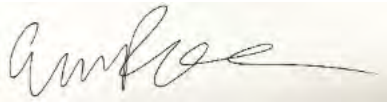


## Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act NOTICE OF DECISION

<b>Date this Notice was sent:</b>	<b>April 9, 2026</b>
<b>Local Government Unit:</b>	<b>City of Golden Valley</b>
<b>County:</b>	<b>Hennepin</b>
<b>Applicant and (if applicable) Applicant's Representative:</b>	<b>Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (Michael Jones) c/o Kimley-Horn (Susan Mayer)</b>
<b>Project Name/Number:</b>	<b>Theodore Wirth Regional Park Trail Improvements</b>
<b>Type of Decision (check all that apply):</b> <b>Note:</b> Boundary/type, sequencing, replacement plan, and bank plan decisions require an associated notice of application prior to the decision being made.	<input type="checkbox"/> Boundary/Type <input type="checkbox"/> Sequencing (submitted separately from a replacement plan) <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Bank Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Exemption Identify which exemption by Rule or Statute Citation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No-Loss Identify which provision by Rule or Statute Citation: <b>MN Rules 8420.0415 A</b>
<b>Decision:</b> <b>Note:</b> All replacement plan approvals are conditional upon confirmation from BWSR of withdrawal of specified credits and/or financial assurance received for project-specific replacement.	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved. Valid for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 yrs (default); <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved with Conditions List Conditions: Valid for <input type="checkbox"/> 5 yrs (default); <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Specify:
<b>LGU Representative Name &amp; Signature:</b>	 <b>Emma Rakestraw</b> <b>Environmental Manager</b> <b>City of Golden Valley</b>

### Decision Timeline

An LGU must approve or deny a request within 60 days of receiving a complete application per MINN. STAT. § 15.99.

<b>Date Complete Application Received:</b>	<b>March 5, 2026</b>
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	<b>April 9, 2026</b>
<b>If applicable, date of <i>written extension</i> to 60-day decision timeline &amp; number of days extended:</b> <b>Reason for Extension (check one):</b>	<b>N/A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other process or decision required to occur before WCA decision.

	Describe: <b>N/A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Additional information and/or revision to application submitted. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant request. <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Describe: <b>N/A</b>
<b>Date &amp; number of days extended for any <i>additional written extensions</i> agreed to by the applicant:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### Decision Summary

<b>Technical Evaluation Panel Recommendation (check one):</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Approval or approval with conditions (attach recommendation) <input type="checkbox"/> Denial (attach recommendation)
<b>LGU Findings (check all that apply):</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Findings attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Findings: <b>The city of Golden Valley has determined the proposed activities qualify for No-Loss under MN Rules 8420.0415 A (activity that will not impact wetland)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other attachments. Specify: <b>Application form and supporting wetland boundary map from Kimley-Horn, received March 5, 2026.</b>
<b>For Replacement Plan Decisions Only:</b>	Total wetland impacts requiring replacement (acres): <b>N/A</b> Type of wetland replacement (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Project-Specific. Number of Credits: <b>N/A</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Banking. Number of Credits by Bank Account #: <b>N/A</b>

### Notice Distribution

<b>Notice Recipients (check all that apply):</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWCD TEP Member (if different from LGU): <b>Stacey Lijewski, Lily Kingsley</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BWSR TEP Member: <b>Jed Chesnut</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DNR Representative: <b>Ryan Toot</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watershed District or WMO (if applicable): <b>BCWMC – Laura Jester</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="mailto:bank.administrator.bwsr@state.mn.us">bank.administrator.bwsr@state.mn.us</a> (Bank Plan Decisions Only) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant: <b>Michael Jones, MPRB</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant’s Representative (if applicable): <b>Susan Mayer – Kimley Horn</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Members of the Public Requesting Notices (if applicable): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others: <b>US Army Corps of Engineers</b> <b>Michael Ryan – City of Golden Valley</b> <b>Karen Wold, Barr Engineering</b> <b>Shawn Williams, Emily Brown – WSB</b>
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### Appeal Process

<b>Appeal Process (check one):</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Appeal Process (if established). Specify How to Appeal: <b>N/A</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board of Water & Soil Resources (see instructions below)
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**If there is no established Local Appeal Process indicated above, an appeal of this decision may be made to BWSR per the instructions to the right.**

**Note:** Decisions are not final until the 30-day appeal window ends.

Mail or email written request to appeal sent to BWSR within 30 days of date this notice was sent. Include copy of this notice, name and contact information of appellant(s) and their representative(s) (if applicable), a statement clarifying intent to appeal, and supporting information as to why the decision is in error.

Mail check payable to MN Board of Water & Soil Resources for \$500.

Send to:

Appeals & Regulatory Compliance Coordinator

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources

520 Lafayette Road North

St. Paul, MN 55155

[travis.germundson@state.mn.us](mailto:travis.germundson@state.mn.us)

## PART ONE: Applicant Information

If applicant is an entity (company, government entity, partnership, etc.), an authorized contact person must be identified. If the applicant is using an agent (consultant, lawyer, or other third party) and has authorized them to act on their behalf, the agent's contact information must also be provided.

**Applicant/Landowner Name:** Michael Jones, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board

**Mailing Address:** 2117 West River Road, Minneapolis MN 55411

**E-mail Address:** [Mjones@minneapolisparks.org](mailto:Mjones@minneapolisparks.org)

**Agent Name:** Susan Mayer

**Mailing Address:** 767 Eustis Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN 55114

**Phone:** 612-254-7320

**E-mail Address:** Susan.mayer@kimley-horn.com

## PART TWO: Site Location Information

**County:** Hennepin

**City/Township:** Golden Valley, Minneapolis

**Parcel ID and/or Address:** 2002924330003, 2902924210001

**Legal Description (Section, Township, Range):** Sections 20 and 29, Township 29N Range 24W

**Lat/Long (decimal degrees):** 44.9765455, -93.3237210

**Attach a map showing the location of the site in relation to local streets, roads, highways.**

**Approximate size of site (acres) or if a linear project, length (feet):** 4 acres

If you know that your proposal will require an individual Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you must provide the names and addresses of all property owners adjacent to the project site. This information may be provided by attaching a list to your application or by using block 25 of the Application for Department of the Army permit which can be obtained at:

[http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Portals/57/docs/regulatory/RegulatoryDocs/engform\\_4345\\_2012oct.pdf](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Portals/57/docs/regulatory/RegulatoryDocs/engform_4345_2012oct.pdf)

## PART THREE: General Project/Site Information

If this application is related to a delineation approval, exemption determination, jurisdictional determination, or other correspondence submitted *prior to* this application then describe that here and provide the Corps of Engineers project number.

Describe the project that is being proposed, the project purpose and need, and schedule for implementation and completion. The project description must fully describe the nature and scope of the proposed activity including a description of all project elements that effect aquatic resources (wetland, lake, tributary, etc.) and must also include plans and cross section or profile drawings showing the location, character, and dimensions of all proposed activities and aquatic resource impacts.

### Proposed Project

The City of Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) is proposing to reconstruct multiple trails within Theodore Wirth Park. These trails include the Learning Corridor, Eloise Butler Trail, Southeast Trail, Quaking Bog, Trail I-395 to Hwy 55, Glenwood Connection, Parkway Crossing, and Glenwood Avenue Improvements. In addition to the trail improvements, four stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) are proposed.

The majority of trails will be repaired in-place/in-kind. These improved trails will maintain existing trail footprints and be replaced with a similar material. Portions of the Learning Corridor and the connection to the Quaking Bog are will be widened by 2 feet. These trail widening locations were designed to avoid encroachment within wetlands. See **Exhibit A** for map.

Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to provide targeted improvements to the trail network at Theodore Wirth Park.

Project Need

Theodore Wirth Park is an important recreational resource within the Twin Cities metro area. Key improvements to the Park's trail network were identified and described in the Theodore Wirth Regional Park Master Plan (2015). Improvements defined in the Master Plan include: trail improvements for facilities in poor condition, enhanced trail connections, and intentional trail resurfacing to enhancing wayfinding and guest experience.

Project Schedule

Proposed letting: April 2026

Approximate construction timing: June 2026-November 2026

Proposed Wetland Impacts

A level 1 (desktop) and level 2 (field) wetland delineation was conducted by Kimley-Horn in July 2025. The wetland investigation and delineation included a 10-foot buffer from locations of proposed trail improvements (study area). In total, 10 wetlands and 1 stream were identified within the study area. Notices of decision approving the wetland delineation report were issued by the cities of Golden Valley and Minneapolis on January 9, 2026 and January 5, 2026, respectively. A copy of the wetland delineation report and/or notices of decision are available upon request.

The project has been designed to avoid any impacts to wetlands. No permanent fill or cut, temporary fill or cut, or temporary work areas are proposed within wetlands. See **Attachment B** for additional information.

## PART FIVE: Applicant Signature

Check here if you are requesting a pre-application consultation with the Corps and LGU based on the information you have provided. Regulatory entities will not initiate a formal application review if this box is checked.

By signature below, I attest that the information in this application is complete and accurate. I further attest that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein.

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 3.5.2026

I hereby authorize Kimley-Horn to act on my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this application.

## Attachment B

# Supporting Information for Applications Involving Exemptions, No Loss Determinations, and Activities Not Requiring Mitigation

Complete this part *if* you maintain that the identified aquatic resource impacts in Part Four do not require wetland replacement/compensatory mitigation OR *if* you are seeking verification that the proposed water resource impacts are either exempt from replacement or are not under CWA/WCA jurisdiction.

Identify the specific exemption or no-loss provision for which you believe your project or site qualifies:

Provide a detailed explanation of how your project or site qualifies for the above. Be specific and provide and refer to attachments and exhibits that support your contention. Applicants should refer to rules (e.g. WCA rules), guidance documents (e.g. BWSR guidance, Corps guidance letters/public notices), and permit conditions (e.g. Corps General Permit conditions) to determine the necessary information to support the application. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the WCA LGU and Corps Project Manager prior to submitting an application if they are unsure of what type of information to provide:

### **WCA No-Loss – MN Rules 8420.0415 Subpart A**

No-loss means no permanent loss of, or impact to, wetlands from an activity according to the criteria in this part. An activity that will not impact a wetland qualifies for the no-loss provision. As shown in **Exhibit A**, the majority of trail improvements associated with the project will maintain the existing width of trails. In locations where trail widening is proposed (from 6 feet wide to 8 feet wide, or 8 feet wide to 10 feet wide), the widened paths will not encroach the wetlands. These locations have been designed to avoid placement of fill within aquatic resources. No new trails are proposed within or adjacent to existing wetlands.

The project proposes a net increase in impervious area of 0.77 acres (3.24 acres of existing impervious area, 4.01 acres of proposed impervious area). The project has been designed to ensure runoff from impervious areas does not cause a negative impact to downstream waters. The project is subject to the rules and standards of the following local government agencies: City of Minneapolis, City of Golden Valley, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. A drainage design memorandum has been prepared under a separate cover to describe the project approach and the ability of the project to meet the stormwater/runoff regulatory requirements of each governing body (available upon request).

No changes in intensity of land/trail use adjacent to existing wetlands is anticipated. Trails improvements were designed to improve existing conditions and improve guest experience; they were not designed to add capacity.

To qualify for the no-loss provision, the applicant must meet the conditions under **MN Rules 8420.0410**. The no-loss conditions are listed below along with supporting information to demonstrate how the project meets these conditions:

- A. Appropriate erosion control measures are taken to prevent sedimentation of the wetland or of any receiving waters.
  - a. Erosion control measures (sediment control logs) will be installed prior to construction. Two layers of sediment control logs will be installed in areas of construction adjacent to wetlands.
- B. The activity does not block fish activity in a watercourse, except when done purposely to prevent movement of undesirable fish species in accordance with a recommendation from the commissioner.
  - a. The project will not block fishy activity in a watercourse.
- C. The activity is conducted in compliance with all other applicable federal, state, and local requirements, including best management practices according to the documents referenced in part 8420.0112, items L, M, N, and water resource protection requirements established under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103H.
  - a. The project has been designed to be in compliance with all federal, state, and local requirements, including best management practices for site erosion and sediment control and stormwater management.

**Exhibit A**  
Wetlands Map

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