

**POLICY: CITY PARTICIPATION IN LAKE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

ORIGINAL ADOPTION: 05-10-2022

REFERENCE NO. ADMIN-012

REVIEWED/UPDATED: 12-13-2022

PURPOSE & SCOPE

This policy is intended to supplement City Code Chapter 78: Waterways as a way to clarify the City of Mound's ("City") position on participating in lake management projects.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) has licensed the City of Mound Commons Dock Program to grant licenses for up to 590 Boat Storage Units ("BDUs"). The City of Mound allocated these licenses between three primary types of users: Abutters, Non-abutters, and Multiple Slip licensees.

The City of Mound Commons Dock Program is made possible by the many miles of City owned shoreline that was dedicated by developers during the platting process and by nature of ownership of the public right of way ("ROW").

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District ("MCWD") is the local unit of government responsible for managing and protecting the water resources for Lake Minnetonka. It permits shoreline stabilization projects and projects related to dredging and navigation when delegated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources ("MN DNR").

The MN DNR issues aquatic vegetation permits for removal of aquatic vegetation and issues permits for dredge activities not specifically delegated to MCWD.

LAKE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Lake management refers to projects that focus on water quality and navigability.

The City generally signs off on any permit to improve water quality and/or navigability as required by permitting agencies.

The MN DNR does not guarantee continued navigability.

The MCWD regulated the Gray's Bay Dam according to agreements with the MN DNR during high water and lower water periods; but weather extremes, variability in precipitation, and fluctuation in lake level are becoming more common.

The discharge of stormwater into Lake Minnetonka as "receiving water" under the City Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit does not establish an inherent obligation of the City to address lake bottom, navigation, and/or weed conditions throughout the lake. Navigability, and access to shoreline are outside of the City's municipal responsibilities.

and fall to either private, county, or State entities to address except for specifically-assigned responsibilities within Lost Lake.

SERVICE LEVELS

The City does not guarantee use of all dock locations managed under the Commons Dock Program at all times nor does the City guarantee every dock location can accommodate any type of watercraft.

The City will not endorse dredge projects to create new abutting dock sites as the City's wetlands and shorelines are already included in the shoreline count for existing licenses through the LMCD.

The City will only participate in shoreline stabilization projects (primarily limited to rip-rap) in areas within the City lands at or above Ordinary High Water Level, where there is a significant level of erosion, and/or shore exposure is breaking waves due to open waters over an extended period of time.

The City is not responsible wildlife management and property owners should take necessary precautions to protect their landscape and watercraft from potential nuisances created by Aquatic Invasive Species ("AIS"), beavers, and muskrats.

The City will not initiate or fund lake-bottom dredge projects in shallow bays, marshes, inlets, coves, or harbors intended to increase navigational depth and access to shoreline dockage except for specifically assigned responsibilities within Lost Lake.