

**MEETING DATE:** March 26, 2015

**TITLE:** Authorization of Cost Share Funding- Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 15-XXX

**PREPARED BY:** Brett Eidem, Cost Share Grant Administrator

**E-MAIL:** beidem@minnehahacreek.org

**TELEPHONE:** 952-641-4523

**REVIEWED BY:**  Administrator  Counsel  Program Mgr. (Name): Telly Mamayek  
 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:**

1. Order and authorize funding of 75 percent of the documented cost of the project on a per-project basis, not to exceed \$100,000 from the Cost Share Fund, for the installation of stormwater BMPs on 15 blocks within the neighborhoods around Lake Nokomis, contingent on a signed grant agreement and signed maintenance agreements that include a landscape design plan that is mutually agreed upon by the grant recipient, property owners and District staff.
2. Authorize the Administrator to execute and sign a Cost Share funding agreement with Metro Blooms and execute maintenance agreements between the District and the owners of the property where the BMP's are installed.
3. Reimburse Metro Blooms \$20,000 after completion of each of the 5 construction phases of the project, and after receiving an annual outreach report of how project is making an impact within the community.

**PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:**

15 Blocks within the neighborhoods surrounding Lake Nokomis, Minneapolis (map attached)

**PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:**

Fund name and number:	<b>Cost Share Grant Program (3130)</b>
Current budget:	\$832,000
Amount approved in 2014 to date:	\$416,290
Requested amount of funding:	75% of the documented costs for construction of stormwater BMPs on 15 blocks, not to exceed \$100,000

## **PROJECT TIMELINE**

- January – April 2015: MWS & block leader outreach and participant recruitment
- April-May 2015: Alley Get-Togethers and site consultations
- June – July 2015: Site consultations and designs. Participants sign installation and maintenance contracts.
- July-October 2015: Raingarden and permeable pavement installations and downspout redirection. Maintenance training for participants, final inspection.
- November-December 2015: Project evaluation, including lessons learned and next steps.
- Repeat 2016 & 2017

## **SUMMARY**

Last year, Metro Blooms and MCWD collaborated on a demonstration alleyway stormwater management improvement project as a community engagement opportunity to treat residential runoff, create wildlife habitat corridors within an urban fabric, and celebrate a neighborhood scale effort that aligns goals of government entities and the public to protect Lake Nokomis. This initial alleyway retrofit was implemented to increase awareness of stormwater management on a residential and community scale and leverage greater opportunities within the subwatershed, and was completed in October, 2014.

Seeking to build on the success of that effort, Metro Blooms has collaborated with the City of Minneapolis and MCWD to apply for a BWSR Clean Water Fund Grant, which was recently awarded to the city for the Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water project in the amount of \$399,425. The project also received \$50,000 from Hennepin County, stretching the budget and minimizing the cost to homeowners for the construction of these BMPs.

In September 2014, the MCWD Board signed a letter of support expressing the managers' intent to consider the project for District cost-share financial support. The District's support for the project was conceptual and non-binding. Board determination on whether to provide District funding to the Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water project would not be made until after further documentation was prepared and presented and all applicable necessary public procedures have been completed. As part of its review of the project, staff applied the new cost share evaluation criteria. Staff reviewed this process at the March 5, 2015 Operations and Programs Committee meeting, where the committee recommended project funding and to hold a public hearing at the Board of Managers meeting on March 26, 2015.

The project has a three year implementation plan that will install 180 BMPs in 15 alleyways in the Lake Nokomis subwatershed. Homeowner and community awareness of water quality is the main focus of this project, and will be ongoing throughout the three year construction schedule. Metro Blooms has aligned the goals of the project with that of the District, by identifying areas of the Nokomis subwatershed for residential BMP implementation with District areas of focus (identified in the MCWD Water Resource Comprehensive Plan). They have identified 15 block leaders to conduct the peer to peer outreach to gain community capacity for getting enough interested homeowners to construct 12-15 BMPs per alleyway. The project will be tied to the Monarch Festival at Lake Nokomis, where there will be tours of the alleyways and open houses to learn more about the community and water quality impacts of the project.

MCWD funds will be administered by Metro Blooms, and will go directly towards the construction of the alleyway BMPs as well as design and construction management. The total project cost is \$670,115. Staff recommends funding 75%, not to exceed our Community Engagement project cap of \$100,000. With the new program structure and reporting requirements of community engagement projects, staff has worked out a phased reimbursement of the project. There is a detailed construction schedule, which has 5 install dates for 2-4 alleyways with each time period. Staff proposes 5 reimbursement installments of \$20,000, one after each 2-4

alleyway construction and receiving the annual reporting requirements on outreach impacts within the community. Please find table below as an example of how this phased reimbursement would be released.

Projected Date of Reimbursement:	Dec. 31, 2015	Aug. 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2016	Aug. 31, 2017	Dec. 31, 2017	Total
<b>Reimbursement for:</b>	Phase 1 Construction -2-4 alleyways -Annual report	Phase 2 Construction -2-4 alleyways	Phase 3 Construction -2-4 alleyways -Annual report	Phase 4 Construction -2-4 alleyways	Phase 5 Construction -2-4 alleyways -Annual report	15 alleyways
<b>Reimbursement Amount:</b>	Up to \$20,000 for phase	Up to \$20,000 for phase, in addition to any carryover that was not spent or reimbursed in previous phase	Up to \$20,000 for phase, in addition to any carryover that was not spent or reimbursed in previous phase	Up to \$20,000 for phase, in addition to any carryover that was not spent or reimbursed in previous phase	Up to \$20,000 for phase, in addition to any carryover that was not spent or reimbursed in previous phase	NTE \$100,000
<b>Reimbursement contingent upon:</b>	-copy of paid invoices and a close out inspection conducted by District staff -signed maintenance agreement with each homeowner and signed funding agreement with Metro Blooms -annual community engagement report					

**Project Description**

Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water engages private property owners in a neighborhood scale effort to install up to 180 stormwater BMPs to protect Lake Nokomis, a water body in Minneapolis impaired for excess nutrients. Lake Nokomis is one of the most visited lakes in Minnesota. Located in the lower part of the Minnehaha Creek watershed, the lake discharges into Minnehaha Creek. The subwatershed is fully developed and dominated by residential neighborhoods, small business nodes and parkland. This project addresses the 103B/8410 plans of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) and the City of Minneapolis (City), as well as the EPA-approved TMDL for Lake Nokomis.

An analysis of the Lake Nokomis subwatershed identified priority areas for BMP installations based on drainage pattern, land uses and presence of previously constructed BMPs. This project engages neighbors to install stormwater BMPs adjacent to alleyways on 15 residential blocks to capture and infiltrate runoff from impervious surfaces contributing high pollutant loads from private properties. WinSLAMM modeling of potential projects demonstrates 90-92% reduction in stormwater volume, TP, and TSS from drainage areas, resulting in up to 15 lbs TP removal/year. Installations will be paired with education and outreach to property owners focused on long-term benefits of sustainable source control.

This project is a partnership between the City of Minneapolis, nonprofit organization Metro Blooms/Blue Thumb, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD), the Clean Water Land & Legacy Fund and Hennepin County. Other key partners include: Friends of Lake Nokomis, Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, Master Water Stewards and Master Gardeners.

**MEASURABLE GOALS & RELATIONSHIP TO PLAN**

Lake Nokomis is listed on the MN Pollution Control Agency’s 303(d) list as impaired for aquatic recreation due to excessive phosphorus. This project addresses an EPA-approved TMDL, with a site-specific standard for Lake Nokomis of <50 µg/L TP, <20 Chl-a, and 1.4m. Secchi.

Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed Plan

Pp. 1: Over the next ten years, the District’s focus in the Minnehaha Creek subwatershed will be on improving water quality in [4] lakes that are currently impaired (including Lake Nokomis).

- Goal 3.1 Pp. 46: Achieve in-lake TP concentration goals as identified in the lake TMDLs. Action D: Promote general application of BMPs across the subwatershed. Provide financial assistance to property owners...to retrofit their property with BMPs to reduce phosphorus and sediment loading.

#### MCWD Lakes TMDL

Pp. 97, 101 The [implementation] focus for Lake Nokomis will be on redevelopment and retrofits. Projects similar to efforts in another Minneapolis watershed (Powderhorn Lake) to install 150 rain gardens could be implemented in the Lake Nokomis watershed.

- Appendix A Pp. 114 presents the calculated runoff volume and loading estimates by subwatershed, under existing land use conditions. Note that the project focuses on private property retrofits. Specifically targeted is Subwatershed MC-164 to the east of Lake Nokomis because it contributes the second highest volume and lbs phosphorus/year, and it drains directly to the lake, whereas runoff from the other Minneapolis Nokomis Subwatersheds receives benefit from stormwater ponds before discharging to the lake, conditions did not allow for a pond to be constructed for Subwatershed MC-164.

#### **DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND MATERIAL COSTS**

The eligible cost from the project designer's estimate for the 180 BMPs to be installed on 15 blocks, as well as design and construction oversight and outreach techniques comes to \$670,115. The project has received a \$399,425 BWSR Clean Water Legacy Grant, a \$50,000 grant from Hennepin County, and will be requiring a 15% investment by the property owners that the projects will be installed on. District staff has reviewed the project through the cost share program evaluation criteria, which resulted in a staff recommendation for 75% cost share funding, with a community engagement cap amount of \$100,000. This would average out to a District cost share funding of \$555 per BMP, and a homeowner contribution of \$300/\$400 per BMP. (Cost Estimate Breakdown Attached)

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff and the CAC recommends funding 75% of project, not to exceed \$100,000, contingent on a signed grant and maintenance agreement that is mutually agreed upon by the Cost Share recipients and District staff.

#### Attachments:

1. Subwatershed Drainage Map
2. Example of Alleyway Site Assessment
3. Existing/Proposed Nokomis Alleyway Perspective
4. Cost Estimate Breakdown
5. MCWD Letter of Support for Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water Project

## RESOLUTION

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 15-XXX

**TITLE:** **Authorization of Cost Share Funding - Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water**

- WHEREAS, the Cost Share Program was established by the MCWD to provide grants to property owners to design and install best management practices that will reduce the volume and increase the quality of stormwater flowing offsite and provide support for beyond-regulation projects that protect and improve water resources; and
- WHEREAS, the District's 2007 Comprehensive Water Resources Management plan also identifies expanding the knowledge base of water resources management and providing education opportunities through demonstrative projects within the watershed as key functions of the Cost Share Program; and
- WHEREAS, funds are available in the 2015 budget for the Cost Share Grant Program; and
- WHEREAS, Metro Blooms, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation, applied for cost share funding for the Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water Project, or Project, a stormwater BMP alleyway retrofit to install 180 BMPs on 15 blocks to collect and infiltrate roof and driveway runoff, preventing it from reaching Lake Nokomis, which is impaired for excess nutrients; and
- WHEREAS, MCWD staff has reviewed the Project and finds it to be consistent with the goals of the Cost Share Grant Program and recommends funding 75 percent of the costs for construction of the BMPs on 15 blocks around Lake Nokomis, not to exceed the Cost Share community engagement category project cap of \$100,000; and
- WHEREAS, on September 25, 2014, the MCWD Board of Managers authorized the Board President to sign a letter of support for the City of Minneapolis' application for a BWSR Clean Water Legacy Fund Grant for the Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water Project, expressing the managers' intent to consider the project for an award of District cost share financial support; and
- WHEREAS, on March 5, 2015, MCWD Board of Managers Operations and Programs Committee reviewed the project and recommended the Board fund the Project and hold a public hearing on March 26, 2015; and
- WHEREAS, on March 12, 2015, the Project was reviewed by the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), and the CAC made a recommendation to the Board to approve the proposal and provide funding in the amount requested; and
- WHEREAS, per MCWD Board Resolution 13-023, the District follows procedures under Minnesota Statutes § 103B.251 for public and Board review before authorizing cost share funding in excess of \$50,000; and
- WHEREAS, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 103B.251, subdivision 3, the MCWD held a duly noticed public hearing on the Project on March 26, 2015, at which time all interested parties had the opportunity to speak for and against the Project; 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 sections 103B.205 to 103B.255 and the MCWD's plan adopted pursuant to section 103B.231;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MCWD Board of Managers, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 103B.251 and the comprehensive water resources management plan, orders the Project, with a total cost-share contribution from the MCWD of not-to-exceed \$100,000, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Managers authorizes the administrator to execute, on advice and consent of counsel, a Cost Share funding agreement with Metro Blooms, providing reimbursement of 75 percent of the documented costs for construction of stormwater BMPs on 15 blocks around Lake Nokomis, not to exceed 75 percent of the documented eligible costs of construction of a BMP on each individual property, from the Stormwater BMP Cost Share fund, contingent on a signed maintenance agreement with each property owner that includes a final landscape design plan approved for Cost Share purposes by District staff; total cost-share reimbursement not to exceed \$100,000, which will be reimbursed in 5 installments at the completion of each of five phases of construction and contingent on receipt of an annual outreach report on the community impact of the Project.


Resolution Number 15-XXX was moved by Manager \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_.  
Motion to adopt the resolution \_\_\_ ayes, \_\_\_ nays, \_\_\_ abstentions. Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Date: \_\_\_\_\_


# Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water

 Focus Area

Project focus is to the east of Lake Nokomis. This is part of the drainage area that discharges directly to the lake and does not benefit from draining through one of the stormwater ponds.

 Committed Blocks

In addition to the demonstration alley, 14 block leaders have committed to engaging their neighbors on 15 blocks in this project.

 2014 Installations

Demonstration Blooming Alley installed in 2014. Ten properties participated to install 5 raingardens, 1 trench drain, 4 permeable pavement strips and 6 bioswales along the alleyway.

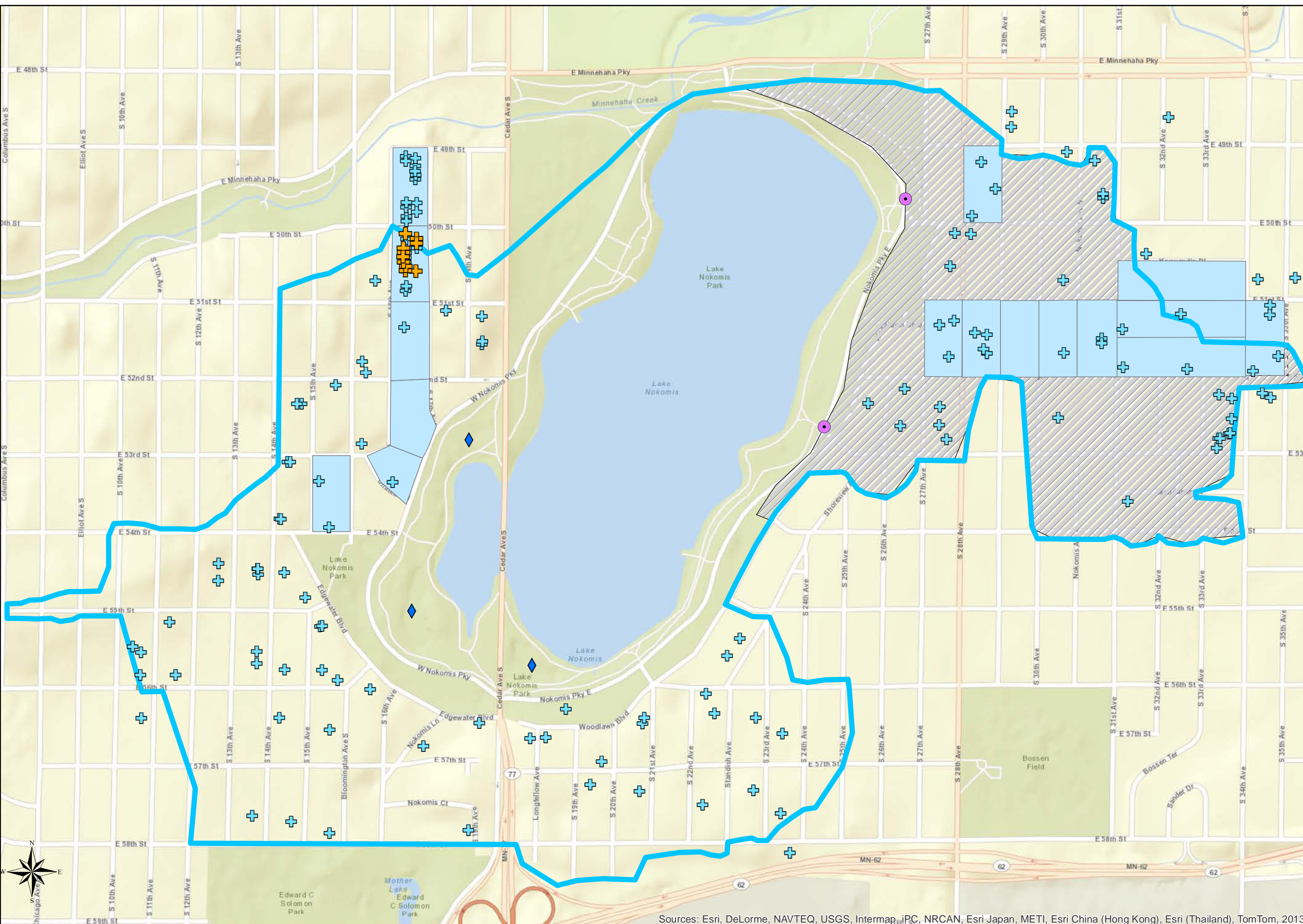
 Interested Property Owners

121 interested properties were selected for the project through site consultations, residential KAP survey, and outreach events. If block leaders are not able to fulfill their commitments, additional properties have been identified as "back-ups."

 Grit Chambers

 Ponds

 Watershed

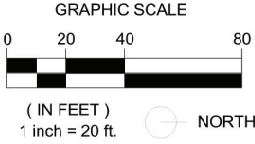
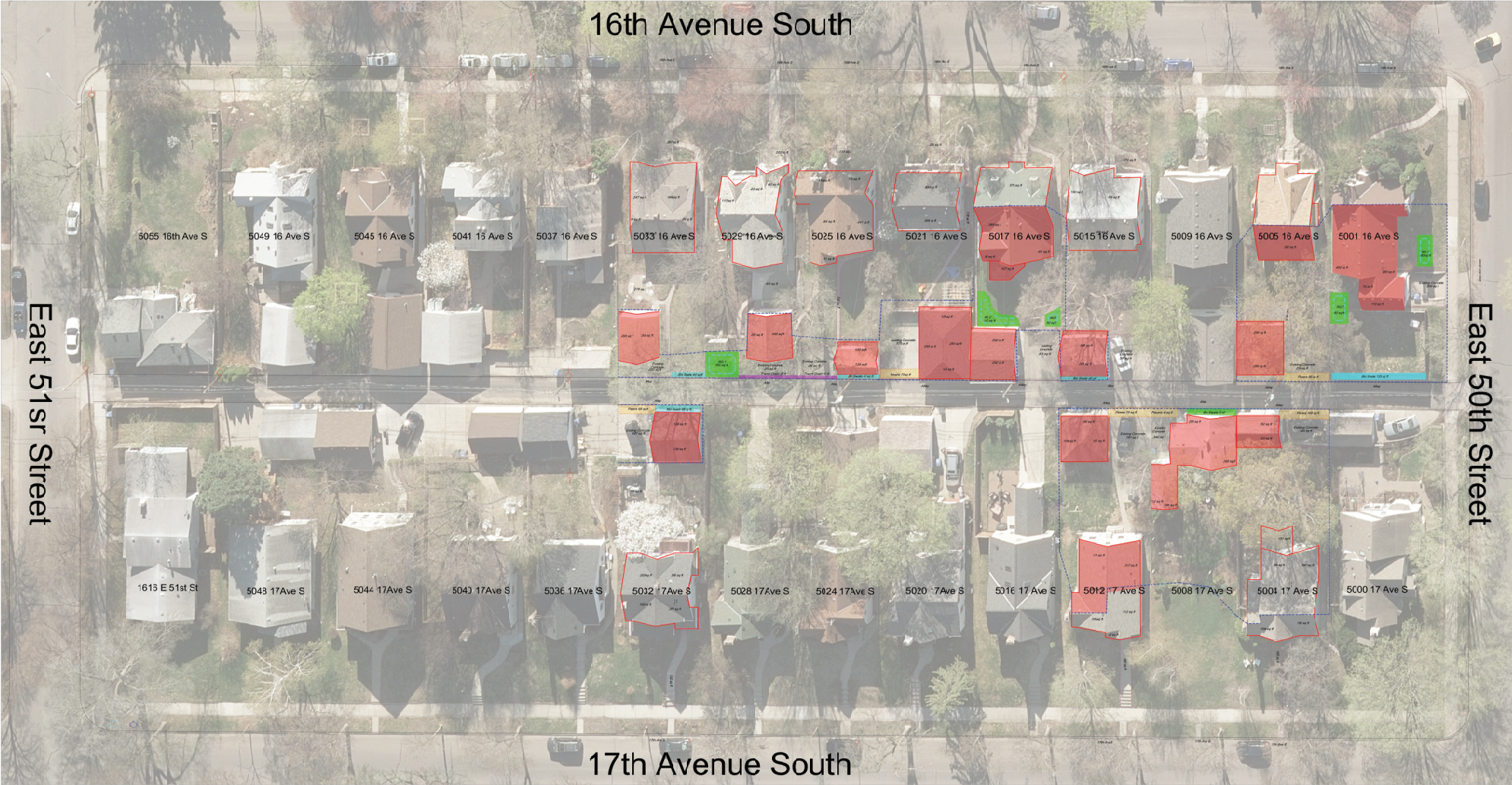








# South Block



June 27th, 2014

## LEGEND

	Raingarden		Permeable Pavers
	Treated Impervious Roof w/ Existing Gutters		Trench Drain
	Proposed Gutters		Roof Line
	Native Plant Swale		Allyshed

## DATA TABLE

TCTAL IMPERVIOUS.....	23,052 sf
ALLEYSHED .....	25,495 sf
MPERVIOUS TREATED ..	11,799 sf
% IMPERVIOUS TREATED ..	46.23%

**Nokomis Neighbors For Clean Water 2015-2017**

		3 installs, 2 prepped	6 installs, 2 prepped	6 installs	Sub Totals	CWF	Hennepin	MCWD	Property Owners	City of Minneapolis	Remainder
		2015	2016	2017	2015-2017						
Admin & Coordination (A&C)	<b>6010 - Executive Director</b>	10,800.00	10,800.00	10,800.00	32,400.00						
Admin & Coordination (A&C)	<b>6030 - Administrative Assistant</b>	1,665.00	2,430.00	1,665.00	5,760.00						
Sub Totals					38,160.00	27,000.00				11,160.00	-
Backyards & Driveways (B&D)	<b>6835 - Disposal Fees</b>	700.00	1,450.00	1,450.00	3,600.00						
Backyards & Driveways (B&D)	<b>6845 - Equipment Rental</b>	840.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	3,240.00						
Backyards & Driveways (B&D)	<b>6850 - Landscaping Supplies/Equipment</b>	2,400.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	12,000.00						
Backyards & Driveways (B&D)	<b>6875 - Native Plant Supplies</b>	4,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	20,000.00						
Backyards & Driveways (B&D)	<b>6880 - Contractor Services</b>	65,500.00	132,000.00	132,000.00	329,500.00						
Sub Totals					368,340.00	248,000.00		55,540.00	64,800.00		-
Participant Communication & Scheduling (C&S)	<b>6015 - Community Engagement/Devel. Mgr</b>	1,620.00	3,240.00	3,240.00	8,100.00						
Participant Communication & Scheduling (C&S)	<b>6025 - Project Manager</b>	21,280.00	22,280.00	20,795.00	64,355.00						
Participant Communication & Scheduling (C&S)	<b>6840 - Educational Materials &amp; Signage</b>	2,900.00	1,000.00	500.00	4,400.00						
Participant Communication & Scheduling (C&S)	<b>6830 - Marketing &amp; Promotions</b>	300.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,300.00						
Sub Totals					79,155.00	34,425.00	-	-		44,730.00	-
Design & Construction Management (D&CM)	<b>6020 - Landscape Designer/Proj Mgr</b>	34,860.00	37,685.00	18,850.00	91,395.00						
Design & Construction Management (D&CM)	<b>6035 - Registered Landscape Architect</b>	34,860.00	37,685.00	18,850.00	91,395.00						
Design & Construction Management (D&CM)	<b>6885 - Travel and Mileage</b>	450.00	900.00	320.00	1,670.00						
Sub Totals					184,460.00	90,000.00	50,000.00	44,460.00			-

	Project	CWF	Hennepin	MCWD	Property Owners	City of Minneapolis	Remainder
Totals	670,115.00	399,425.00	50,000.00	100,000.00	64,800.00	55,890.00	0.00



September 25, 2014

Lois Eberhart, Water Resources Administrator  
City of Minneapolis  
309 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

COPY

*The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is committed to a leadership role in protecting, improving and managing the surface waters and affiliated groundwater resources within the District, including their relationships to the ecosystems of which they are an integral part. We achieve our mission through regulation, capital projects, education, cooperative endeavors, and other programs based on sound science, innovative thinking, an informed and engaged constituency, and the cost effective use of public funds.*

On behalf of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the City of Minneapolis' Clean Water Fund grant application for the *Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water* project ('Nokomis Project'). As proposed, this project will address the 103B/8410 plans of the MCWD and the EPA-approved TMDL for Lake Nokomis through a citizen-based, neighborhood-focused process that engages local property owners in managing their stormwater.

MCWD successfully partnered with the City of Minneapolis and Metro Blooms on a previous project of this scale in 2009. The award-winning *Powderhorn Neighborhood of Raingardens* project engaged residents around Powderhorn Lake in the installation of nearly 130 residential raingardens. Targeting urban, residential property owners at the parcel level with practical stormwater management support is one of MCWD's greatest opportunities; and notably, a considerable challenge for such a sizeable, ever-developing watershed.

Similarly, MCWD supports the Nokomis Project's parallel approach to implementing stormwater best management practices on private property at the neighborhood block scale, to inspire community engagement, and build awareness and momentum around stormwater management. The District has already provided technical and financial assistance for other phases of this project. In 2013, the MCWD partnered with Metro Blooms on the demonstration phase of this project which provided a highly-visible platform for broad implementation.

While MCWD is not approving or promising any additional funding for the project at this time, MCWD will consider assisting eligible property owners through its Cost Share program if the Clean Water Fund grant application is successful.

Thank you for your leadership on this effort. It is an excellent opportunity to leverage each of our organizations' resources to improve an impaired water body within the MCWD.

Sincerely,

Sherry Davis White,  
MCWD Board President