

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH
AGENDA
Regular Environmental Quality Committee
Medicine Lake Room
3400 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth, MN
April 9, 2025, 7:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 2. PUBLIC FORUM** - Individuals may address the committee about any item not contained on the regular agenda. A maximum of three minutes is allotted per individual with a total of 15 minutes for the forum. If the full 15 minutes are not needed for the forum, the committee will continue with the agenda. The committee will take no official action on items discussed at the forum, with the exception of referral to staff for future report.

3. PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4. APPROVE AGENDA** - Environmental Quality Committee members may add items to the agenda for discussion purposes or staff direction only. The committee will not normally take official action on items added to the agenda.

- 5. CONSENT AGENDA** - These items are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or individual so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and placed elsewhere on the agenda.

- 5.1** Adopt proposed minutes
1. EQC 03-12-2025

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 6.1** Watershed Fourth Generation Management Plan Update
1. Watershed Map

- 6.2** Plymouth Environmental Academy

7. REPORTS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

8. FUTURE MEETINGS

9. ADJOURNMENT



To: Environmental Quality Committee

Prepared by: Ben Scharenbroich, Water Resources Supervisor

Reviewed by: Michael Payne, City Engineer/Deputy Public Works Director

Item: **Adopt proposed minutes**

1. Action Requested:

Adopt attached minutes from regular meeting held on March 12, 2025

2. Background:

Not applicable.

3. Budget Impact:

Not applicable.

4. Attachments:

1. EQC 03-12-2025

Proposed Minutes Environmental Quality Committee Meeting March 12, 2025

Chair Babcock called a Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Environmental Quality Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Medicine Lake Room of City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, on March 12, 2025.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Babcock, Committee members Blakely, Dmytrenko, Matthiesen, Polzin, and Vavreck.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Committee member Tinjum.

STAFF PRESENT: Water Resources Supervisor Scharenbroich and Environmental Stewardship Coordinator MK Anderson.

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

Public Forum

No one appeared to address the committee.

Presentations and Public Information Announcements

There were no presentations or public information announcements.

Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Committee member Matthiesen and seconded by Committee member Babcock to approve the agenda as presented. With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

Consent Agenda

(5.1) Adopt Proposed Environmental Quality Committee Minutes – February 12, 2025

(5.2) Plymouth Environmental Academy

It was noted that Councilmember Gregor should be removed if he was not at the meeting.

Motion was made by Committee member Polzin and seconded by Committee member Babcock to approve the consent agenda as presented. With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

General Business

(6.1) Energy Action Plan Update

Environmental Stewardship Coordinator Anderson presented information on the Energy Action Plan (EAP) which will be a two-year collaboration with the Center for Energy and the Environment, Xcel Energy, and the City of Plymouth. They reviewed the anticipated timeline, estimating that the draft plan would be developed by November. They also reviewed an outline for an EAP as well as details on energy data and costs for the community, the draft vision statement, and focus areas for the plan. They noted that representatives from the utility companies are involved in the process and have heard the desire for more renewable energy sources.

(6.2) Approval of GreenStep Cities Best Management Practice Submittal

1. GreenStep Cities BMP Submittal #3

Environmental Stewardship Coordinator Anderson presented information on the GreenStep Cities program and the best management practices (BMPs) that have been completed by the city. The city is currently at Step 2 of the program and with the submittal and subsequent approval by the program, the city would move closer to the goal of becoming a Step 3 city.

The committee asked additional questions about data collected and steps completed in the past. It was noted that the city collects and tracks the data, even though it is not required to be reported. It was explained that the city can report actions that have already been completed to the program and can continue to implement new actions as well.

Motion was made by Committee member Polzin and seconded by Committee member Matthiesen to approve the GreenStep Cities Best Management Practice Submittal as presented. With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

(6.3) Metropolitan Council Equity Focused Water Efficiency Grant Pilot Program Application

1. Metropolitan Council Equity Water Efficiency Grant Application.

Environmental Stewardship Coordinator Anderson provided information on the Metropolitan Council Equity Focused Water Efficiency Rebate Grant Program. They stated that the city will be applying for \$10,000 and identified the proposed priority areas for the rebate program.

The Committee asked questions about whether an applicant has been denied for the current city program. It was confirmed that applicants have been denied and a list of reasons for those denials was provided.

Environmental Stewardship Coordinator Anderson provided information on how the city plans to market the program. They stated that if awarded, the program funds would need to be spent within a period of one year.

Water Resources Supervisor Scharenbroich explained that this is a new, supplemental program through the same entity, with a goal to be equity focused. He confirmed that this would be in addition to the current program and would not take away from that program.

The committee asked questions about eligibility and whether priority should be given to homeowners over renters. It was noted that if the grant is received, the committee could further discuss the application process. The goal of the program is focused on water usage and therefore the same benefit would be realized by both owner-occupied and rental properties.

Motion was made by Committee member Babcock and seconded by Committee member Dmytrenko to approve the submission of an application to the Metropolitan Council's Equity-Focused Water Efficiency Grant Pilot Program as presented. With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

Reports and Staff Recommendations

(7.1) Attendance request for upcoming events.

Water Resources Supervisor Scharenbroich reviewed the upcoming spring volunteer events which are good opportunities to engage with residents and appreciated any time the members of the committee could volunteer to assist with the events.

Committee members provided information on events they could assist with.

Future Meetings

Drop-off Days April 25-26

May 11, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Chair Babcock adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

To: Environmental Quality Committee

Prepared by: Ben Scharenbroich, Water Resources Supervisor

Reviewed by: Michael Payne, City Engineer/Deputy Public Works Director

Item: **Watershed Fourth Generation Management Plan Update**

1. Action Requested:

Updates from Elm Creek and Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission staff on the Fourth Generation Management Plan Progress.

2. Background:

Plymouth is a member of the Joint Powers Organizations of Bassett Creek, Elm Creek and Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commissions. Watershed Management Organizations (WMOs) within the Metro Area, such as these, provide management and oversight of lakes, streams, and rivers within their respective drainage areas. State law requires each WMO to have a plan in place that establishes goals, policies, and actions to protect and improve those waters, and that plan must be updated every ten years.

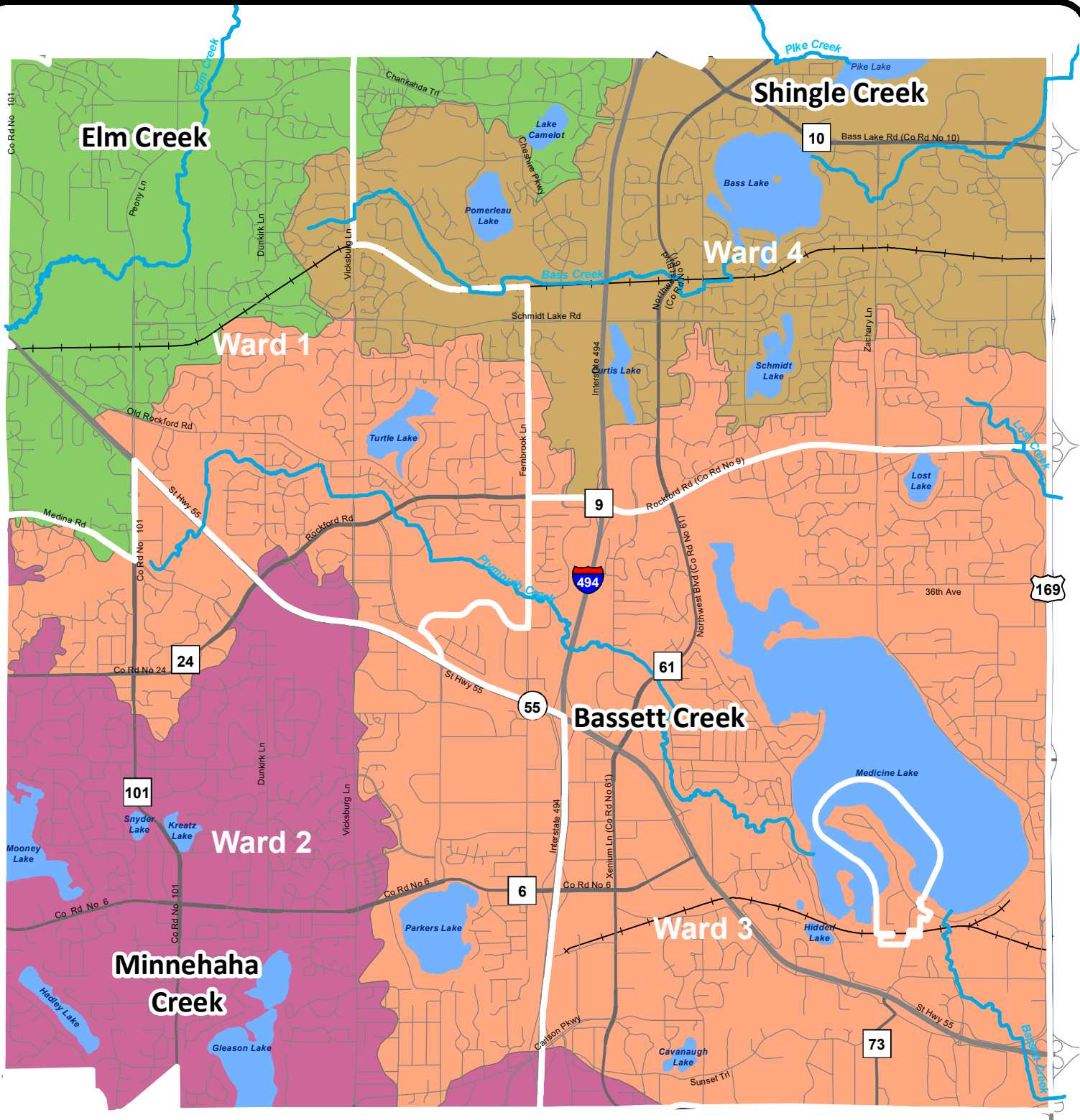
Each Watershed has been working recently to update their management plans. Elm Creek and Shingle Creek Commission staff have been working for the past year to update what will be its fourth management plan and will provide an update to the EQC.

3. Budget Impact:

Not applicable.

4. Attachments:

1. Watershed Map

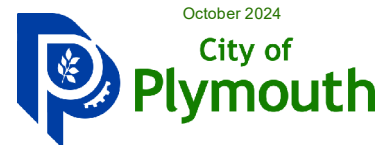


Watersheds in Plymouth

- Creek
- Bassett Creek
- Elm Creek
- Minnehaha Creek
- Shingle Creek



0 1 Miles



October 2024

THIS REPRESENTS A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION AND DATA FROM CITY, COUNTY, STATE AND OTHER SOURCES THAT HAS NOT BEEN FIELD VERIFIED. INFORMATION SHOULD BE FIELD VERIFIED AND COMPARED WITH ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS.

To: Environmental Quality Committee

Prepared by: Ben Scharenbroich, Water Resources Supervisor

Reviewed by: Michael Payne, City Engineer/Deputy Public Works Director

Item: **Plymouth Environmental Academy**

1. Action Requested:

Updates from Environmental Quality Committee members on the 2025 Plymouth Environmental Academy

2. Background:

The Environmental Quality Committee (EQC) 2025 Work Plan includes a continuation of the Plymouth Environmental Academy (PEA), which will begin in August. The committee discussed topics at their February 12 meeting, and will continue further planning efforts for each proposed topic as listed below at their meetings this spring and summer. At the April 9 meeting, Committee members should provide updates for the sessions listed below.

1. Tree Care and Food Production - August 21, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

- Committee members Babcock, Blakely and Dmytrenko
- Presenters - City Forester Paul Buck and TBD

2. Tour of Schmidt Woods Park - September 11, 2025 - 5:00 p.m

- Committee members Blakely, Dmytrenko and Vavreck
- Presenters - City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Director Tomlinson

3. Plants, Ponds and Practices for Water Quality Tour - September 25, 2025 - 6:00 p.m

- Committee members Matthiesen and Polzin
- Presenters - Water Resources Supervisor Scharenbroich

4. Stormwater Practices 101 October 9, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

- Committee members Matthiesen, Polzin and Tinjum
- Presenters - TBD

3. Budget Impact:

Not applicable.

4. Attachments: