

Memorandum

TO: City Council
FROM: Stephanie Smith , City engineer
DATE: March 2, 2026
SUBJECT: Approve ordinance 1061 for annual operation and maintenance charges for properties within the Snail Lake Improvement District
ITEM NUMBER: 8.i
SECTION: CONSENT AGENDA

REQUESTED MOTION

Adopt the attached ordinance 1061 establishing a fee schedule for the 2025 operation and maintenance costs associated with the augmentation of Snail Lake against the 78 residential units located within the Snail Lake Improvement District.

INTRODUCTION

The Snail Lake Improvement District (SLID) board and staff identified operation and maintenance costs for Snail Lake augmentation and invasive plant treatment in 2025. Council action is required to identify costs and set rates for the recovery of 2025 operation and maintenance costs payable in 2026 on the quarterly utility bills.

DISCUSSION

The SLID, Ramsey County, and the City of Shoreview have an agreement pertaining to the augmentation of Snail Lake. The district's primary purpose is to oversee the augmentation of lake levels, approve a budget and propose amendments to the bylaws as necessary. Per the established agreement, the costs for operation and maintenance are shared between the landowners (45.4%), Ramsey County (13.8%), and the city (40.8%).

Actual expenses were lower than the budgeted amount for all items for a total cost of \$16,112.40 compared to the budgeted amount of \$38,328.00, as shown on the attached summary. The amount of rainfall was sufficient to keep the level of the lake above the start pump elevation, which significantly lowered the expenses.

In 2025, areas of the lake were treated for Eurasian milfoil, an invasive aquatic plant. The city contributed \$1,500 as part of the invasive aquatic plant management financial assistance policy for lakes with a developed public access. The remaining cost of \$13,397.50 is directly paid by the SLID property owners, outside of the cost share with the city and Ramsey County.

The resulting cost to the benefiting landowners within the SLID, for the 2025 operation and maintenance costs is \$20,584.74 and the cost share for Ramsey County and the City of Shoreview is \$2,454.21 and \$6,573.86, respectively, based on the percentages stated above.

The 2025 operation and maintenance expenses were paid for by the city as they occur and

totalled at the end of the year. The 2025 cost-share amounts are then determined and paid by Ramsey County and the SLID properties in 2026.

The proposed units located within the SLID are depicted on the map attached to this report. The total cost is divided equally among the 78 units and billed on a quarterly basis, which equates to \$65.98 per quarter charge per unit. Proposed ordinance 1061 will establish this charge within the Shoreview fee schedule for inclusion on the quarterly billing.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the city council adopt the attached ordinance 1061 establishing a fee schedule for the 2025 operation and maintenance costs associated with the augmentation of Snail Lake against the 78 residential units located within the Snail Lake Improvement District.

ATTACHMENTS

[2025 SLID O&M Expense Summary](#)

[Ordinance 1061 SLID 2026 Fee Schedule](#)

[SLID units map](#)