



44 **REGULAR AGENDA**

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46 **Board, Committee and Task Force Reports**

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48 Manager Shekleton noted that he had no items to pass along to the managers. He said all  
49 managers were present for the joint meeting of the Operations and Programs Committee  
50 and Policy and Planning Committee meeting last week, so a report from that meeting is  
51 not needed.

52

53 *(Manager Blixt arrived, 6:55 p.m.)*

54

55 Manager Shekleton stated that he attended the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting last  
56 week at which the committee reviewed a homeowner cost-share proposal and reviewed  
57 the process for the CAC providing input on cost-share proposals. There was discussion of  
58 how the cost-share program should consider grant funding provided by other entities in  
59 making recommendations on projects. The CAC agreed to form a subcommittee to  
60 conduct initial review of Cynthia Krieg grant proposals. The CAC also moved its  
61 November meeting back a week to avoid Veterans' Day.

62

63 Manager Shekleton reviewed the upcoming schedule of events and meetings. He added  
64 that the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will be conducting a review of concept  
65 plans for restoration of the Hiawatha Golf Course at a September 15 meeting.

66

67 **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PRESENTATIONS**

68

69 **Public Hearing for Meadowbrook Golf Course Ecological Restoration Project**

70

71 Michael Hayman presented an overview of plans for the restoration and redevelopment of  
72 the Meadowbrook Golf Course in Hopkins. He stated that District engagement in a  
73 capital improvement project, as is contemplated for the work at Meadowbrook,  
74 precipitates a public hearing under Minnesota Statutes section 103B.251, and the Board  
75 of Managers has scheduled that hearing for this project this evening. Mr. Hayman  
76 provided background on and an overview of the project prior to the opening of the public  
77 hearing. He stated that the project has been developed as collaboration between the  
78 Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the District with a mind toward improving  
79 both the flood resilience of the property and recreational utility. He said that the Federal  
80 Emergency Management Agency dollars which would be dedicated to the work only will  
81 be provided once, so federal assistance will not be available for any future flood damage  
82 to the property. Mr. Hayman presented progress toward refining the Concept B plan that  
83 was identified in the public engagement process as the greatly preferred concept. He said  
84 the District's engagement in the project will involve stream restoration and wetland  
85 enhancement, along with improving flood resilience and reduction of off-course impacts.  
86 He said the design has been developed with knowledge that the course will flood again in

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87 high-water events and is design to manage those floods. The project also addresses, he  
88 said, the fact that the creek in this area historically was ditched and is in need of  
89 restoration, and the work would be an expansion of the Minnehaha Creek greenway that  
90 the District has developed. He reviewed funding concepts for the project, noting that the  
91 District's involvement at this point is slated to be on the order of \$1.5 million. He said  
92 full funding details will be further developed as the designs are refined. He said that the  
93 project is not proposed to be ordered this evening but rather will be on the agenda for  
94 September 24. He stated that at the October 8 meeting, staff plans to bring forward an  
95 amendment to the cooperative agreement with the MPRB for next steps on the project.  
96

97 Manager Shekleton opened the public hearing. Steve Stenbeck, 40601 Anaway Drive,  
98 Edina, stated that he is here with several others from his neighborhood to thank the  
99 District for its efforts to work with the park board on the improvements and mitigation of  
100 flood damages. He said he and the other residents greatly appreciate the Board of  
101 Managers' consideration of including a berm along the 10<sup>th</sup> hole on the southern border  
102 of the golf course near their neighborhood, which would prevent flood waters from  
103 entering the neighborhood. The managers thanked Mr. Stenbeck for his comment.  
104

105 No further commenters coming forward, Manager Shekleton closed the public hearing.  
106

107 Manager Miller stated that he appreciated both golfers and other interested parties  
108 working together and giving consideration to the redevelopment concepts, and he thanked  
109 staff and the District engineer for their efforts on the project.  
110

111 Public Hearing for Japs-Olson Stormwater Management Project  
112

113 James Wisker presented the stormwater management project the District proposes to  
114 conduct in conjunction with Japs-Olson's expansion of its facility on Excelsior Boulevard  
115 in St. Louis Park. Mr. Wisker stated that the project, known as the Minnehaha Preserve  
116 Enhancement project, is somewhat unusual in that the District will not undertake the  
117 construction, but the work will take place in conjunction with Japs-Olson's expansion  
118 work. Mr. Wisker showed the location of the project at the former Appliance Smart  
119 property at 7400 Excelsior Boulevard. Mr. Wisker reminded the managers that the area  
120 includes one of the most degraded stretches of the creek and exhibits the highest pollutant  
121 loading of any reach of the creek. He said the District has engaged in partnerships to  
122 provide regional stormwater-management solutions since 2009. Mr. Wisker stated that  
123 the construction of stormwater facilities in conjunction with the Japs-Olson project will  
124 provide stormwater management in perpetuity for 36 acres, where application of the  
125 District's rules would have provided only 30 to 32 acres of treatment. He said the  
126 District's contribution to the project is a commitment to maintain the stormwater facility  
127 to be constructed on the Appliance Smart site, which has been valued at \$125,000. He  
128 noted that the District will receive fee title to the 3.6 acres underlying the facility as a  
129 term of the partnership with Japs-Olson.

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131 Mr. Wisker stated that the findings for the project necessary to go forward are that  
132 temporarily allowing the western portion of the Japs-Olson property to drain to 325 Blake  
133 Road and the District's long-term maintenance obligation are outweighed by the receipt  
134 of the 3.6 acres and additional stormwater management to be provided from the project.  
135 He noted that the project will not affect the footprint of stormwater facility required on  
136 the 325 Blake Road project. He said that in consistent with District policy, the City of St.  
137 Louis Park on Tuesday passed a resolution supporting the project and that District staff  
138 will be conducting public information meetings this winter as part of ongoing  
139 engagement for the Minnehaha Creek preserve development.

140

141 Manager Shekleton opened the public hearing and asked for comments. Paul Arneson  
142 stated that he owns the building at 7800 Powell Road and has been in communication  
143 with other property owners on the road who have identified a concern about plans for  
144 Powell Road. He said the group has no opposition to the project with Japs-Olson or the  
145 company's expansion plans. But the discovery of a provision in section 9.0.1 of the  
146 agreement between the City of St. Louis Park, the District and Japs-Olson stating that the  
147 city and District would seek relocation or abandonment of Powell Road came as a  
148 surprise and a concern. He said the road provides important access to his facility and any  
149 abandonment of the road would be a serious impingement on the ability to successfully  
150 operate the building. He said he spoke with St. Louis Park staff and received indications  
151 that the city is not at all interested in abandoning the road. Mr. Arneson noted that he also  
152 reviewed a drawing that was attached to the stormwater agreement and noted a pond  
153 shown where Powell Road is now. Mr. Wisker said that he has been in communication  
154 with Mr. Arneson and has plans to meet with him soon. He also has spoken with Bill  
155 Elkin at the city to confirm that the city does not intend to seek abandonment of Powell  
156 Road. He said that the drawing in question is an obsolete document from an old  
157 feasibility analysis. He said the project treats the entire area, so there is no contemplated  
158 additional stormwater management feature for the area. He said that he feels that it is  
159 very safe to say that the District and city are not contemplating abandonment of the road,  
160 but have discussed possible relocation of the road to accommodate further restoration on  
161 the creek. Mr. Arneson said he has no objection of the relocation of the road within the  
162 same corridor but would be concerned about abandonment.

163

164 Manager Shekleton asked for any further comments on the project. Seeing none, he  
165 closed the public hearing. In response to inquiries from the managers, Mr. Arneson said  
166 that he would be fine with meeting with the District and addressing the road  
167 abandonment concern in later proceedings. Manager Shekleton stated that the resolution  
168 to order the project will be considered later on the agenda and he wished to give staff  
169 some time to come up with a possible solution for Mr. Arneson's concern and therefore  
170 suggested that the ordering item be taken last on the agenda this evening.

171

172 **ACTION ITEMS**

173

174 **Budget Update**

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176 Manager Miller stated that during the budget hearing at last week's joint committee  
177 meeting there was a discussion in the course of the manager's review of the possible  
178 increase in the levy for capital projects in which it was asserted that changes in state law  
179 allowed the District to incur debt that previously it had not been able to incur. He  
180 confirmed with District bond counsel Steve Rosholt and wished to clarify on the record  
181 that the law relevant to District borrowing has not changed, but the rather the District's  
182 policy on borrowing for capital projects has. The District continues to operate under the  
183 law as originally established for watershed districts with regard to borrowing. He said he  
184 merely wished to make note of that specific.

185

186 **2016 Budget and Levy**

187

188 Lars Erdahl reviewed the history of the board's development of the 2016 budget and  
189 levy, and noted that the District held a public hearing on the budget and levy at last  
190 week's joint committee meeting and received no comments. He said also that in  
191 compliance with a recent change to state law, the District will conduct a final public  
192 hearing on the budget and levy at its December 10 meeting. He said the item of business  
193 for this evening is for the managers to consider the resolutions finalizing the budget for  
194 2016 and certifying the levy for the year to the counties. ***Manager Miller moved, and***  
195 ***Manager Olson seconded, Resolution 15-079 adopting a 2016 budget totaling***  
196 ***\$12,796,094.*** Manager Blixt asked when the managers would review a detailed budget to  
197 determine where reductions in spending would be made. Manager Shekleton stated that  
198 the final budget will be detailed in December but that the managers had developed the  
199 budget in committee meetings and through a process that all managers had participated in  
200 at a prior meeting. Mr. Erdahl stated then that budget detail should be finalized in mid to  
201 late October. Manager Shekleton corrected his prior recollection, noting that Manager  
202 Blixt had not in fact been at the prior meeting at which changes in the budget process had  
203 been agreed to. Manager Blixt clarified that this process for finalizing the budget is not  
204 how the District has conducted the process in the past, which has always involved a  
205 detailed budget. ***On a roll call vote the managers voted as follows:***

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213

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<b><i>Manager Blixt</i></b>		X		
<b><i>Manager Calkins</i></b>				X
<b><i>Manager Rogness</i></b>	X			
<b><i>Manager Miller</i></b>	X			
<b><i>Manager Shekleton</i></b>	X			
<b><i>Manager White</i></b>				X

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214                    *Manager Olson*                    *X*  
 215

216    *The motion carried.*

217  
 218    *Manager Miller moved and Manager Olson seconded the adoption of Resolution 15-*  
 219    *080, certifying a levy of \$8,705,875 to the county auditors. On a roll call vote the*  
 220    *managers voted as follows:*

	<u><i>Yea</i></u>	<u><i>Nay</i></u>	<u><i>Abstain</i></u>	<u><i>Absent</i></u>
223 <i>Manager Blixt</i>		<i>X</i>		
224 <i>Manager Calkins</i>				<i>X</i>
225 <i>Manager Rogness</i>	<i>X</i>			
226 <i>Manager Miller</i>	<i>X</i>			
227 <i>Manager Shekleton</i>	<i>X</i>			
228 <i>Manager White</i>				<i>X</i>
229 <i>Manager Olson</i>	<i>X</i>			

230  
 231    *The motion carried.*

232  
 233    Cost-Share Funding for Shir Tikvah Stormwater Retrofit  
 234

235    Brett Eidem presented the proposed cost-share project, noting that the Shir Tikvah  
 236    synagogue has a climate change group and other members interested in improving the  
 237    environmental performance of its facility. He stated that the downspouts on the facility  
 238    drain untreated to the creek now, and that the synagogue had received a Gendler  
 239    Grapevine grant of \$10,000 as well as a grant from the Carol Barnett Vision Foundation  
 240    for \$10,000 for the project. He said that the originally contemplated funding from the  
 241    District was for 75 percent of the cost of the stormwater features, and at that rate the  
 242    project would quality for roughly \$21,000, which would leave not much of a financial  
 243    commitment by the synagogue. However, after discussion with the Citizens Advisory  
 244    Committee, staff spoke with representatives from the synagogue, who said it could  
 245    provide 25 percent of the funding for the project. He said, as a result, staff is  
 246    recommending 50 percent funding of the stormwater-management costs. *Manager Miller*  
 247    *moved, and Manager Blixt seconded forwarding the resolution for funding not to*  
 248    *exceed \$10,731.50 for Shir Tikvah stormwater retrofit to the September 24 consent*  
 249    *agenda. Upon vote, the motion carried 5-0.*

250  
 251    *(Manager Blixt left the meeting at 7:55 pm.)*

252  
 253    Cost-Share Funding Possibility for City of Mound Street Reconstruction Project  
 254

255 Mr. Eidem presented a review of past projects the District has undertaken with the City of  
256 Mound and a couple of residential projects providing shoreline buffer in the same area as  
257 the contemplated project. Mr. Eidem noted that the proposal this evening is to seek  
258 managers' concurrence that a public hearing should be conducted in accordance with  
259 state law and District policy for the Mound cost-share project. **Manager Miller moved,**  
260 **and Manager Rogness seconded, to schedule and conduct a public hearing for the**  
261 **Mound stormwater management retrofit project and associated outreach and signage.**  
262 **Upon vote the motion carried 4-0.**

263

264 Japs-Olson Stormwater Project

265

266 Mr. Wisker stated that he spoke outside the meeting with Mr. Arneson and reported that  
267 he is comfortable with staff's indication that there is no intention to abandon Powell  
268 Road. Mr. Wisker suggested that the managers could by motion further communicate to  
269 Mr. Arneson the District's intent, rather than amending the resolution in the packet.  
270 **Manager Shekleton moved, and Manager Olson seconded, the District's commitment**  
271 **and express intent not to seek abandonment of Powell Road. Upon vote. the motion**  
272 **carried 4-0.**

273

274 (Manager Blixt returned at 8:05 pm.)

275

276 **Manager Miller moved and Manager Rogness seconded adoption of Resolution 15-**  
277 **078, ordering the Minnehaha preserve enhancement project. Upon vote, the motion**  
278 **carried 5-0.** Manager Miller complimented staff and the engineer on the quick work done  
279 to make the project happen.

280

281 **STAFF UPDATES**

282

283 Administrator's Report

284

285 Administrator Erdahl stated the Clean Water Summit takes place on September 15 and  
286 managers are encouraged to respond if they intend to attend to Chris Lizee at the District  
287 office. He noted also that Watershed Heroes program takes place October 1 at the  
288 Bayview Center. He said that there have been some changes to the plan for the opening  
289 of the Cottageville Park project and there will be a ribbon-cutting and celebration of the  
290 project Wednesday, September 30, at 10 a.m., followed by a community open house with  
291 the City of Hopkins on Saturday, October 3, from 4:30 to 6:30, followed by a movie in  
292 the park. In response to a request from the managers, Mr. Wisker showed photos of the  
293 Cottageville project. The managers inquired as whether measures will be taken to prevent  
294 skateboarders from using the benches in the park for tricks. Mr. Wisker stated that he was  
295 not sure about those details but would follow up.

296

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297 Finally, Mr. Erdahl stated that he met with a group of west Hennepin County city  
298 managers and administrators in an informal get together that they hold quarterly over  
299 lunch and that the principal topic of discussion was various entities' levy increases.

300

301 **ADJOURNMENT**

302

303 *There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Managers*  
304 *adjourned at 8:20 p.m.*

305

306 Respectfully submitted,

307

308

309

310

311 Kurt Rogness

312 Secretary