



MISSISSIPPI
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.5

Agenda Item: Medtronic Site Enhanced Stormwater Management Feasibility Study

Presenter: Nancy Stowe

Meeting Date: 18 November 2025

Flexibility: Yes No

Estimated Time: Consent Agenda 10 Min. 15 Min. 30 Min. 45 Min. 1 Hour

Action Request: Information/Review Motion to approve Budget Change Other

Board Action: Approved Denied Tabled Accepted Report Other

Date of Action: 18 November 2025

Background

The 12-acre former Medtronic site in the City of Columbia Heights is slated for redevelopment in the coming years. The property is immediately adjacent to Sullivan Lake, which is listed as impaired for excess nutrients by the State of Minnesota. Sullivan Lake receives runoff from an approximately 450-acre suburban drainage area, including areas within the Cities of Columbia Heights, Hilltop, and Fridley.

During the ongoing Sullivan Lake Water Quality Study, the former Medtronic site was identified as a potential location for enhanced stormwater treatment, given the site’s high imperviousness and location adjacent to the lake. Additionally, the south end of the Medtronic property was identified as a potential regional treatment location, which could potentially house a stormwater treatment facility to treat stormwater flows that move past this location via a dual trunkline that discharges to the east side of Sullivan Lake. The existing flows in this trunkline system are largely untreated stormwater runoff from the upstream watershed, including Central Avenue NE and the neighborhoods east of that corridor.

The City of Columbia Heights has been working with a developer to create redevelopment plans for the former Medtronic site, and draft concepts and phasing for redevelopment of the site have been developed. The City has indicated an interest in working with the MWMO to identify and incorporate stormwater amenities as part of the project that are above-and-beyond that which is required according to the City's stormwater ordinance.

Staff are requesting a not-to-exceed amount of \$97,000 to pay for professional engineering services to conduct the Medtronic Site Enhanced Stormwater Management Feasibility Study to evaluate opportunities for above-and-beyond stormwater management as part of the redevelopment project and to conceptually design additional stormwater BMPs for the site to provide additional water quality and habitat benefits to Sullivan Lake.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2025-033

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MEDTRONIC SITE ENHANCED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to protect and improve water quality and habitat within its jurisdiction through the planning and implementation of stormwater best management practices; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to partner with other entities to collaboratively find cost-effective ways to manage stormwater and improve habitat; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to improve the ecological health and stability of the Mississippi River and other water bodies within its watershed; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO has sufficient Watershed Assessment funds available; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the Board of Commissioners approve up to \$97,000 in watershed assessment funds to complete the Medtronic Site Enhanced Stormwater Management Feasibility Study.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approve up to \$97,000 in watershed assessment funds for professional services to complete the Medtronic Site Enhanced Stormwater Management Feasibility Study and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

Adopted this the 18th day of November, 2025.

Review for the Board: _____

Connie Buesgens, Chair

Review for Administration: _____

Reich, Executive Director