

## Environment Committee

Meeting date: August 11, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 26, 2015

**Subject:** Approval of Targeted Stormwater Grants

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Water Resources Policy Plan, Minnesota Statutes 471.59 (Joint Exercise of Powers) and 473.505 (Total Watershed Management)

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Judy Sventek, 651-602-1156

**Division/Department:** MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a targeted stormwater management demonstration grant described in the Attachment A in the total amount of \$50,000.

### Background

Research and monitoring has shown that nonpoint source pollution is having a detrimental effect on the water quality of lakes, streams, and rivers in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Nonpoint source pollution is polluted stormwater runoff from agricultural and urban land that enters wetlands, lakes, streams, and rivers without treatment.

The Council approved two grants for highly visible stormwater demonstration projects in the total amount of \$750,000 at its June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. One proposed grant was pulled from that item due to capacity concerns regarding the proposed grantee. This remaining grant will fund a stormwater re-use project in the city of Hugo that could be replicated throughout the metro region.

### Rationale

This project supports the Thrive MSP 2040 stewardship and sustainability outcomes and the water sustainability goal of the Water Resources Policy Plan. The proposed action requires Council approval.

### Funding

Transfer from 2015 budgeted excess funds.

### Known Support / Opposition

None

## **Beaver Ponds Park Stormwater Reuse Project** **Anticipated funding contribution: \$50,000**

Attachment A

Beaver Ponds Park is located in south central Hugo. Water from the city's potable system is currently used to irrigate a portion of the turf in the park. The city proposes construction of a suction pipeline and pumping station adjacent to a stormwater pond that collects runoff from the Beaver Ponds development. The pump will convey stormwater from the pond to the Park property approximately 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile away. The stormwater will be used to irrigate approximately 5.5 acres of park land at a rate of one inch per week. Assuming a 26 week irrigation season, the project is expected to distribute 3.8 million gallons of stormwater annually, reducing aquifer withdrawals by the same amount. The total project cost is estimated at \$201,500. Construction is scheduled for fall of 2015 and the system should be in use for the entire 2016 irrigation season. Currently the city is planning to monitor volume reduction by the system for a minimum of three years, in accordance with the Rice Creek Watershed District's requirements for volume reduction credits. A kiosk-type sign with a description of the re-use system and a warning that the irrigation water is not potable will be part of the project. The city of Hugo is located within the North and East Metro Groundwater Management Area.