

White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan

Greg Johnson, PE, Principal Engineer

June 27, 2023



Comprehensive Plan



The Minnesota legislature appropriated \$2 million in funding for the Metropolitan Council to develop a comprehensive plan to ensure communities in the White Bear Lake area have access to sufficient drinking water to allow for municipal growth while simultaneously ensuring the sustainability of surface and groundwater resources to supply the needs of future generations.

Work Group



The Metropolitan Council will establish a work group consisting of:

- Commissioners or designees from the DNR, MDH, and MPCA
- Representatives from Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC), St. Paul Regional Water Services, and the cities of Stillwater, Mahtomedi, Hugo, Lake Elmo, Lino Lakes, North St. Paul, Oakdale, Vadnais Heights, Shoreview, Woodbury, New Brighton, White Bear Lake, and White Bear Township

Comprehensive Plan Objectives

1. Evaluate methods for conserving and recharging groundwater in the area, including:

- Converting water supplies that are groundwater dependent to total or partial supplies from surface water sources;
- Reusing water, including water discharged from contaminated wells;
- Projects designed to increase groundwater recharge; and
- Other methods for reducing groundwater use;



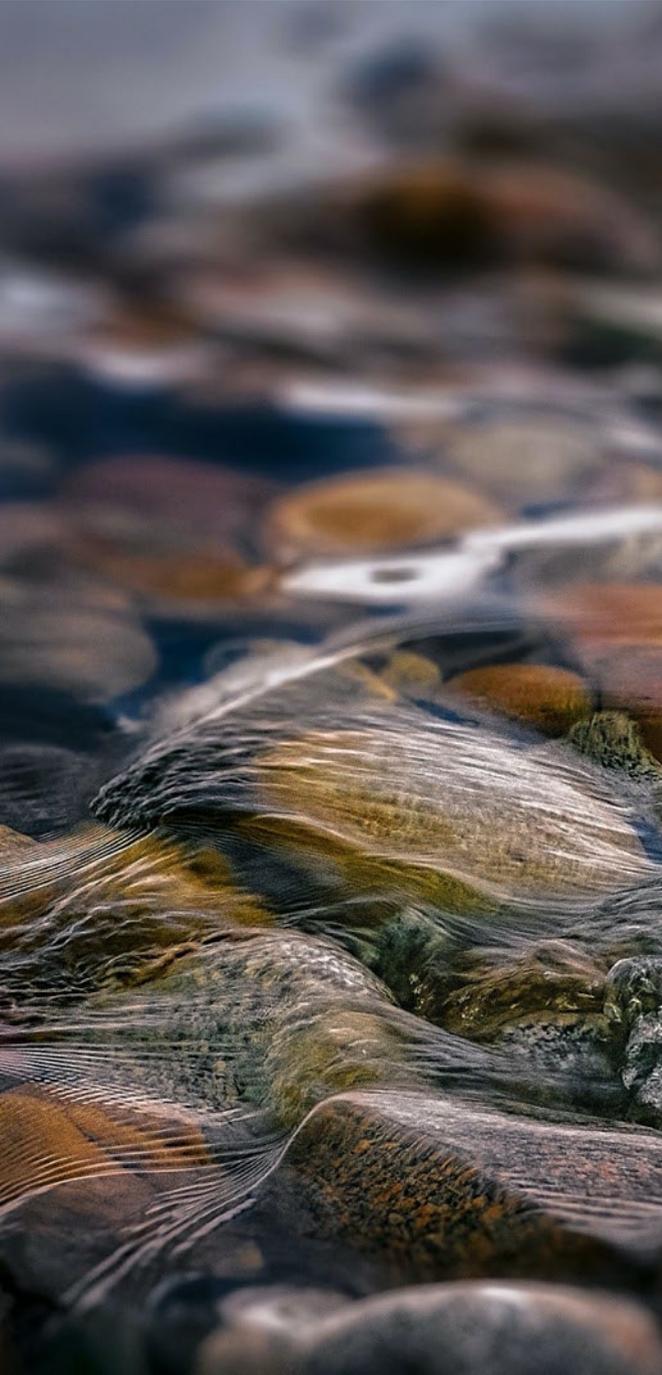
Comprehensive Plan Objectives

2. Determine which existing groundwater supply wells, if converted to surface water sources, would be the most effective and efficient in ensuring future water sustainability in the area;

3. Identify a long-term plan for converting groundwater supply wells identified in clause 2 to surface water sources

Comprehensive Plan Objectives

4. Include any policy and funding recommendations for converting groundwater supply wells to surface water sources, treating and reusing wastewater, and any other recommendations for additional measures that reduce groundwater use, promote water reuse, and increase groundwater recharge;



Comprehensive Plan Objectives

5. Include any policy and funding recommendations for local wastewater treatment and recharge; and

6. Submit plan to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representative and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources finance and policy by June 30, 2027.



Previous Regional Water Supply Studies/Tools

Feasibility Assessment of Approaches to Water Sustainability in the Northeast Metro – Metropolitan Council, December 2014

Report to the Minnesota State Legislature: Concept Cost Report for Augmentation of White Bear Lake with Surface Water – DNR, February 2016

Regional Groundwater Recharge and Stormwater Capture and Reuse Study – North and East Metro Study Area – Metropolitan Council, May 2016

Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint – MPCA, February 2021

Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan for PFAS in the East Metro Area – MPCA, August 2021

Reuse of Stormwater and Rainwater in Minnesota – MDH, January 2022

Groundwater Modeling Analysis for White Bear Lake Court Case – DNR, June 2022

Next Steps

- Establish work group in collaboration with state agencies, utilities, and communities
- Further define work plan and project schedule with work group
- Prepare request for proposal(s) for consultants to assist with plan
- Conduct interviews for consultants and prepare master agreements
- Conduct periodic work group meetings – Schedule to be determined



Questions

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