



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** MCWD Board of Managers  
**From:** Laura Domyancich and Anna Brown  
**Date:** December 3, 2019  
**Re:** Item 4.1 – Victoria Property Update

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### Purpose:

In May 2019, the Board of Managers directed staff to evaluate the natural resource and restoration potential of a property west of downtown Victoria. Based on this evaluation, staff will provide a recommendation on course of action regarding this property specifically and describe how this process relates to development of future small area planning within this geography. At the November 21, 2019 Planning and Policy Committee (PPC) meeting, staff will provide an overview of:

- Work undertaken to evaluate the property
- A summary of the information gathered through this analysis
- Lessons learned through the process
- Work to establish a framework for small area planning informed by both this initial evaluation and the development of opportunity screening and land assessment strategies

### Background:

The Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay (SMCHB) Subwatershed plan identifies landscape protection and restoration as a strategy to address rapid expansion and the degradation of wetlands in this geography. This approach includes the evaluation of opportunities on an ongoing basis for strategic acquisition in fee or easement to ensure that natural resource protection and development goals are compatible.

An early step in this process was evaluation of a property west of downtown Victoria. This effort identified specific tools needed to thoroughly analyze properties for protection or restoration. Using this work as a foundation for SMCHB opportunity screening, staff is building a framework for future property evaluation to inform small area planning, which is linked to the ongoing initiative to develop GIS-based tools for screening and assessment.

### Next Steps:

At the November 21, 2019 meeting staff will overview the scope of work and timeline associated with developing a framework for small area planning based on initial work in property evaluation. Following feedback from the PPC, the purpose, scope and timeline will be refined before additional work.

If there are questions in advance of the meeting, please contact Laura Domyancich at 952.641.4582/ [ldomyancich@minnehahacreek.org](mailto:ldomyancich@minnehahacreek.org) or Anna Brown at 952.641.4522 / [abrown@minnehahacreek.org](mailto:abrown@minnehahacreek.org).

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