

## Environment Committee

Meeting date: April 13, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 28, 2021

**Subject:** Adopt Facility Plan for the Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, MCES Project No. 809700

**District(s), Member(s):** Districts 1, 3, 4, 5; Judy Johnson, Christopher Ferguson, Deb Barber, and Molly Cummings

**Policy/Legal Reference:** MN Rule 7077.0272, subpart 3

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Jason Peterson, 651-602-4595; Rene Heflin, 651-602-1077

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

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Facility Plan for Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, MCES Project No. 809700 per Resolution No. 2021-15.

### Background

The Facility Plan recommends capacity improvements, effluent quality improvements and equipment renewal at the Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The plan includes meeting capacity needs in the service area through 2050, improving effluent quality to meet anticipated future permit regulations, and renewing assets that are near end of service life. The program is broken down into three construction projects with one about every 5 years from 2025 to 2040.

The Facility Plan was made available for public review on February 8, 2021. A virtual public hearing was conducted on March 15, 2021 and was attended by 7 people, not otherwise identified as presenters or producers at the hearing. No questions were asked during the public hearing. Four (4) questions were received before the public hearing from the Shakopee Public Works Director, Steve Lillehaug and answered by MCES, via email, prior to the public hearing; these questions and answers concerning size, traffic, odor and capacity were read aloud during the comment period of the public hearing. Four (4) questions were received after the public hearing from the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Administrator, Linda Loomis and answered by MCES, via email after the public hearing; these questions and answers concerned riverbank erosion repair schedule, permitting, and groundwater use.

Following adoption by the Metropolitan Council, the Facility Plan will be submitted to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) in conjunction with an application for placement of the project on the Project Priority List for funding through the Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund beginning in fiscal year 2022.

### Rationale

Public Facilities Authority (PFA) loan funding eligibility requires formal adoption of the Facility Plan by Resolution (attached), following a public hearing on the draft Facility Plan.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This action advances the Thrive outcome of stewardship, livability, and sustainability. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively

to maintain and restore wastewater infrastructure, which protects the regions natural resources and returns resources to the environment.

### **Funding**

The 2021 Capital program funding is sufficient for Phase 1 planning and design. Future funding will be requested as needed.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

MCES staff is not aware of opposition to the project.

## METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

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### **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-15 RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE Facility Plan for the Blue Lake WWTP Improvements PROJECT NO. 809700**

#### **WHERE AS:**

1. The Metropolitan Council is a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and has statutory responsibility for operating the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area regional wastewater collection and treatment system, and
2. The Metropolitan Council is a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and has statutory responsibility for operating the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area regional wastewater collection and treatment system, and
3. The Metropolitan Council has determined it is necessary and convenient for the fulfillment of its statutory responsibilities to construct the Blue Lake WWTP Improvements Project, Project Number 809700, and
4. A draft Facility Plan for the project has been completed and a public hearing was held on March 15, 2021 to discuss the proposed project and the draft Facility Plan

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL,

that the Facility Plan for the  
Blue Lake WWTP Improvements  
PROJECT NO. 809700

is hereby approved and adopted.

Adopted this 28th day of April 2021.

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Charles A Zelle, Chair

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Elizabeth Sund, Recording Secretary