

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
5:30 PM, Wednesday, December 10, 2025 – Held online

Attendance:	Present P	Excused Unexcused E or U
Lauren Wheeler	P	
Mary Lilly		e
Barbara Hall	p	
Gwen Willems	p	
Michelle Ulrich	p	
Mike Trojan		e
Richard Weil	p	
Tori Philippi	p	
Tom Elko		u
Andrew Montain	p	
Nick Carmichael	p	

Staff / Board / Others present:
Anna Eleria
Rachele Krivichi
Hawona Sullivan Janzen
Chris Kucek
Jessica Bromelkamp

I) Welcome, Announcements, Updates, and Introductions

None

II) Public Comment for Issues Not on the Agenda

Andrew shared some brief conversation and observations from the event for the Midtown Neighborhood Coalition. He spoke with someone from the City of Saint Paul about salt and the piles of extra salt seen around the city.

III) CAC Motion 25-018: *Approval of the December 10, 2025 CAC Agenda*

Barbara asked to add a summary of the Minnesota Water Resources Conference. Lauren added that to 5C.

Motion: Barbara

Second: Andrew

IV) CAC Motion 25-019: *Approval of November 12, 2025 Minutes*

A) Approval of Minutes

Motion: Gwen

Second: Richard

V) CAC Observer Updates

A) November 19, 2025 Board Meeting (Trojan)

1. There was an additional item added to Board approvals. It concerned providing additional authorization for the District to approve activities in the Midway development site. Since there are 6 different permits and timing and coordination of activity can be challenging, the District requested Board approval to allow the District to authorize changes without Board approval. Additional note: This is a site with on-going soil remediation.
 2. There was a site (not part of the Midway effort) where activity started without CRWD approval. The site is located in a floodplain, which trips requirements at 10,000 square feet. There was a brief discussion about what the District does when it identifies a site that did not submit permit requests. In this case the entity complied once they were notified.
 3. Two delegates were chosen to attend the MN Watershed Annual Business meeting. Rick was one of them but I forget who the other was.
 4. There was a presentation on the Ford Site, Area C. The site is located on an old dump that has construction debris over industrial waste. A question I had but forgot to follow up on is what are the contaminants of concern. I believe Bob Fossum mentioned the presence of solvents but I don't have the specifics. There are also concerns about the stability of the site since construction debris is present. A feasibility study has been completed. CRWD reviewed and provided comments. A comment period is open until February 3. There are multiple options being presented. A Board member asked who was paying for the investigation and perhaps ultimately the cleanup. This site is being addressed through MPCA's Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Program (e.g. as opposed to Superfund). Ford is the responsible party and is responsible for any cleanup needed.
 5. Hawona mentioned two items. First is the upcoming Hamline-Midway meeting. Second was a MN Historical Society project on I-94, which ties into the current effort of rethinking-I-94. This is a story focused project and Hawona mentioned that if you know someone has a good story about the I-94 history, let her know. Here are a couple links if interested.
- [MN Historical Society: Rondo Neighborhood and I-94: Overview](#)
 - [Rethinking I-94 \(MnDOT\)](#)

B) December 1, 2025 Board Meeting (Trojan)

1. Approvals
 - a. Concordia site restoration closure. Some permit violations resulting in three inspections and one contractor visit. Site now approved and closed.
 - b. Highland building/parking lot demo. Work not fully completed and permit has expired. Will have to get new permit for additional work.
 - c. Victoria Park Accessible play area. Filtration proposed due to site limitations on infiltration.
2. Pooled BMP maintenance project
 - a. CRWD providing assistance to City of St. Paul to maintain 5 basins.
 - b. 6193 cubic tons of sediment estimated to be removed. Arlington-Arkwright basin accounts for about 75% of this.

- c. Maintenance being done in winter during dry conditions. Estimated to be complete by April 30.
- 3. Seminary Pond Subwatershed – 2 sites; Lee Bolstad golf course and Luther Seminary Lower Campus
 - a. Lee Bolstad
 - i. 16 acres in CRWD (the bulk of the site is in the Rice Creek Watershed)
 - ii. Single-family residential with some commercial
 - iii. Local drainage to Walsh Lake and Seminary Pond
 - iv. Following Falcon Heights Guiding Principles (see Snelling Larpenteur Corridor study for previous information)
 - v. The two watersheds are coordinating, with Rice Creek taking the lead
 - vi. The area is mostly pervious surface now, so there could be significant stormwater impacts
 - vii. Next step: waiting to identify the developer
 - b. Luther Seminary Lower Campus
 - i. Contractor is Lifestyle Communities
 - ii. Multi-use residential
 - iii. Construction in 2026
 - iv. Underground stormwater management
 - v. Conservation easement is required; 2 of the 6 acres can be developed to high density
 - vi. CRWD approached regarding holding the easement. The District is discussing.
 - vii. Next steps: permitting, discuss conservation easement
 - c. Other
 - i. New Employee: Matt (didn't catch last name); watershed specialist
 - ii. November 22 Art and Water workshop: well attended with many new attendees to a CRWD event
 - iii. Hamline-Midway event attended by several hundred
 - d. Next meetings
 - i. CAC: December 10
 - ii. Board: December 17

C) MN Water Resources Conference (Hall)

Barbara introduced the subject stating the MN Water Resources Conference is an annual conference sponsored by the University of Minnesota. She stated that the conference was very scientific. Barbara attended many courses. One involved climate change impacts and despite large amounts of monies being invested into MN's water resources, 49% of lakes are still declining. Other sessions covered community partnerships/collaborative approaches, new models for predicting storms, and green infrastructure.

VI) CAC Initiatives

A) CAC Subcommittees

1. Annual Calendar

1. Nothing to report

2. Orientation

1. Nothing to report

3. Outreach and communications

1. The committee attended the Hamline Conference. There was a great turn out.

B) Review 2025 Progress on CAC Reinvigoration Plan

Lauren was asked to list some of the highlights from the reinvigoration plan. She thought that the subcommittees were a good indicator of some of the initial goals. Barbara suggested trying to get a younger group of people onto the committee.

VII) District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations

A) Watershed Stewards Awards

Rachel and Jessica are tag teaming the Awards Ceremony preparation for 2026. Rachel is the point person for logistics and Jessica will be the point person for the awards. The award ceremony will take place Tuesday, February 10, 2026, from 6 to 8:30pm. There will be a one-hour social hour where Sterling Catering will be served. CRWD staff is looking for 8 people to help greet at the doors.

Jessica reminded the CAC that this ceremony was created by the CAC in 2014 with a goal honor individuals and organizations that exemplify watershed stewardship through activities and projects.

Award Winners are:

Steve Mitrione - Watershed Community Member Award

Russ Stark - Watershed Partner Award

Randolph Heights Robotics Club - Young Watershed Steward Award

In Progress - Watershed Outreach Program Award

Model Cities - Watershed Project Award

Stephan and Sebastian Lafferty from Shoreline Landscaping - Watershed Construction Leadership Award

Anne White Eagle - Lifetime Stewardship Award

Motion: Barbara

Second: Andrew

The CAC approved the nominees as Jessica presented them.

VIII) Project and Program Updates

A) Pooled BMP Pond Maintenance Project Update

Chris Kucek introduced himself and stated he is the Facility Operations Specialist with CRWD in our Facility Management division. CRWD reached out to several partners with BMP ponds to see who was ready for the first year of the program, arriving at 5 stormwater basins to dredge. CRWD agreed to fund the engineering work, project management, the bids, construction observation, and permitting work. Chris provided estimated volumes, 3D modeling, and a plan sheet in his presentation. Plans are wrapping up and will soon seek bids.

Barbara asked where the contaminated soil go. Chris responded with it depends on the sediment testing. It will most likely go to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regulated landfill in Rosemount.

IX) Discussion

A) New & Old Issues

Barbara asked for an update on the Art + Water workshop that took place November 22. Tori state it was a great turn out and a fun event. Andrew also attended and said it was really nice.

B) BOM Observers and meeting minutes tracker

C) CAC Observer for December 17, 2025, BOM Meeting

D) CAC Observer for January 7, 2026, BOM Meeting

X) CAC Motion 25-020: *To adjourn December 10, 2025 CAC Meeting*

Motion: Barbara

Second: Andrew