



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: April 20, 2004
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to:

Subject: **Public Hearing of the 2004 Minneapolis Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report**

Recommendation:

- To receive public comment and direct staff to respond to questions and issues raised regarding the 2004 Minneapolis Storm Water Management Program and Annual Report, pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 14 of the City of Minneapolis National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit #MN0061018.

Previous Directives:

April 6, 2004 - Set Public Hearing date to April 20th as required by the City's NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Permit.

Prepared by: Julia Liu, Engineer I, Engineering Services, 673-3973

Approved by: Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Pat Wrase, P.E., Engineer III

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information:

History

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) is a program created in 1990 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to protect water quality by regulating the discharge of pollutants to lakes, streams, wetlands and other surface waters. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is the local authority responsible for administering this program in the state of Minnesota. Under this program, specific permits are issued to regulate different types of municipal and industrial activities. The City of Minneapolis maintains two different NPDES permits. The Combined Sewer Overflow Permit regulates combined storm and wastewater discharges from the sanitary sewer system, and the Municipal Storm Sewer System Permit regulates stormwater runoff discharges from the storm drain system.

Requirements for Annual Reporting, Public Comment, and Council Action

The MPCA issued the NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (Permit) to Minneapolis on December 1, 2000. The Permit expired on January 1, 2004 and the City has submitted a permit renewal application to the MPCA. This Permit requires the implementation of approved stormwater Best Management Practices, and documentation in the form of a Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report (Report) due on June 1 of each year. This Report presents the activities that will be implemented for the current and following year, and provides documentation and analysis of the activities conducted in the previous year.

The Permit also requires an opportunity for public input into the development of the priorities and programs necessary for compliance, and adoption of the Report as the City's Stormwater Management Plan. A summary of the public's input and the City's response to the comments are also required to be included as part of the City Council's adoption of the Report through a formal resolution. A Public Hearing notice and a copy of this year's Report on CD was sent to interested parties including environmental groups and related governmental entities. A Public Hearing notice was also posted in the Finance and Commerce April 9th edition. Written comments will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on April 20, 2004. After the deadline for public comments, staff will prepare a written response to all comments received, either presented in testimony at the public hearing or submitted in writing. This written response will be included with the Annual Report and presented to the Transportation and Public Works Committee on May 4 to recommend adoption by the Minneapolis City Council.

2003 Stormwater Management Highlights

- Constructed two stormwater wet ponds to control runoff volume and sediment.
- Constructed new stormwater treatment chambers at Lake of the Isle outfalls.
- Inspected 94 and cleaned 83 grit chambers. A total of 743 cubic yards or about 1032 tons of grit were removed.
- Inspected 85 of 390 storm drain outfalls.
- Public Works Site Plan Review required stormwater management plans for 38 sites to comply with City's stormwater ordinance regulations for new developments.
- 20,750 tons of material reclaimed with street sweeping operations during spring and summer. 7,500 tons of leaves collected for composting during fall citywide sweep.
- Monitoring results show that 8 out of 10 monitored lakes show water quality improvements or stable water quality.
- Mailed water quality educational material to 98,000 Minneapolis households through utility bill inserts.

- Monitored new stormwater treatment chambers around Powderhorn Lakes.
- Successful containment of 40 minor and 14 larger spills of oil or antifreeze.
- Completed first draft of Minneapolis Local Surface Water Management Plan, which will have a great impact and benefits for stormwater management within the City.
- Added a comprehensive resource on storm and surface water management to the City of Minneapolis website at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater/>. This site includes explanations on the role of different city departments, advice for preventing flooding, and educational materials on classroom projects and teacher resources.

Attachment 1 - 2004 Minneapolis NPDES Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report, Executive Summary

C: Pat Wrase, P.E., Engineering Services
Mike Kennedy, P.E., Field Services
Bill Anderson, Environmental Services
Corey Conover, City Attorney
Mike Schmidt, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board