



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

To: BCWMC Commissioners and Alternates
From: Administrator Jester on behalf of the TAC
Date: March 10, 2026

RE: Recommendations from BCWMC Technical Advisory Committee

The BCWMC TAC met on March 4, 2026. Attendees included:

Laura Jester, Administrator
Stephanie Johnson, Commission Engineer
Jeff Wiese, MnDNR
Ben Scharenbroich, City of Plymouth
Emma Rakestraw, City of Golden Valley
Rikita Patel, City of Golden Valley

Jesse Struve, City of Crystal
Liz Stout, City of Minneapolis
Jenna Wolf, City of Robbinsdale
Erick Francis, City of St. Louis Park
Eric Eckman, City of Minnetonka
Rachael Crabb, Minneapolis Park and Rec Board

1. The TAC reviewed current availability of Channel Maintenance funds for cities along the trunk system.
2. The TAC received an update on the FEMA-funded Twin Cities Watershed Hydrologic Modeling and Mapping Project from Jeff Wiese with the DNR. Wiese provided information on the project the timeline for project tasks for watersheds in Hennepin County. Although the BCWMC completed a model update for this project with a DNR grant in 2022, it will be several more years before FEMA flood risk maps are officially completed for this area because DNR has shifted its focus to completing maps in the eastern Twin Cities.
3. The TAC reviewed an initial version of a 5-year CIP that included projects in the 10-year CIP (Table 4-6) from the new watershed plan. Staff will bring a complete recommended 5-year CIP to a future meeting after further discussions with the TAC. In the short term, the TAC is recommending the Commission include a project to cost share the purchase of a high-efficiency street sweeper with the City of Crystal in 2027. This project is in line with the BCWMC [policy on use of CIP funds for city equipment purchases](#) and is incorporated into CIP project #30 in Table 4-6 of the 2026 Watershed Management Plan as "implementation of recommendations from the Street Sweeping Prioritization Project." If approved, this project would require a cost share agreement between the BCWMC and the City of Crystal.

TAC RECOMMENDATION: The TAC recommends that the Commission approve a 2027 CIP project to cost share the purchase of a high-efficiency street sweeper with the City of Crystal for a total of \$18,816. (See project fact sheet included with meeting materials.)

4. The TAC reviewed a memo from the Commission Engineer with updates to the scope and budget for the BCWMC project to convert and update the Commission's hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) model. The Commission approved this project in April 2024 and directed staff to look for grant funding. From spring 2024 and through 2025, Commission Engineers and the Commission Administrator applied for a FEMA

grant for this project and submitted multiple forms, documents, and information as required by FEMA. All required grant materials were finalized in October 2025. The grant application remains “under review” by FEMA.

TAC RECOMMENDATION: The TAC recommends that the Commission approve the updated scope and budget for the H&H model conversion and update project and direct the Commission Engineer to begin the project. (See the Commission Engineer’s memo included with meeting materials.)

The TAC briefly discussed funding options assuming the original FEMA grant would not be funded. The original FEMA grant request was for \$208,500 (75% of the original project cost of \$278,000). Staff indicated they understand from Minnesota FEMA liaisons that the grant application could be updated to request funding under \$100,000 which is more likely to be expedited for funding. The remaining funding could come from the Special Projects fund or the Flood Control Long Term Maintenance account, or a combination of sources.

Possible funding scenario assuming the updated project budget is approved:

Funding Source	Funding Amount
FEMA grant	\$98,000
Flood Control Project Long Term Maintenance account	\$100,000
Special Projects fund	\$92,500
TOTAL	\$290,500