



PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

David Brummel, Director
Jill Timm, Deputy Director

Memorandum

Date: March 10, 2024

To: Matt Oldenburg-Downing, Administrator, Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization

From: Georgia Eilertson, Planner, Washington County Public Health and Environment
Kevin Peterson, Design Engineer, Washington County Public Works

Copy (via email):

Middle St. Croix Watershed Board of Managers
Kevin Corbid, Administrator, Washington County Administration
David Brummel, Director, Washington County Public Health and Environment
Stephanie Souter, Senior Program Manager, Washington County Public Health and Environment
Smita Rakshit, Supervisor, Washington County Public Health and Environment
Wayne Sandberg, Director, Washington County Public Works
Corey Slagle, Assistant County Engineer, Washington County Public Works

Subject: Request for information for the development of the MSC Management Plan update

Washington County would like to thank the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) for requesting input on the development of their 2025 Watershed Plan.

The county's departments of Public Health and Environment and Public Works are providing the following input.

- The county is in the process of updating their Groundwater Plan and MSCWMO staff are on the Technical Advisory Committee. We ask that MSCWMO continue being a part of this committee and during watershed management plan development update language to refer to the Groundwater Plan that will be adopted.
- The county requests that MSCWMO consider strategies that protect groundwater quality and quantity directly and also through management of the water resources in the district. Some of these could include:
 - Collaboration with businesses on ways to reduce water use, increase water reuse, and manage their stormwater safely.
 - Assist residents in ways to reduce water use and manage their use of chlorides.
 - Identify ways to partner with the county on groundwater projects.
 - Continue to be a partner through the Washington County Water Consortium.

The Washington County Public Works Department has appreciated the partnership with the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization. The Washington County Board recently approved over \$400M in investments to public infrastructure, parks, trails, buildings, and bridges over the next five years. These projects are planned within the jurisdiction of eight separate Watershed Districts so we hope the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization will prioritize consistency when updating Management Plans and Rules.

As the plan comes together, the County expects that any expected cost-sharing be formally requested through the annual Capital Improvement Plan process. We are happy to discuss this in more detail.

Washington County looks forward to working with the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization as the watershed plan is updated and on finding opportunities for collaboration and partnership.

A great place to live, work and play...today and tomorrow

Government Center | 14949 62nd Street North | P. O. Box 6 | Stillwater, MN 55082-0006
P: 651-430-6001 | F: 651-430-6017 | TTY: 651-430-6246
www.co.washington.mn.us

Washington County is an equal opportunity organization and employer