



Recommendation to approve the amendment to the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission's Watershed Management Plan

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the county board of staff reviews and recommendations to approve a proposed minor plan amendment to the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission's (Commission) Watershed Management Plan (Plan).

Staff review and recommendations

Hennepin County Environment and Energy staff reviewed the Commission's proposed minor plan amendment and found it to be consistent with the Surface Water Management section of the Hennepin County 2040 Comprehensive Plan and the Hennepin County Natural Resources Strategic Plan.

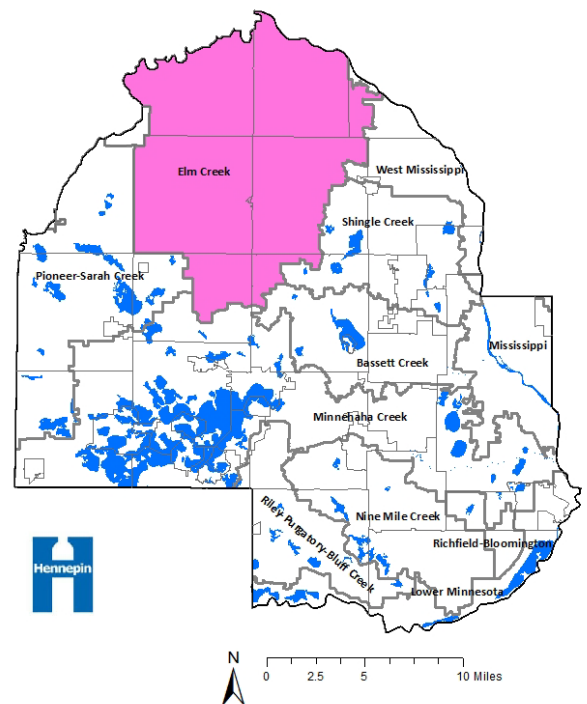
The Commission held a public hearing regarding the proposed minor plan amendment at its regular meeting on May 13, 2026. One comment was received from the Minnesota Dept. of Health supporting the new project outlined below.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed minor plan amendment to the Plan.

Background

The Elm Creek watershed is in the northern part of the county and includes all portions of the cities of Champlin, Corcoran, Dayton, Maple Grove, Medina, Plymouth, and Rogers (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Elm Creek Watershed Location



Attachment 1

The Commission has proposed a minor plan amendment to revise the Plan's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.231, subd. 7, the commission forwarded the proposed amendment to the county for review and action on water quality and quantity projects in the CIP where it may seek to certify funding to implement the water quality and quantity projects under Minnesota Statutes Section 103B.251.

The amendment adds one new water quality project to the Plan's CIP.

New projects

1. The Elm Creek Valley Stream Restoration Project will restore 1,500 linear feet of Elm Creek south of Elm Road. This project will improve riparian environment, enhance habitat, and improve recreation and access to the creek. Pollutant reduction estimates associated with this project are 100 pounds of phosphorus per year.

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July 2026

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