

August 23, 2017



City of Edina

Attn: Debra Mangen

4801 W 50th Street

Edina, MN 55424

Please note the below is a communication share as a response to several neighbors that have emailed me a variety of concerns.

I intend to testify.

The proposal for this project encompasses 30 pages, and lists nominal amounts for tree surveys and other reports. It fails to mention the required commercial engineering study mandated by drops over 4', access road requirements, retaining walls, and over 2 dozen requirements contained in OSHA and Uniform Building Code.

I note this, and have enclosed the pictures, as an example of the portrayal of this project by the MCWS and their contractor, its lack of detail, and until recently the admission that there will be \$millions in road damage that are "the city of Edina's problem". Additionally, there are no costs allocated for retention walls, even though the proposal (among other inconsistencies) pontificates "soil and erosion stabilization" (ironic given the removal of vegetative filtration and stabilization on a steep, sand hill that comprises the entire west side of the project, the location of the majority of the paths, tree removal, bridge and stairway construction, together with the necessary equipment access roads).

The first picture is contained on the MCWS site, portraying the dam/falls. The second picture is the actual current falls (deceptive?). The next picture (also on the project site) depicts their recent "flagship" restoration project. The picture following that is a post project completion photo published by the Sun Sailor newspaper (I guess like Edina's road repair; old tires must not have been included). The "Edina 4" also have several particularly disturbing photos that illustrate "improved access" (via locked and blocked public access), severe deterioration of the "improvements", and the clear commitment to improving cleanliness and flow, by installing industrial pump discharge of rusted sump water? The final pictures show the topography where the paths, stairs, tree removal, bridges, access roads, and relocation of street lights and fire hydrants occur, and in relationship to the road (also not addressed costs). Note that there are 2 red dots, note also the street elevation is 896' here. Note further, that on the lower left scale, each white bar represents 25'. Now observe by the lower (southern) red dot the elevation is 880', or a 16' drop in less than 20' from the road (this is not the steepest part of the West Bank), also observe the upper red dot (northern) is at 864'. This is more than a 30' drop (to a FEMA class A floodway) and occurs in about 50' of distance (this is also not the steepest part of the bank). Do the math. Predominantly 60-75% grades with heavy equipment access roads and no retaining walls bid or discussed. OSHA doesn't even want workmen on slopes like that little alone any construction equipment.

These are just few of numerous points, that I think need to be forwarded to the email list, posted on next door, and included in an information flyer. We don't need kids to lament the loss of a play space, we need a 10 year old to read just one paragraph from OSHA and the building code, and then explain the math to the council.

I think the MCWS and their contractor need to take a "hit" that exposes their disingenuous concern for the resource, their deceptive proposal tactics and their complete lack of fiscal responsibility, while noting they will contribute \$1.5 million, but their "gang" will get paid for what the project actually costs, and the over and above that likely huge number, will "be Edina's problem".

Facts and truths that equate to disastrous, irreversible damage, and extraordinary cost overruns, while between the "work", the repairs necessitated by the "work", residents and others will suffer the loss of quiet enjoyment, use of the park, and enduring this disruption for years, its consequences, for decades.

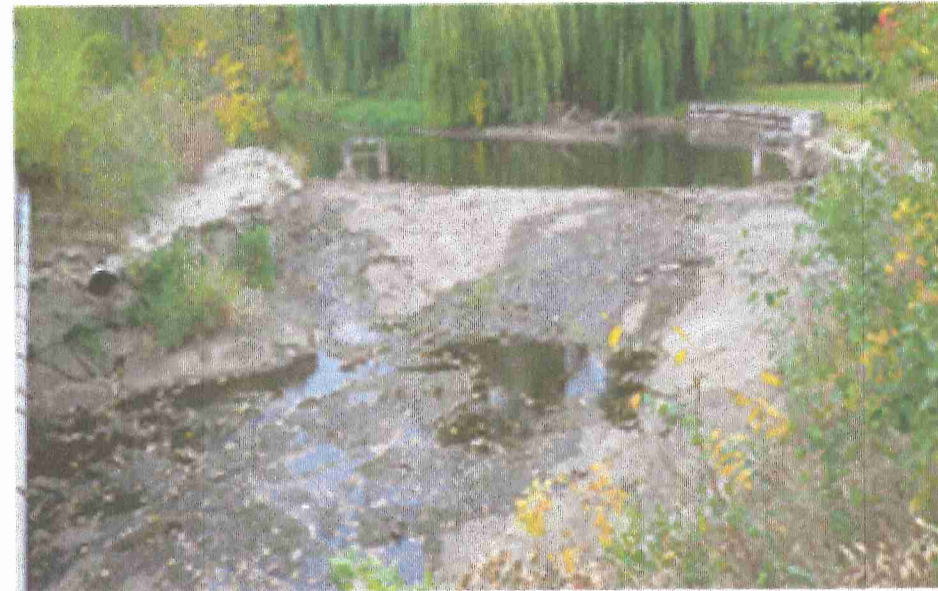


Tom Jones

5224 Brookview Avenue

Edina, MN 55424

below.

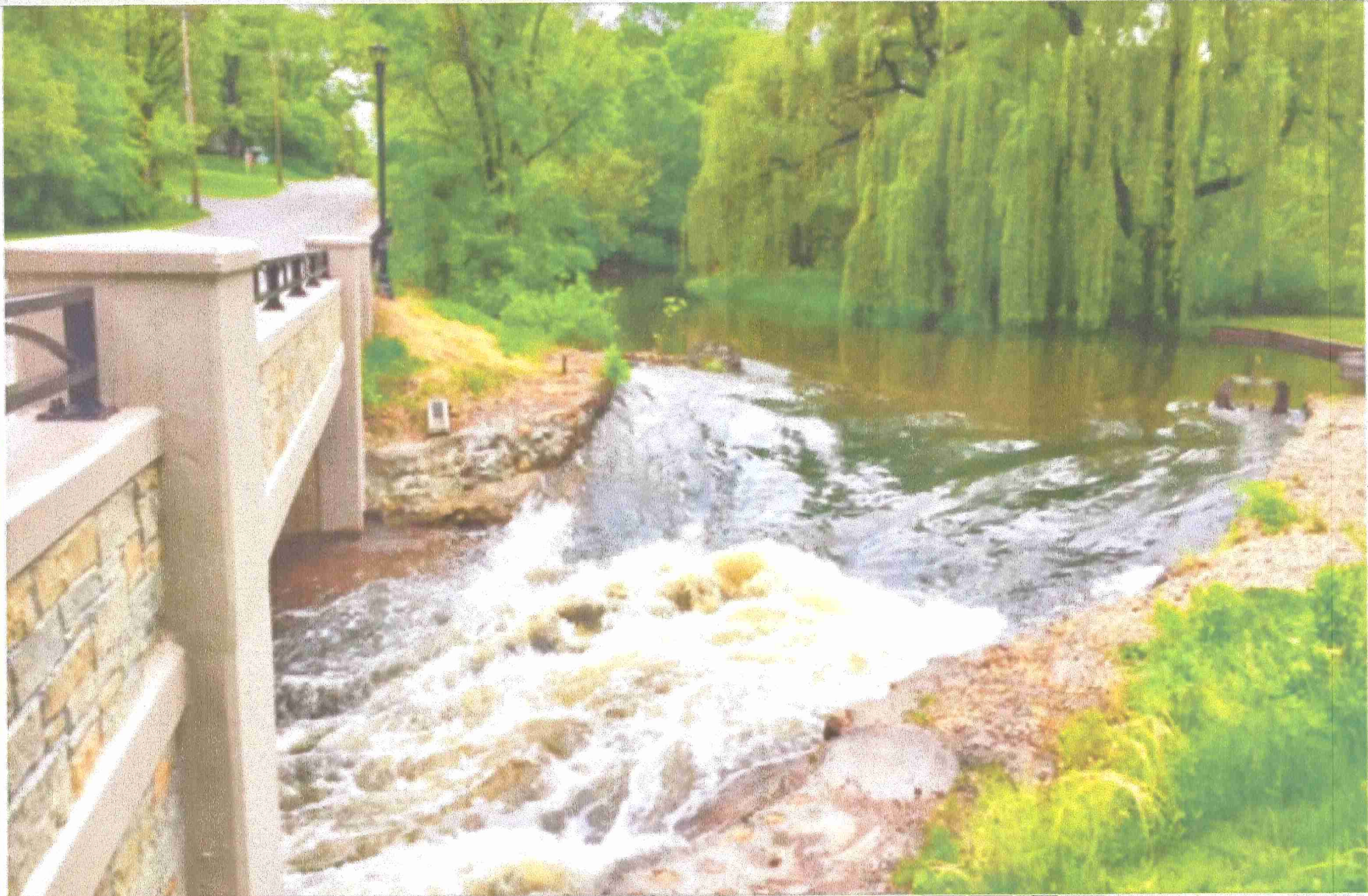


The dam with water (on left) and when dry (on right)

Public Input

During project development, a bypassing alternate was

May 18 7:22 PM



FEATURED PROJECT

Minnehaha Creek Preserve

City(ies): *St. Louis
Park*

Subwatershed:
*Minnehaha Creek
Subwatershed*

Status: Completed





Sun Sailor



Sun Sailor | Stretch of Minnehaha Creek in St. Louis Park to ...

A completed section of Minnehaha Creek by Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park. (Photo by Seth Rowe – Sun Newspapers)

Tools

Legend

Print

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