Business Item

Environment Committee

Committee Meeting Date: March 24, 2026 **For the Metropolitan Council:** April 8, 2026

Business Item: 2026-60

Ratification of Declaration of Emergency Repair of Minneapolis Interceptor 1-MN-344

District(s), Member(s):	District 6, Robert Lilligren
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy FM 14-2, Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Chris Remus, Assistant Manager, Interceptor Engineering, 651-602-4538
Division/Department:	Environmental Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ratify the Emergency Declaration for repairs to Interceptor 1-MN-344 in Minneapolis in an amount not to exceed $1,000,000.

Background

Metering detected increased flow on January 4, 2026, downstream of the affected area. The Council initially contacted City of Minneapolis staff to identify any active discharges or broken water main. Operations staff began field-measuring wastewater temperatures within interceptors to identify any potential sources. The source of inflow was found on February 17, 2026, at abandoned MH 31 along Interceptor 1-MN-344, which is buried at the edge of Minnehaha Creek with no surface access. Several bricks of the abandoned MH are missing, and the structure is taking in water.

The abandoned MH will be excavated to repair the breach and raise the structure to grade to allow future access and inspections.

Rationale

Emergency Declarations exceeding $175,000 require appropriate Committee and Council ratification.

Thrive Lens Analysis

On February 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this action advances the Thrive Outcome of Stewardship. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively to maintain and restore existing capacity to existing wastewater infrastructure which protects the region's natural resources.

Funding

This work will be funded out of the 2026 ES Authorized Capital Program.

Small Business Inclusion

Due to the time sensitive nature of the Emergency Declaration and the need for immediate work to be performed to protect public health and existing infrastructure, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity did not establish a small business goal. The application of a goal would significantly impact the timing of the project.