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MANAGEMENT  
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# Watershed Management Plan 2021-2031

Fourth Generation Plan: 2025 Amended Version

5-year Capital Improvement Project Schedule Update





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WATERSHED  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION**

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## **Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan**

### **Previous Versions**

First Generation Plan: 1986

Second Generation Plan: 2000-2010

Third Generation Plan: 2011-2021

### **Contributing Authors and Editing**

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### **Acknowledgements**

This plan update is made through the combined efforts of all staff at the MWMO and input from interested individuals and partners from the watershed. The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) would like to thank individuals for participating in the MWMO Citizen Advisory Committee and the MWMO Board of Commissioners for their valuable input into the direction and content of this Watershed Management Plan.

### **Plan Approval and Adoption**

This Amended MWMO Watershed Management Plan was approved by Board of Water and Soil Resources on October 20, 2025 and adopted by the MWMO Board of Commissioners on November 18, 2025. The initial 10-year Plan Update was approved by Board of Water and Soil Resources on September 22, 2021, and adopted by the MWMO Board of Commissioners on January 11, 2022.

The MWMO has worked closely over the years with the Towerside Innovation District, the City of Minneapolis and St. Paul to establish district stormwater systems that improve water quality, habitat, and emphasize reusing stormwater as a valued resource instead of a nuisance to be disposed of quickly. The MWMO will continue this work over the next 10 years finding ways to bring greater value to our member cities projects.

These environmental initiatives alone would be enough for any organization to take on, but we must also acknowledge we face more than just environmental issues. All governmental entities are being asked to take on deep systemic racism, cultivate diversity, promote equity and foster inclusion, and address aging stormwater infrastructure systems as well continue to develop and pay for new systems needed for future growth. As we move ahead, we are committing ourselves to finding a more restorative path forward that takes into consideration all the above issues.

Following the approval of this 10 year Plan, the MWMO will begin a more thorough planning process that results in equity and climate change plans or policy guidance that encompass all aspects of our organization. This planning process will invite those who would be impacted by the plans to participate in the process of developing them.

A history of systemic racism coupled with continued present-day infrastructure, land use and operations and maintenance patterns have brought to the forefront unresolved social, economic, and environmental issues of climate change. The inequities have had greater impacts on the black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities in the watershed. MWMO's [Equity Strategic Action Plan \(ESAP\)](#) is located online and will continue to evolve.

Site by site regulatory standards for redevelopment and the separation of public and private infrastructure systems to support it has unwittingly contributed to today's issues of climate change, inequity, and infrastructure debt. The MWMO will continue to work with its member cities on new district, regional and restorative infrastructure patterns. The MWMO will continue to pursue urban ecologic system improvements including enhancement of habitat corridors and reestablishment of native vegetation to better manage stormwater throughout the watershed.

Studies and work completed by the MWMO indicates that these extensive green and blue infrastructure corridors in public spaces may have multiple benefits including reduced crime rates, improved physical and mental health, cooling of the urban heat island, improved work place productivity, increased access to healthy food sources, improved social cohesion and community resilience, absorption of carbon emissions and other air pollutants, regained environmental and economic equity for neighborhoods, and lower long term maintenance costs.

The MWMO does not take on the long term operations and maintenance of the capital projects funded by the MWMO but not owned by MWMO. However, the MWMO will work with our partners to develop a future strategy that improves long term operations and maintenance of these projects. The MWMO has an interest in assuring that all projects, large or small, are maintained long term to achieve or exceed their designed performance for the lifecycle of the BMP's installed.

The MWMO will pursue all actions necessary to ensure the MWMO’s standards are being efficiently adopted, and effectively implemented and enforced. During this period, the MWMO may withhold project funding or services from the entity or jurisdictional area which is not in compliance with the MWMO’s Standards.

### 3.3. Local Water Plans: Content Requirements

Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.235 and Minnesota Rule 8410, discuss the particular requirements and format of a local water plan (see most recent version of MN Statutes and Rules). The MWMO is especially interested in problems identified in the local water plan and corrective actions that affect the MWMO concerns stated in this plan or that may require MWMO collaboration.

Member organizations may adopt by reference all, or part, of this plan. If a member organization does not adopt the plan, their local water plan must meet the requirements outlined in Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.235 and Minnesota Rule 8410 as well as the content in the MWMO’s **Table 6**. If a member organization partially adopts the MWMO Plan, then any requirements in the MWMO Plan not adopted must be completed and included in their local water plan, along with the content described in **Table 6**. Member organizations that adopt by reference all of the MWMO Plan into their local water plan also need to complete and include content elements found in **Table 6** in their local water plan.

Cities should use information currently available, including the Metropolitan Council’s Local Planning Handbook, to complete **Table 6** requirements. No new studies are required to provide the information requested in **Table 6**. Organizations only need to cite the source of information requested in **Table 6** if it is already a part of another organizational document. The table may require content that goes beyond what is requested by other agencies. However, if there is a conflict between another agency’s requirements and **Table 6** the MWMO will defer to the agency’s requirements. If available, each local water plan must contain the following information regarding the management of its water and natural resources.

**Table 6: Additional MWMO Requirements for Local Water Plan Content**

#### **Water, Natural Resources, and Land Use Goals and Policies**

1. Include an executive summary that summarizes the highlights of the local water plan. Highlights may include local water plan goals, policies and implementation programs that address problems identified in the MWMO’s Plan (Focus Statements in Section 2.7); corrective actions that affect these MWMO concerns; and any actions requiring MWMO’s collaboration.
2. Describe the city’s current water resource and ecosystem health-related problems and any problems that are expected to worsen or emerge over the next 10 years given the projected changes in the city’s growth and land use. Identify how MWMO can help address these problems through: implementation programs; monitoring or research needs; temporary maintenance activities associated with innovative projects; capital improvement programs; or where MWMO funding, technical expertise, project management assistance is desired.
3. As a part of the Local Water Plan and City Comprehensive Plan development process, LGUs should carefully examine how water resources and ecosystems management and protection can be integrated into land use planning and development. The MWMO will look for each local plan to do the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Describe how decisions on land use, regional water and natural resource needs are being reconciled to secure the greatest degree of long-term water resource and ecosystem protection (see 2.7 e.g. water quality and ecosystem health focus areas)</li> <li>b. Describe efforts to integrate Safe Drinking Water Act, Source Water Area protection plans, other pertinent wellhead and surface intake protection plans, as well as the protection of sensitive surface- and groundwater resources, into the local zoning code.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure Assessments and Programs</b>
<p>4. Include a local implementation program that covers the term of the local water plan. The local implementation program must describe nonstructural, programmatic, and structural solutions to existing or potential water resource and ecosystem health-related problems identified by the city. The local implementation program shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Describe the existing and proposed physical environment and land use. Include wetlands, natural resources, and land conservation areas identified by the municipality</li> <li>b. Define drainage areas and the volumes, rates, and paths of stormwater runoff, including a map of the stormwater system.</li> <li>c. Include a stormwater system map that shows ponds, streams, lakes and wetlands that are part of your system; structural pollution control devices (grit chambers, separators, etc.) that are part of your system; pipes and pipe sizes and other conveyances in your system; and outfalls and all other points of discharge from your system that are outlets.</li> <li>d. Include a table that briefly describes each component of the implementation program and clearly details the schedule, estimated cost, and funding sources for each component including annual budget totals;</li> <li>e. Include a table for a capital improvement program that sets forth, by year, details of each contemplated capital improvement that includes the schedule, estimated cost, funding source and a description of the water quality protection methods used to meet the MWMO's Standards (Section 3.13).</li> <li>f. Provide a schedule and annual process for assessing the need for water resource-related capital improvement programs or projects in the city.</li> <li>g. Clearly define the responsibilities of the local government unit from that of the MWMO and other entities for carrying out the implementation program components.</li> </ul>
<b>MWMO Standards and Agency Regulations</b>
<p>5. Provide a summary of the member organization's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program and conformance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) or summarize relevant plans and programs of the member organization that address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Inspection and maintenance plans (wet ponds, infiltration basins, raingardens, stormsewer systems, etc.)</li> <li>b. Street sweeping, right-of-way maintenance, road icing, salt storage, snow plowing, and snow storage programs</li> <li>c. Spill response and containment plans</li> <li>d. Identify who (e.g. private, city, state entities) is responsible for inspection, operation, and maintenance of all storm water infrastructure, public works facilities, and natural and artificial watercourses within in the MWMO's city boundaries.</li> </ul>
6. Describe your permitting process for land and wetland alteration work
7. Identify city ordinances that address permitting, site review and enforcement processes for implementing MWMO Standards
8. Describe how the city will comply with County groundwater plan requirements
9. List any lakes within the city that are on the Metropolitan Council's Priority Waters List
10. List any lakes within the city that are on MPCA's list of impaired waters

11. Identify how the City's LWMP will implement the chloride reduction and low salt design actions identified in the Metropolitan Council's Imagine 2050 Water Policy Plan
12. Describe how the City assures infiltration rates are not too high, too low, or uneven throughout newly installed infiltration areas that are part of a permanent stormwater management systems
13. Summarize all Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance requirements for the city
14. Summarize all current activities completed to date to comply with TMDL requirements
<b>Surface Water Appropriations</b>
15. Identify city administration of appropriations from small watercourses in accordance with MS 103B.211 Subd. 4
<b>Evaluation</b>
16. Identify how protections and improvements to water and natural resources will be measured through implementation of the local water plan

The member organizations should determine if other management programs are necessary to meet their local water plan goals and the goals of this plan.

The MWMO will discuss with each member organization the options that address its circumstances and will collaboratively determine the most practical approach to meeting the requirements of this plan and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410. The MWMO understands the need to be sensitive to consistency with adjacent watershed districts and water management organizations. Coordination is required to successfully implement watershed standards and projects and maintain the integrity of the MWMO's goals. The MWMO will work closely with cities as needed in local water plan preparation, review, and implementation. The MWMO will apply its goals, objectives, and policies to its review of local water plans.

### 3.4 General Compliance Requirements

1. Make Local Water Plans available at city offices and provide the MWMO an office reference copy.
2. The MWMO requires member cities to have a Department of Natural Resources-approved Floodplain Ordinance and a Department of Natural Resources approved Shoreline Ordinance. If no ordinance is applicable, the MWMO requires that there be no encroachment on floodways that results in reduced capacities or expedited flood flows. The only structures allowed in the flood zone are those that have been flood proofed and approved by the Department of Natural Resources.
3. Member cities are required to comply with TMDL requirements as required by their respective MS4 permits.
4. Member cities are required to address the following stormwater management and stormwater maintenance standards in a manner consistent with MWMO Standards, applicable TMDL, and NPDES standards for MS4s:
  - Target pollutant loads
  - Maximum allowable runoff rates (MWMO standard)
  - Design criteria for stormwater facilities to address target pollutant loads
  - Schedule for street sweeping, stormwater facility inspection, and maintenance
  - Spill containment and clean-up plan
5. Member cities are required to notify the MWMO of all pre-development plans requesting a variance from the MWMO's Standards.

In 2002 the Board hired a full-time administrator and since then the organization has grown to a staff of fifteen full-time employees (FTEs). In addition to the 15 FTEs, the MWMO shares staff with its members through various memorandum of understanding or joint powers agreements for IT, accounting, financial management and HR services.

The MWMO will remain stable with respect to its staff numbers in the near term. As such, fluctuations in percentages spent on individual work areas will reflect primarily the MWMO shifting between activity areas to complete tasks central to planned MWMO actions. For example, with the completion of this Fourth Generation Plan, expenses in the program initiative areas of Planning and Watershed Assessments are likely to taper back and the Capital Project expenses will grow. Reviewing the Ten-Year Implementation Schedule for the program areas exemplify these projected shifts over the next ten years, with higher priorities noted around capital project related activities.

## **6.1 Capital Improvement Schedule**

The MWMO Capital Improvement Schedule estimates the total project costs for MWMO capital projects over the next five years (Table 26). Besides the MWMO's property tax levy, funding sources for these projects may include cost-shares and grants from member cities and counties, grants from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), the Metropolitan Council, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RFL) Grants from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and others, noted in each CIP project description where applicable. The MWMO will continue to amend our plan as new capital projects are identified with our partners, to be implemented in years 2026 –2031. Projects found in **Table 26** and described below will not be contracted for without the completion of a feasibility study.

The MWMO does not take on the long-term operations and maintenance of the capital projects funded by the MWMO but not owned by MWMO. However, the MWMO will work with our member organizations and private landowners to establish a design, and long-term maintenance plan that reflect the abilities of our partners to maintain the long-term performance of the BMP's installed throughout their lifecycle.

All projects will require an operation and maintenance plan, which must include a description of personnel implementing the plan (noting any education and staff training needed), equipment needs, maintenance resources, an inspection schedule, and a maintenance budget. In addition, post construction performance testing of stormwater management practices installed may also be required.

The MWMO evaluates the net social, environmental, and economic outcomes of a design to assure what is built results in an equitable public benefit to the community. As a result, the infrastructure the MWMO models, designs, or builds related to: stormwater, flooding, and habitat focuses on bolstering those aspects of a community where historically and present day the greatest inequity exists.

The MWMO is continually assessing priority areas within the watershed for future capital projects and will update this schedule as studies are completed. The MWMO will continue to review the Capital Improvement Program minimally every 2 years for potential amendments.

The MWMO recommends that its staff and its member's staff work with one another on shared reviews of capital projects and planning efforts. Sharing staff expertise between the organizations will strengthen the connectivity and synergy between MWMO and members' capital projects and planning activities. Information on current and previously completed projects is available on the MWMO's website.

### **MWMO: Water Supply Improvements**

MWMO will collaborate with Fridley, Columbia Heights, and Anoka County, to implement stormwater treatment practices which directly reduce the amount of contamination delivered to the Mississippi River via surface waters. Within the MWMO boundary, there are at least five major stormwater outfalls that drain directly into the Mississippi River north of the City of Minneapolis water supply intake. Treatment of these stormwater discharges has obvious benefits for the water quality supply chain in Minneapolis and the surrounding area.

### **MWMO: Street Sweeping as a Stormwater Quality Improvement Practice**

MWMO will collaborate with member cities and MS4s to leverage municipal street sweeping operations as a stormwater quality improvement opportunity. MWMO will conduct this work as a multi-phase effort, in which member cities and MS4s will be surveyed for their current street sweeping practices, and a street sweeping optimization plan will be developed. A street sweeping optimization study, funded by a BWSR Watershed Based Implementation Fund grant, is currently underway. Future phases will involve the disbursement of grant funds to enhance street sweeping operations and monitor the impact of enhanced street sweeping operations on member MS4 progress towards meeting Mississippi River TMDLs.

### **MWMO – Regional and District Systems**

MWMO will continue to be a pioneer in the establishment of regional and district stormwater treatment systems. These are systems that have expansive positive impacts on the quality of stormwater treatment across highly developed or developing areas within the MWMO boundary. These systems enable member MS4s, private business owners, and developers to access high quality stormwater treatment with stacked social and environmental benefits and self-sustaining funding mechanisms.

#### **MWMO Towerside Innovation District**

MWMO will focus Phase II efforts at the second section of Bridal Veil Park, make connections to and between the Glendale Public Housing Campus and Luxten Park, and expand on work already completed by the MWMO to establish a pocket park there. This is an example of work that the MWMO is conducting to further social and environmental equity goals.

#### **St Anthony Village: St Anthony Regional Treatment Facility Retrofits**

MWMO will facilitate a retrofit of the Sain Anthony Regional Treatment Facility (SARTF) to enhance the performance of an existing regional stormwater treatment facility based on lessons learned since the construction of the treatment facility. In 2016, MWMO and the City of St. Anthony Village collaborated to construct the experimental treatment system which diverts and treats stormwater from approximately 600 acres of fully developed urban land. MWMO staff have been monitoring the facility since 2016 and have determined that the system has not been functioning to its full potential.

A performance assessment was completed in 2025 to identify options for the improvement of the facility. An option for the enhancement of the existing facility will be implemented within the 5-year CIP period to ensure that the system continues to enhance regional water quality.

**MWMO / RiverNorth Development District**

Utilizing lessons learned from the Towerside Innovation District, MWMO will partner with developers to create and implement GSI systems in a redevelopment area adjacent to the Mississippi River and in the Northside Green Zone

**Columbia Heights – Hilltop Stormwater Quality, Ecosystem, and Cultural Resource Improvements:**

MWMO will collaborate with cities and neighborhood organizations to conduct work that significantly enhances water quality, urban wildlife habitat, and community activation in areas of high intercultural activity. In Columbia Heights and near the City of Hilltop are a number of potentially high impact projects in a phase of initial planning that meet these goals.

**Sullivan Lake Water Quality Improvements:**

MWMO will partner with the City of Columbia Heights to install stormwater treatment practices that reduce the amount of total phosphorous and total suspended solids reaching Sullivan Lake. Sullivan Lake (also known as Sandy Lake) is a shallow, 17-acre, lake encompassed by Sullivan Lake Park. Land uses around the lake include a mix of residential and commercial properties. The lake was listed as an impaired water in 2002 by the MPCA for nutrients and biological indicators. Sullivan Lake is one of five lakes in the MWMO watershed and represents an opportunity for the enhancement of water quality, community health and recreation, and urban wildlife habitat.

**Columbia Heights: 800 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave NE – Redevelopment to High Density Residential:**

MWMO will collaborate with the City of Columbia Heights and a private developer to integrate stormwater treatment practices within the design of the redevelopment of a site formerly occupied by the headquarters of a major medical device manufacturer. This site is situated within a high frequency transit corridor and cultural corridor of the MWMO and occupies a significant proportion of the Lake Sullivan shoreline. This makes the site an extremely lucrative place to construct stormwater treatment, public access to water and natural areas, and urban wildlife habitat enhancements.

**Columbia Heights: 4300 Central Ave NE Mixed-Use Development**

This 13-acre site is planned for re-development, offering both single and multi-family residential housing, a public market, and parkland. A feasibility study will be performed to explore mitigating nearby flooding and any other potential opportunities to create greater water quality improvements for the area. An essential feature to this development will be incorporating Jackson Pond which provides 100's of acres of existing flood mitigation.

## **Mississippi River Water Quality, Shoreline Habitat, and Public Access Improvements**

The MWMO will work with its partners to consider the stabilization of riverbank sites that contribute sediment to the MWMO's reach of the Mississippi River, as well as to enhance shoreline habitat and public access to the River. Single projects that require multi-year funding would need to be amended into the CIP schedule as stand-alone projects. In addition to the below listed capital projects, the MWMO has identified opportunities for shoreline enhancements on Nicollet Island and Hennepin Island, and will continue to explore these and other opportunities to enhance island and riverbank systems within the Mississippi River.

### **East Riverfront, Minneapolis: Lowry Ave NE Water Quality Improvements**

MWMO will partner with the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County to integrate green stormwater infrastructure and regional stormwater treatment opportunities within construction and redevelopment projects that drain stormwater into Lowry Ave NE trunk storm sewer pipe. This work will include the evaluation and construction of options for pretreatment of stormwater entering the Lowry Sand Filter and options for the retrofit of the sand filter that will make it a more effective treatment structure. BWSR Watershed Based Implementation Funding will be used to fund a feasible study to identify regional stormwater treatment opportunities.

### **East Riverfront, Minneapolis: Marshall St NE Water Quality and Habitat Improvements:**

MWMO will partner with the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County to integrate green stormwater infrastructure and regional stormwater treatment opportunities within construction and redevelopment projects that drain stormwater into or across trunk storm sewer pipes in the vicinity of Marshall St NE. This project will include the evaluation and implementation of water quality improvements and expansion of habitat within corridors identified by the MPRB and MWMO, and is planned to occur in conjunction with the reconstruction of Marshall St NE.

### **East Riverfront, Minneapolis: Mississippi River Pedestrian Bridge and 1720 Marshall St NE Redevelopment**

MWMO will collaborate with MPRB as opportunities arise to advance the redevelopment of Mississippi River shoreline owned by MPRB at 1720 Marshall St NE, Minneapolis, in a manner that supports enhances shoreline habitat and Mississippi River water quality, as well as the construction of the recreational bridge proposed by MPRB and a potential overlook area. The MPRB bridge will cross the Mississippi River and connect recreational pathways from Marshall St NE to 26th Ave N, Minneapolis.

### **East Riverfront, Minneapolis: 2100 Marshall St NE Shoreline and Access Improvements**

MWMO will partner with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) to improve ecological function and create public access to a 130ft segment of the Mississippi River shoreline extending north from Gluek Park in NE Minneapolis. This project advances the goals of the MWMO, advances MPRB's Above the Falls plan, and will connect two MPRB properties that are currently separated by a privately owned business.

**East Riverfront, Minneapolis: Graco Park Expansion Water Quality, Habitat, and Public Riverfront Access Enhancement**

MWMO will partner with MPRB and the City of Minneapolis to integrate stormwater, habitat, and community health opportunities within the redevelopment of a group of properties located between Graco Park and Broadway St NE. This is an opportunity for an expansion of public park and natural space along the Mississippi River and integration of natural and public resources with urban redevelopment.

**East Riverfront, MWMO: Exeter and Silva on the River, Water Quality and Shoreline Improvements**

MWMO will partner with MPRB and a private developer to enhance stormwater treatment and Mississippi River shoreline habitat and public access at a residential redevelopment near the former Grain Belt Brewing complex in NE Minneapolis.

**East Riverfront, MPRB: Hennepin Island Rehabilitation Project**

Hennepin Island is the secluded park space between the Stone Arch Bridge and the East Falls below Father Hennepin Bluff. It is a riverine landscape of high potential ecological richness although the landscape integrity is currently degraded. Public access is very challenging and accomplished by stairways, only one of the original two of which is in service. The stairs link to a system of loop trails and ped bridges. The proposed project will rehabilitate all existing amenities and natural resources as well as make access and security upgrades. The natural resource work will include native landscape installation, shoreline rehabilitation, ecological interpretive features and environmental quality monitoring.

**West Riverfront, MWMO/MPRB/Minneapolis: Upper Harbor Terminal**

The Minneapolis Upper Harbor Terminal (UHT) is a 50-acre redevelopment site located along the west bank of the Mississippi River in North Minneapolis. The MWMO will seek to implement regional and district-scale stormwater opportunities in conjunction with redevelopment at the UHT. The MWMO will work with willing landowners to evaluate the opportunity for innovative stormwater practices along the roadways, railway and utility corridors, private development sites, public right of ways, and on Minneapolis Park Board land. Stormwater designs will work to create added-value (e.g. stormwater reuse and improved ecosystem services) from the significant volume of stormwater that passes thru the UHT area from North Minneapolis. The project will utilize historic sites, complement existing and future land uses, improve ecosystem services, and provide bank and shoreline habitat restoration.

**West Riverfront, Minneapolis: Owámnnyomni at the Upper Lock**

MWMO will partner with Owámnnyomni Okhódayapi, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), and other public and private entities to support the Indigenous-led reclamation and transformation of the five-acre Upper Lock site. The project vision is to restore ecological function, cultural landscapes, and public access at this historically significant location on the West Riverfront, which has been closed to the public since 1959. Future work will focus on habitat restoration, water quality improvements, and reconnecting communities to the Falls through Dakota leadership, education, and interpretation. This project will advance MWMO's goals while honoring the

sovereignty of Dakota Tribal Nations and creating a model for collaborative land and mill race restoration.

### **West Riverfront, Minneapolis: North Mississippi Regional Park Improvements and Camden Boat Launch**

MWMO will collaborate with MPRB to enhance Mississippi River shoreline wildlife habitat and public access points to the river within and near North Mississippi Regional Park, including the construction of a boat launch near the north end of Upper Harbor Terminal in the Camden neighborhood of North Minneapolis.

### **Minneapolis South Side Green Zone – St. Mary’s Subwatershed:**

MWMO will conduct tightly collaborative work within the South Side Green Zone of Minneapolis and surrounding neighborhoods, focused on improving the quality of stormwater discharged to the Mississippi River from drainage areas crossing Hiawatha Avenue and Riverside Avenue. Partners in this area include the Little Earth Residents' Association at the Little Earth of United Tribes, City of Minneapolis, MPRB, Hennepin County, and MnDOT. There are a significant number of transportation and park projects planned for this area, and MWMO plans to leverage these opportunities to enhance the services provided to historically marginalized communities in the area.

#### **Little Earth Reuse Project – Cedar Avenue**

MWMO will collaborate with the Little Earth community, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, and MnDOT to incorporate stormwater treatment and reuse within community-driven street and park redevelopment efforts. This project is centered on a reuse system that will be built as part of Hennepin County’s reconstruction of Cedar Avenue / Country Road 152 in the East Phillips Neighborhood.

#### **Southside Greenzone – St. Mary’s Subwatershed Stormwater Quality Improvements**

MWMO will collaborate with the Little Earth community, City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA), MPRB, Hennepin County, and MnDOT to implement community-driven water reuse, stormwater quality, and urban greening projects within the East Phillips, Cedar-Riverside, and Seward neighborhoods. This work includes the installation of green stormwater infrastructure along 18<sup>th</sup> Ave S in East Phillips during the reconstruction of the street.

### **MWMO/Minneapolis Public Schools: Green Campus Investments and River Connections**

MWMO will build on existing relationships with the Minneapolis Public School District (MPS) to expand the installation of green stormwater infrastructure and stormwater reuse systems in MPS facilities. This work will increase the volume of stormwater treated and reused at Thomas Edison High School and capitalize on new opportunities for stormwater treatment and education at Nellie Stone Johnson Elementary School. These schools are anchors for the Mississippi River access corridors and habitat connectors, 26<sup>th</sup> Ave N & 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE. Included in the Green Campus will be deeply affordable housing connected to the district stormwater management system and a training area for youth focused on stormwater BMP maintenance with the Spark-Y

program. MWMO anticipates supplementing funds for these projects with grants from the Minnesota DEED as well as Brownfields RLF Grants from the EPA.

**Table 26: MWMO Capital Improvement Schedule 2026-2031**

<b>MWMO Capital Improvement Project Groups</b>		<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>		<b>Total funding</b>
MWMO Enhanced Street Sweeping			X	X	X	X		\$1,000,000
MWMO Water Supply Improvements			X	X	X	X		\$1,600,000
Minneapolis - District Systems								
	St Anthony Village: St Anthony Regional Treatment Facility Retrofit	X	X					TBD
	Towerside Innovation District Habitat, Reuse, Water Quality, and Restorative Improvements			X	X	X		\$2,000,000
	RiverNorth Development District							TBD
Columbia Heights - Fridley - Hilltop								
	800 53rd Avenue NE - Redevelopment to High Density Residential (Columbia Heights & Medtronic)		X	X				TBD
	Columbia Heights: 4300 Central Ave NE Mixed-Use Development (Rainbow Foods Site)		X	X				\$2,000,000
	Columbia Heights: Sullivan Lake Water Quality Improvements		X	X	X	X		\$2,000,000
Minneapolis - East Riverfront		X	X	X				
	MWMO: Lowry Ave NE Water Quality Improvements	X	X					\$800,000

	MWMO: Marshall St NE Pisheds Water Quality and Habitat Improvements	X	X	X				\$1,600,000
	MPRB/MWMO: Mississippi River Pedestrian Bridge and 1720 Marshall St NE Redevelopment		X	X				TBD
	MWMO/MPRB: 2100 Marshall St NE Shoreline Improvement	X						TBD
	MWMO: Graco Headquarters, Minneapolis, Water Quality Treatments, Habitat, and Park Expansion			X	X	X		\$500,000
	MWMO: Exeter and Silva on the River, Water Quality and Shoreline Improvements		X	X				TBD
	MPRB/MWMO: Hennepin Island Rehabilitation Project				X	X		\$3,000,000
	Minneapolis – West Riverfront	X	X	X	X	X		
	MWMO/MPRB/Mpls: Upper Harbor Terminal	X	X	X	X	X		\$8,000,000
	Owámniyomni at the Upper Lock		X	X	X			TBD
	MWMO/MPRB: North Mississippi Regional Park and Camden Boat Launch Improvements		X	X				\$200,000
	Minneapolis – South Side Green Zone – St. Mary’s Subwatershed		X	X	X	X		
	Cedar Avenue - Little Earth Reuse Project		X	X				TBD
	Green Campus Improvements and River Connections							\$6,000,000
	Minneapolis Public Schools Thomas Edison		X	X				TBD

	High School and Spark-Y Training Area							
	Minneapolis Public Schools Nellie Stone Johnson Elementary School Stormwater Treatment and Training Opportunities			X	X	X		TBD
<b>Grand Total</b>								<b>\$28,700,000</b>

*Note: A feasibility study of the project and the MWMO's funding guidelines will determine what aspects of the project may be funded. MWMO Board will review and approve all final project budgets and agreements.*

Funding amounts for the capital improvement projects do not include diagnostic and feasibility study costs. These costs are a part of the annual budget for the Watershed Assessments. Any significant changes (15 to 25% increase) to the estimated project costs will be reported by the MWMO in their annual report to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and included in the MWMO's annual budget meeting which is open for public comment. Projects exceeding 25% of their budgeted cost will require a minor amendment. The maximum grant amount for a CIP project not on the current CIP schedule is 25% of the MMWO's annual CIP project budget or an average annual estimated total CIP project budget over the life of the Plan.

Projects previously identified on the MWMO's Ten-Year Implementation Schedule that have been completed or substantially completed are listed below (Table 27).

**Table 27: MWMO Capital Improvement Project Activity Summary 2021-2025**

<b><u>Completed MWMO Capital Improvement Projects</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2025</u></b>	<b><u>Total funding</u></b>
Fridley – Sylvan Hills Park Stormwater Improvements					X	\$1,286,774.62
Fridley, Columbia Heights – 52 <sup>nd</sup> Ave NE Hydrodynamic Separator for Sullivan Lake				X		\$42,113.30
Columbia Heights – Heated Sidewalks	X					\$131,800.00
Columbia Heights – Huset Park Water Reuse and Water Quality Improvements (Feasibility Study)	X					\$39,992.50
Columbia Heights, Minneapolis – 37 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE Street Reconstruction					X	\$274,729.00
Minneapolis – Old Bassett Creek Tunnel Water Quality Improvements	X					\$125,887.54
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board – Graco Park Development					X	\$480,000.00
Minneapolis, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board – 1NE Watershed System-Scale / Multiple-Benefit Stormwater Projects			X	X	X	\$3,926,231.00
MWMO – Restoration of Eroded Riverbanks Sites. Water Quality and Habitat Improvements: Upper Harbor Terminal Riverbank and Overlook		X	X			\$2,464,963.93
MWMO – Restoration of Eroded Riverbanks Sites. Water Quality and Habitat Improvements: Ole Olson Park and Shoreline Restoration						\$1,303,592.44
<b><u>Grand Total</u></b>						<b>\$10,076,084.33</b>

## 6.2 Ten-Year Implementation Schedule

The MWMO’s Ten-Year Implementation Schedule is intended to be used as a guide, not a prescription, for MWMO activities over the next ten years. The MWMO will conduct an annual prioritization of goals and