

Meeting: Operations and Programs Committee

Meeting date: 4/9/2020 Agenda Item #: 5.1 Item type: Staff Update

Title: CTD Property Update

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Purpose:

At the April 9, 2020 Operations and Programs Committee (OPC) meeting, staff will provide an update on due diligence and discussions with the land owner regarding the potential donation of the property located at 2301 Brunswick Avenue S., St. Louis Park. Staff will receive feedback from the Committee and discuss next steps.

Background:

In August 2019, Mr. Chris Dahl and his owner representatives contacted the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (District) to gauge District interest in a potential land donation or bargain sale of a property located at 2301 Brunswick Ave. S., St. Louis Park. The preliminary request was brought before the OPC on September 12, 2019, with a subsequent discussion at the October 10, 2019 OPC meeting and closed session discussions at the October 24, 2019 and December 3, 2019 Board meetings.

Based on feedback provided by the Board of Managers during the December 3, 2019 closed session, District staff have continued discussions with Mr. Dahl and begun to conduct additional due diligence for a potential donation in 2020.

Summary:

Subsequent to the December 3, 2019 Board meeting, District staff requested a consultation with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) with the goal of understanding what uses MPCA would allow on the property and the process to obtain a No Association Determination for the lithium contamination. The consultation took place March 10, 2020 and the outcomes of the meeting will be shared at the April 9, 2020 OPC meeting.

In February, District staff and the property owner met to provide respective updates on the potential donation timeline. District staff also met virtually with several city of St. Louis Park departments to understand how potential District ownership of the subject property fits with City land use goals.

At the April 9, 2020 OPC meeting, staff will provide an update on:

- Recent discussions with the property owner
- Outcomes of the March 10, 2020 consultation with MPCA
- Recent discussions with city of St. Louis Park

Staff will receive feedback from the Committee to help determine next steps.

Additional questions, comments, or ideas related to the potential property donation can be directed to Gabriel Sherman at gsherman@minnehahacreek.org / 952.641.4510.