

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Committee Members Present: Chair Peggy Leppik, Kirstin Beach, Polly Bowles, Craig Peterson, Roger Scherer, Lynette Wittsack, Daniel Wolter, Wendy Wulff

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Leppik called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2009.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Wolter to approve the May 12 agenda and the minutes of the April 28, 2009 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **The motion carried.**

**BUSINESS**

**2009-124 City of Lakeville Comprehensive Plan Update; Review File No. 20445-1; Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan**

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Bowles that the Metropolitan Council approve the City of Lakeville's Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan.

**Motion carried.**

**2009-131 City of Coon Rapids 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update; Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File No. 20227-1**

It was moved by Scherer, seconded by Wulff that the Metropolitan Council approve the City of Coon Rapids' Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan.

**Motion carried.**

**2009-173 Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Land Acquisition, Design, and Construction Cooperation Agreement with the City of Maple Grove for South Corcoran Extension of the Elm Creek Interceptor Improvements Project 900440**

It was moved by Scherer, seconded by Bowles that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Land Acquisition, Design, and Construction Cooperation Agreement with the City of Maple Grove for South Corcoran Extension of the Elm Creek Interceptor Improvements Project 900440.

**Motion carried.**

**INFORMATION**

**Discussion of 2010 Budget**

Jason Willett, Environmental Services Division Finance Manager, explained the 2010 preliminary base budget and how it translates into rates. Willett reviewed the economic effect of the recession on the Service Availability Charge (SAC) reserve fund and rates. In the near future, the SAC reserve fund is projected to drop below the minimum balance established in Council Policy 3-2-5. Willett presented three budget options and their impact on rates and bond rating: Use of operating reserves; Less Pay-As-You-Go; and Reserve capacity methodology improvements. A business item will be brought to the committee at its May 26 meeting seeking authority to allow the SAC reserve fund to drop below the established minimum.

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**Algae Update**

Robert Polta, Research and Development Manager, explained that the project goal is to determine the technical and economic feasibility of using algae to reduce nutrient and carbon dioxide emissions and subsequently recover oil and other energy products from the algal cell mass. He reviewed the application at the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant and oil production potential.

**General Manager's Report**

William G. Moore informed the committee that the wastewater treatment plants have successfully met all permit limits and monitoring requirements for 27 consecutive months.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Harder  
Recording Secretary