

Minutes

White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan Work Group



Meeting Date: March 26, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Woodbury Public Safety Education Center

Members Present:

- ✓ Bryan Bear, City of Hugo
- ✓ Clark Schroeder, City of Lake Elmo
- ✓ Michael Grochala, City of Lino Lakes
- ✓ Bob Goebel, City of Mahtomedi
- ✓ Craig Schlichting, City of New Brighton
- ✓ Kevin Kress, City of North Oaks
- ✓ Morgan Dawley, City of North St. Paul
- ✓ Chris Volkers, City of Oakdale
- ✓ Tom Wesolowski, City of Shoreview
- ✓ Shawn Sanders, City of Stillwater
- ✓ Jim Hauth, City of Vadnais Heights
- ✓ Paul Kauppi, City of White Bear Lake
- ✓ Mary Van Milligen, City of Woodbury
- ✓ David Weum, Department of Health
- ✓ Jason Moeckel, Department of Natural Resources
- ✓ Liz Kaufenberg, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- ✓ Racquel Vaske, Saint Paul Regional Water Services
- ✓ Greg Johnson, Metropolitan Council
- ✓ Judy Sventek, Metropolitan Council
- ✓ Sam Paske, Metropolitan Council

Alternate Members Present:

- ✓ Jim Studenski, White Bear Township

Call to Order

Judy Sventek called the meeting of the White Bear Lake Comprehensive Plan Work Group to order at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

Work Group members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Information Items and Committee Work

1. Welcome and introductions
Brigitte Bjorklund from Zan Associates welcomed the group. New attendees introduced themselves.
2. NMLG Model Results for White Bear Lake, Ultimate Demand Scenarios
Glen Champion from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) presented on the NMLG model results for White Bear Lake for the projected ultimate development water demands. Work group

members and Glen discussed which communities met water conservation goals, how lake level goals were calculated, and scenarios where different communities were moved to surface water.

3. Work group exercise

Work group members split into groups to discuss the groundwater modeling analysis, how it aligns with the work group’s problem statement, and recommendations or questions. Some shared concerns and questions about whether the work group was proposing solutions for natural fluctuation in lake levels or if those are already accounted for in the calculations. Others shared concerns about the potential impact and increased costs to their community to accommodate the needs of other communities. Discussion also included the lawsuit and how that should guide communication with residents, what recommendations should be included in the report to the legislature, impacts on Saint Paul Regional Water Services, and national attention on how this issue is addressed.

4. Upcoming studies

Greg Johnson from Met Council provided an update on current studies looking at reuse of treated wastewater and water quality impacts for lake augmentation. He also went over upcoming studies for water solutions.

Judy Sventek from Met Council explained how current studies are being funded, how much of the project budget has been spent to date, and answered questions regarding funding and spending from work group members.

Next Steps

1. Next meeting: April 29, 2025, from 12:30-3:30 at The Rookery Activity Center in Lino Lakes
2. Following meeting dates: July 24, 2025, at St. Paul Regional Water Services in St. Paul and October 21, 2025, at Stillwater Public Library in Stillwater

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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