

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

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 26, 2008

Committee Members Present: Vice-Chair Daniel Wolter, Polly Bowles, Craig Peterson, Roger Scherer, Lynette Wittsack

Committee Members Excused: Chair Peggy Leppik, Kirstin Beach

As there was not a quorum at 4:00 p.m., Vice-Chair Wolter asked staff to present the information items. Staff presented the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) briefing. The discussion is documented below.

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice-Chair Wolter called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 4:12 p.m. on Tuesday, August 26, 2008.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Vice-Chair Wolter amended the agenda to discuss a portion of the proposed 2009-2018 Capital Improvement Projects prior to the business discussion. It was moved by Scherer, seconded by Wittsack, to approve the amended agenda. **The motion carried.**

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Scherer, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2008 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **The motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2008-239 Authorization to Enter into Lease Agreement with Tiller Corporation for Aggregate Mining on New Hastings Wastewater Treatment Plant Site

It was moved by Scherer, seconded by Wittsack, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into a revenue producing lease of Council-owned property with the Tiller Corporation consistent with the proposed lease terms included as Attachment A.

Motion carried.

2008-240 Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Cooperative Agreement with the City of White Bear Lake for Construction of 1-WL-417 Forcemain Improvements

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Bowles, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Agreement with the City of White Bear Lake for construction of Interceptor 1-WL-417 forcemain improvements.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Briefing

Rebecca Flood, Manager of Environmental Compliance, explained the TMDL process, and provided specifics about the Lake Pepin turbidity and nutrient impairments. Reduction scenarios were reviewed. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency intends to issue draft phosphorus and sediment TMDL for Lake Pepin in November for public comment. If the limit is reduced, there will be cost implications for the Council.

Proposed 2009-2018 Capital Improvement Program Projects

Bryce Pickart, Assistant General Manager of Technical Services, provided estimated costs related to phosphorus. Achieving the current phosphorus limit is approximately \$3.00/lb; the estimate to remove additional phosphorus is approximately \$100/lb. The budget impact for additional phosphorus and nitrogen removal is: Capital Program - \$1.0 billion; Annual Budget - \$120 million.

As a follow-up to discussions at the August 12 committee meeting, Pickart provided a more thorough review of the proposed 2009 authorized requests for growth, rehabilitation, and miscellaneous projects.

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2009-2018 Preliminary Capital Finance Plan (CFP)

Jason Willett, MCES Finance Director, reviewed the proposed CFP which will be incorporated into the Council's Unified Capital Budget for Council approval. Willett noted that proposed CFP includes a capital improvement plan of \$1.397 million/year for the next ten years; debt service projected at 42.5% of the total ES Annual Budget expenses in 2009, increasing thereafter until peaking at about 48% in ten years; includes \$5 million of pay-as-you-go in 2009.

ADJOURN

At 5:40 p.m., it was moved by CM Bowles, seconded by CM Wittsack, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Harder
Recording Secretary