MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
QUALITY OF WATER QUALITY OF LIFE

November 28, 2023

David Hough
Administrator
Hennepin County
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Greetings,

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is pleased to share an update on its Land & Water Partnership Initiative (LWPI). Our vision of a balanced urban ecology, where natural and built environments exist in harmony to create value and enjoyment, is only possible through partnership with those who plan and implement changes to the landscape. To achieve this vision, we created the LWPI to strengthen connections between land use and water planning, enhance collaboration, and identify new opportunities for projects that provide mutual benefit.

Over the last year, MCWD engaged its 29 communities and worked with its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) representatives to gather feedback on three areas of the LWPI:

1. Vetting the new Land & Water Partnership program, which provides technical and financial support to partner-led projects that deliver significant, regional water resource benefits.
2. Providing feedback on how to optimize MCWD's permitting experience by streamlining and aligning our permitting rules, improving customer service, and enhancing efficiency.
3. Identifying opportunities to improve coordination and build relationships to promote integrated planning and collaborative projects.

The enclosed publication provides additional information about the LWPI, including insights gathered through the engagement process and next steps for each work area. You can stay up to date on these next steps through our website at www.minnehahacreek.org.

We value your support and look forward to exploring future partnership opportunities.

Sincerely,

Becky Christopher
Becky Christopher
MCWD Director of Policy Planning

Attachments:
MCWD's Land & Water Partnership Initiative Capstone Publication

We collaborate with public and private partners to protect and improve land and water for current and future generations.