



City Council Agenda Report

City of Long Lake

450 Virginia Avenue, PO Box 606
Long Lake, MN 55356

MEETING DATE / May 20, 2025

SUBJECT: Resolution of Support for the Long Lake Creek Subwatershed Partnership and the MCWD Downtown Long Lake Feasibility Study

Prepared By: Scott Weske, City Administrator

Report Date: 5/05/2025

Recommended City Council Action

Staff recommends the following:

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-12 accepting the Long Lake Creek Roadmap and supporting the ongoing partnership with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and cities of Medina and Orono to advance efforts to improve water quality in the Long Lake Creek Subwatershed.

Overview / Background

In 2014, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) completed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study, which established nutrient budgets for impaired water bodies in the Long Lake Creek Subwatershed, which includes five impaired lakes within the cities of Long Lake, Orono, and Medina. The City is required to show progress towards meeting the established TMDL allocation.

In April 2016, Long Lake passed a resolution to partner with other intergovernmental agencies to pursue grants to improve water quality in the Long Lake Creek Subwatershed, recognizing that pursuing grants and working in partnership would result in more organized and effective efforts.

In 2018, with support from this partnership, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) obtained state grant funding and led a subwatershed assessment to provide a scientific understanding of the system as a whole, identify cost-effective projects and strategies, and develop an actionable roadmap for implementation;

In the fall 2020, the MCWD presented the preliminary findings and recommendations from this assessment to the city councils of the three cities and in January 2023, MCWD produced a final report referred to as the Long Lake Watershed Roadmap.

The Roadmap identified 34 projects for advancement based on their cost-effectiveness and feasibility to implement. These projects were further categorized based on an implementation strategy, which includes (1) regional stormwater treatment, (2) landscape projects, and (3) internal load management. It also identified the need for additional regional treatment in the downtown Long Lake area and recommended exploration of opportunities at Holbrook Park, Nelson Lakeside Park, and other publicly-owned properties.

In 2023, with the support of the partnership, MCWD applied for and received \$174,940 from the state Board of Water and Soil Resources to conduct a feasibility study for the downtown area to identify potential regional treatment locations, costs, and benefits. The MCWD is ready to initiate this feasibility study in coordination with the city.

Supporting Information

- Resolution No. 2025-12
- Slideshow to be presented by the MCWD at the meeting