

Memorandum

TO: City Council
FROM: Stephanie Smith , City engineer
DATE: November 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Authorize a memorandum of understanding with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District for the 2026 Stormwater Pond Maintenance Project.
ITEM NUMBER: 8.e
SECTION: CONSENT AGENDA

REQUESTED MOTION

Authorize a memorandum of understanding with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District for the 2026 stormwater treatment pond maintenance project.

INTRODUCTION

The City's annual maintenance budget includes an allowance for stormwater treatment pond maintenance and repair activities. The treatment ponds selected for maintenance this year are located within the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District, and the watershed district has offered to complete the required maintenance activities as part of the their annual maintenance contract. Council authorization of a memorandum of understanding with the watershed district is required for the maintenance activities to be completed.

DISCUSSION

A majority of Shoreview's stormwater treatment ponds were constructed in the 1980's and 90's and included the conversion of existing wetlands or the construction of ponds to store and treat stormwater runoff. The function of the ponds is to provide storage and capture and remove sediment and nutrients to protect higher quality water bodies farther downstream. Over time sediment collects in the ponds and reduces the water storage capacity and treatment effectiveness. Currently the city inspects and maintains over 100 treatment ponds.

Many of the ponds have naturally accumulated sediment and require the sediment to be removed to restore the designed storage and treatment capacity. The cost associated with disposing of removed sediment has increased dramatically in recent years, due to contamination found in the sediments. The city performs sediment removal projects, but can only address a couple of ponds each year because of the costs.

Given the limited number of ponds that can be addressed each year a pond prioritization study using standardized assessment criteria such as size of drainage area, land use, soil type, location, and quality of downstream water bodies was completed to determine the order in which sediment removal project be completed. These criteria along with the results of annual maintenance inspections, ensure the funding available for pond maintenance will provide the most benefit to the Shoreview's stormwater treatment system.

Based on the priority list and available funding, five stormwater ponds were identified for maintenance in 2026. They are shown in maps attached to this report, and they are listed below:

- Harbor Place North Pond - near Highway 96 and Snail Lake Boulevard
- Reiland Lane Pond - near Reiland Lane southwest of Snail Lake
- Majestic Pond - South of Majestic Court
- Evans Pond - Between Evans Court and Evergreen Place
- Rustic Place Pond - Between Rustic Place and the railroad tracks

All ponds are located within the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District, and the watershed district offered to complete the maintenance of the ponds as part of their annual maintenance project. The watershed district offers pond maintenance to all cities within in the Watershed to obtain lower bid prices for a larger project. The watershed district manages the project, develops plans and specifications, completes bid award, and provides on-site construction management at no cost to the city. Shoreview is responsible for the bid item costs associated with the city's ponds and will receive an invoice from the watershed district upon completion of the work. The memorandum understanding with the watershed district to perform this maintenance project is included with this report.

The watershed district estimated Shoreview's cost for construction will be approximately \$185,000. The watershed district is anticipated to open bids in December, Shoreview's actual contribution will be based on actual costs incurred. The maintenance project is financed by the Surface Water Management Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends city council authorize the memorandum of understanding with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District for 2026 maintenance of the city's stormwater treatment ponds.

ATTACHMENTS

[MOU for 2026 Stormwater Pond Maintenance](#)
[2026 Stormwater Pond Maintenance Maps](#)