

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** MCWD Board of Managers – Policy and Planning Committee  
**From:** Katherine Sylvia, Permitting Program Lead  
**Date:** March 22, 2018  
**Re:** Wayzata Lake Effect Update

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### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Board an update on the status of the Wayzata Lake Effect Project and the District's involvement thus far.

### **Background:**

The City of Wayzata is in the process of planning the Wayzata Lake Effect Project, a community amenity designed to improve lakefront access for residents and provide lakeshore restoration for Wayzata Bay. The concept design was developed in 2015 and at that time, MCWD was involved through staff and board representation on the Project's Technical Committee and Steering Committee respectively.

The City has filed an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) to determine if the project will have significant environmental impacts, and outline ways to avoid or minimize potential environmental effects. The feedback from the EAW will be used to inform the detailed design and permitting requirements for the project. The District is providing technical and regulatory assistance for the Project through advising on design alternatives and streamlining regulatory feedback through the EAW to add value to the City of Wayzata's process.

The City began the process of drafting an EAW for the project in the fall of 2016. Since the project, as proposed, implicates a multi-jurisdictional regulatory framework including MCWD, MN Department of Natural Resources, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and Lake Minnetonka Conservation District, District Staff coordinated regulatory input based on concept designs at the time. This input included general regulatory requirements that would help forecast mitigation measures and design limitations.

The EAW was published on the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board website on March 12, 2018, initiating the public comment period which concludes on April 11, 2018 during which time the City intends to host a public open house. MCWD Staff will comment on the EAW and coordinate with agency partners on evaluating the project design alternatives with respect to rules and requirements, and provide guidance on preferred mitigation measures based on satisfaction of rules and requirements. The goal being that the proposed alternatives and

mitigation methods are consistent across agencies and that the comments help streamline the project's ability to meet multi-jurisdictional requirements.

Staff will provide a verbal update to the Policy and Planning Committee meeting and describe the project elements and the water resource regulatory framework that applies to the Project.

If there are questions in advance of the meeting, please contact: Katherine Sylvia, Permitting Program Lead, [ksylvia@minnehahacreek.org](mailto:ksylvia@minnehahacreek.org); 952-473-2855.