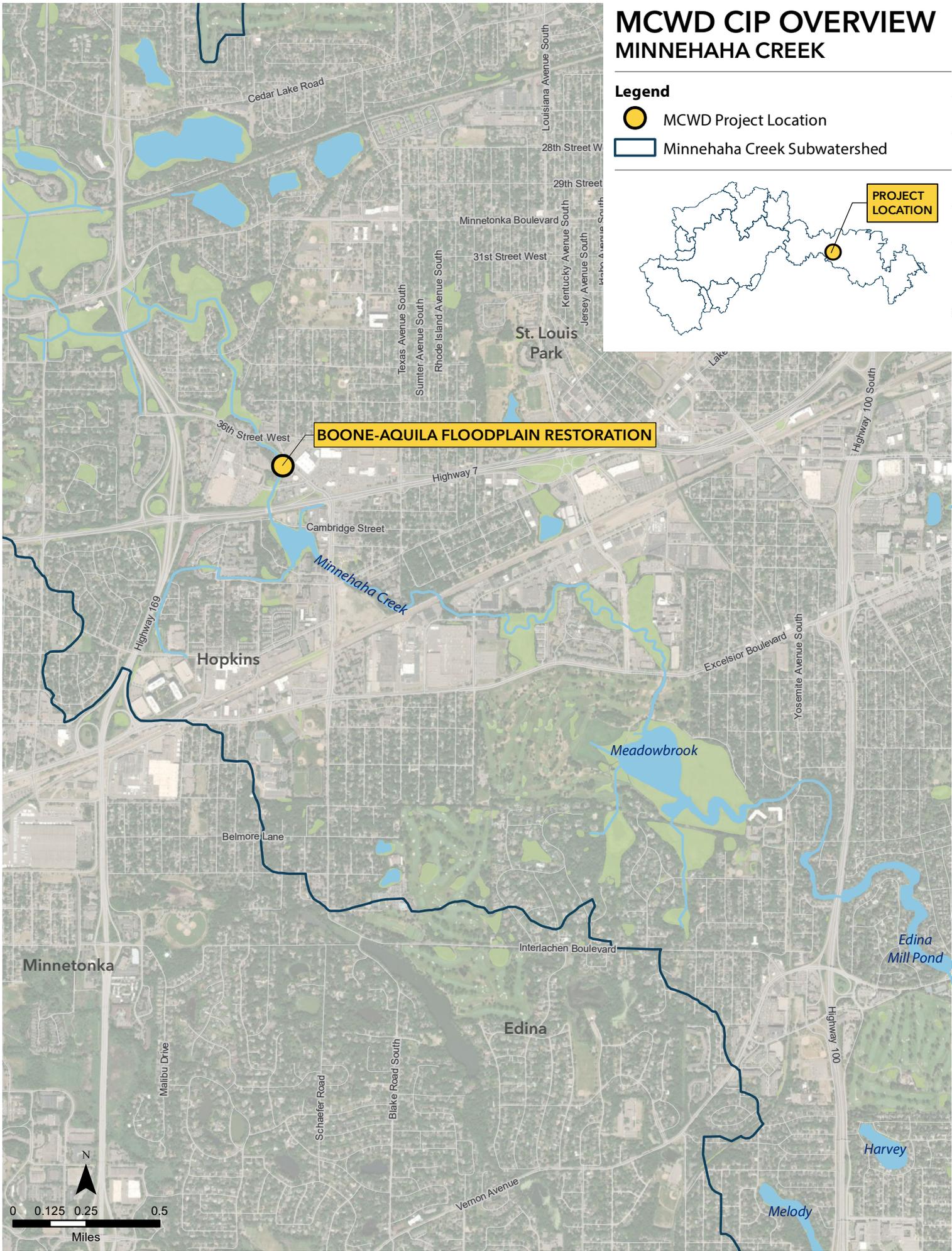
MINNEHAHA CREEK

Legend

-  MCWD Project Location
-  Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed



BOONE-AQUILA FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

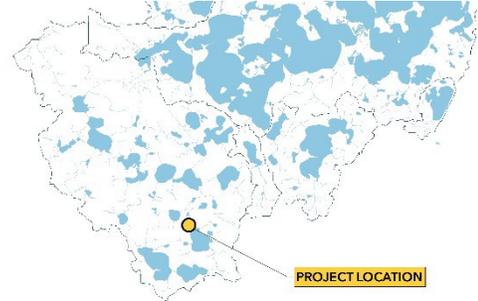
East Auburn Wetland Restoration

LOCATION

Victoria (Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay)

TARGET WATERBODY

East Auburn Lake



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

This project will reduce phosphorus export from an 11-acre degraded wetland at the outlet of Wassermann Lake through hydrologic restoration via a sheetpile weir.

GOALS

The project will target a 50% reduction in phosphorus export to downstream East Auburn Lake. Secondary benefits include wildlife habitat restoration and improvements to the city of Victoria's boardwalk trail.

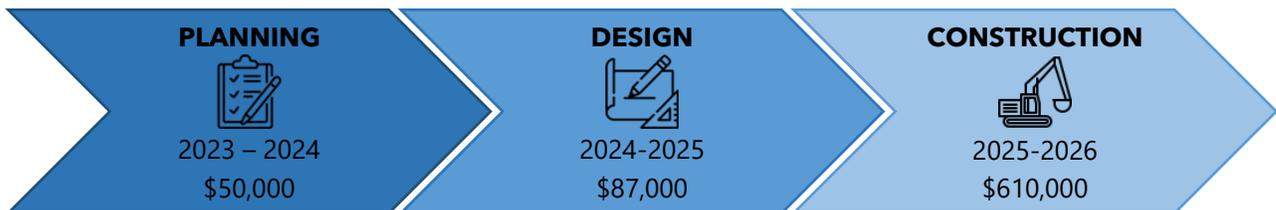
JUSTIFICATION

East Auburn is an impaired waterbody requiring a total nutrient reduction of 626 lbs/yr, with 410 lbs/yr designated from the upstream watershed. This project will target a specific wetland cell at the outlet of Wassermann Lake that is identified to have the highest concentration of nutrient export to East Auburn Lake. Management methods for reducing nutrient output from degraded wetlands are not well established, and successful implementation may support the implementation of projects in similar wetland systems in the future.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

In 2025, MCWD will establish partnership agreements with the City of Victoria, complete design for both the weir and degraded boardwalk that crosses the wetland, and bid the project. Pending bid outcomes, construction is anticipated in winter of 2025-2026. The identified budget includes costs for both the water quality project and the improved boardwalk.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

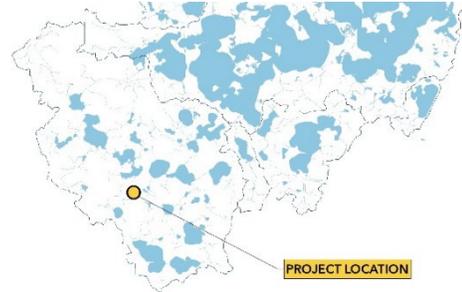
Turbid-Lundsten Corridor Restoration

LOCATION

Laketown Township (Six Mile Creek Halsted Bay)

TARGET WATERBODY

Turbid & South Lundsten Lakes



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Individual project(s) or a set of combined complementary projects will reduce phosphorus loading and export within this chain of lakes and the adjacent wetlands. Project opportunities to be evaluated include wetland and stream corridor restoration, internal load treatment using alum, and habitat corridor establishment.

GOALS

This suite of projects aims to improve water quality and habitat function within both lakes and surrounding wetlands. Cumulative benefits could include (1) reducing watershed phosphorus loading to Turbid Lake by approximately 85 lbs/yr (based on 2025 assessment, and to South Lundsten Lake by 55 lbs/year (based on 2012 feasibility study), (2) achieving a 90% reduction in Turbid Lake's internal load, and (3) restoring and preserving 95 acres of wetlands, aligned with future residential development and supporting greenway expansion.

JUSTIFICATION

Turbid Lake is impaired for nutrients which is primarily due to internal loading. The lake requires a 138 lbs/yr phosphorus reduction under an approved TMDL. South Lundsten has very high phosphorus concentrations and a TMDL is being actively developed. The lost and altered wetlands around this small chain of lakes and internal loading are the principal drivers of degraded water quality. Previous feasibility studies have identified viable management strategies in this corridor.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

MCWD is in the early planning phase for opportunities in this corridor. The scale of work will be dependent on land acquisition, potential partnerships, and the identification of feasible project opportunities, all of which will be explored through continued planning work in 2025 and 2026. Projects identified for near term implementation will be advanced through the CIP. The timeline below is based on the assumption that a specific project is advanced out of the planning phase for near term implementation.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

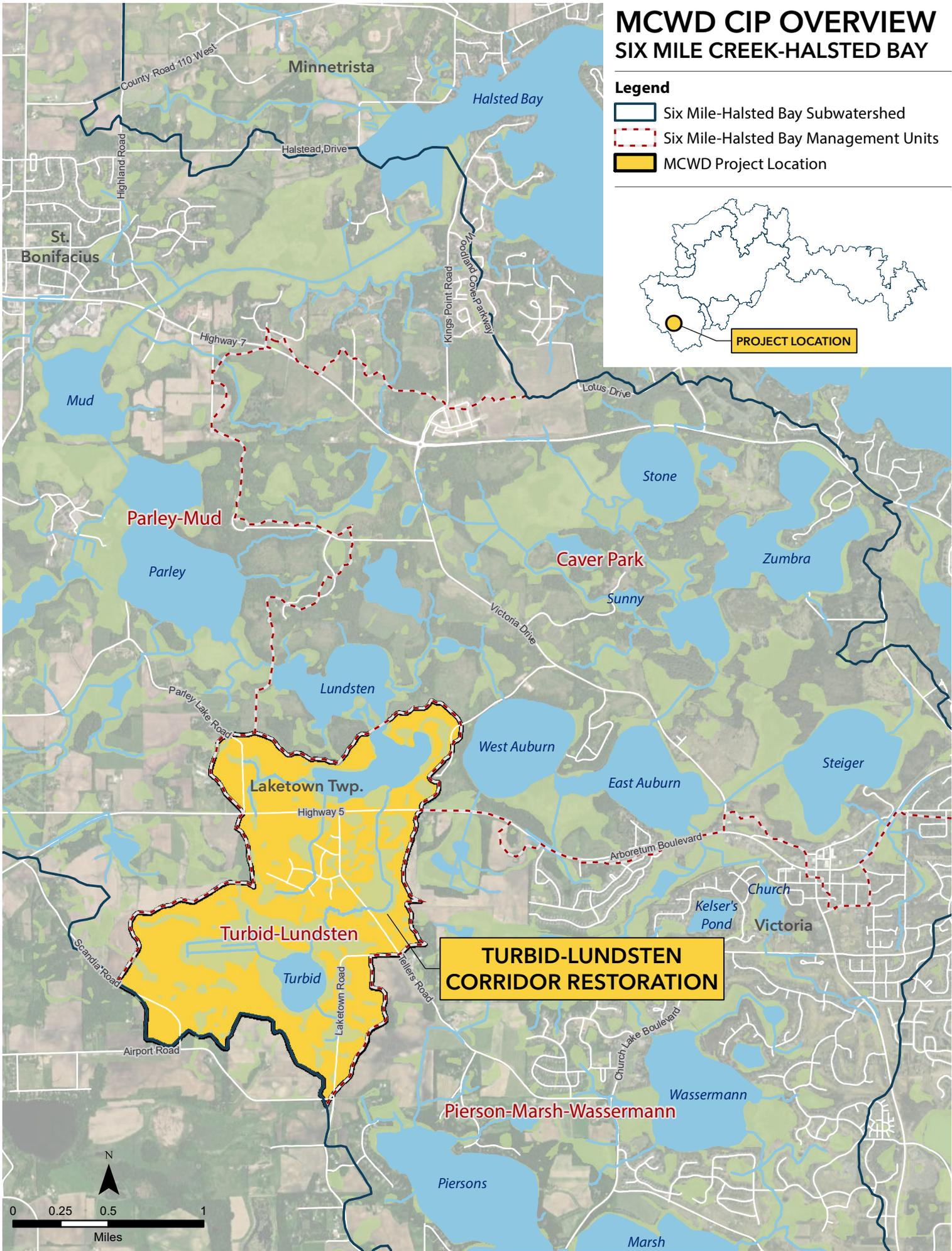
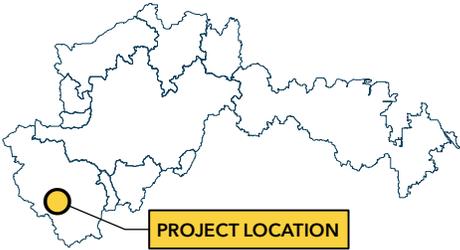


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

SIX MILE CREEK-HALSTED BAY

Legend

-  Six Mile-Halsted Bay Subwatershed
-  Six Mile-Halsted Bay Management Units
-  MCWD Project Location



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

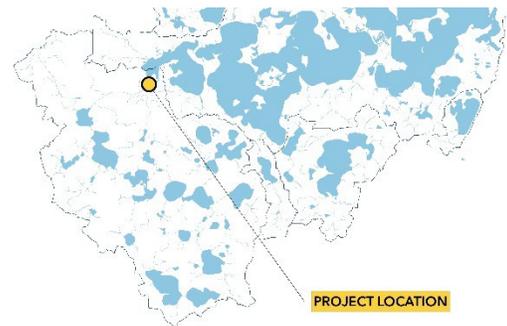
Lake Minnetonka-Halsted Bay Watershed
Load Management

LOCATION

Minnetrista (Six Mile Creek Halsted Bay)

TARGET WATERBODY

Halsted Bay, Lake Minnetonka



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Evaluate a range of projects that would reduce phosphorus load coming from Six Mile Creek and Six Mile Marsh. Possible treatment options include, but are not limited to, an in-line treatment of Six Mile Creek and off-line treatment through a phosphorus removal facility. Alum treatment to address internal loading in Halsted Bay may also be considered as a complementary component of this project.

GOALS

This project would reduce nutrient loading to Halsted Bay by an estimated 1,620 lbs/yr. If paired with an in-lake alum treatment, an additional 1,900 lbs/yr reduction could be achieved. Secondary benefits include increased water clarity, reemergence of aquatic habitat, and improved recreational value.

JUSTIFICATION

Halsted Bay is impaired for nutrients and requires the largest phosphorus load reduction of any waterbody in the MCWD. Preliminary feasibility assessments identified that 50% of the nutrient load to Halsted Bay is from the Six Mile Marsh wetland (40% internal load, 10% other watershed load), requiring a 2,000 lbs/yr nutrient load reduction. The vast majority of nutrient input to Halsted Bay is dissolved phosphorus, which requires chemical treatment for removal. Meeting state water quality standards in Halsted Bay will require addressing both watershed and internal loading.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

MCWD plans to commence the project planning phase in summer 2025 and will continue through 2026. Preliminary work will focus on reviewing the 2012 feasibility report and reevaluating possible solutions; meeting with experts at regulatory bodies, other watershed districts who have constructed similar projects, and operators of working systems in order to gain understanding of known constraints and hurdles; gathering additional data and performing exploratory work in the system; and developing a project outreach plan. Consideration of advancing the project into design will be carefully considered by MCWD's Board in collaboration with project partners.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

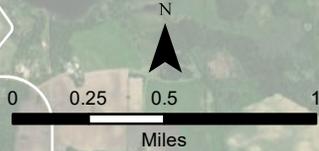
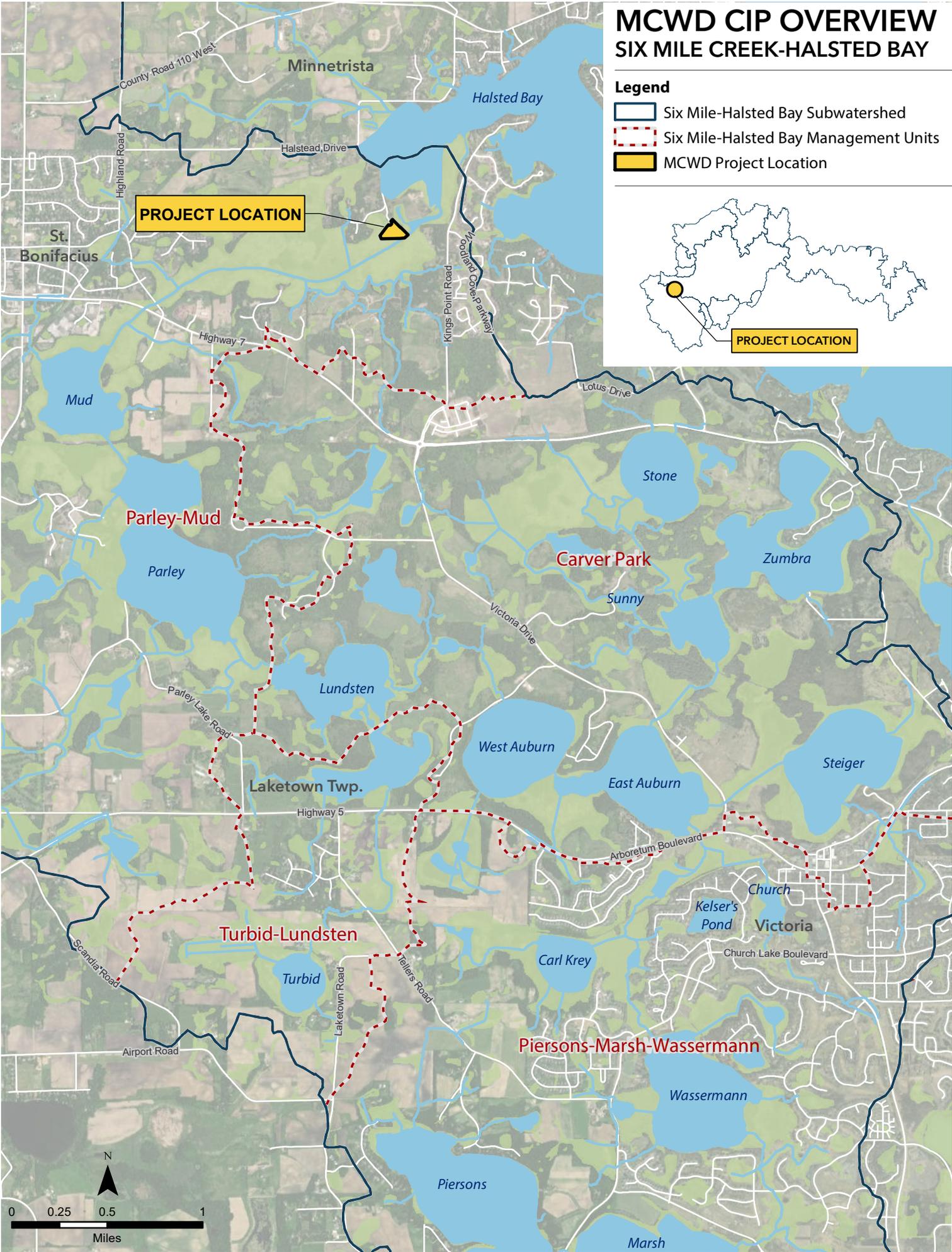
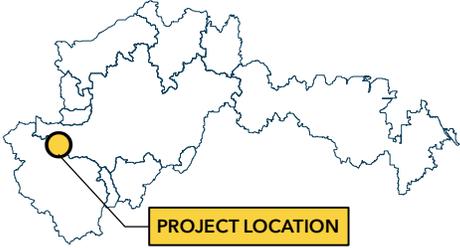


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

SIX MILE CREEK-HALSTED BAY

Legend

-  Six Mile-Halsted Bay Subwatershed
-  Six Mile-Halsted Bay Management Units
-  MCWD Project Location



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

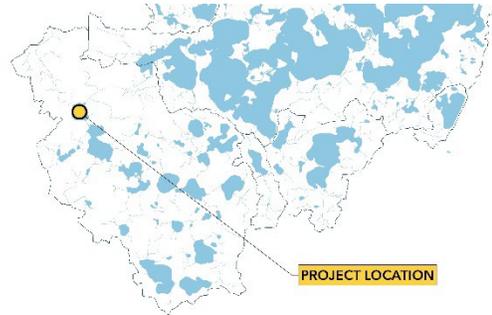
Mud Lake Watershed Load Reductions

LOCATION

Minnetrista, St. Bonifacius (Six Mile Creek Halsted Bay)

TARGET WATERBODY

Mud Lake, Halsted Bay



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Individual project or projects to reduce nutrient loading in the Mud Lake subwatershed which may include wetland reclamation, regional stormwater treatment, and existing stormwater facility retrofits.

GOALS

The primary purpose of these projects are to reduce nutrient loading to Mud Lake. Phosphorus sources to Mud Lake are diffuse and implementation will take place in a phased approach, targeting the most cost-effective and highest impact projects first.

JUSTIFICATION

The 2013 Six Mile Diagnostic identified Mud Lake as having very poor water quality, driven by a combination of internal loading, upstream lake water quality, and watershed loading. Reductions between 78% and 95% (1,864 lbs/yr – 2,258 lbs/yr) from the direct watershed are needed to shift the ecological condition of Mud Lake and address downstream impacts to Halsted Bay. Halsted Bay requires the largest phosphorus load reduction in the District and 50% of its load comes from upstream Mud Lake via the Six Mile Marsh wetland complex.

WORKPLAN

MCWD completed a study in 2018 that evaluated a range of project opportunities to address nutrient loading to Mud Lake. In 2027, MCWD plans to initiate planning to reevaluate the technical assumptions, preliminary feasibility, and property rights in order to develop a multiphase implementation strategy. The timeline below is based on the hypothetical identification of a project or series of projects through that early planning work. The construction cost assumes a phased implementation approach.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

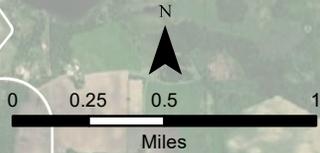
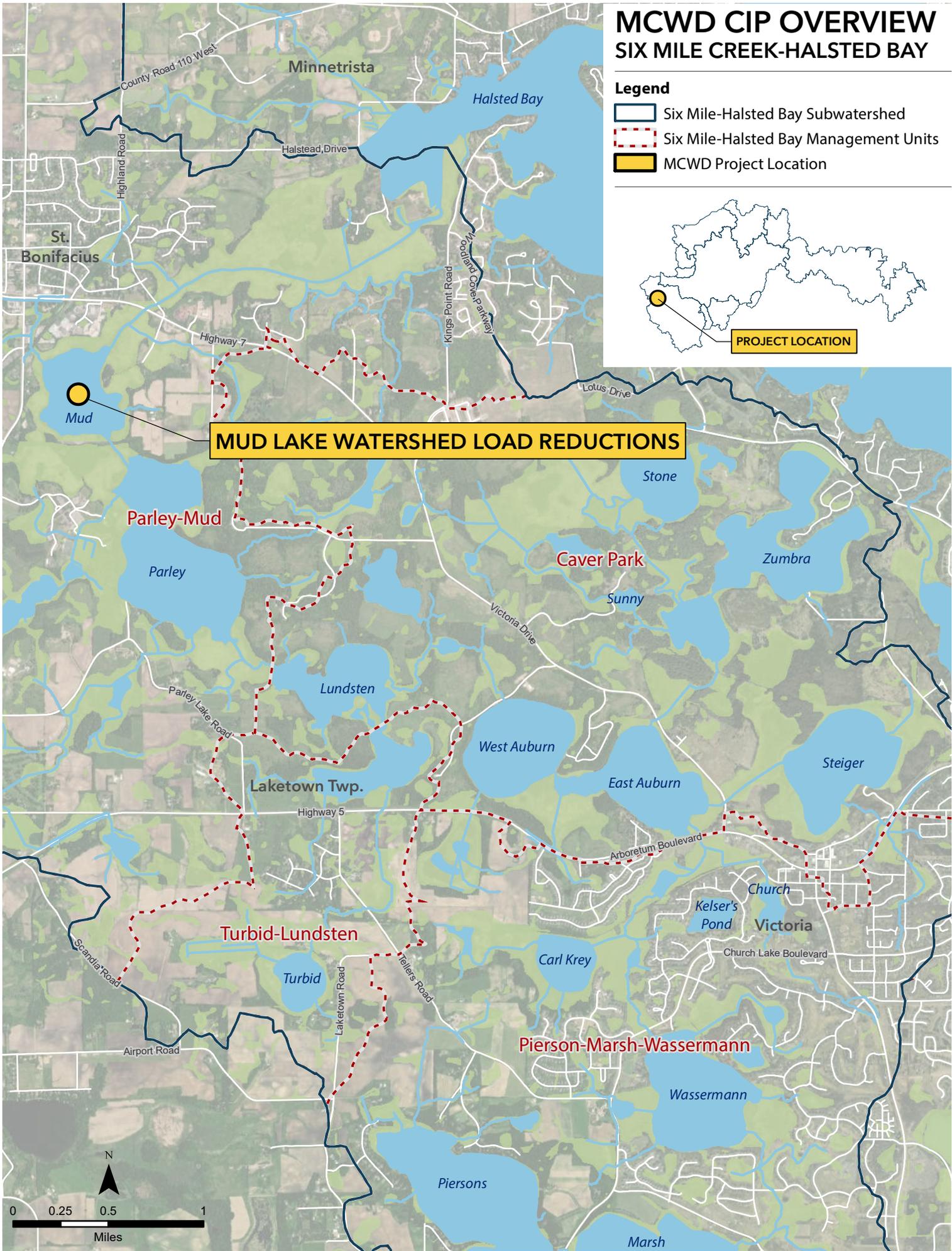
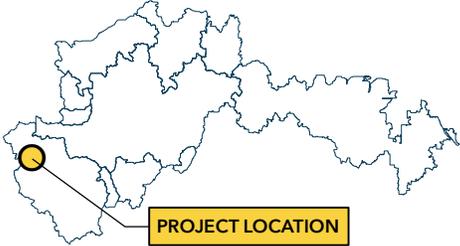


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

SIX MILE CREEK-HALSTED BAY

Legend

-  Six Mile-Halsted Bay Subwatershed
-  Six Mile-Halsted Bay Management Units
-  MCWD Project Location



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

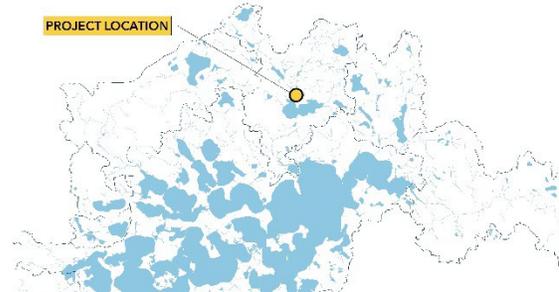
County Road 6 Pond Retrofit

LOCATION

Orono (Long Lake Creek)

TARGET WATERBODY

Long Lake



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Proposed retrofit of an existing MCWD stormwater pond providing downstream treatment of both the Wolsfeld and Holy Name management units through the addition of a sand filtration bench to improve water quality treatment capacity.

GOALS

Reduce phosphorus loading to Long Lake by an additional 42 lbs/yr while substantially reducing TSS loading.

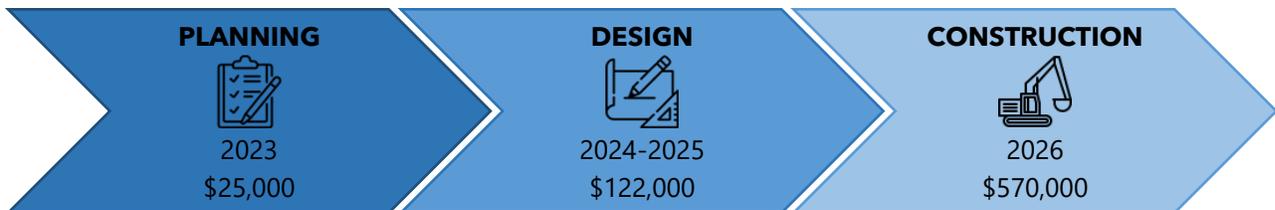
JUSTIFICATION

Long Lake is impaired for nutrients and requires a 50% (750 lbs) reduction to meet state water quality standards, including 250 lbs/yr from watershed sources. Monitoring of the County Road 6 pond in 2021 indicates that the pond is underperforming its original design intent, presenting an opportunity for retrofitting to make additional progress towards the watershed load reduction goal. With other projects in the subwatershed reliant on land use change, this presents a short term implementation opportunity on land which MCWD presently owns and manages.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

In 2025, MCWD intends to finalize design, bid the project and, pending bid outcomes, anticipates construction in winter of 2025-2026.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET

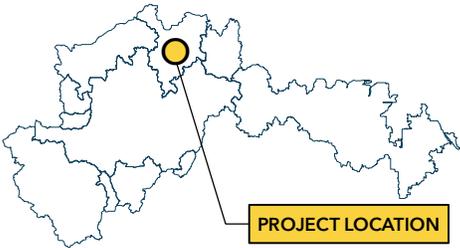


MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

LONG LAKE CREEK

Legend

-  Long Lake Creek Subwatershed
-  MCWD Project Location



MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2026-2030

OVERVIEW

PROJECT NAME

Painter Creek Wetland Restorations

LOCATION

Independence, Medina, Minnetrista, Orono
(Painter Creek Subwatershed)

TARGET WATERBODY

Jennings Bay, Lake Minnetonka



DESCRIPTION

SCOPE

Proposed development of a systematic implementation plan for the subwatershed that protects and improves the ecological integrity of the extensive wetland network through hydrologic and vegetative wetland restorations while addressing nutrient loading to downstream Jennings' Bay.

GOALS

The development of specific project goals will be a component of the implementation plan. Target goals may include increased wetland habitat diversity, reduced sedimentation and pollutant loading, and hydrologic restoration.

JUSTIFICATION

The Painter Creek Subwatershed is a regionally significant subwatershed that contains a number of large wetlands, many of which have been ditched or otherwise altered, that are connected by Painter Creek. Painter Creek contributes an estimated 33-50% of the total annual phosphorus load to Jennings Bay on Lake Minnetonka, which is impaired. The MCWD has previously established a partnership with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), which identified the potential restoration of four of the major wetland marsh systems under the Federal Section 206 Program, which may provide funding and implementation assistance for projects in the subwatershed.

WORKPLAN SUMMARY

Prior to commencing project work in the Painter Creek Subwatershed, MCWD will systematically develop an implementation framework that integrates natural resource goals, local context, and the previous work completed in partnership with the USACE. Initial planning work will start in 2025 with a comprehensive subwatershed assessment, led by MCWD's Research and Monitoring team.

SCHEDULE + BUDGET



MCWD CIP OVERVIEW

PAINTER CREEK

Legend

-  MCWD Subwatersheds
-  MCWD Project Location

