

RFP INFORMATIONAL MEETING

2027 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN SUPPORT

MINNEHAHA CREEK

QUALITY OF WATER



WATERSHED DISTRICT

QUALITY OF LIFE

AGENDA

- ▶ MCWD Approach
- ▶ 2027 Plan Focus
- ▶ Engagement Process
- ▶ Consultant Scope
- ▶ Q&A

MCWD APPROACH



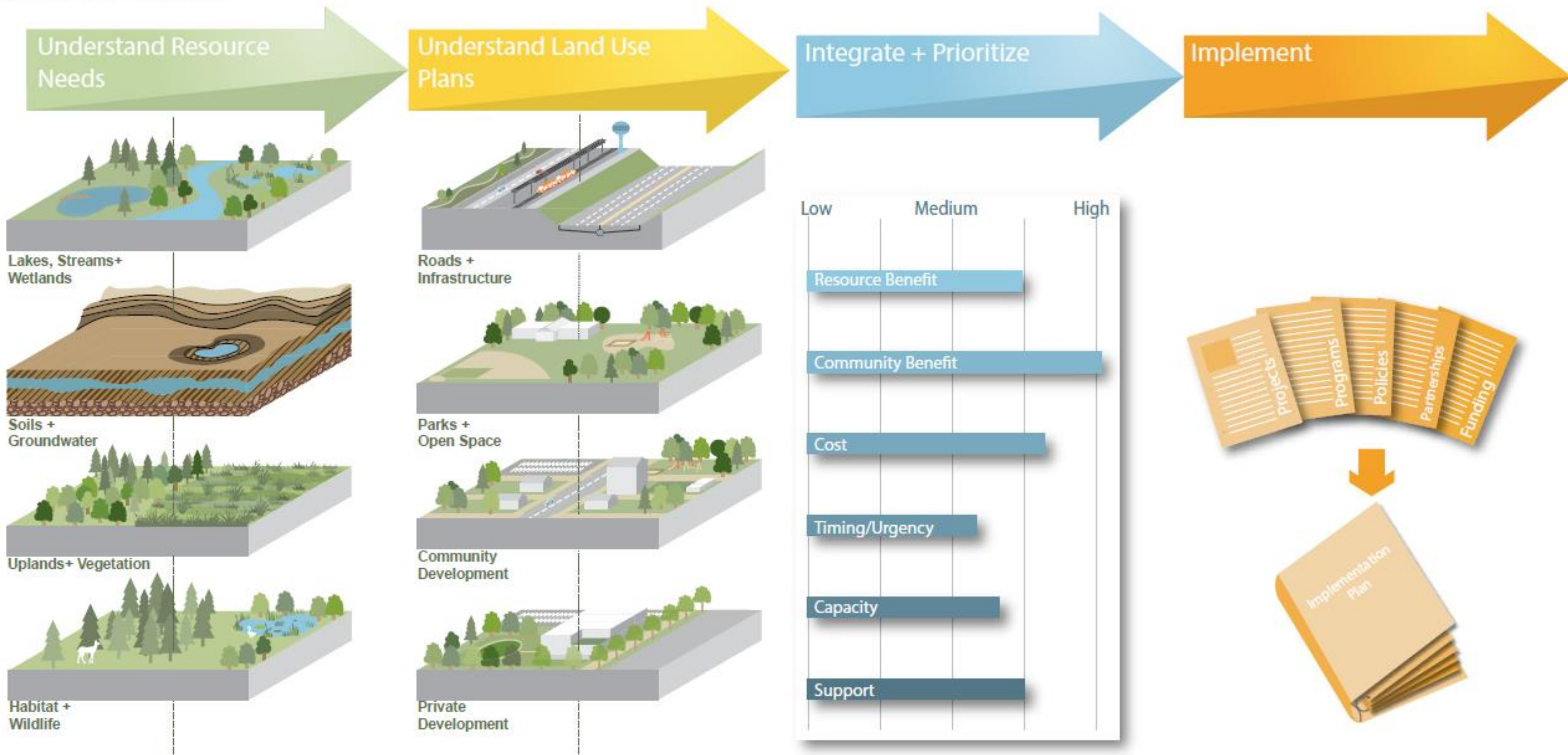
BUILDING ON 2017 PLAN

2017 Watershed Management Plan Focus:

- Vision of a Balanced Urban Ecology
- Partnership and Integration of Land Use and Water Planning



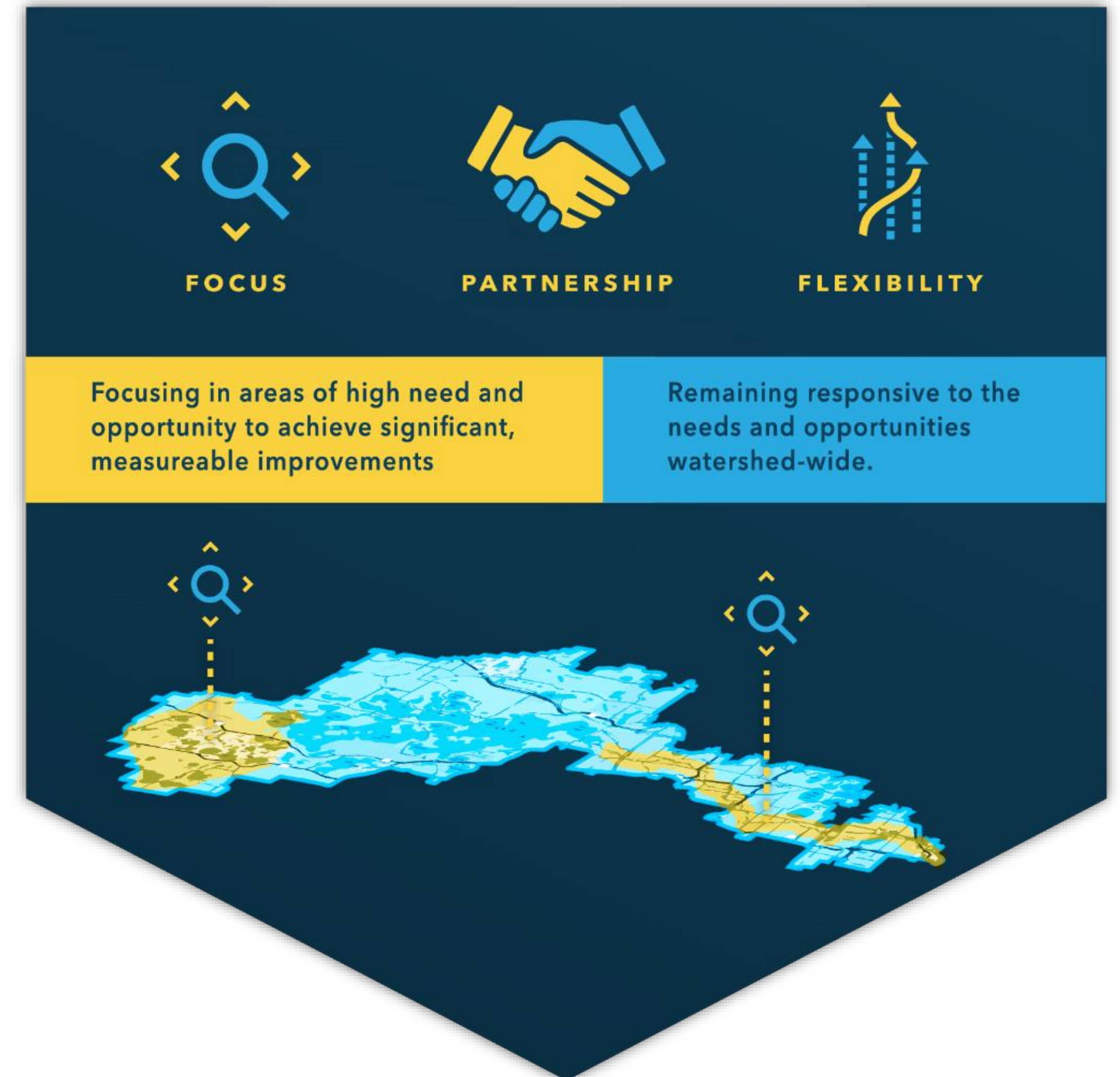
IMPLEMENTATION MODEL



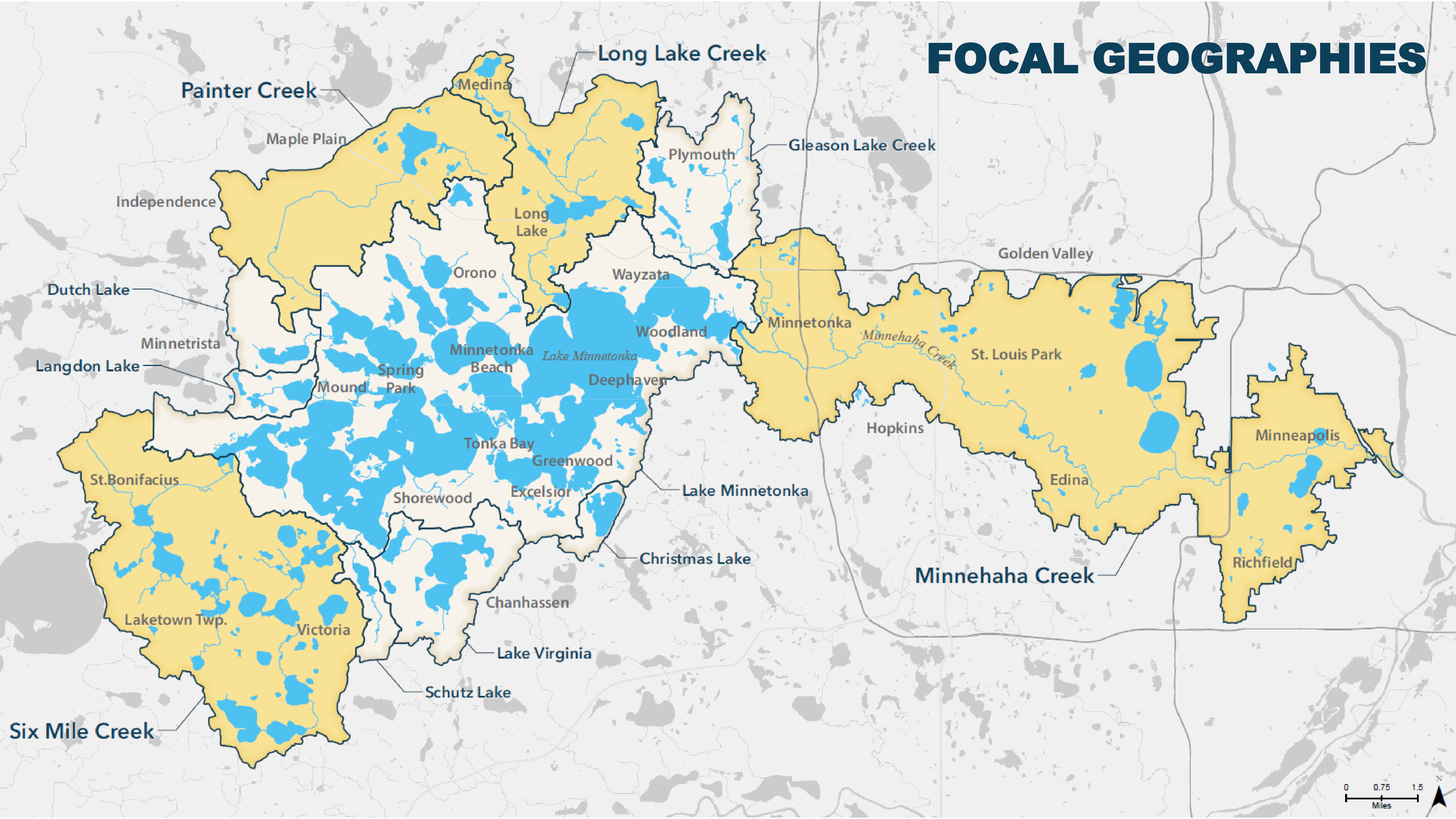
TWO-PRONGED APPROACH

Two approaches for integrated planning:

- ▶ Focal Geographies
- ▶ Land & Water Partnership Program



FOCAL GEOGRAPHIES

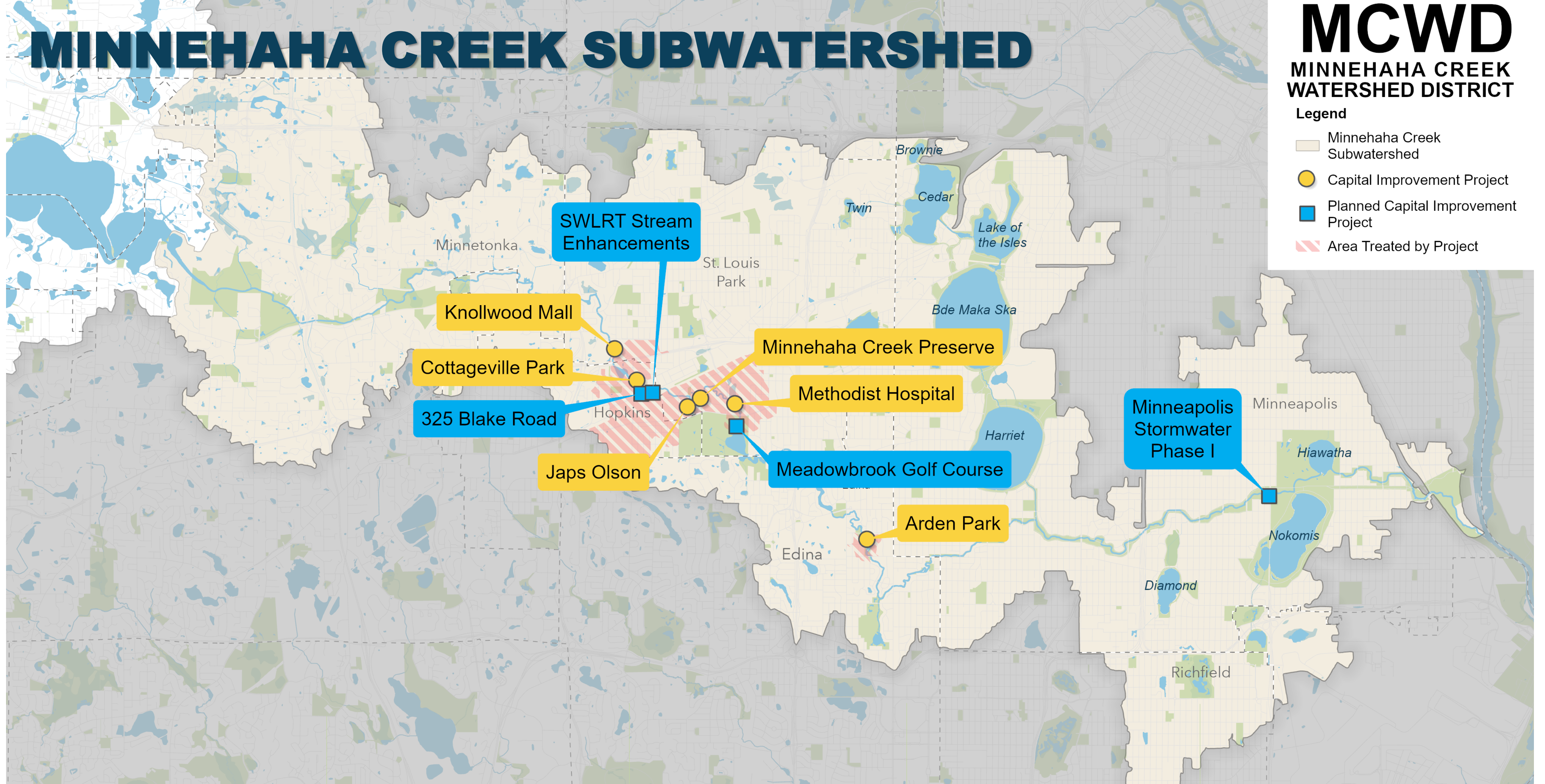


MINNEHAHA CREEK SUBWATERSHED

MCWD MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Legend

- Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed
- Capital Improvement Project
- Planned Capital Improvement Project
- Area Treated by Project



**150+
LBS. ANNUAL NUTRIENT
POLLUTION REDUCTION**

**109
ACRES OF GREENSPACE
CREATED**

**30
ACRES OF WETLANDS
RESTORED**

**2.3
MILES OF NEW TRAILS AND
BOARDWALK**

**1.5
MILES OF RESTORED CREEK
AND STREAMBANK**

Land & Water Partnership Program

Supporting partner-led projects that advance shared goals and generate community benefits



The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) recognizes that we can best achieve our mission by partnering with cities, developers, and others who make changes on the landscape. We've designed the Land & Water Partnership (LWP) program to build bridges between land and water planning, to deliver projects that improve the watershed and support thriving communities.

By promoting early coordination and offering technical and financial resources, the program supports collaborative planning that integrates water resource improvements with community development, infrastructure, parks, and other plans to deliver projects that provide mutual benefits.



How does the LWP program work?

The LWP program provides technical and financial support to projects that provide significant, regional water resource benefit.

Typical partners include cities, counties, park agencies, developers, and others who implement large-scale projects.

Qualifying projects can receive technical and financial assistance for project development and implementation, including:

- ✓ Watershed assessments
- ✓ Concept development
- ✓ Feasibility studies
- ✓ Design and Construction

MCWD may fund up to 75% of eligible costs.

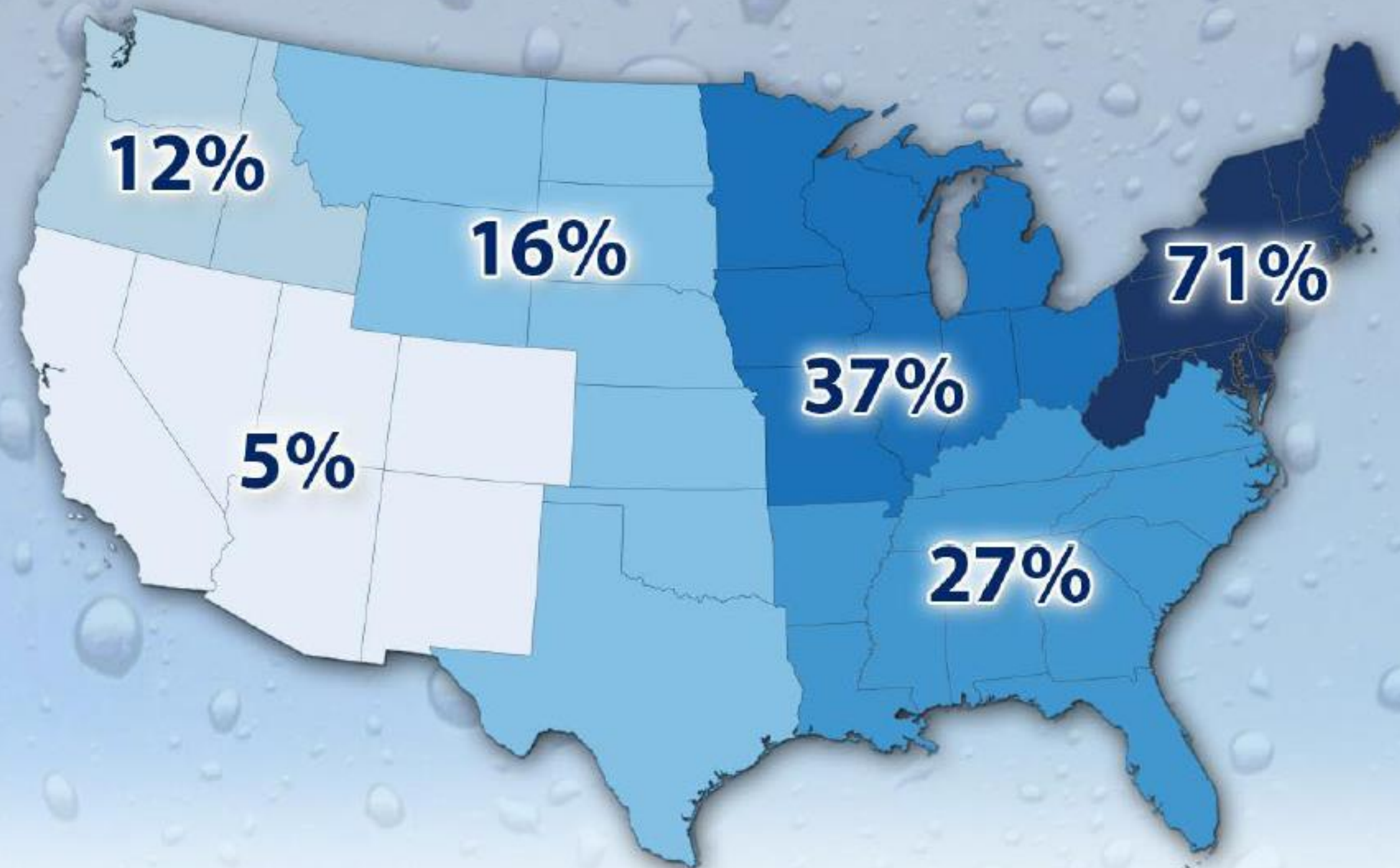
2027 PLAN FOCUS



CLIMATE TRENDS

Rain events are becoming more intense and frequent

Heavy Downpours Increasing

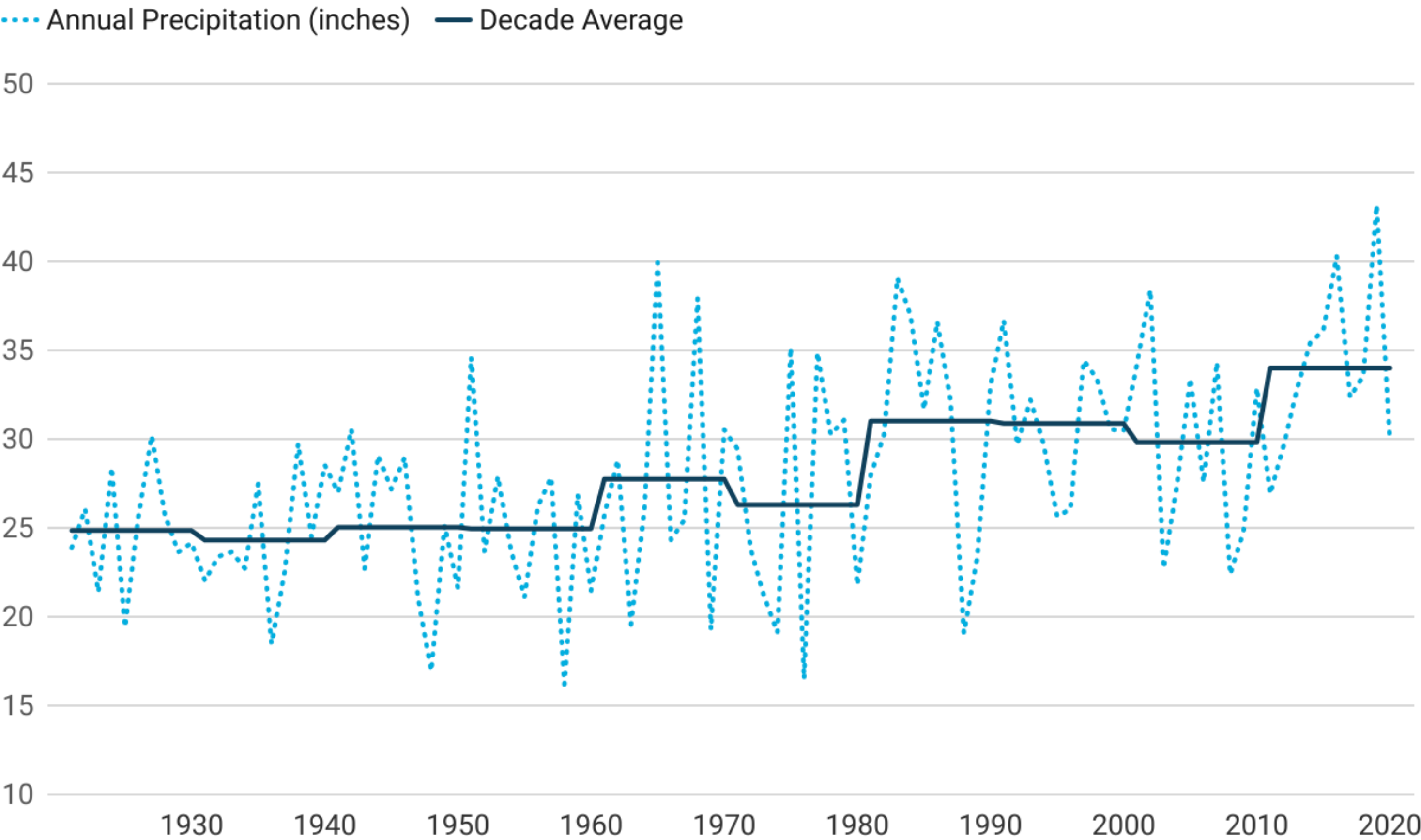


Percent increase from 1958 to 2012 in the amount of precipitation falling in very heavy events.

Very Heavy Precipitation is defined as the heaviest 1% of all daily events from 1958-2012.

CLIMATE TRENDS

Twin Cities Annual Precipitation 1920 - 2020



Source: Minnesota State Climatology Office • Created with Datawrapper

Total annual rainfall is increasing

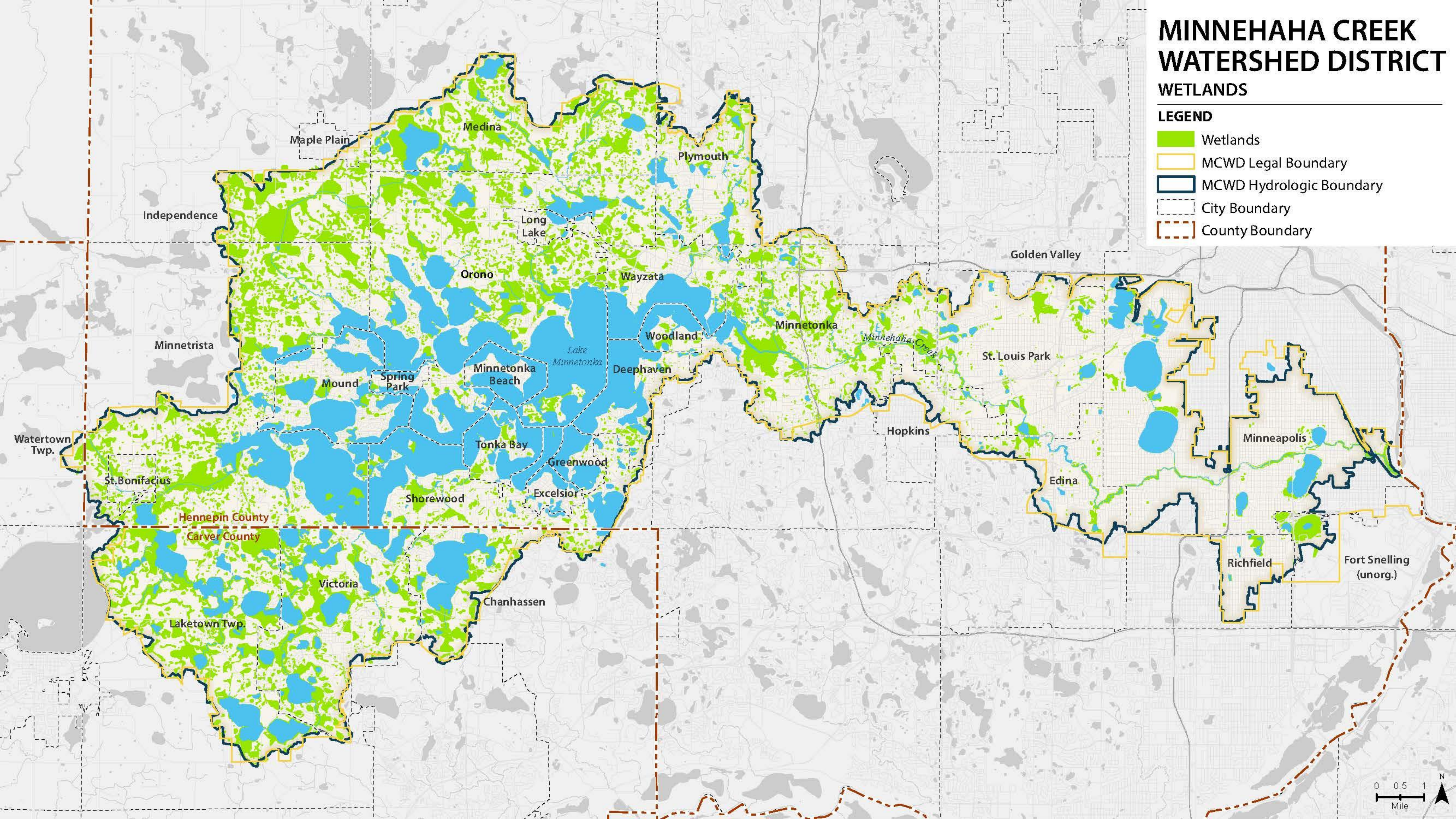


MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

WETLANDS

LEGEND

-  Wetlands
-  MCWD Legal Boundary
-  MCWD Hydrologic Boundary
-  City Boundary
-  County Boundary

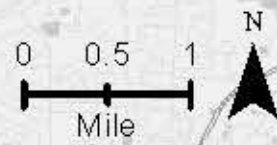
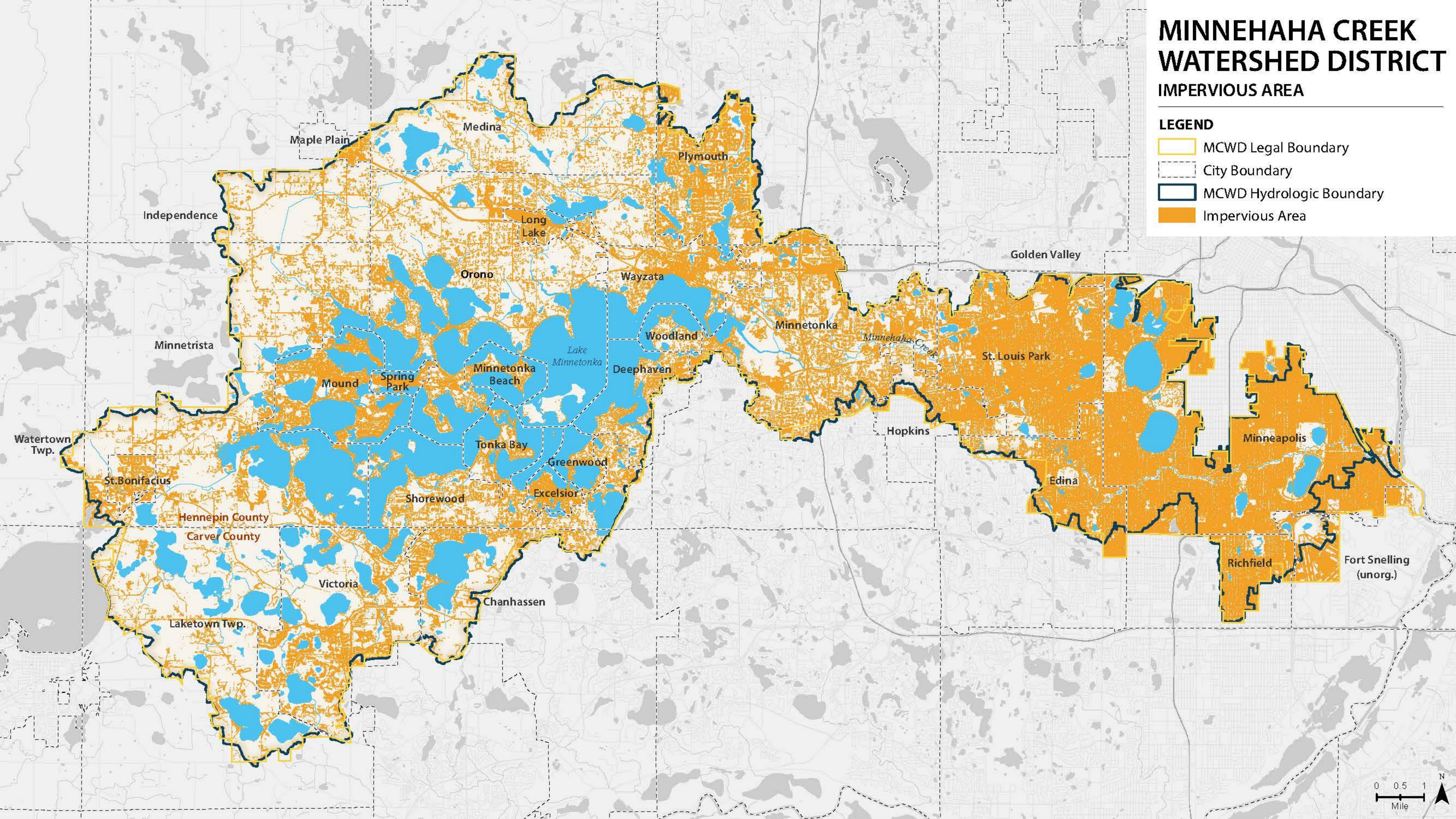


MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

IMPERVIOUS AREA

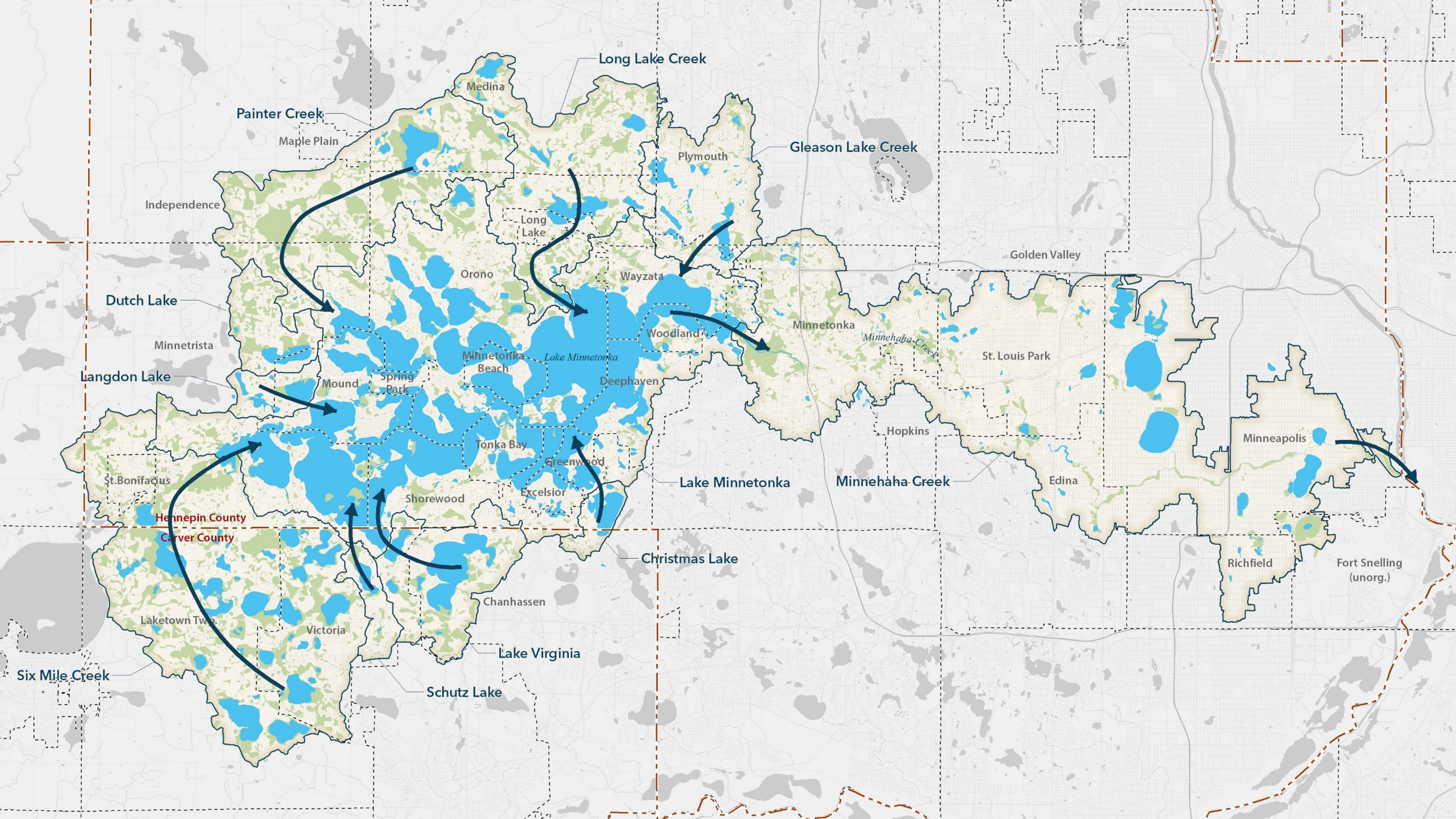
LEGEND

- MCWD Legal Boundary
- City Boundary
- MCWD Hydrologic Boundary
- Impervious Area



MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES





CLIMATE ACTION FRAMEWORK



Pillar 1

UNDERSTAND & PREDICT

Utilize and expand technical capabilities in data collection, analysis, and tools to understand and predict the impacts of climate change at a watershed scale.

CLIMATE ACTION FRAMEWORK



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Pillar 2

CONVENE & PLAN

Bring together local, regional, and state agencies to build consensus around the issues, align goals, form partnerships, leverage resources, and develop a coordinated strategy.

CLIMATE ACTION FRAMEWORK



Pillar 1

UNDERSTAND & PREDICT

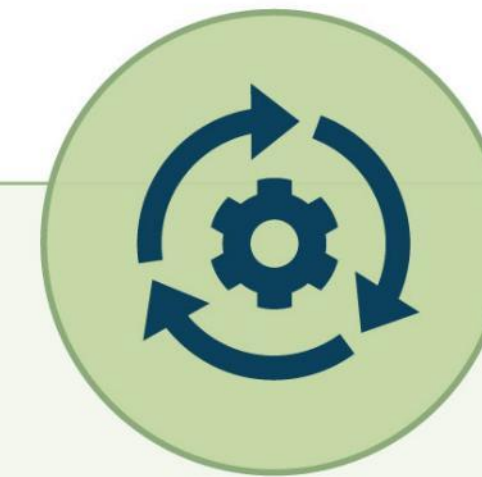
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Pillar 2

CONVENE & PLAN

Bring together local, regional, and state agencies to build consensus around the issues, align goals, form partnerships, leverage resources, and develop a coordinated strategy.



Pillar 3

IMPLEMENT, MEASURE, & ADAPT

Coordinate implementation actions with partners to make measurable progress towards goals. Implementation actions may include projects, policy changes, and operational improvements.

2027 PLAN FOCUS

Two primary focus areas:

- Improve Integration of Land Use and Water Planning
- Develop a Regional Flood Management Strategy



OVERARCHING GOALS

- Promote and support implementation of nature-based solutions to water management through integrated planning
- Identify regional priority areas, strategies, and opportunities for flood storage and water quality improvement
- Develop tailored plans for each subwatershed outlining shared priorities, strategies, opportunities

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS



ENGAGEMENT CHALLENGES

- Building both regional and local understanding
- Balancing storage vs. conveyance approaches
- Avoiding technical weeds



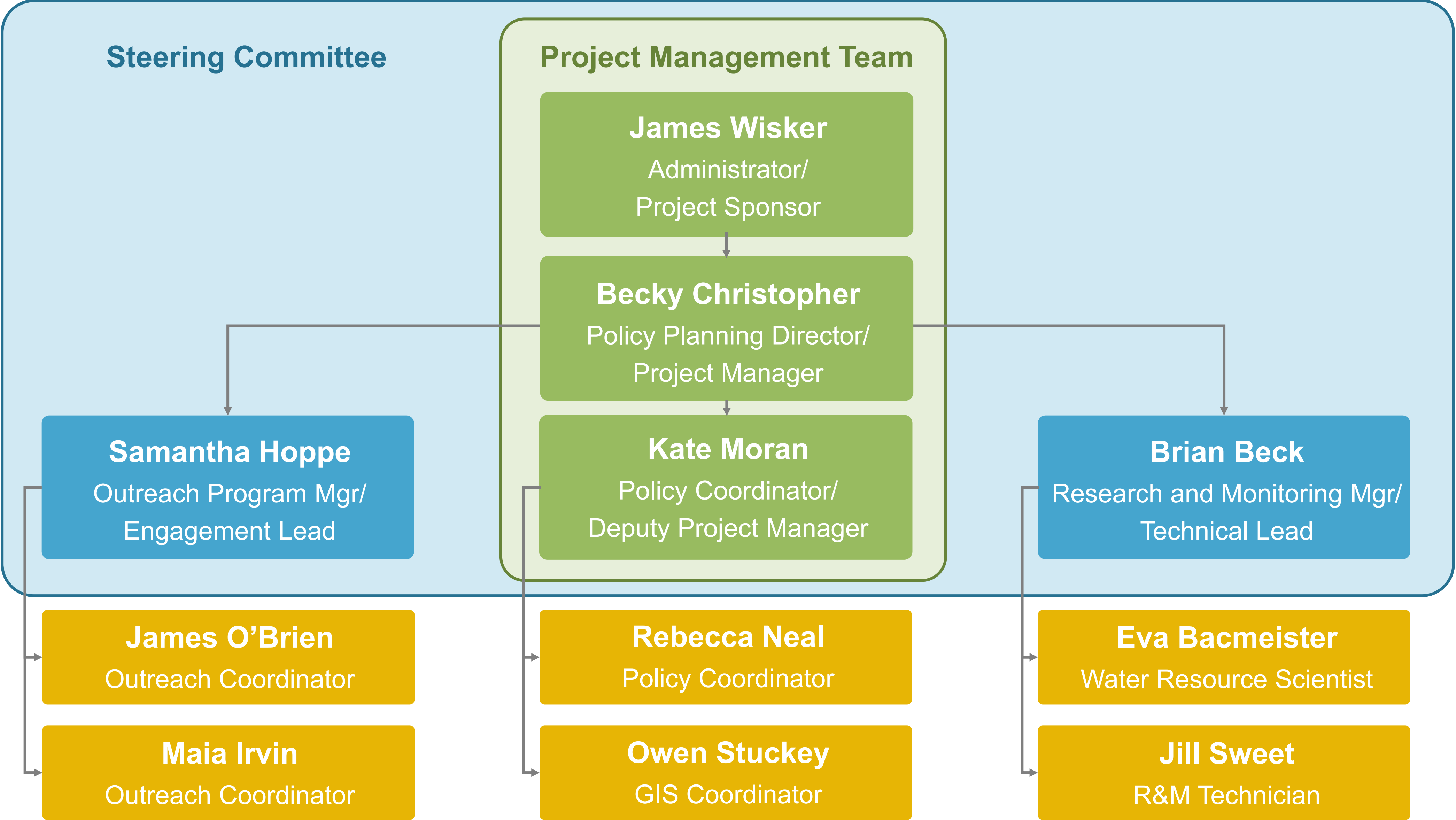
ENGAGEMENT METHODS

Audience	Local/Regional Public Agencies			State Agencies	CAC Members	General Public & Community Orgs
	Primary Staff Contacts	Other Key Staff	Policy Makers			
Soft Rollout (mailing, 1:1s, calls)	x		x	x		
Kickoff Events	x	x	x	x	x	x
TAC Meetings	x					
PAC Meetings			x			
Subwatershed Planning Workshops	x	x	x			x
CAC Meetings					x	
Online Survey					x	x
Open Houses & Public Meetings					x	x
1:1 Meetings	x	x	x	x		
Written Communications (publications, email updates, webpage)	x	x	x	x	x	x
Public Hearing and 60-Day Comment Period	x	x	x	x	x	x

CONSULTANT SCOPE



MCWD PROJECT TEAM



CONTRACT OBJECTIVES

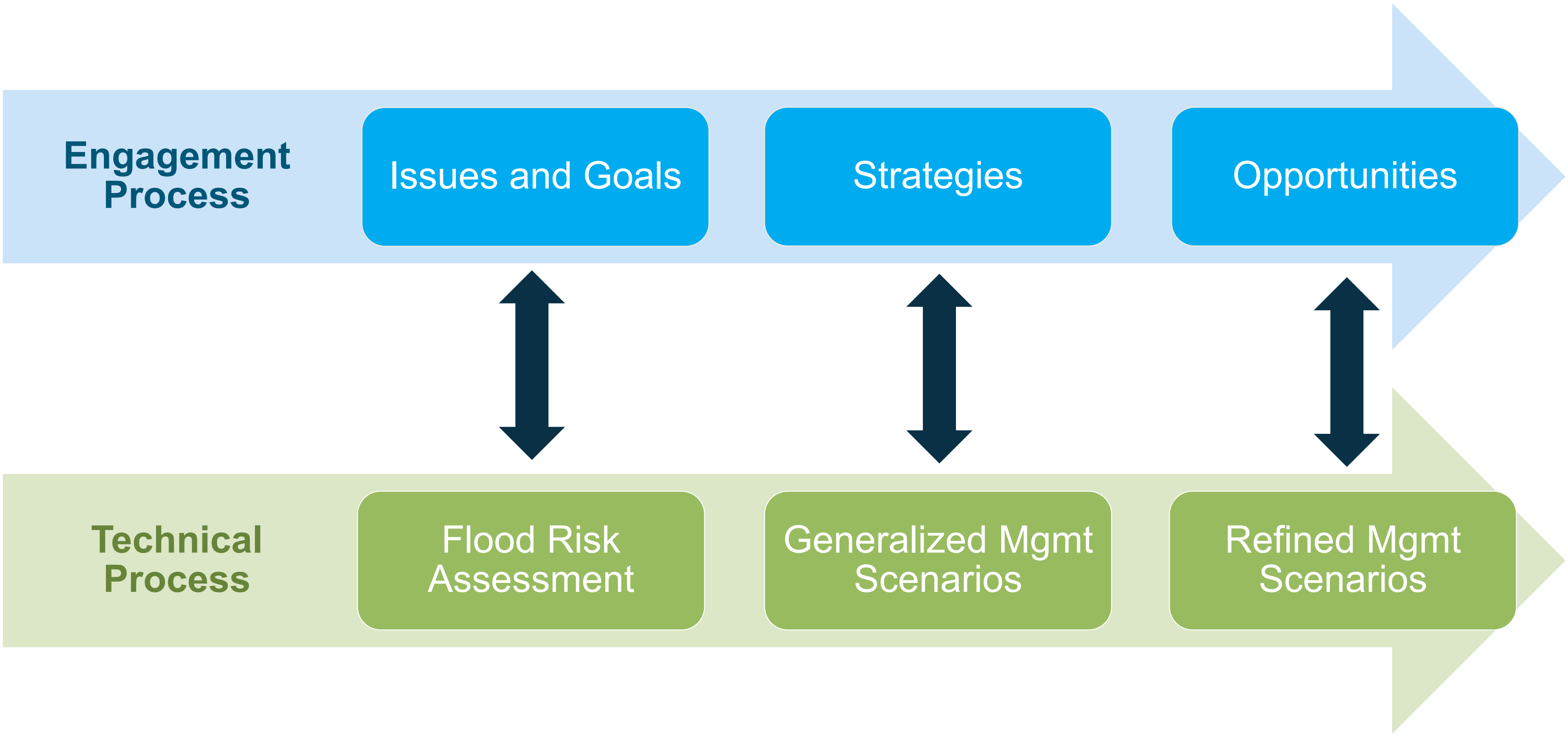
- Understand current and future flood risks
- Understand effectiveness and cumulative impact of strategies
- Understand scope of implementation to meet goals
- Build support for integrated planning and nature-based solutions



PROPOSED SCOPE

- Engagement and Communication Support:
 - Advise on stakeholder engagement strategy, communications, and facilitation planning
 - Attend stakeholder meetings and provide engagement support
- Flood Risk Assessment
 - Build future land use scenarios
 - Model current and future extents/impacts
- Management Strategy Development and Analysis
 - Evaluate effectiveness, cumulative impacts, and costs of various strategies
- Project Management
 - Kickoff and discovery
 - Regular coordination meetings

PROCESS DESIGN



DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Multi-disciplinary team:
 - Technical – flood modeling (StormWise preferred), scenario analysis
 - Engagement – strategy, facilitation planning
 - Communications – develop clear, accessible messages and visuals
- Collaboration – across consultant team and with MCWD
- Creativity – innovative ideas on approach/strategy
- Adaptability – ability to adjust as process unfolds

RFP PROCESS

Event	Timeline
RFP released	September 29, 2025
Pre-submittal informational meeting	October 13, 2025
Proposals Due	October 27, 2025
Interviews	November 5-6, 2025
Consultant selection and contract approval	December 1, 2025

Q&A

- Is plan writing part of the scope?
- Is StormWise experience required?
- Will the model be made available for review during the proposal phase of this project?



Thank you!

MINNEHAHA CREEK

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