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Subject: Lakes District
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Michelle,

I am not able to attend the June council meeting. Please include this information in the meeting packet.

Let's summarize the last 5 years of the Tripp and Cravath Lakes journey. I have provided a summary on how we got here and the significance of creating a lake district, focusing on maintaining and improving our lakes.

The intent of the dredging project was to improve the water quality, remove silt from the lake bottom, improve accessibility to the lakes and enhance the fish population. These goals were not met, but still remain in place.

The drawdown and dredging project was the correct way to achieve these goals. Water is hard to manage, it takes continuous management adjusting to constant changing conditions. Over 400 Wisconsin lake districts have been formed to handle the management of our precious natural resource. It is important to note that the DNR sets guidelines, but does not do the local work or manage the outcomes. As with most water management projects, there are weekly, if not daily decisions that need to be made to get the necessary results. A board of passionate local residents is the proven way to provide this vision and results. There are Lake Associations and Lake Districts. The primary difference between the two are the structure. Lake Associations raise money through donations, work with riparian's to improve the lake for the benefit of the public with a focus on the riparian's. Lake Districts are a governmental body that taxes for improvements for the good of the district membership not focusing on the riparian's. In our case, our lakes are completely in the the city limits, that is that best option for our boundaries. In our case there is a high percentage of public and not for profit shoreline.

There were many disheartening events during our drawdown. Some were weather related, incorrect guidance provided to the city management, and errors in the decision making process.

The results were improved water quality, improved fishing and habitat, and a shoreline that was reduced 43% by evasive cattail infestation. Because of the 2 year drawdown and no treatment of the bare soil prior to the refilling of the lakes the results were predictable.

Restoring the shoreline to the pre-drawdown levels will improve the ongoing water quality, recreational access, and image of our city,

It is important to note that the riparian's can and will take care of their own access without the support of the tax payers as demonstrated. This lake district will provide an increased quality of life for the good of the community!

Early during my many years of community management work, a public service veteran stated, "You do not need to know everything, just make a decision right for the community and trust the volunteers and staff to do the right thing, You only have three options; lead, follow, or get out of the way!"

I look forward to the adoption of the lake district and working together for the betterment of our community!

Kurt Zipp

Appointed Lakes Advisory Committee Member