

**MEMORANDUM**

To: MCWD Board of Managers
From: Becky Christopher
Date: December 17, 2019
Re: Item 12.1: Report on Boundary Change Analysis

Purpose:

To provide an update on the boundary analysis that has been completed for the Grandview Neighborhood and overall boundary with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

Background:

At the September 23, 2019 Planning and Policy Committee (PPC) Meeting, staff laid out a plan for completing a number of planning analyses that had been requested by Board members. One of these analyses was to evaluate the hydrologic versus legal boundary of the Grandview Neighborhood, located in Edina, and recommend the process for any necessary adjustment in the District's legal boundary.

Geospatial technology has allowed watershed management organizations to more accurately determine hydrologic boundaries and align them with existing parcels, showing that many parcels are currently misassigned to one district or the other. Further, because legal boundary lines follow parcel lines, subdivisions that have taken place on larger parcels over time allow the legal boundary to more closely match the hydrologic boundary.

In the past two years, boundary adjustments have been made to the District's boundary with both the Carver County Watershed Management Organization and the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District.

Summary:

Staff has completed an analysis of the hydrologic versus legal boundary for the entire boundary with Nine Mile Creek Watershed District (NMCWD). The boundary between MCWD and NMCWD crosses through the cities of Minnetonka, Hopkins, and Edina.

The analysis was conducted using GIS to determine the percentage of each parcel that lies within the hydrologic boundary of MCWD or NMCWD. Parcels with greater than half of their land area

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within MCWD are assigned thereto, and those with less are assigned to NMCWD. The attached map shows the parcels that would be reassigned based on this preliminary analysis.

The process for a watershed district boundary adjustment under MN Statutes 103D is as follows:

- Initiation of the proceeding to adjust the boundary through petition to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)
- All watershed management organizations and local units of government with property affected by the boundary adjustment must adopt resolutions supporting the adjustment
- Before acting on the petition, BWSR will publish notice of the proposed boundary adjustment and will hold a public hearing if requested

Next Steps:

At the December 19 PPC Meeting, staff will provide an overview of the boundary analysis and process for adjusting the boundary. If the Board wishes to proceed, staff will initiate the formal process through coordination with NMCWD and the affected cities.




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

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BOUNDARY ANALYSIS

MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT & NINE MILE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT



LEGEND

-  MCWD Hydrologic Boundary
-  Current MCWD Legal Boundary
-  Proposed MCWD Legal Boundary

Parcel Change

-  Change to Nine Mile Creek
-  Change to Minnehaha Creek

Hydrologic and Legal Boundary Differences

-  in MCWD legal + outside MCWD hydrologic
-  outside MCWD legal + in MCWD hydrologic

