

Sochacki JPA Board Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2022; 4 PM
Location: Three Rivers Board Room
3000 Xenium Ln, Plymouth Mn 55441

AGENDA

- 2022-01. Roll Call & welcome to new Board members and staff
 - 2022-02. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2021 JPA Board Meeting
 - 2022-03. Water Resources Study Recommendations
 - 2022-04. Programming Update
 - 2022-05. Capital Improvement Program Update
 - 2022-06. JPA member and staff updates
 - 2022-07. Next Meeting
- Adjournment

SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM

Meeting Date: 09/19/2022

Item Number: **2022-01**

Agenda Item: Roll Call

N/A

Roll Call

Board Members:

Pat Backen, City Council Member, Robbinsdale; JPA Board Chair
Marge Beard*, District 1 Commissioner, Three Rivers Board
Bill Blonigan, Mayor, City of Robbinsdale
Dan Freeman, District 3 Commissioner, Three Rivers
Shep Harris – Mayor, Golden Valley (unable to attend)
Gillian Rosenquist*, City Council Member, Golden Valley

Operations Committee members:

Boe Carlson, Three Rivers
Timothy Cruikshank, Golden Valley
Tim Sandvik*, Robbinsdale

Staff Members:

Rick Birno, Golden Valley
Patty Maher, Three Rivers
Jami Markle, Three Rivers
Ryan Parks, Robbinsdale
Luke Skinner, Three Rivers
Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers
Jason Zemke, Three Rivers

** new Board or Operations Committee Member*

REQUEST FOR SOCHACKI JPA BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date: 09/19/2022

Item Number: **2022-02**

Agenda Item: Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2021 JPA Board Meeting

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 2021, SOCHACKI JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING.

Minutes Attached.

DRAFT Minutes
Sochacki Park JPA Governance Policy Board Meeting
Monday, June 14, 2021, 4:00 pm
Meeting via Zoom

2021-01. Roll Call

Board Members:

Bill Blonigan, Mayor, Robbinsdale
Dan Freeman, District 3 Commissioner, Three Rivers
John Gunyou, Chair, Three Rivers Board
Shep Harris, Mayor, Golden Valley
Larry Fonnest, City Council Member, Golden Valley
Pat Backen, City Council Member, Robbinsdale (unable to attend)

Operations Committee present:

Boe Carlson, Three Rivers
Timothy Cruikshank, Golden Valley
Marcia Glick, Robbinsdale

Others present:

Rick Birno, Golden Valley
Ryan Parks, Robbinsdale
Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers
Patty Maher, Three Rivers
Jami Markle, Three Rivers
Brian Vlach, Three Rivers

2021.02 Welcome to new Board member and staff

Introductions of member, Bill Blonigan, and staff, Jami Markle.

2021.03 Public Comments Received

No public comments received.

2021.04 Approval of meeting minutes from September 21, 2020 JPA Board Meeting

Member Freeman moved, seconded by member Harris to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2020, Sochacki Joint Powers Board Meeting. Motion carried.

2021.05 Water Resource Study Update

Markle and Vlach gave an update on Sub-Watershed Study. The assessment began in 2020 and will continue through 2021. Project timeline includes water quality monitoring, vegetation surveys, sediment analysis, and watershed stormwater monitoring. Member Harris thanked Three Rivers staff for their efforts regarding water quality improvement in Sochacki. Cruikshank and member Blonigan also thanked Three Rivers staff. Members Gunyou and Fonnest thanked Three Rivers staff for their partnership.

2021.06 Programming Update

Maier gave an update on programming in Sochacki Park for the first half of 2021. She reported an increase in registration numbers for programming compared to 2020. Nature and outdoor recreation programs continue to be the focus for Sochacki Park.

Member Harris thanked Three Rivers and City staff for the programming that has been offered in Sochacki, especially during the pandemic.

2021.07 Capital Improvement Program

Vlaming gave an update on proposed Capital Improvement Plan.

Member Freeman MOVED, seconded by member Blonigan to direct staff to seek outside funding for BLRT related improvements. The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

Member Harris MOVED, seconded by member Freeman to include Sochacki Park in the Three Rivers first-tier master planning initiative. The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

Member Freeman MOVED, seconded by member Harris TO APPROVE THE 2022-2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR SOCHACKI PARK. The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

2021.08 JPA member and staff updates

Member Fonnest stated that this would be his last meeting with the Sochacki Park JPA as his time with the Golden Valley City Council will end in December 2021. He thanked the JPA board members and staff for their continued work to improve Sochacki Park.

Member Gunyou mentioned it was nice to move forward with proposed projects.

2021.09 Next Meeting

JPA members agreed to meet in June 2022, unless there are projects that need to be addressed before then.

Adjournment – Blonigan moved, seconded by Harris to adjourn at 5:05 pm. Motion carried.

SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM

Meeting Date: 10/17/2022

Item Number: **2022-03**

Agenda Item: Water Quality Study Recommendations

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO:

- AMEND THE CIP TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR DESIGN/ENGINEERING IN 2023; AND
 - SEEK INCUSION OF THE PROJECT IN THE BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION'S 5-YEAR CIP; AND
 - SEEK ADDITIONAL OUTSIDE FUNDING FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION; AND
 - INFORM AND ENGAGE THE PUBLIC IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS
-
-

Background:

Three Rivers Park District, in coordination with Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, and the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission, recently completed a sub-watershed assessment for Sochacki Park to identify potential water quality improvements for its wetland ponds. These efforts were designed to better understand the status of the wetlands and to identify improvements for ecological health and aesthetics within the park. The final report from the study provides recommendations for projects and practices, planning level cost estimates, and a priority implementation sequence to reduce pollutants and improve water quality and vegetative diversity and integrity within the ponds.

A project steering committee, including staff from the partner agencies, the consulting engineer, and a neighborhood citizen liaison, met regularly throughout the process to help guide and inform the sub-watershed assessment. Project updates, presentations and information summaries were posted online and shared as the study progressed. Next steps toward project implementation will require partner collaboration, CIP investments, and grant funding opportunities to meet the goals and nutrient load reductions outlined in the report.

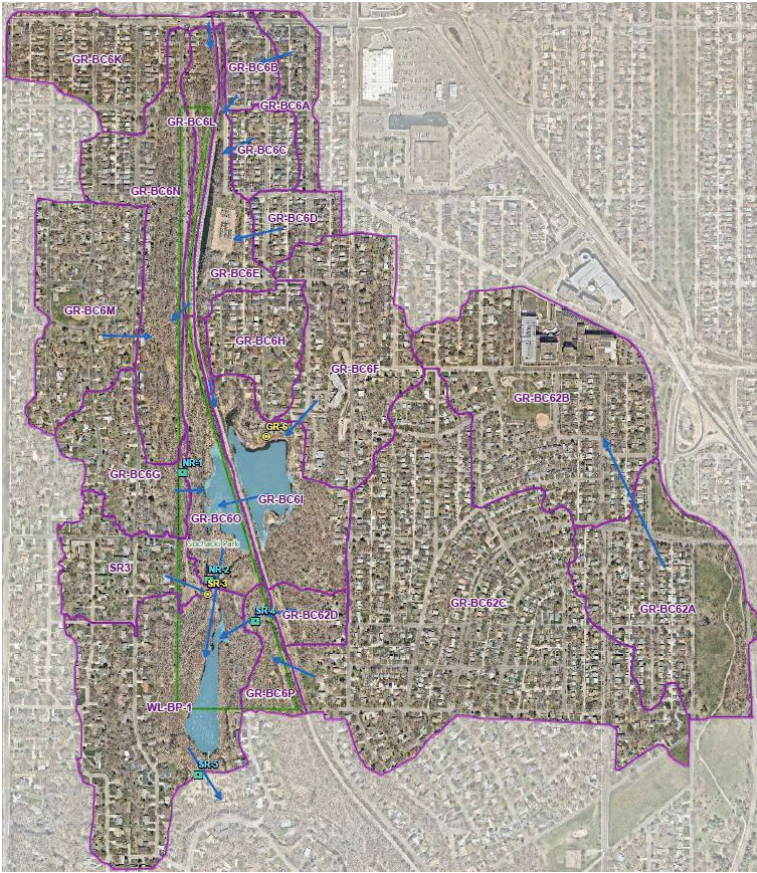
Findings:

The slideshow highlighting the findings is attached.

The full study can be accessed on Three River's JPA website, which is located at [WQ REPORT LINK](#)

Recommended actions:

1. Amend the CIP to include funding for design/engineering.
Design/engineering for the discharge outfalls is estimated at \$225,000 including necessary permits. Engineering completed to the 90 % level is advantageous to securing outside funding through state sources. Three Rivers will fund the cost of design/engineering through their 2023-2027 CIP.
2. Seek inclusion of the project in the Bassett Creek WMO's 5-year CIP
Inclusion in the WMO's 5-year CIP is required for state grants. Golden Valley and Robbinsdale have members on the WMO Board and will need to work to secure the project in the CIP.
3. Seek additional outside funding for project implementation
Additional funding sources outside of the WMO channels may be available. This action directs staff to explore and seek out those opportunities.
4. Inform and engage the public in the design and construction process.
The public has been involved in the development of the water quality improvement plan. The design and construction processes will inform the public through website updates, city newsletters and other means. The public will be engaged to promote actions they can take to reduce nutrient loads from their properties.



Sochacki Park Subwatershed Assessment

Project Reporting

Barr Engineering Co.

August 17, 2022



Presentation Agenda

- Recommended wetland improvement options
 - Estimated nutrient load reductions & water quality improvement
 - Planning-level costs and recommended implementation sequence
 - Potential funding options



Recommended Wetland Improvement Options

■ Structural BMPs

- Two discharge outfalls in Grimes and South Rice Ponds, one in North Rice Pond watershed
- Clear debris from inlets/outlets, remove sediment deposits, stabilize erosion

■ Internal Load

- Conduct water level drawdowns—control invasives, shift floating plant dominance to rooted aquatic vegetation
- Aerial alum applications

■ Revegetate and control soil erosion in upland areas

■ Street sweeping—emphasis in untreated watersheds



■ Structural BMPs

- Two discharge outfalls in Grimes and South Rice Ponds, one in North Rice Pond watershed

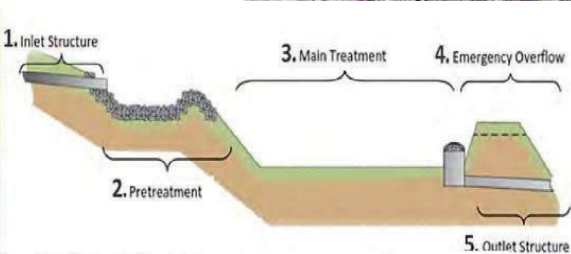
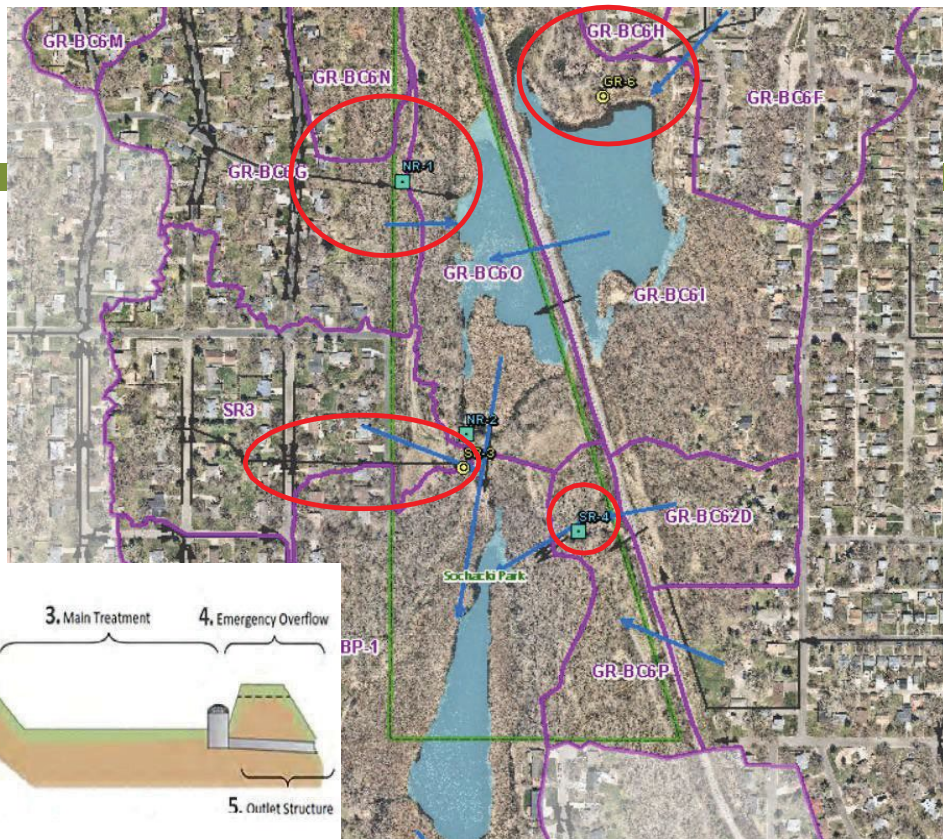
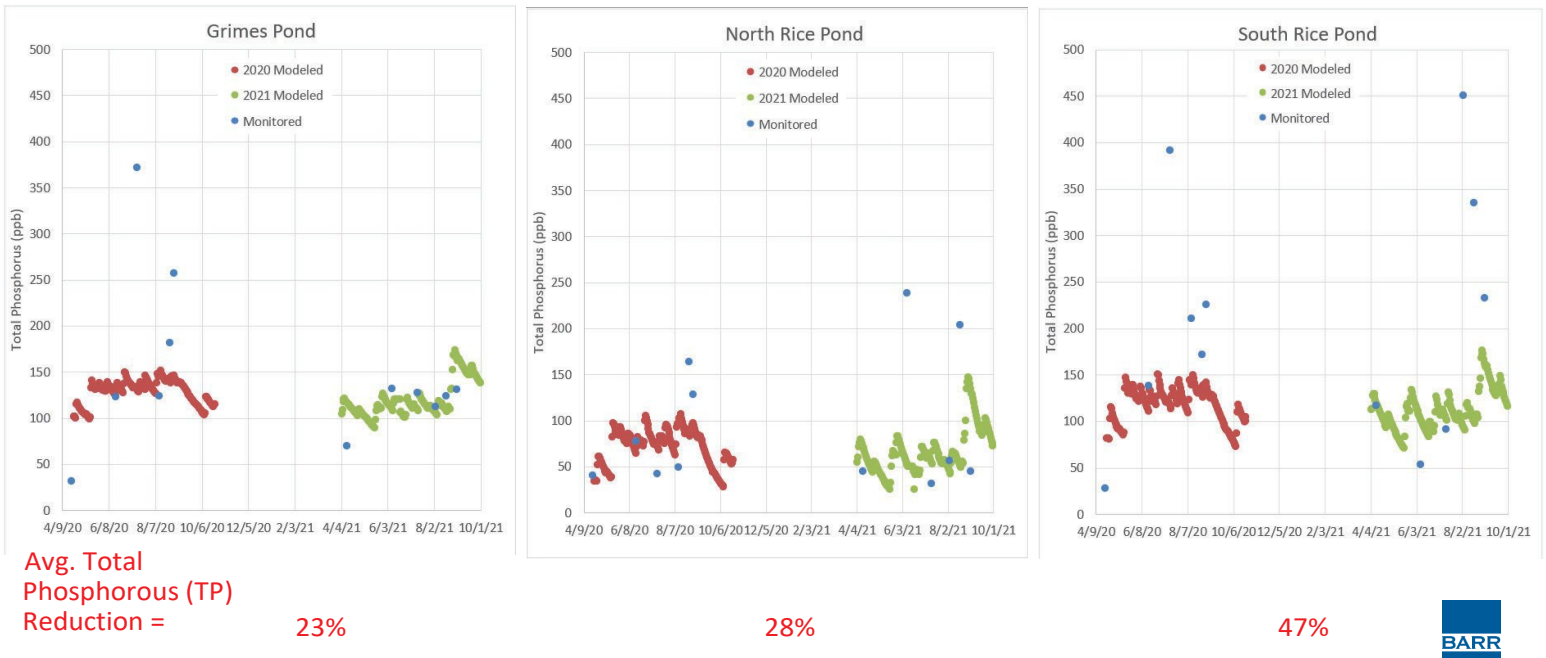


Figure 6-2 Example Stormwater Pond Treatment Elements



Estimated Nutrient Load Reductions & Water Quality Improvement



Planning-Level Costs and Implementation Sequence

Table 6-1 Summary of Potential Improvement Option Benefit and Planning Level Costs

BMP ID/Location	Annual TP Removal (lbs/yr)	Planning Level Capital Cost Estimate	Annualized Cost-Benefit (\$/lb TP Removed/yr)	Recommended Sequence for Implementation
Revegetate/control upland soil erosion	NA	\$10,000	NA	1a
Street sweeping in untreated subwatersheds	NA	NA	NA	1b
Clear inlet/outlet debris, remove sediment deltas and stabilize erosion	NA	\$100,000	NA	1c
Conduct pond water level drawdowns	NA	\$154,000	NA	1d
Dredge/expand existing SR4 pond (Basin J)	33.5	\$304,000	\$760	2a
Construct stormwater pond at GR-6	14.9	\$456,000	\$2,600	2b
Construct stormwater pond at NR-1	3.8	\$191,000	\$4,200	2c
Construct stormwater pond at SR-3	3.7	\$261,000	\$5,900	2d
Alum treatment of Grimes, North and South Rice Ponds	11.2	\$203,000	\$1,500	3



Potential Funding Options

- BWSR Clean Water Funds
- Conservation Partners Legacy (for habitat components)
- Hennepin County Opportunity or Stewardship grants
- MPCA grants and MN Public Facilities Authority funds
- MnDNR short term action request grants
- Partner CIP funds (for potential grant match)

Questions?



SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM

Meeting Date: 09/19/2022

Item Number: **2022-04**

Agenda Item: Programming Update

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Patty Maher, Three Rivers' Outdoor Education Supervisor, will provide on update on programming.

SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM

Meeting Date: 09/19/2022

Item Number: **2022-05**

Agenda Item: Capital Improvement Program

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2023-2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

The CIP is organized into two sections: the first section are projects to be funded and implemented by the JPA. The second section are projects planned as part of the BLRT project. Currently there are no funding or staff resources assigned to the BLRT projects.

JPA Project highlights: Sochacki Classroom

The Sochacki Classroom project was funded as part of the 2022 CIP and Three River's Asset Management Program, with a total budget of \$700,000. Three River's draft 2023-2027 CIP recommends an additional 15 percent (\$105,000 in additional funding) be added to the project budget to address the inflation costs being experienced in the construction sector.

Jason Zemke, Three River's Senior Manager of Architecture and Landscape Architecture will be the project manager for the Sochacki classroom project. In addition to a classroom building, the project includes bathroom(s), and drinking water. The design of the project will begin in the 4th quarter of 2022. A project team will be formed to finalize scope, including location, interior capacity, number of bathrooms needed, picnic shelter overhead component, walkways, etc. The project team will include Ryan Parks from Robbinsdale and Rick Birno for Golden Valley, or their alternates.



Example: Springbrook Nature Center Shelter, Fridley

Water Quality Implementation:

The Water quality project will improve the water quality in Grimes Pond and North and South Rice ponds. The project is shown in four phases. Phase 1 includes the city-led components of the project, such as street sweeping and vegetation management. Phase 2 focuses on the needed discharge outfalls and includes funding through Three Rivers to do design & engineering in 2023, with construction to occur once outside funding is secured. Phase 3 should occur once the outfalls are constructed and includes draining the ponds. Phase 4 should occur once all other work is completed and includes alum treatments of the ponds.

Pond water docks/boardwalks/learning stations:

The CIP proposes a to-be-determined assortment of docks and boardwalks on the Rice Ponds and Grimes Pond. Public input will be sought on design and location. These may replace the existing dock on the south Rice pond, and the dilapidated boardwalk on the north end of that pond, possibly connecting them to create another entry into the park. Learning stations would be used for environmental education classes on aquatic life and the water quality improvements. Funding is included in Three Rivers' draft 2023-2027 CIP. Design will begin in 2024 with construction likely in 2025.

Interactive art/play nodes:

Starting in 2024, the CIP proposes installation of an interactive art play node along the trail within the park. Each year an additional installation will occur, with a goal of a total of 5 interactive play nodes replaced on a 5-year rotational schedule. The interactive art/play nodes would be curated and interpreted by staff from Silverwood Park. Public input will be sought on design and location.

Feasibility Study : trail underpass of Golden Valley Road

The in-park trail in Sochacki currently ends at Bonnie Lane. The original LRT plan called for replacing the Golden Valley Road bridge to accommodate the LRT, and to extend the Sochacki internal trail under the bridge into Wirth Park, ultimately connecting to Wirth Park and the adjacent Wirth-Memorial Parkway Regional Trail. The bridge replacement and associated trail extensions were all part of the original LRT plan.

Proposed Capital Projects: 2023 – 2027: JPA Projects

Capital Projects	Lead agency	Est. total cost	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
One-room classroom, with adjacent restrooms and potable water: Adjustment for inflation	Three Rivers	\$805,000	\$105,000				
Water Quality Project:							
City street sweeping in untreated subwatersheds	Cities	N/A	<i>ongoing</i>	<i>ongoing</i>	<i>ongoing</i>	<i>ongoing</i>	<i>ongoing</i>
Phase 1: Site work: Clear inlet/outlet debris, remove sediment deltas and stabilize erosion	Cities	\$100,000	TBD	TBD			
Phase 1: Site work: Revegetate/control upland soil erosion	Cities	\$10,000	TBD	TBD			
Phase 2: Discharge Outfalls: Design/engineering	Three Rivers	\$225,000	\$225,000				
Phase 2: Discharge Outfalls: Construction	Three Rivers	\$1,000,000		TBD			
Phase 3: Conduct Pond water level drawdowns	Three Rivers	\$154,000			TBD		
Phase 4: Alum Treatment of Grimes, North and South Rice Ponds	Three Rivers	\$203,000				TBD	
JPA Park Improvements:							
Pond water docks/boardwalks/learning stations		\$500,000		\$500,000			
Interactive art/play nodes (1 or 2 per year, on a five-year rotation)		\$50,000 annually		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Feasibility study: Trail underpass/connection at Golden Valley Road (to be moved forward if possible)		\$50,000			\$50,000		

Proposed Capital Projects: 2023 – 2027: BLRT Projects

Capital Projects	Lead agency	Est. total cost	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
BLRT transportation related projects:							
Restoration of the existing paved interior road to provide for safe two-way traffic.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Replacement of the northern parking lot.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Reconstruction and expansion of the interior paved parking lot to include room for a school bus turnaround.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Redevelopment of a safe 10-foot-wide paved trail through the length of the park, running from the northern entrance to the current trail terminus by Bonnie Lane; with restoration along the trail edge as needed.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Construction of an off-road trail connection from the existing terminus of the Sochacki Park trail at Bonnie Lane, crossing underneath the reconstructed Golden Valley Road Bridge and connecting to the existing trail in Theodore Wirth Regional Park	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Regional trail construction from Bonnie Lane east to Wirth Parkway on the south side of Golden Valley Road as originally planned in the BLRT design.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Reconfiguration of the Golden Valley Road/Wirth Parkway intersection to remove free rights and improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
Trail connection from northern end of Sochacki on 36th Ave N east to Crystal Lake Regional Trail.	BLRT	TBD					TBD
BLRT Park Improvement Projects:							
Central location Dog Park prep: BPA was going to clear the area, provide infill, mitigate wetland issues, provide 2 feet of clean fill, and revegetate	BLRT	TBD					TBD

Sochacki Park Improvements

September 9, 2020



SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM

Meeting Date: 09/19/2022

Item Number: **2022-06**

Agenda Item: JPA member and staff updates

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

This item serves as an opportunity to provide additional information or to discuss other topics not on the formal agenda.

SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM

Meeting Date: 09/19/2022

Item Number: **2022-07**

Agenda Item: Next Meeting & Meeting Topics

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

The JPA has been in existence for seven years. Staff recommends a review of the JPA Agreement by the Operations Committee to determine if updates in the agreement are needed. If the Committee has recommended changes to the JPA Agreement, a meeting will be called in the winter of 2023 to discuss proposed changes. Otherwise, a target meeting of September or October 2023 is recommended.