

## Agenda

#### Vermillion River Watershed Community Advisory Committee

May 14, 2025 – 4:30 p.m., Teleconference via MS Teams and in-person

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call

3.		dience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda ease limit audience comments to five minutes)	
4.	.,	proval of Agenda	Action
5.	Арј	proval of Minutes from the February 12, 2025, meeting	Action
6.	Bus	siness Items	
	a.	Overview and Comments on Draft 2026-2035 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Implementation Table and Summary of Approval and Adoption Timeline	Action
	b.	Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District Presentation on the Landscaping for Clean Water Program	Information
	c.	Update on Proposed Revisions to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Standards	Information
	d.	Presentation and Discussion of Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2025 Budget-Identified Capital Improvement Projects	Information
7.	Up	dates	
	a.	Chairperson's Report	
	b.	Staff Updates	
8.	Adj	journ	Action

**Please note**, the May 14, 2025, Community Advisory Committee meeting will take place **via teleconference** on Microsoft Teams and **in-person** in Conference Room A at the Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220<sup>th</sup> Street West, Farmington, Minnesota.

#### Microsoft Teams

Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 251 522 653 883 4 Passcode: qf9Av37K Dial in by phone +1 651-273-3070,,226486814# United States, Hastings Find a local number Phone conference ID: 226 486 814#

### **Other Information**

Next Meeting Date: August 13, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.



Please confirm your attendance by contacting Brita Moore-Kutz at <u>brita.moore-kutz@co.dakota.mn.us</u> by noon on the day before. You will be notified if the meeting is canceled due to an anticipated lack of quorum.



## **Meeting Minutes**

## Vermillion River Watershed Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

#### Date: 2/12/2025

Minutes prepared by: Brita Moore-Kutz, Communications and Outreach Specialist for the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO)

Location: In-person at the Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center, Farmington, MN, and virtual via Microsoft Teams

#### **CAC Members in Attendance**

- Josh Borton
- Brad Blackett
- John Nicolai
- Andy Riesgraf (virtual)
- Sandy Weber

#### **CAC Members Absent**

- Kevin Chamberlain
- Jim Kotz
- Steve Hamrick

#### **VRWJPO Staff in Attendance**

- Travis Thiel, VRWJPO Administrator
- Jeff Dunn, VRWJPO Water Resources Engineer
- Brita Moore-Kutz, VRWJPO Communications & Outreach Specialist
- Kelly Perrine, VRWJPO Senior Watershed Specialist

#### **Others in Attendance**

• Curt Coudron, Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Project Supervisor

#### **Agenda Items**

#### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

#### 2. Election of Community Advisory Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Sandy Weber nominated Josh Borton for Chair, seconded by Andy Riesgraf. No other nominations. Josh Borton was elected Chair on a 5-0 voice vote.

Josh Borton nominated Brad Blackett for Vice Chair, seconded by Sandy Weber. No other nominations. Brad Blackett was elected Vice Chair on a 5-0 voice vote.

#### 3. Roll Call

Members Borton, Blackett, Nicolai, Riesgraf, and Weber were present.

#### 4. Audience Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

#### None.

#### 5. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Brad Blackett to approve the agenda, seconded by Sandy Weber. Motion carried on a 5-0 voice vote.

#### 6. Approval of Minutes from the November 20, 2024, Meeting

Motion by Brad Blackett to approve the minutes, seconded by Sandy Weber. Motion carried on a 5-0 voice vote.

#### 7. Business Items

a. Comments on and Adoption of Vermillion River Watershed Community Advisory Committee Revised Bylaws

Travis Thiel presented the updated bylaws, changed to reflect revisions made to the VRWJPO empowering joint powers agreement (JPA).

Brad Blackett asked if the bylaws affected the provision for current members serving extra terms in case no new applicants could be found. Preference is given to applicants living within the watershed, but residency is no longer required, per the revised JPA, but this has no impact on the ability for members to serve "interim" terms during the search for new applicants. Travis said language could be added to the bylaws that would include these membership and term length provisions, which the committee agreed would be helpful for clarification purposes.

Motion by Sandy Weber to adopt the CAC revised bylaws, seconded by Brad Blackett. Motion carried on a 5-0 voice vote.

#### b. Presentation and Discussion of Vermillion River Watershed Budget-Identified Capital Improvement Projects

Jeff Dunn and Kelly Perrine gave a presentation on planned projects for 2025 and 2026 and answered questions from the committee. Projects discussed:

- East Lake Invasive Fish Barrier and Removals (Lakeville)
- Launch Park Wetland Restoration (Lakeville)
- Grand Prairie Park Water Reuse and Recirculation (Lakeville)
- Firelight Way Hydrodynamic Separator (Lakeville)
- Mork Wetland Bank (Castle Rock Township)
- Dakota County Street Sweeping Study
- 4<sup>th</sup> and Willow Hydrodynamic Separator (Farmington)
- North Creek culvert improvements at Denali Way (Farmington) and MN Highway 3 (Empire)
- 15<sup>th</sup> and Bailey Stormwater Improvements (Hastings)
- Alimagnet Lake Alum Treatment (Apple Valley/Burnsville)
  - Members asked about how long it would potentially take for Alimagnet Lake to be delisted from the state Impaired Waters List following the alum treatment. Kelly said that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is compiling the 2026 list at present and isn't sure exactly when Alimagnet would meet the eligibility for delisting.
  - Brad Blackett reported that he had tested some pipes and ponds near Alimagnet Lake for chloride levels with a test kit acquired during the Winter Salt Week campaign at the end of January 2025.

#### 8. Updates

a. Chairperson's Report

None.

#### b. Staff Updates

#### **Travis Thiel**

- Staff are working on a policy regarding projects and maintenance to be included in the next Watershed Plan. The growing costs of maintaining existing projects are burdening partner local government units' (LGU) budgets, so VRWJPO hopes to find a more equitable solution. Draft policies will be presented to the CAC when they are available.
- VRWJPO, Dakota County natural resources staff, and Minnesota Trout Unlimited have been in discussion about a potential stream restoration project on South Creek. The County owns the land, and Trout Unlimited is taking the lead on project design. Construction could take place as early as 2026, depending on how long the design process takes.
- The 2025 budget had initially projected \$50,000 in wetland bank credit sales revenue for the VRWJPO. Due to strong demand for credits, there will likely be more revenue from these sales that can go towards the Mork Wetland Bank, which would mean less money from the Capital Improvement budget is needed.

#### Brita Moore-Kutz

• VRWJPO is hosting a table at the Dakota County Fix-It Clinic on Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Galaxie Library in Apple Valley.

#### **Curt Coudron**

- Dakota SWCD is updating their cost-share program policy following feedback from partners.
- Landscaping for Clean Water course registration is open. About 100 people have registered for the introductory course so far. The social media video marketing campaign for the program has launched, making more people in the County aware of the program and how to sign up.

#### 9. Adjournment

Motion by Josh Borton to adjourn, seconded by Brad Blackett. Motion carried on a 5-0 voice vote.

#### **Next Meeting**

Date: May 14, 2025 Time: 4:30 p.m. Location: Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center Conference Room A 6a. Overview and Comments on Draft 2026-2035 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan Implementation Table and Summary of Approval and Adoption Timeline

Meeting Date:	5/14/2025
Item Type:	<b>Regular-Action</b>
Contact:	Travis Thiel
Telephone:	952-891-7546
Prepared by:	Travis Thiel



#### **PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

• Provide input on the Draft 2026-2035 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Implementation Table and hear a summary of the approval and adoption timeline for the WMP

#### SUMMARY

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) staff are continuing to develop the 2026-2035 WMP. Staff have drafted specific actions that will accomplish the goals and address the issues that stakeholders, the Vermillion River Watershed Community Advisory Committee (CAC), Vermillion River Watershed Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board (JPB) assisted in identifying and prioritizing in the WMP.

These draft actions have been organized in an implementation table within the WMP. Staff have assigned estimated costs and laid out an implementation schedule by which these actions will occur. Staff are seeking input from the CAC regarding the draft actions. Specifically, staff would like the CAC to provide input on the following:

- 1. Are the proposed actions correct to address the WMP Goals?
- 2. Are the costs appropriate for the proposed actions?
- 3. Is the schedule appropriate to accomplish the proposed actions?

#### **EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT**

Actions within the implementation table have no fiscal impact for 2025. They will have a fiscal impact starting in 2026 when the WMP is adopted, and implementation begins. The 2026 VRWJPO Budget will have costs associated with implementing the actions in the WMP.

Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
	WQ-1	Vermillion River Monitoring Network	Annually administer the VRMN, including physical, chemical and biological monitoring. Costs include: DCSWCD staff/consultant time for water quality, aquatic macroinvertebrate and fish monitoring; data analyses; samples analyses; report preparation; agency coordination; equipment/supplies and USGS and DNR flow gaging.	High	Use surface water quality monitoring data to inform restoration and protection decisions.	Watershed-wide	DCSWCD, SSWCD, DNR, MPCA	General Fund	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$1,249,562
	WQ-2	Assessments	Fund additional subwatershed, geomorphic and other assessments to identify projects and practices as well as their project costs and pollutant loading reductions or water resource/habitat improvement metrics.	High	Protect surface waters from impairments. Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list.	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Grants	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$120,000
	WQ-3	Projects Identified within City of Lakeville North Creek and East Lake Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as: infiltration, filtration, ponding, reuse, hydrodynamic separator and MTDs identified within the North Creek and East Lake Subwatershed Assessment conducted within the bounds of the City of Lakeville.	High	Protect surface waters from impairments. Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list.	North Creek and East Lake	City of Lakeville	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$180,000
Water Quality	WQ-4	Projects Identified within City of Apple Valley East Lake Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as infiltration, diversion, reuse and alum identified within the East Lake Subwatershed Assessment conducted within the bounds of the City of Apple Valley.	High	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list.	East Lake	City of Apple Valley	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$345,000
	WQ-5	Projects Identified within Vermillion River Headwaters Subwatershed Assessment Projects	Implement projects such as filter strips, grassed waterways, WASCOBs, wetland restoration and native grasses identified within the Vermillion River Headwaters subwatershed assessment.	High	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list. Protect surface waters from impairments.	Vermillion River Headwaters	SSWCD, Landowners	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$100,309
	WQ-6	Projects Identified within Upper Mainstem Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as filter strips, grassed waterways, WASCOBs, streambank and shoreline stabilizations identified within the Upper Mainstem subwatershed assessment.	High	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list. Protect surface waters from impairments.	Upper Mainstem Subwatershed	Landowners, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$315,257
	WQ-7	Projects Identified within South Branch Vermillion River Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as grassed waterways, WASCOBs, critical area plantings, filter strips, grade stabilizations, streambank stabilizations and wetland restorations identified within the South Branch Vermillion River subwatershed assessment.	High	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list. Protect surface waters from impairments.	South Branch Vermillion River Subwatershed	Landowners, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$100,309

Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
	WQ-8	Projects Identified within Vermillion Lower Mainstem South Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as WASCOBS and grassed waterways identified within the Vermillion Lower Mainstem South subwatershed assessment.	High	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list. Protect surface waters from impairments.	Lower Mainstem Subwatershed	Landowner, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$100,309
	WQ - 10	Opportunity projects/assessments	Through the life of the Plan, the VRWJPO will remain open to projects, initiatives, studies or other opportunities that align with Plan goals and objectives as they arise which are unknown at the time of Plan creation.	Medium	Many	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$100,000
	WQ-11	BMP Performance Monitoring	Monitor performance of pollutant reductions associated with BMPs implemented with funding assistance from grant or partner dollars.	Medium	Use surface water quality monitoring data to inform restoration and protection decisions.	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$24,900
Water Quality	WQ-12	Vermillion River Groundwater Interaction Assessment	Fund an assessment in the Hastings DWSMA to investigate surface water-groundwater interaction from the Vermillion River and its tributaries.	Medium	Coordinate with others to assess impacts to groundwater from the Vermillion River and its tributaries.	South Branch, Lower Mainstem, and Mississippi Direct Subwatersheds	Dakota County, City of Hastings	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$49,400
×	WQ-13	Groundwater Quality Projects, Programs and Practices	Assist lead groundwater organizations with projects, programs and practices that protect or improve groundwater quality.	Medium	Support and implement projects, programs and practices to protect or improve groundwater quality.	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$200,618
	WQ-14	Street Sweeping Study	Complete a Street Sweeping Study to prioritize areas for enhanced sweeping based on pollutant recovery/removal potentials.	Medium	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list. Protect surface waters from impairments.	Permitted MS4s	Dakota County	General Fund, Partner Funds	Inventory, Assessment and Research; and Communication, Outreach and Public Relations	\$50,000
	WQ-15	Assist with Development of Low Salt Design Standards	Support the development of low salt design and stormwater management standards.	Medium	Protect surface waters from impairments. Support and implement projects, programs and practices that protect or improve groundwater quality.	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund	Administration and Operations; Regulation	\$37,500

#### Table 3-14: VRWJPO 2026-2035 Implementation Plan: 10-Year Expenses

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Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
Quality	WQ-16	Projects that Address E. coli	Partner with lead agencies to investigate and implement projects that address E. coli in Scott County.	Low	Remove surface waters from the impaired waters list. Use surface water monitoring data to inform restoration and protection decisions.	Upper Mainstem Subwatershed	SSWCD, Scott County	General Fund, Partner Funds	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$17,500
Water Q	WQ-17	Projects that Address Toxics/Metals/ECOC/Pesticides	Investigate opportunities to partner with lead agencies to implement projects that address toxics/metals/ECOC/pesticides.	Low	Support and implement projects, programs and practices to protect or improve groundwater quality.	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Fund, Grants	Many	\$5,000

	SW-1	Projects Identified within Hastings Direct Drainage Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as infiltration, filtration and hydrodynamic separators identified within the Hastings Direct Drainage Assessment Report.	High	Promote and implement infiltration practices. Promote and implement stormwater practices that manage the peak rate and volume of runoff from the landscape.	Lower Mississippi Direct Subwatershed	City of Hastings	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$130,000
Management	SW-2	Projects Identified within South Creek Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as infiltration, filtration, pervious paver, boulevard tree trench, cistern, wetland and stream revitalization, and MTDs identified within South Creek Subwatershed Assessment.	High	Promote and implement infiltration practices. Promote and implement stormwater practices that manage the peak rate and volume of runoff from the landscape.	South Creek Subwatershed	City of Lakeville, Landowners, Dakota County	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$30,000
Stormwater N	SW-3	Projects Identified within City of Farmington Subwatershed Assessment	Implement projects such as treatment train, underground vault/pipe gallery and biofiltration projects identified within City of Farmington Subwatershed Assessment.	High	Promote and implement infiltration practices. Promote and implement stormwater practices that manage the peak rate and volume of runoff from the landscape.	North Creek, Middle Creek and Middle Mainstem Subwatersheds	City of Farmington	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$75,000
	SW-4	Projects Identified within City of Farmington Stormwater Retrofit Assessment for Independent School District 192	Implement projects such as bioretention basin, retention pond, impervious reduction and stormwater reuse identified within City of Farmington Stormwater Retrofit Assessment for Independent School District 192.	High	Promote and implement infiltration practices. Promote and implement stormwater practices that manage the peak rate and volume of runoff from the landscape.	North Creek, Middle Creek and Middle Mainstem Subwatersheds	City of Farmington	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	+

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Table 3-14: VRWJPO 2026-2035 Implementation Plan: 10-Year	Expenses
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Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10-Year Cost
	SW-5	Innovative Stormwater Management Projects and Practices	Implement innovative stormwater management projects in partnership with LGUs including, but not limited to: green infrastructure, stormwater reuse and LID BMPs.	High	Promote and implement infiltration practices. Promote and implement stormwater practices that manage the peak rate and volume of runoff from the landscape.	Watershed Wide	Cities, Counties	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$290,000
Management	SW-6	Opportunity projects/assessments	Through the life of the Plan, the VRWJPO will remain open to projects, initiatives, studies or other opportunities that align with Plan goals and objectives as they arise which are unknown at the time of Plan creation.	Medium	Many	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$100,000
Stormwater N	SW-7	Projects identified within the Long and Farquar TMDL Implementation Plan and Long and Farquar Pond Feasibility Analysis	Implement stormwater projects identified within the Long and Farquar TMDL Implementation Plan such as: road corridor BMPs, infiltration benches, infiltration basins, private large lot redevelopments and residential BMPS/buffers/sweeping. Implement projects identified within the Long and Farquar Pond Feasibility Analysis.	Medium	Promote and implement infiltration practices. Promote and implement stormwater practices that manage the peak rate and volume of runoff from the landscape.	Long and Farquar Lakes	City of Apple Valley	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$58,000
	SW-8	Low Impact Development Practice Policies and Programs	Promote implementation of LID practices through the development of policies and programs to further adoption.	Medium	Assist in the development and implementation of policies and programs that promote green infrastructure and Low Impact Development practices.	Urban Landscapes	Many	General Fund	Many	\$5,000

tainability	GS-1	Groundwater Conservation Assessments	Collaborate with partners for local, regional and state groundwater conservation assessments.	High	Assist with and coordinate groundwater supply planning, protection and improvement efforts with lead groundwater organizations.	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund	Inventory, Assessments and Research	\$30,000
Groundwater Sust	GS-2	Projects, Programs and Practices Identified within the Dakota County Groundwater Plan's Groundwater Quantity Tactics	Implement projects, programs and practices identified within the Dakota County Groundwater Plan such as: a VRWJPO-wide water supply/conservation initiative, cost-sharing for water conservation projects, working with the DNR to ensure large groundwater appropriation requests are sustainable, and more.	Medium	Assist with and implement projects, programs and practices that reduce landscape and agricultural water use. Assist with and implement projects, programs and practices that promote infiltration.	Dakota County	Dakota County, LGUs, DCSWCD	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance; Regulation; Inventory, Assessments and Research	\$100,000

Categor y	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
ustaina bility	GS-3	Groundwater Conservation Assessment Projects	Implement projects, programs and practices identified within other groundwater conservation assessments.	Medium	Assist with and implement projects, programs and practices that reduce landscape and agricultural water use. Assist with and implement projects, programs and practices that promote infiltration.	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$50,000
Groundwater Sus	GS-4	Soil Health Initiative Partnerships	Assist with implementation and promotion of partner soil health programs.	Medium	Assist with and implement projects, programs and practices that reduce landscape and agricultural water use.	Residential and Agricultural Landscapes	Many	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance; Communication s, Outreach and Public Relations	\$20,000
	GS-5	Opportunity projects/assessments	Through the life of the Plan, the VRWJPO will remain open to projects, initiatives, studies or other opportunities that align with Plan goals and objectives as they arise which are unknown at the time of Plan creation.	Medium	Many	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$100,000

e Resilience	CR-1	Climate Resiliency Plan	Partner in the development of a Climate Resiliency Plan to establish a baseline assessment of climate resiliency and develop strategic goals and recommendations to move towards a more climate resilient Watershed. Scope to include, but not be limited to: inventory of inadequate stormwater infrastructure, feasibility of stormwater pond smart technology, flood risk assessment and natural resource susceptibilities to drought.	High	Foster partnerships to implement projects, programs and practices that improve stormwater infrastructure's resilience to climate impacts	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund, Grants	Feasibility/ Preliminary Engineering; Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$100,000
Climat	CR-2	Climate Resilient Project Incentives	Provide incentives for projects identified within the Climate Resiliency Plan.	High	Foster partnerships to implement projects, programs and practices that improve stormwater infrastructure's resilience to climate impacts	Urban Landscapes	Cities, Counties, SWCDs	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$205,000

Table 3-14: VRWJPO 2026-2035 Implementation P	Plan: 10-Year Expenses
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Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
	CR-3	Floodplain Reconnection	Implement restoration and enhancement projects that connect water resources to the historic floodplain.	Medium	Promote reconnection to historic floodplains	Floodplains	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance; Feasibility/ Preliminary Engineering	\$180,000
e,	CR-4	Opportunity projects/assessments	Through the life of the Plan, the VRWJPO will remain open to projects, initiatives, studies or other opportunities that align with Plan goals and objectives as they arise which are unknown at the time of Plan creation.	Medium	Many	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$100,000
Climate Resilience	CR-5	Stormwater Infrastructure Adaptation	Partner with LGUs to upgrade existing stormwater infrastructure to be more climate resilient.	Low	Support LGUs in stormwater infrastructure adaptation	Urban Landscapes	LGUs	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$45,000
Clim	CR-6	Green Infrastructure BMPs	Implement green infrastructure BMPs in partnership with LGUs.	Low	Foster partnerships to implement projects, programs and practices to increase the amount of green infrastructure	Urban Landscapes	LGUs	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	+
	CR-7	Updated Floodplain Model	Assist partners in the investigation of updated floodplain models.	Low	Support re-evaluation of Watershed floodplains using updated data	Watershed Wide	Cities, Counties, DNR	General Fund, Partner Funds	Feasibility/ Preliminary Engineering	\$25,000

vironments	NE-1	Projects identified within the South Creek Geomorphic Assessment	Implement projects such as: natural channel restoration/relocation, grade control, floodplain management, riparian management, bank stabilization and culvert crossing projects identified within the South Creek Geomorphic Assessment.	High	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	South Creek Subwatershed	City of Lakeville, Dakota County	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$100,000
Natural En	NE-2	Projects identified within the Etter Creek and Ravenna Coulee Geomorphic Assessment	Implement projects such as: natural channel restoration/relocation, grade control, floodplain management, riparian management, bank stabilization and culvert crossing projects identified within the Ravenna Coulee Geomorphic Assessment.	High	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	Mississippi Direct Subwatershed	Dakota County, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$25,000

Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
	NE-3	Projects identified within the Middle and North Creek Geomorphic Assessment	Implement projects such as: bank stabilization, floodplain management, grade control, natural channel restoration and riparian management projects identified within the Middle and North Creek Geomorphic Assessment.	High	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	Middle Creek and North Creek Subwatersheds	City of Lakeville, City of Farmington, Dakota County	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$60,000
	NE-4	Projects identified within the Empire Drainages Geomorphic Assessment	Implement projects such as: bank stabilization, culvert crossing, natural channel restoration, infrastructure and riparian management projects identified within the Empire Drainages Geomorphic Assessment.	High	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	Middle Mainstem Subwatershed	City of Empire, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$20,000
	NE-5	Projects identified within the Lower Mainstem Geomorphic Assessment	Implement projects such as: bank stabilization, riparian management and infrastructure improvement projects identified within the Lower Mainstem Geomorphic Assessment.	High	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	Lower Mainstem Subwatershed	Dakota County, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$20,000
Natural Environments	NE-6	VRWJPO Wetland Banking Program	Restore priority wetlands and administer the VRWJPO Wetland Banking Program to achieve a no-net-loss of wetlands within the watershed.	High	Identify and improve high- priority water resource environments found to be significantly impacted by humans.	Restorable Wetlands	SWCDs, Counties, BWSR	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$548,500
Natu	NE-7	Priority Wetland Restoration	Restore areas identified within Priority Wetland Restoration studies, not just for the purpose of the creation of a wetland bank.	High	Identify and improve high- priority water resource environments found to be significantly impacted by humans.	Restorable Wetlands	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$120,000
	NE-8	East Lake In-lake Projects and Practices	Implement projects and practices to address East Lake's LA defined within the Vermillion River Watershed TMDL. Examples include, but are not limited to: invasive fish management, fish stocking, native aquatic plant establishment, AIS management, alum treatments, lake drawdown and shoreline restorations.	High	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	East Lake	City of Apple Valley, City of Lakeville, DNR, Dakota County	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$45,000
	NE-9	Cost-share for DCSWCD and SSWCD Incentive Programs	Provide cost-share for the following programs: DCSWCD's Incentive Payment Practices Program; SSWCD's Cover Crop and Soil Health Incentives; and others as they are developed.	Medium	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that improve soil health	Agricultural landscapes	DCSWCD and SSWCD	General Fund	CIP and Maintenance	\$272,267



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Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10- Year Cost
	NE-11	Opportunity projects/assessments	Through the life of the Plan, the VRWJPO will remain open to projects, initiatives, studies or other opportunities that align with Plan goals and objectives as they arise which are unknown at the time of Plan creation.	Medium	Many	Watershed Wide	Many	Many	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$100,000
Natural Environments	NE-12	In-lake management projects identified within the Long and Farquar TMDL Implementation Plan	In-lake management projects identified within the Long and Farquar TMDL Implementation Plan including: AIS management activities, fisheries management (surveys, stocking, removals), aeration and lake drawdown.	Low	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	Long and Farquar Lakes	DNR and City of Apple Valley	Grants, Partner Funds, General Fund	CIP and Maintenance	+
Z	NE-13	Upland Restoration Adjacent to Water Resources	Partner with stakeholders to restore upland areas adjacent to lakes, rivers, and wetlands.	Low	Coordinate with others to implement projects, programs and practices that protect the Watershed's aquatic and riparian habitats.	Watershed Wide	Many	Grants, Partner Funds, General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations; CIP Maintenance	\$45,000

ships	CMR-1	Stewardship Grants	Provide cost-share funding to individuals and groups in the watershed who are looking to install BMPs with direct water resource benefits.	High	Create and support opportunities for stakeholder connection and engagement with the Watershed's natural resources. Engage citizens to promote sustainable stewardship of lakes and streams.	Residents, landowners, businesses, community groups	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations; Administration and Operations	\$319,556
nmunity Relations	CMR-2	Public Event Participation	Host display tables at community events where attendees are likely to be interested in environmental topics. Examples may include, but are not limited to: Dakota County Fair, Take a Kid Fishing Day, Home and Garden Expos, Parks and Recreation Month, Fix-It Clinics	High	Consistently communicate and promote the work of the VRWJPO with partners and stakeholders. Grow the amount of watershed stakeholders.	Many	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$69,556
Con	CMR-3	Maintain Website	Keep the VRWJPO website up to date by regularly reviewing and posting pertinent content. Website contents include: upcoming events; watershed project updates; project fact sheets; watershed assessment studies; volunteer opportunities; recreational resources; and anything else determined relevant.	High	Consistently communicate and promote the work of the VRWJPO with partners and stakeholders. Maintain or increase ways for stakeholders to provide relevant input to the VRWJPO.	Many	N/A	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$39,746

Vermillion River

Category	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10-Year Cost
	CMR-4	Distribute Newsletter	Electronically distribute VRWJPO newsletter with watershed updates, news, and tips.	High	Consistently communicate and promote the work of the VRWJPO with partners and stakeholders. Communicate with stakeholders regarding the environmental issues that directly impact the watershed.	Newsletter subscribers	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$59,617
Relationships	CMR-5	Partner Programs	Annually plan, promote and provide financial incentives for programs that align with the goals and objectives of this Plan. Examples include, but are not limited to: the Dakota SWCD Landscaping for Clean Water Program, the Dakota County Lawns Reimagined Program, Scott SWCD Clean Water Education Program, Smart Salting Trainings in Dakota County, Turfgrass Maintenance Trainings in Dakota County, volunteer events with direct benefits to the watershed (e.g. Trout Unlimited)	High	Create and support opportunities for stakeholder connection and engagement with the Watershed's natural resources. Engage citizens to promote sustainable stewardship of lakes and streams.	Watershed Wide	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$782,981
Community Re	CMR-6	Social Media Presence	Engage stakeholders and the public through insightful social media posts. Topics include, but are not limited to: project updates, BMP suggestions for residents, relevant news articles, photos from around the watershed, events, on Facebook and Instagram.	High	Communicate with stakeholders regarding environmental issues that directly impact the watershed	Many	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$99,363
	CMR-7	Collaborati ve Education and Outreach	Collaborate with partners to develop and distribute educational materials on topics including, but not limited to: MS4 Permit requirements to reduce stormwater pollution; residential BMPs to improve water quality; water conservation BMPs; indoor appliance water conservation rebates; soil health; interesting fish and macroinvertebrate information	Medium	Communicate with stakeholders regarding environmental issues that directly impact the watershed. Grow the number of watershed stakeholders.	Residents, landowners, businesses	LGUs	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$89,427
	CMR-8	Engageme nt with Schools in the Watershed	Connect with teachers and education professionals in the watershed and participate in their programming as appropriate. Examples may include but are not limited to Outdoor Education Days, Earth Day events, in-class discussions.	Medium	Grow the number of watershed stakeholders	Students	DCSWCD and SSWCD	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$59,810

Vermillion River

C	ategory	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10-Year Cost
	Relationships	CMR-9	VRWJPO Watershed Tours	Host watershed tours for stakeholders to highlight demonstrations of innovative technology, successful water quality and quantity improvement projects, and restoration and enhancement activities	Medium	Consistently communicate and promote the work of the VRWJPO with partners and stakeholders. Grow the amount of watershed stakeholders.	Elected and appointed officials	LGUs, state agencies, environmental organizations	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$19,871
	Community F	CMR-10	Project Signage	Post signage that directs stakeholders and the public to the Project Update landing page for on-going projects. Place interpretive signs at completed VRWJPO project sites to inform the public about what the projects do for water resources.	Low	Consistently communicate and promote the work of the VRWJPO with partners and stakeholders.	Many	LGUs	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$13,000

	AD-1	Staffing	Staffing for VRWJPO Administrator, Co-Administrator, Senior Watershed Specialist, Water Resources Engineer and Communications and Outreach Specialist for hours related to: Administration and Operations; Planning; Inventory, Assessment, Research; Feasibility/Preliminary Engineering; Regulation; and CIP and Maintenance.	High	Many	N/A	Dakota County, Scott County	General Fund	All Budget Categories minus Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$4,616,086
ration	AD-2	Insurance	Fees associated with insurance required for operation of the VRWJPO.	High	N/A	N/A	N/A	General Fund	Administration and Operations	\$51,586
Administration	AD-3	Legal Support	Fees associated with legal support for contract and/or agreement establishment, bidding document review and other legal support.	High	N/A	N/A	Dakota County	General Fund	Administration and Operations	\$286,597
	AD-4	Public Notices	Keep website updated on following information: JPB agendas, meeting packets and meeting minutes; CAC agendas, meeting packets and meeting minutes; the Watershed Management Plan; VRWJPO Standards; monitoring reports; annual reports; legal public notices.	High	N/A	N/A		General Fund	Administration and Operations	\$39,746



Ca	ategory	ltem ID	Action	Description	Priority Level	Objective(s) Addressed	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	*Total 10-Year Cost
istration		AD-5	Watershed Management Plan Update	Funds to hire a contractor to update the Plan following MN Rule 103B and MN Statute 8410 requirements.	High	N/A	N/A	Dakota County and Scott County	General Fund	Planning	\$195,000
	Admir	AD-6	CIP Maintenance	Funding for maintenance of CIP projects completed through partnerships with LGUs or independently by the VRWJPO.	High	Many	N/A	LGUs	General Fund	CIP and Maintenance	\$343,916

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#### Notes:

Vermillion River

(\*) Dollars shown reflect only those costs sourced from the VRWJPO general budget. If funding source identifies grants or partner funds, additional dollars would be needed for full project implementation. VRWJPO general budget expenditures have been accounted for as partners have identified action within 2-, 5- or 10-year CIP programs, or other long-range implementation plans. Generally, for CIP partnerships, VRWJPO contributions range from 10-25% of full project cost.

(+) Currently, no funding from the VRWJPO is identified to support this action. This action may be completed as partnership and/or grant funding becomes available.

	Total 10-Year Cost
Water Quality Total	\$2,995,663
Stormwater Management Total	\$688,000
Groundwater Sustainability Total	\$300,000
Climate Resilience Total	\$655,000
Natural Environments Total	\$1,805,767
Community Relationships Total	\$1,552,926
Administration Total	\$5,532,931
Total	\$13,530,288

Category	Item ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	WQ-1	Vermillion River Monitoring Network	Watershed-wide	DCSWCD, SSWCD, DNR, MPCA	General Fund	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$109,000	\$112,270	\$115,638	\$119,107	\$122,680	\$126,361	\$130,152	\$134,056	\$138,078	\$142,220
	WQ-2	Assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Grants	Inventory, Assessment and Research			\$35,000			\$40,000			\$45,000	
Water Quality	WQ-3	Projects Identified within City of Lakeville North Creek and East Lake Subwatershed Assessment	North Creek and East Lake	City of Lakeville	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance			\$60,000	\$60,000					\$30,000	\$30,000
1	WQ-4	Projects Identified within City of Apple Valley East Lake Subwatershed Assessment	East Lake	City of Apple Valley	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance		\$57,500	\$57,500	\$115,000	\$115,000					
	WQ-5	Projects Identified within Vermillion River Headwaters Subwatershed Assessment Projects	Vermillion River Headwaters	SSWCD, Landowners	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$8,750	\$9,013	\$9,283	\$9,561	\$9,848	\$10,144	\$10,448	\$10,761	\$11,084	\$11,417
	WQ-6	Projects Identified within Upper Mainstem Subwatershed Assessment	Upper Mainstem Subwatershed	Landowners, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$27,500	\$28,325	\$29,175	\$30,050	\$30,951	\$31,880	\$32,836	\$33,822	\$34,836	\$35,881

#### Table 3-15: VRWJPO 2026-2035 Implementation Plan: Annual Expenses

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Vermillion River

Category	Item ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	WQ-7	Projects Identified within South Branch Vermillion River Subwatershed Assessment	South Branch Subwatershed	Landowners, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$8,750	\$9,013	\$9,283	\$9,561	\$9,848	\$10,144	\$10,448	\$10,761	\$11,084	\$11,417
	WQ-8	Projects Identified within Vermillion Lower Mainstem South Subwatershed Assessment	Lower Mainstem Subwatershed	Landowner, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$8,750	\$9,013	\$9,283	\$9,561	\$9,848	\$10,144	\$10,448	\$10,761	\$11,084	\$11,417
	WQ -10	Opportunity projects/assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Water Quality	WQ-11	BMP Performance Monitoring	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund	Inventory, Assessment and Research	\$2,000	\$2,100	\$2,200	\$2,300	\$2,400	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$2,800	\$2,900	\$3,000
	WQ-12	Vermillion River Groundwater Interaction Assessment	South Branch, Lower Mainstem and Mississippi Direct Subwatersheds	Dakota County, City of Hastings	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	Inventory, Assessment and Research		\$49,400								
	WQ-13	Groundwater Quality Projects, Programs and Practices	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$17,500	\$18,025	\$18,566	\$19,123	\$19,696	\$20,287	\$20,896	\$21,523	\$22,168	\$22,834
	WQ-14	Street Sweeping Study	Urban Landscapes	Dakota County	General Fund, Partner Funds	Inventory, Assessment and Research; and Communication, Outreach and Public Relations	\$50,000									

Vermillion River reflecting life

Category	Item ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033 2034	2035
	WQ-15	Assist with Development of Low Salt Design Standards	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund	Administration and Operations; Regulation		\$7,500		\$7,500		\$7,500		\$7,500	\$7,500
Water Quality	WQ-16	Projects that Address E. coli	Upper Mainstem Subwatershed	DCSWCD, SSWCD, Dakota County, Scott County	General Fund, Partner Funds	Inventory, Assessment and Research		\$10,000			\$2,500		\$2,500	\$2,500	
Wa	WQ-17	Projects that Address Toxics/Metals/ECOC/Pesticides	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Fund, Grants	CIP and Maintenance; Inventory, Assessment and Research; and Communication, Outreach and Public Relations			\$2,500			\$2,500			

int	SW-1	Projects Identified within Hastings Direct Drainage Subwatershed Assessment	Lower Mississippi Direct Subwatershed	City of Hastings	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$25,000		\$50,000		\$55,000	
mwater Management	SW-2	Projects Identified within South Creek Subwatershed Assessment	South Creek Subwatershed	City of Lakeville, Landowners, Dakota County	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance			\$10,000		\$10,000	
Stormw	SW-3	Projects Identified within City of Farmington Subwatershed Assessment	North Creek, Middle Creek and Middle Mainstem Subwatersheds	City of Farmington	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance				\$75,000		

Vermillion River

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\$10,000	

Category	ltem ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partners	Funding Source	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	SW-4	Projects Identified within City of Farmington Stormwater Retrofit Assessment for Independent School District 192	North Creek, Middle Creek and Middle Mainstem Subwatersheds	City of Farmington	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	Current	ly, no fundin	g identified	. This action	may be cor	npleted as p	partnerships	and funding	g becomes a	vailable.
ent	SW-5	Innovative Stormwater Management Projects and Practices	Watershed-wide	Cities, Dakota County, Scott County	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance		\$70,000	\$70,000				\$75,000	\$75,000		
Stormwater	SW-6	Opportunity projects/assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
	SW-7	Projects identified within the Long and Farquar TMDL Implementation Plan and Long and Farquar Pond Feasibility Analysis	Long and Farquar Lakes	City of Apple Valley	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$18,000					\$40,000				
	SW-8	Low Impact Development Practice Policies and Programs	Urban Landscapes	Many	General Fund	Many			\$2,500	\$2,500						

Istainability	GS-1	Groundwater Conservation Assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund	Inventory, Assessments and Research			\$10,000			\$10,000			\$10,000	
Groundwater Su	GS-2	Projects, Programs and Practices Identified within the Dakota County Groundwater Plan's Groundwater Quantity Tactics	Dakota County	Dakota County, LGUs, DCSWCD	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance; Regulation; Inventory, Assessments and Research	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

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Category	ltem ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partner(s)	Funding Source(s)	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Â.	GS-3	Groundwater Conservation Assessment Projects	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance		\$10,000		\$10,000		\$10,000		\$10,000		\$10,000
Groundwater Sustainability	GS-4	Soil Health Initiative Partnerships	Residential and Agricultural Landscapes	Many	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance; Communication s, Outreach and Public Relations					\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		
	GS-5	Opportunity projects/assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

ej	CR-1	Climate Resiliency Plan	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Grants	Feasibility/ Preliminary Engineering; Inventory, Assessment and Research		\$50,000	\$50,000					
Climate Resilience	CR-2	Climate Resilient Project Incentives	Urban Landscapes	Cities, Counties, SWCDs	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance				\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$35,000	\$50,000
σ	CR-3	Floodplain Reconnection	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance; Feasibility/ Preliminary Engineering			\$80,000			\$100,000		



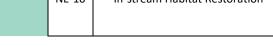
Category	ltem ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partner(s)	Funding Source(s)	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	CR-4	Opportunity projects/assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$10,00 0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
ate Resilience	CR-5	Stormwater Infrastructure Adaptation	Urban Landscapes	LGUs	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance					\$15,000		\$15,000		\$15,000	
Climate	CR-6	Green Infrastructure BMPs	Urban Landscapes	LGUs	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	Curren	tly, no fundir	ng identified	d. This actio	n may be co	mpleted as	partnership	s and fundin	g becomes :	available.
	CR-7	Updated Floodplain Model	Watershed-wide	Cities, Counties, DNR	General Fund, Partner Funds	Feasibility/Prelimi nary Engineering			\$12,500	\$12,500						

Table 3-15: VRWJPO 2026-2035 Implementation Plan: Annual Expenses
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Natural Environments	NE-1	Projects identified within the South Creek Geomorphic Assessment	South Creek Subwatershed	City of Lakeville, Dakota County	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance	\$50,000	\$50,000					
	NE-2	Projects identified within the Etter Creek and Ravenna Coulee Geomorphic Assessment	Mississippi Direct Subwatershed	Dakota County, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance			\$25,000				
	NE-3	Projects identified within the Middle and North Creek Geomorphic Assessment	Middle Creek and North Creek Subwatersheds	City of Lakeville, City of Farmington, Dakota County	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance					\$60,000		

Category	ltem ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partner(s)	Funding Source(s)	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	NE-4	Projects identified within the Empire Drainages Geomorphic Assessment	Middle Mainstem Subwatershed	City of Empire, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance								\$20,000		
	NE-5	Projects identified within the Lower Mainstem Geomorphic Assessment	Lower Mainstem Subwatershed	Dakota County, DCSWCD	Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance								\$20,000		
ts	NE-6	VRWJPO Wetland Banking Program	Restorable Wetlands	SWCDs, Counties, BWSR	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$300,000	\$110,500	\$34,500	\$34,500	\$34,500	\$34,500				
Natural Environments	NE-7	Priority Wetland Restoration	Restorable Wetlands	Many	General Fund, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance				\$30,000		\$40,000				\$50,000
Natur	NE-8	East Lake In-lake Projects and Practices	East Lake	City of Apple Valley, City of Lakeville, DNR, Dakota County	General Fund, Partner Funds, Grants	CIP and Maintenance	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000			\$25,000				
	NE-9	Cost-share for DCSWCD and SSWCD Incentive Programs	Agricultural landscapes	DCSWCD and SSWCD	General Fund	CIP and Maintenance	\$23,750	\$24,463	\$25,196	\$25,952	\$26,731	\$27,533	\$28,359	\$29,210	\$30,086	\$30,988
	NE-10	In-stream Habitat Restoration	Streams	Many	General Fund, Grants, Partner Funds	CIP and Maintenance		\$50,000			\$150,000		\$62,500	\$62,500	\$50,000	\$75,000

#### Table 3-15: VRWJPO 2026-2035 Implementation Plan: Annual Expenses



Vermillion River

Category	Item ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partner(s)	Funding Source(s)	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Si	NE-11	Opportunity projects/assessments	Watershed-wide	Many	Many	All Budget Categories excluding Administration and Operations	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Natural Environments	NE-12	In-lake management projects identified within the Long and Farquar TMDL Implementation Plan	Long and Farquar Lakes	DNR and City of Apple Valley	Grants, Partner Funds, General Fund	CIP and Maintenance	Currentl	y, no fundin	g identified	. This action	may be con	npleted as p	artnerships	and funding	g becomes a	vailable.
	NE-13	Upland Restoration Adjacent to Water Resources	Watershed-wide	Many	Grants, Partner Funds, General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations; CIP Maintenance	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

SC	CMR-1	Stewardship Grants	Residents, landowners, businesses, community groups	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations; Administration and Operations	\$30,530	\$30,806	\$31,097	\$31,402	\$31,722	\$32,058	\$32,411	\$32,781	\$33,170	\$33,579
Community Relationships	CMR-2	Public Event Participation	Many	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$5,530	\$5,806	\$6,097	\$6,402	\$6,722	\$7,058	\$7,411	\$7,781	\$8,170	\$8,579
Сотп	CMR-3	Maintain Website	Many	N/A	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$3,160	\$3,318	\$3,484	\$3,658	\$3,841	\$4,033	\$4,235	\$4,446	\$4,669	\$4,902

Category	Item ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partner(s)	Funding Source(s)	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	CMR-4	Distribute Newsletter	Newsletter subscribers	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$4,740	\$4,977	\$5,226	\$5,487	\$5,761	\$6,049	\$6,352	\$6,669	\$7,003	\$7,353
	CMR-5	Partner Programs	Watershed-wide	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$68,300	\$70,349	\$72,459	\$74,633	\$76,872	\$79,178	\$81,554	\$84,000	\$86,520	\$89,116
onships	CMR-6	Social Media Presence	Many	Many	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$7,900	\$8,295	\$8,710	\$9,145	\$9,602	\$10,082	\$10,586	\$11,116	\$11,672	\$12,255
Community Relationships	CMR-7	Collaborative Education and Outreach	Residents, landowners, businesses	LGUs	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$7,110	\$7,465	\$7,839	\$8,231	\$8,642	\$9,074	\$9,528	\$10,004	\$10,504	\$11,030
Con	CMR-8	Engagement with Schools in the Watershed	Students	DCSWCD and SSWCD	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$5,370	\$5,488	\$5,613	\$5,744	\$5,881	\$6,025	\$6,176	\$6,335	\$6,501	\$6,677
	CMR-9	VRWJPO Watershed Tours	Elected and appointed officials	LGUs; state, local and regional agencies	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$1,580	\$1,659	\$1,742	\$1,829	\$1,920	\$2,016	\$2,117	\$2,223	\$2,334	\$2,451
	CMR-10	Project Signage	Many	LGUs	General Fund	Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$5,000



Category	Item ID	Action	Target Resource/Audience	Partner(s)	Funding Source(s)	Budget Category	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
	AD-1	Staffing	N/A	Dakota County, Scott County	General Fund	All Budget Categories minus Public Communications, Outreach and Public Relations	\$367,000	\$385,350	\$404,618	\$424,848	\$446,091	\$468,395	\$491,815	\$516,406	\$542,226	\$569,337
	AD-2	Insurance	N/A	N/A	General Fund	Administration and Operations	\$4,500	\$4,635	\$4,774	\$4,917	\$5,065	\$5,217	\$5,373	\$5,534	\$5,700	\$5,871
Administration	AD-3	Legal Support	N/A	Dakota County	General Fund	Administration and Operations	\$25,000	\$25,750	\$26,523	\$27,318	\$28,138	\$28,982	\$29,851	\$30,747	\$31,669	\$32,619
Admin	AD-4	Public Notices	N/A	N/A	General Fund	Administration and Operations	\$3,160	\$3,318	\$3,484	\$3,658	\$3,841	\$4,033	\$4,235	\$4,446	\$4,669	\$4,902
	AD-5	Watershed Management Plan Update	N/A	Dakota County and Scott County	General Fund	Planning									\$95,000	\$100,000
	AD-6	CIP Maintenance	N/A	LGUs	General Fund	CIP and Maintenance	\$30,000	\$30,900	\$31,827	\$32,782	\$33,765	\$34,778	\$35,822	\$36,896	\$38,003	\$39,143

Note:		2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Annual dollar expenditures reflect only those costs sourced	Water Quality Total	\$242,250	\$322,158	\$358,427	\$391,764	\$332,773	\$271,459	\$230,428	\$241,985	\$318,735	\$285,685
from the VRWJPO general budget. If funding source identifies	Stormwater Management Total	\$28,000	\$105,000	\$82,500	\$12,500	\$70,000	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$85,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
grants or partner funds, additional dollars would be needed	Groundwater Sustainability Total	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$25,000	\$45,000	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
for full project implementation. VRWJPO general budget	Climate Resilience Total	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$72,500	\$152,500	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$65,000	\$150,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
expenditures have been accounted for as partners have	Natural Environments Total	\$348,750	\$254,963	\$129,696	\$130,452	\$221,231	\$142,033	\$165,859	\$146,710	\$95,086	\$170,988
identified action within 2-, 5- or 10-year CIP programs, or other long-range implementation plans. Generally, for CIP	Community Relationships Total	\$135,219	\$139,163	\$143,267	\$147,531	\$150,963	\$156,573	\$161,370	\$166,355	\$171,543	\$180,942
partnerships, VRWJPO contributions range from 10-25% of full	Administration Total	\$429 <i>,</i> 660	\$449,953	\$471,226	\$493,523	\$516,900	\$541,405	\$567,096	\$594,029	\$717,267	\$751,872
project cost.	Total	\$1,213,879	\$1,311,236	\$1,287,617	\$1,358,270	\$1,341,867	\$1,331,470	\$1,364,753	\$1,419,078	\$1,412,631	\$1,489,488



#### 6b. Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District Landscaping for Clean Water Program Presentation

Meeting Date:5/14/2025Item Type:Regular-InformationContact:Joe BartenTelephone:952-891-7546Prepared by:Travis Thiel



#### **PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

• To receive a presentation from Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) staff regarding the Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) program

#### SUMMARY

One of Dakota County SWCD's programs for residents is LCW, which includes free educational classes, garden design courses, natural shoreline and garden maintenance classes, and grants for homeowners who install a raingarden, native garden, or native shoreline planting. The goal of the Landscaping for Clean Water program is to teach residents how to beautify their yard while also protecting local water quality and providing habitat for pollinators.

The VRWJPO supports the Dakota County SWCD's LCW program through its Joint Powers Agreement with the Dakota County SWCD. Dakota County SWCD can provide these services at a scale and with expertise that the VRWJPO can't replicate. Dakota County SWCD is a critical partner in the successful delivery of the LCW and many other programs.

Staff from Dakota County SWCD will provide a presentation on the LCW program.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

No fiscal impact

#### 6c. Update on the Revisions to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Standards

Meeting Date:5/14/2025Item Type:Regular-InformationContact:Jeff DunnTelephone:952-891-7140Prepared by:Jeff Dunn



#### **PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

• Provide input on the proposed revisions to the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) Standards

#### SUMMARY

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization staff are proposing revisions to the VRWJPO Standards. The Standards are the regulatory requirements that the VRWJPO adopts and are implemented through local ordinances and permitting programs in cities and townships (LGUs) within the watershed. Revisions are proposed for the following reasons:

- 1. Previous evaluations of how well LGUs are implementing the VRWJPO Standards through local ordinances and permitting programs have indicated lack of consistency to properly administer the requirements and issue permits across LGUs, a wide range in technical capacity to successfully implement these requirements, and council/board and staff turnover at LGUs results in loss of institutional knowledge and the need for regular trainings and assistance from the VRWJPO.
- 2. Multiple LGUs are in both the North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization (NCRWMO) and the VRWJPO. As a result, these LGUs must also implement NCRWMO Standards. It's desirable to have Standards consistent with the NCRWMO for ease of permitting.
- 3. To have Standards that address VRWJPO goals while still being understandable, easily administered, and achievable by all LGUs.

VRWJPO staff have presented the proposed revisions to the Vermillion River Watershed Technical Advisory Committee for their input on March 13, 2025. Revisions have been made from the input received. VRWJPO staff will summarize the proposed VRWJPO Standards revisions with the Community Advisory Committee.

The VRWJPO Standards will be incorporated into the 2026-2035 Vermillion River Watershed Management Plan (WMP). As a result, the Standards will be adopted when the WMP is adopted in early 2026. Once adopted, LGUs will be required to update their ordinances to meet or exceed our Standards within a defined period.

## EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT

No fiscal impact



May 14, 2025

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) Community Advisory Committee

## **RE:** Proposed changes to Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Standards

Minnesota Statute requires that metropolitan watershed management activities follow a ten-year plan. The plan must incorporate performance Standards (Standards) and how they will be implemented in coordination with local government unit (LGU) official controls.

Our goal is to revise the VRWJPO Standards such that they are concise, relevant, and easily administered by local governments. In general terms, this means removing any criteria and regulations that the VRWJPO cannot enforce or may not be relevant to engineering design. We made changes to the Standards to meet these goals and presented them to the VRWJPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on March 13, 2025.

This memorandum serves as a brief narrative describing the revisions that were presented to the TAC on March 13.

## All Sections (1-10):

- Text not related to engineering design has been removed.
- Minor text updates related to engineering design have been added or revised for clarification.
- Duplicitous criteria already in other LGU or Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) ordinances/criteria has been removed.

## Section 5: Wetland Alteration Standards

• Wetland banking criteria has been modified to align with VRWJPO administration policies.

## Section 6: Buffer Standards

• For wetland buffers, the Wetland Functional Assessment requirements have been removed and replaced with language consistent with Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources' (BWSR) protocols.

## Section 7: Erosion and Sediment Control Standards

 Land disturbing activities will be permitted through the MPCA (or LGU with an MS-4 permit). Unincorporated areas (other than Eureka Township) are unable or challenged to implement or follow VRWJPO requirements for projects that will disturb less than one acre of land. The standards should also be consistent with North Cannon River WMO.

## Section 8: Stormwater Management Standards

- Text has been reorganized to follow a typical engineering design workflow.
- Removed waivers, trading, and exceptions.

## Section 10: Architectural Standards

• Remove section. Agricultural activities are exempted under the Clean Water Act, and voluntary and stewardship programs are managed through other organizations like SWCDs.

Please feel free to contact Jeff Dunn at <a href="mailto:jeff.dunn@co.dakota.mn.us">jeff.dunn@co.dakota.mn.us</a> or 952.891.7140 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Jeff Dunn VRWJPO Water Resources Engineer

6d. Update on the Status of Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization 2025 Budget-Identified Capital Improvement Projects

Meeting Date:5/14/2025Item Type:Regular-InformationContact:Jeff Dunn and Kelly PerrineTelephone:952-891-7140Prepared by:Travis Thiel



#### **PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED**

• Information only. Presentation regarding capital improvement projects identified in the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) 2025 Budget.

#### SUMMARY

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board adopted a revised budget at their April 24, 2025, meeting that incorporated new capital improvement projects resulting from grants recently awarded to the VRWJPO. VRWJPO staff will provide a PowerPoint presentation at the CAC meeting highlighting the proposed projects that will begin or be completed in 2025.

#### **EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT**

Expenses and revenues have already been identified in the VRWJPO 2025 Budget for the capital improvement projects.

# Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization Planned 2025 Capital Improvement Projects

## Jeff Dunn and Kelly Perrine Project Managers



## Capital Projects Planned in 2025

## 2025 – Feasibility

## **City of Lakeville**

- East Lake Invasive Fish Removals (KP)
- Launch Park Wetland Restoration (KP)
- Design Firelight Way TSS Reduction (JD)

## **Castle Rock Township**

• Mork Wetland Bank (KP)

## **City of Farmington**

- 4<sup>th</sup> & Willow TSS Reduction (JD)
- North Creek at Denali Way (JD)

## **City of Hastings**

15<sup>th</sup> and Bailey TSS Reduction (JD)

## **City of Empire**

• North Creek at Highway 3 (JD)

## 2025 - Construction

#### **City of Lakeville**

- East Lake Invasive Fish Removals (KP)
- Grand Prairie Park Recirculation and Reuse (KP)
- Launch Park Wetland Restoration (KP)
- Firelight Way TSS Reduction (JD)

#### Several

 Groundwater Conservation and Landscaping for Clean Water Marketing Campaign (KP)

## City of Lakeville East Lake Invasive Fish Removals



## Financing

- Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Award: \$300,000
   FY 2023-2025
  - VRWJPO Contribution: **Up to** \$37,500
  - City of Lakeville Contribution: **Up to** \$37,500



Goals

- Reduce phosphorus loading in nutrient impaired East Lake
  - 2024: 21.6 lb/yr
- Improve East Lake fisheries and habitat
- Provide improved habitat corridor along Dakota County North Creek Greenway





#### City of Lakeville East Lake Invasive Fish Removals



### **2025 Activities**

- Removals started May 2
- Two early season electrofishing
  - Three baited box nets - Seven removal occasions
- Surveying wetland for nursery potential
- Assessing neighborhood ponds for recruitment
  Trap netting and backpack electrofishing





### City of Lakeville Launch Park Wetland Restoration



## Financing

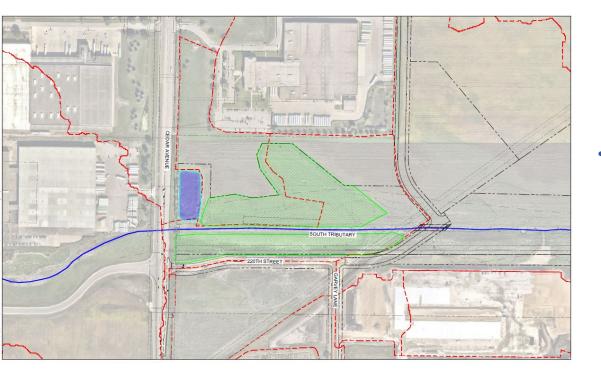


- 2025 ESTIMATED Construction Cost: \$150,000
  - Dakota County Contribution = \$75,000
    - VRWJPO Contribution = \$37,500
      - City Contribution = \$37,500

- Reduce sediment loading in impaired reach of South Creek
  - TSS: 5,857 lb/yr
- Reduce phosphorus loading to South Creek
   TP: 32.2 lb/yr
  - Provide additional flood attenuation and pollutant filtration
    - Restore native wetland habitat



### City of Lakeville Launch Park Wetland Restoration



## Plan for 2025

- ~414,000 square feet of restored wetland
  - Awaiting cost estimate
  - Type II Wet meadow
- Referencing Braun wetland bank growth
  - Site prep
  - Potential seeding





### City of Lakeville Grand Prairie Water Reuse and Recirculation



## Financing

- VRWJPO Contribution: \$300,000
- City of Lakeville Contribution: \$678,160



- Conserve potable water by recirculating splash pad water for operation

   ~10 MG/year
  - Conserve potable water by utilizing stormwater for green space irrigation
    - -~12 MG/year
    - Reduce stormwater volume



### City of Lakeville Grand Prairie Water Reuse and Recirculation





### **2025 Activities**

- Wet site!
- Recirculation splash pad installation
  - Aiming for July opening
- Reuse system pump house installation
  - System pumphouse, stormwater connection, ball field network
- Reuse Irrigation system planned for 2026
  operation



### City of Lakeville Firelight Way TSS Reduction



## Financing

- ESTIMATED Total Cost (Engineering and Construction): \$296,010.00
- Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) Grant Award: \$184,300.00
  - VRWJPO Contribution: \$10,000.00
  - Dakota County Contribution: \$10,000.00
  - City of Lakeville Contribution: \$91,710.00



Reduce sediment loading in impaired reach of
 North Creek

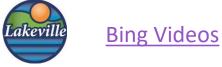




### City of Lakeville Firelight Way TSS Reduction







Castle Rock Township Mork Wetland Bank



### **Financing**

• ESTIMATED Project Cost: \$1,609,829

 Inclusive of: Easement acquisition, bank plan development, vegetation implementation and management, construction and 5-year monitoring and credit release

- BWSR Contribution = \$810,000
- SWCD Contribution = Vegetation management monitoring, easement acquisition assistance, and construction observation



- Continue development of wetland restoration corridor (Braun Wetland Bank)
  - Support wetland replacement within the VRWJPO to maintain local ecological function
- Continue revolving wetland restoration fund



### Castle Rock Township Mork Wetland Bank

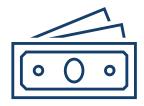


## **2025 Activities**

- Hydrology monitoring
- Prospectus submitted to review agencies, Township Board
- Comments submitted by review agencies
  - Final bank plan incorporating comments
  - Another 90-day comment period
  - Easement acquisition landowner-BWSR



### City of Farmington 4<sup>th</sup> and Willow TSS Reduction



## Financing

- ESTIMATED Total Cost (Engineering and Construction): \$117,120.00
  - WBIF Grant Award: \$71,013.00
  - VRWJPO Contribution: \$39,207.00
- Dakota County Contribution: \$5,000.00
- City of Farmington Contribution: \$1,900.00



Goals

 Reduce sediment loading in impaired reach of mainstem Vermillion River



### <sup>47</sup> City of Farmington 4th and Willow TSS Reduction







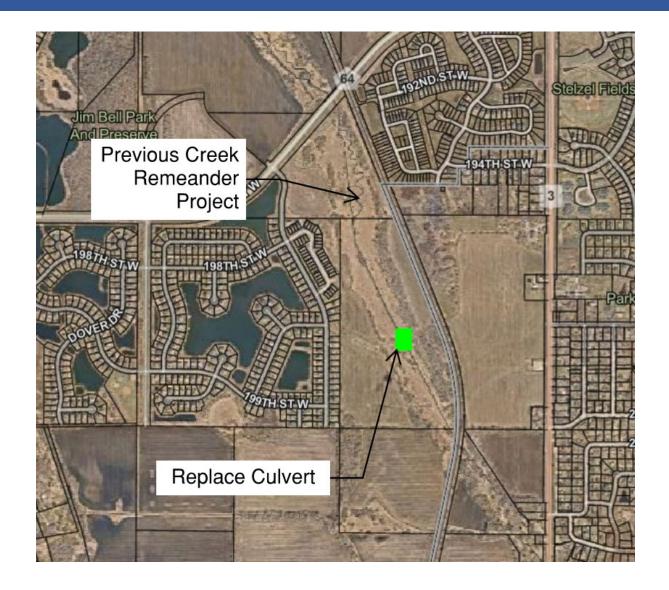
## **Financing**

- ESTIMATED Total Cost (Engineering and Construction): \$429,780
  - CPL Grant Funding: \$364,155
  - VRWJPO Cash Contribution: \$47,000
    - VRWJPO "In Kind" : \$18,625



- Restore Stream Health
- Improve Wildlife Habitat



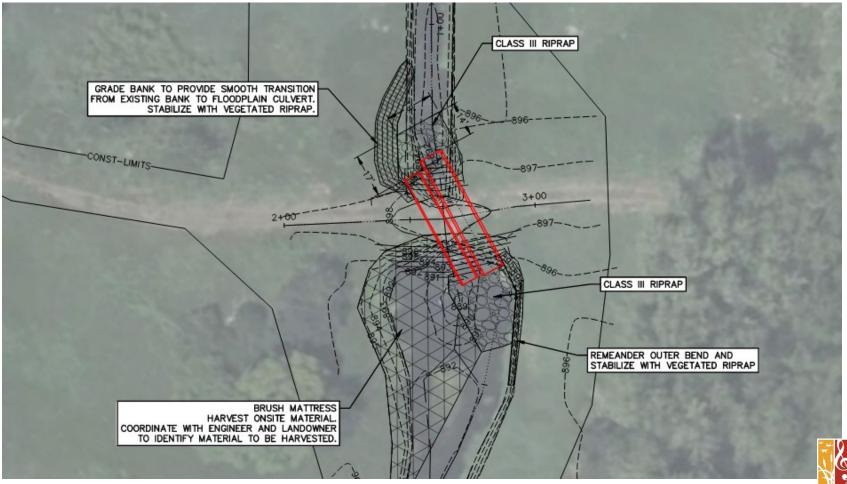




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City of Hastings 15th and Bailey TSS Reduction



## **Financing**

- ESTIMATED Total Cost (Engineering and Construction): \$325,000.00
  - WBIF Grant Award: \$197,055.00
  - VRWJPO Contribution: \$120,445.00
- Dakota County Contribution: \$5,000.00
- City of Hastings Contribution: \$2,500.00



- Reduce sediment loading in Mississippi River
  - Provide additional flood attenuation and pollutant filtration



### City of Hastings 15th and Bailey TSS Reduction







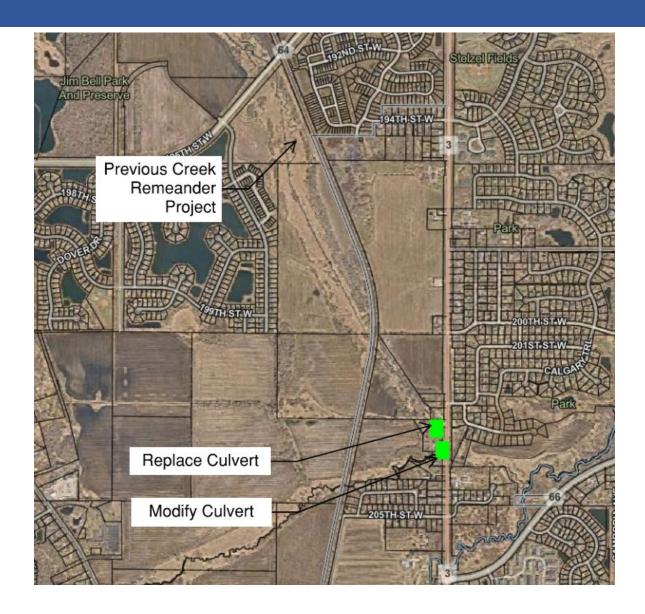
## **Financing**

- ESIMATED Total Cost (Engineering and Construction): \$639,813
  - CPL Grant Funding: \$500,000
- VRWJPO Cash Contribution: \$121,550
  - VRW "In-Kind": \$18,263

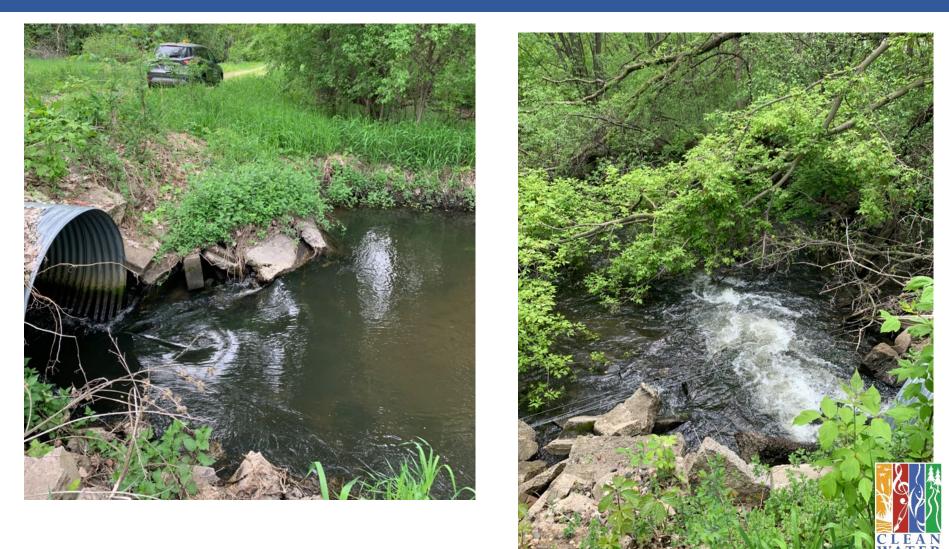


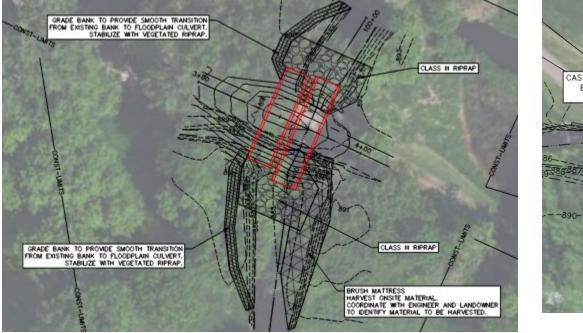
- Restore Stream Health
- Improve Wildlife Habitat

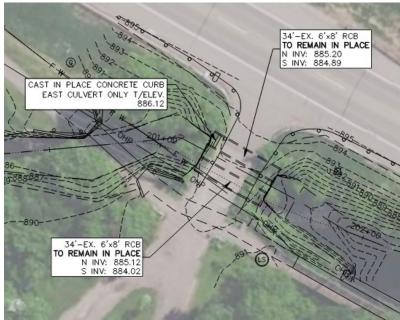














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<sup>5</sup>Groundwater Conservation and Landscaping for Clean Water Marketing Campaign



## Financing

- Groundwater Accelerated Implementation Grant Award: \$50,000
  - VRWJPO Contribution: \$10,000
    - Dakota County: \$10,000
    - Other Partners: \$7,500/each

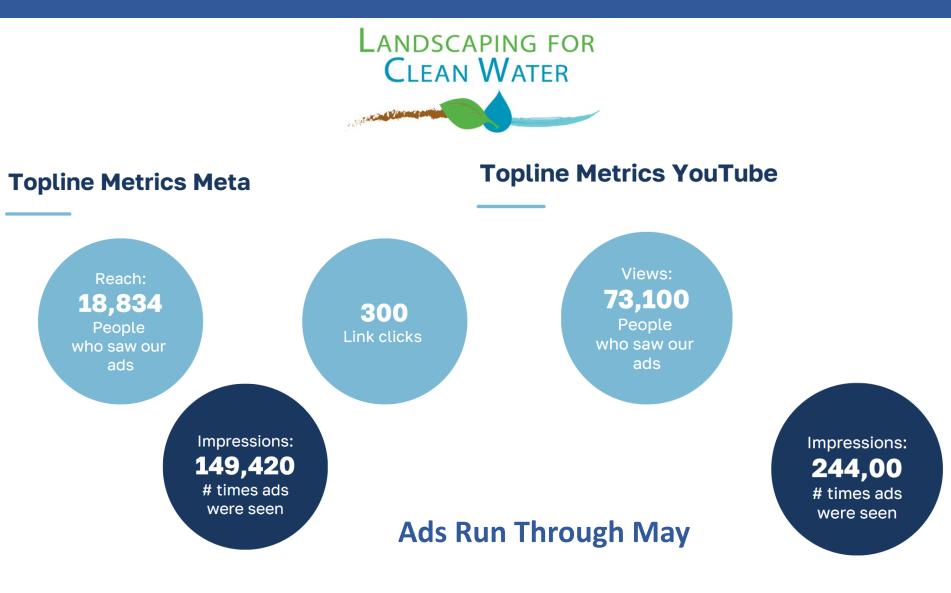




- Conserve groundwater resources by transitioning turfgrass to native landscapes
- Increase participation in the Landscaping for Clean Water Program
  - Conserve groundwater resources by promoting efficient residential irrigation practices
- Lawn Watering Wisdom: Water Wise Pledge participation



### <sup>5</sup>Groundwater Conservation and Landscaping for Clean Water Marketing Campaign



# **Questions?**

