

Minutes

White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan Work Group



Meeting Date: July 16, 2026

Time: 12:30 – 4:00 PM

Location: The Rookery Activity Center
7690 Village Dr, Lino Lakes, MN 55014

Members Present:

- ✓ Bryan Bear, City of Hugo
- ✓ Clark Schroeder, City of Lake Elmo
- ✓ Bob Goebel, City of Mahtomedi
- ✓ Craig Schlichting, City of New Brighton
- ✓ Shawn Sanders, City of Stillwater
- ✓ Jim Hauth, City of Vadnais Heights
- ✓ Paul Kauppi, City of White Bear Lake
- ✓ Will Menkhaus, Saint Paul Regional Water Services
- ✓ Mary Van Milligen, City of Woodbury
- ✓ David Weum, Department of Health
- ✓ Jason Moeckel, Department of Natural Resources
- ✓ Dave Strub, Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee
- ✓ Larry Poppler, White Bear Township
- ✓ Greg Johnson, Metropolitan Council
- ✓ Judy Sventek, Metropolitan Council
- ✓ Sam Paske, Metropolitan Council
- ✓ John Chlebeck, Metropolitan Council

Alternate Members Present:

- ✓ Mark Statz, City of Oakdale
- ✓ Diane Hankee, City of Lino Lakes
- ✓ Kate Achenbach, City of North Oaks

Call to Order

Della Young called the meeting of the White Bear Lake Comprehensive Plan Work Group to order at 12:30 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 (Della Young, Young Environmental)
Della Young from Young Environmental welcomed the group. New attendees introduced themselves.
2. Project schedule and preliminary screening survey (Greg Johnson, Met Council)
Greg Johnson from Met Council provided an update on current and upcoming studies and the overall project timeline. Amended Study 1 and Study 12 will be presented during a one-hour webinar on July 29, which will be recorded and posted on the website for public access. In early August, the team will issue a survey to the work group to evaluate and rank potential infrastructure and water conservation solutions based on findings to date. Work group members will have three to four weeks to gather input from their respective communities or agencies before submitting their responses.

Hazen and Sawyer will present the financial analyses study and dashboard at the September 30 meeting where the work group will also review the preliminary survey rankings for an initial screening of potential solutions. Further prioritization, discussion of options, and drafting of the comprehensive plan will occur ahead of the final submission deadline to the Minnesota Legislature by June 30, 2027.

3. Study 5 – Water reuse from contaminated wells (Hanna Temme, AECOM)

Hannah Temme from AECOM presented a feasibility study on limiting PFAS migration from the Washington County Landfill and the Oakdale Disposal Site with the goals of aiding in long-term reduction of PFAS in the East Metro, reducing spread of PFAS in surface water and groundwater, and providing long-term protection to drinking water. Temme outlined primary and secondary recommendations and shared considerations for each option including cost, plume control, water use, coordination needs, and treatment options. She closed by highlighting data gaps and needs required to move towards remediation. The work group discussed what demand projections the study used and how population growth was accounted for.

4. Study 7A – Water quality study for chain of lakes (Jen Koehler and Keith Pilgrim, Barr Engineering)

Jen Koehler and Keith Pilgrim from Barr Engineering presented on evaluating water quality impacts of increased flows on lake water quality. Study results indicated that increased flows would have an impact on the Chain of Lakes and East Vadnais. The work group discussed how the location of the augmentation inlet impacts lake mixing, how no significant changes were indicated for internal loading across model runs, and overall water quality impacts.

5. Study 7B – White Bear Lake augmentation (Chris Larson, SEH)

Chris Larson from SEH presented on Study 7B, which builds on Study 7A's augmentation recommendations with respect to water quality. He shared a recommended treatment approach meeting Study 7A's discharge targets and aquatic invasive species (AIS) transfer requirements along with capital and O&M costs. The work group discussed the target water levels and how those were determined.

6. Study 2 – Surface water supply alternatives (Chris Larson, SEH)

Chris Larson from SEH presented on evaluating infrastructure requirements and costs of different alternatives to convert groundwater supplied areas to surface water supplies in the North and East Metro area. The first approach explored conveying treated surface water from Saint Paul Regional Water Services and the second approach explored constructing a regional surface water treatment plant near the chain of lakes. The work group discussed an option for diverting surface water from the St. Croix River to supply eastern Hugo, the difference between state surface water standards and drinking water standards, cost impacts of different water quality standards, and aquatic invasive species requirements.

7. Study 4 – Stormwater reuse for irrigation (Jen Koehler, Barr Engineering)

Jen Koehler from Barr Engineering presented on stormwater reuse for irrigation. The study looked at data collection, land use analysis, stormwater reuse analysis, and cost estimation concluding that stormwater reuse could offset future water demand.

8. Study 11 – Implement/require/encourage non- or less potable or potable water for irrigation and process water (Petros Paulos, Kimley-Horn)



Petros Paulos from Kimley-Horn presented on using non- or less- potable water for irrigation and process water for commercial and industrial businesses in White Bear Lake and Vadnais Heights. They explored an infrastructure-based model and a user-based model.

9. Study 15 – Serve North Oaks from Shoreview (Emily Schabert, Kimley-Horn)

Emily Schabert from Kimley-Horn presented on Study 15 which explored serving the City of North Oaks with treated drinking water supplied by the city of Shoreview. Schabert described the existing distribution system hydraulic model, potential well sites, water treatment plant site verification, and cost estimates. The study concluded that Shoreview's existing distribution system can deliver up to 2 MGD to North Oaks under current demand conditions without requiring major infrastructure changes. Shoreview's existing water treatment plant would need to be expanded by 2 MGD to supply North Oaks' projected ultimate development. This is a high enough estimate for North Oaks' projected max day demand for ultimate development.

10. Project Expenditures, questions, and next steps (Judy Sventek, Met Council)

Judy Sventek from Met Council provided a budget update.

Next Steps

1. Upcoming webinar with results from Amended Study 1 and Study 12: July 29, 2026
2. Next meeting: September 30, 2026, at Shoreview Community Center

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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