

# HENNEPIN COUNTY

## MINNESOTA

## Recommendation to approve the amendment to the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission's Watershed Management Plan

### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the county board of staff's review and recommendations to approve a proposed minor plan amendment to the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission's (commission) Watershed Management Plan (Plan).

### Staff review and recommendations

Hennepin County Environment and Energy staff reviewed the commission's proposed minor plan amendment and found it to be consistent with the Surface Water Management section of the draft Hennepin County 2040 Comprehensive Plan and the Hennepin County Natural Resources Strategic Plan by funding projects that support Hennepin County's goals of protecting and improving surface water quality.

The commission held a public hearing regarding the proposed minor plan amendment on May 8, 2019. No public comment was received on the proposed amendment.

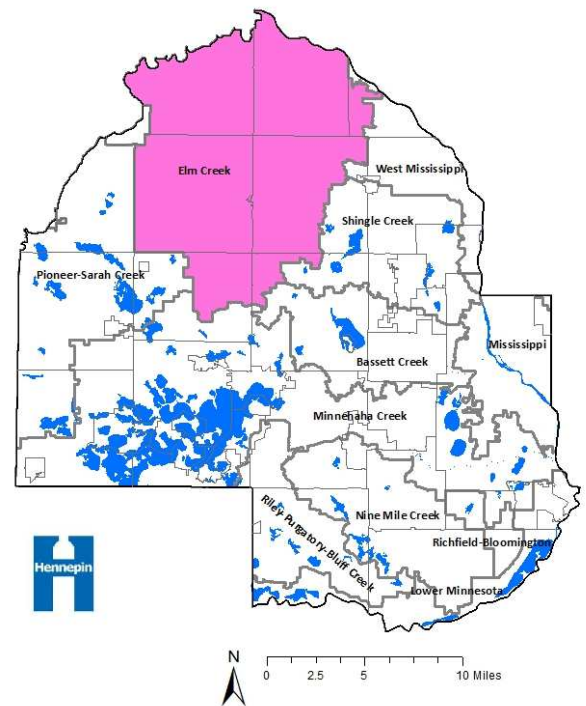
Staff recommends approval of the proposed minor plan amendment to the Plan.

### Background

The Elm Creek watershed is located in the northern part of the county and includes portions of the cities of Champlin, Corcoran, Dayton, Maple Grove, Medina, Plymouth and Rogers (Figure 1).

The commission has proposed a minor plan amendment to revise the Plan's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.231, subd. 7, the commission forwarded the proposed amendment to the county for review and action on water quality and quantity projects in the CIP where it may seek to certify funding to implement the water quality and quantity projects under Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.251.

Figure 1. Elm Creek Watershed Location



The amendment adds three new water quality projects to the Plan's CIP.

## New projects

1. The Brockton Lane Water Quality Improvements Project (Plymouth) will incorporate underground systems to separate and filter pollutants and allows for infiltration of water before water runs off the Brockton Lane project site into a wetland and eventually to Elm Creek. The estimated cost of the project is \$150,000 with the commission's share being \$37,500 (to be levied in 2021).
2. The Meadows Playfield & Water Quality Improvements Project (Plymouth) is a collaboration between the City of Plymouth's Parks & Recreation, Transit, and Water Resources departments. This project will construct a playfield, a multi-use stadium, and a Plymouth Metrolink Park and Ride to serve residents in northwestern Plymouth. Water quality improvements being considered include underground pollutant separators, underground storage, underground filtration/infiltration, water reuse, pervious pavement, iron-enhanced sand filters, rain gardens, and tree trenches. The estimated cost of the project is \$5,300,000 with the commission's share being \$250,000 (to be levied in 2023).
3. The Enhanced Street Sweeper Project (Plymouth) will purchase a high-efficiency street sweeper to improve street sweeping efficiency and reduce pollutant loading to Elm Creek. Street sweeping is one of the most cost effective best management practices for improving water quality. Pollutant reduction estimates associated with expanded street sweeping are 260 pounds of phosphorus per year, 1,740 pounds of nitrogen per year, and 44 pounds of chloride per year. The estimated cost of the project is \$350,000 with the commission's share being \$75,000 (to be levied in 2021). The City of Plymouth will also request contributions from Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

The amendment also removes the Stone's Throw Wetland Project (Corcoran) from the CIP, and revises the following projects:

- Ranchview Wetland Restoration Project (Maple Grove) – revised timing
- Mill Pond Rain Garden Project (Champlin) – revised timing
- Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost Share (Rogers and Corcoran) – revised cost
- Hickory Drive Stormwater Improvement Project (Medina) – revised cost
- Downtown Regional Stormwater Pond Project (Corcoran) – revised cost
- Lowell Road Rain Garden Project (Champlin) – revised timing

## Contact

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May 2019