



BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICES OF MICHAEL WELCH TO THE BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (the "Commission") is a joint powers organization formed by the cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, New Hope, Plymouth, Robbinsdale and St. Louis Park; and

WHEREAS, the Commission serves as the duly constituted watershed management organization for the Bassett Creek watershed pursuant to the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act); and

WHEREAS, under the Act and the Commission's joint powers agreement the Commission is charged with responsibility for the management of storm water to protect persons and property from flooding and to protect and preserve the water quality of lakes, streams and wetlands of the Bassett Creek Watershed and downstream receiving waters; and

WHEREAS, Michael Welch served as a representative from the City of Minneapolis for nearly 25 years from January 2000 to October 2024; and

WHEREAS, Michael provided leadership to the Commission over the course of many years by serving as vice chair 2003 – 2005 and 2019 – 2024, serving as chair 2006 – 2009, and serving as treasurer 2010 – 2011; and

WHEREAS, Michael served extensively on various committees over the years including the Budget Committee, Administrative Services Committee, CIP Prioritization Committee, and the Aquatic Invasive Species/Aquatic Plant Management Committee; and

WHEREAS, Michael's advocacy and leadership was critical to the development of the Commission's robust and successful capital improvement program and corresponding levy process; and

WHEREAS, Michael provided significant time and energy as an active member of the Plan Steering Committees for both the 2015 Watershed Management Plan and the 2025 Watershed Management; and

WHEREAS, Michael lent his vast expertise and experience in legal and policy aspects of watershed management throughout his tenure, including working diligently to seek solutions to address chloride pollution, bring regional improvements to the Bassett Creek Valley, and advance policies and ideas for improving diversity, equity, and inclusion in watershed work; and

WHEREAS, Michael worked diligently to ensure that adequate resources were available and processes were in place for proper inspection and maintenance of the Bassett Creek Flood Control Project; and

WHEREAS, Michael actively participated in education and outreach efforts with residents, and advocated for the advancement of best practices and innovations in water management through participation with other entities, partners, and planning initiatives; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 25 years Michael worked tirelessly on behalf of the natural resources in the Bassett Creek watershed and generously gave his time and talents, without compensation, to protect and improve the environment and to serve the public with integrity, vision, and respect for others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, its member cities, and the public hereby express their sincere and grateful appreciation to Michael Welch for his distinguished service to the public.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission this 20th day of November 2024.

Chair