

MEMORANDUM

To: MCWD Board of Managers
From: Becky Christopher, MCWD Planner
CC: James Wisker, Director of Planning; Brett Eidem, Cost Share Specialist
Date: November 20, 2014
Re: Arden Park Neighborhood Partnership Proposal

Purpose:

To provide an update on partnership opportunities with the City of Edina in the Arden Park neighborhood and obtain preliminary Board feedback on a cost share proposal.

Background:

In August 2013, the City adopted a Living Streets Policy which is intended to balance the needs of motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit riders in ways that promote safety and convenience, improve environmental sustainability, enhance community identity, create economic vitality, and provide meaningful opportunities for active living and better health.

In February 2014, the City of Edina approached the District with a proposal for partnership for a Living Streets Demonstration Project in the “Arden Park D” neighborhood (see attached map). This neighborhood is scheduled for street reconstruction in 2015, and the City hopes to use it as an early demonstration of its Living Streets Policy. Since that time, the City and District have had several meetings to discuss partnership opportunities related to stormwater management, riparian vegetation improvement, and public education.

Stormwater Management Opportunities

The City recently completed a subwatershed assessment to identify options for stormwater management, and the top three opportunities are summarized below:

Best Management Practice (BMP)	Retained Volume (Acre-feet)	Total Phosphorus (lbs)	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
Halifax Ave subsurface infiltration trench	13.0	10.6	1,923
Jay Place PaveDrain pervious paver system	1.0	1.0	215
Sump manholes (3 locations)	N/A	Not quantified	4,400
Total	14.0	11.6	6,538

The combined costs for these three best management practices (BMPs) is approximately \$176,000. Treatment opportunities within Arden Park itself were also investigated but were found to be infeasible due to high groundwater and poor soils. In addition to the BMPs listed above, the project will narrow road widths resulting in a reduction of 28,714 SF (0.67 acres) of impervious surface.

In September 2014, the District and City jointly prepared and submitted a grant application for BWSR Clean Water Funds for the project. These grants are awarded in late January 2015. Because the project exceeds regulatory requirements, the proposed BMPs are also eligible for funding under the District's Low Impact Development (LID) grant. The City has requested funding assistance through the LID grant in the event that the BWSR Clean Water Grant is not awarded. Based on preliminary review, staff believes the project would be a good candidate for the LID program and would likely recommend funding at the 50 percent level, totaling \$88,000.

Education/Demonstration Opportunities

In addition to treating stormwater, this project would provide education and demonstration value. The City has expressed a willingness to work with the District to install signage in Arden Park that could educate park users about the various water resource improvements in the area, including the proposed stormwater BMPs, the Reach 14 streambank improvements downstream, and the proposed fish bypass channel.

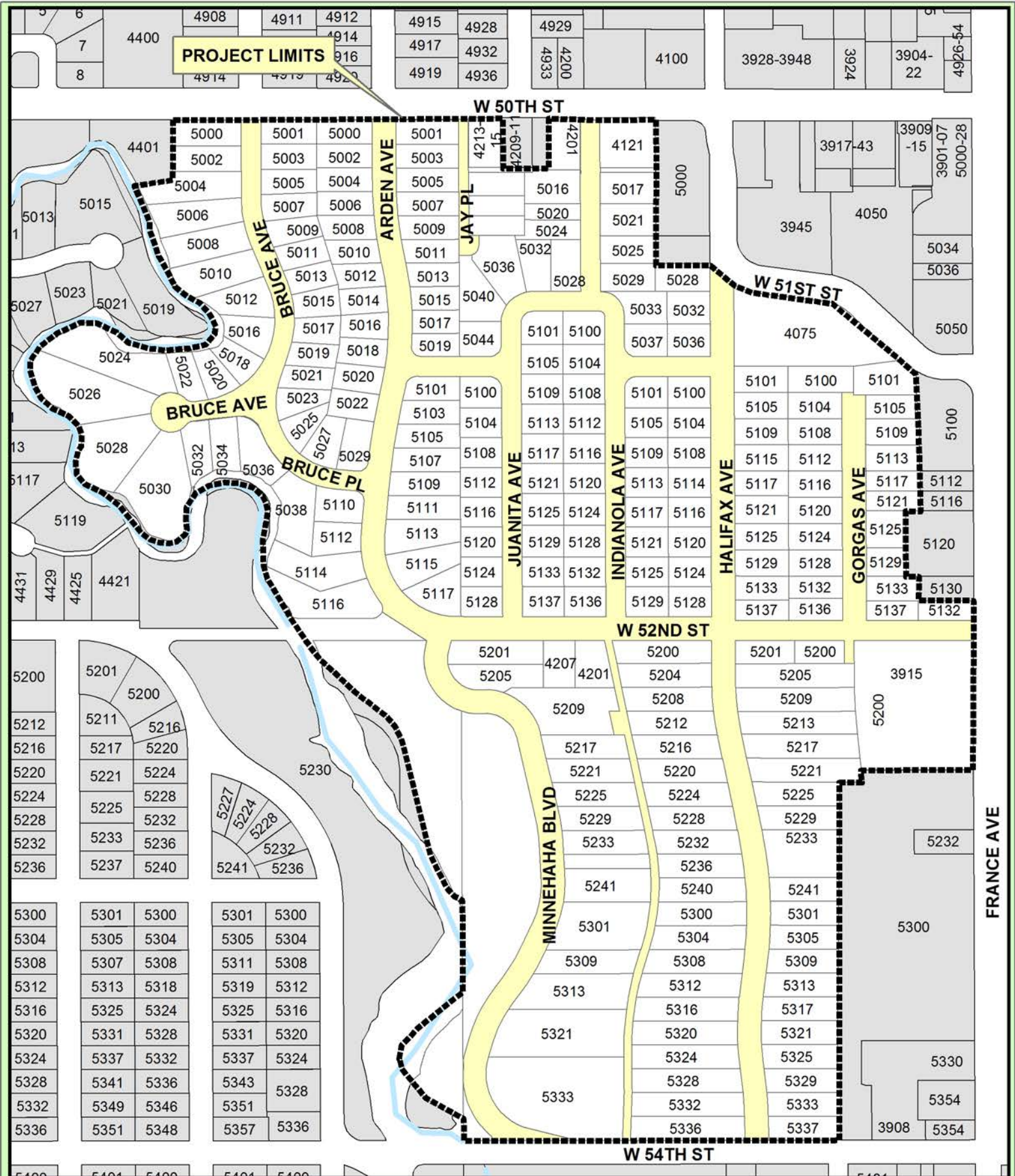
There are also Master Water Stewards who have expressed interest in engaging residents in this neighborhood. Staff will be meeting with the Stewards and the City in early December to discuss education strategies such as talking to residents about best practices they can implement on their property or organizing events such as storm drain stenciling or creek clean-ups.

From a demonstration standpoint, the proposed PaveDrain system is a fairly new product that is supposed to be more durable and require less maintenance than other pervious paver systems. Previous applications have been mainly in parking lots, and this would be one of the first street applications which could serve as a demonstration and provide an opportunity for effectiveness monitoring.

Next Steps:

The City is holding a public hearing for the project in early December and has requested preliminary feedback from the District regarding its LID funding request. If the Board is generally supportive of the proposed partnership, staff will work with the District Engineer and Cost Share Specialist to further analyze the grant request and route it through the Citizen Advisory Committee before coming back to the Board for approval.

If there are questions in advance of the meeting, please contact Becky Christopher at 952-641-4512 or bchristopher@minnehahacreek.org.



2015 Project Area
Arden Park D Neighborhood Roadway Reconstruction
Improvement No: BA-412



Engineering Dept
June, 2013