

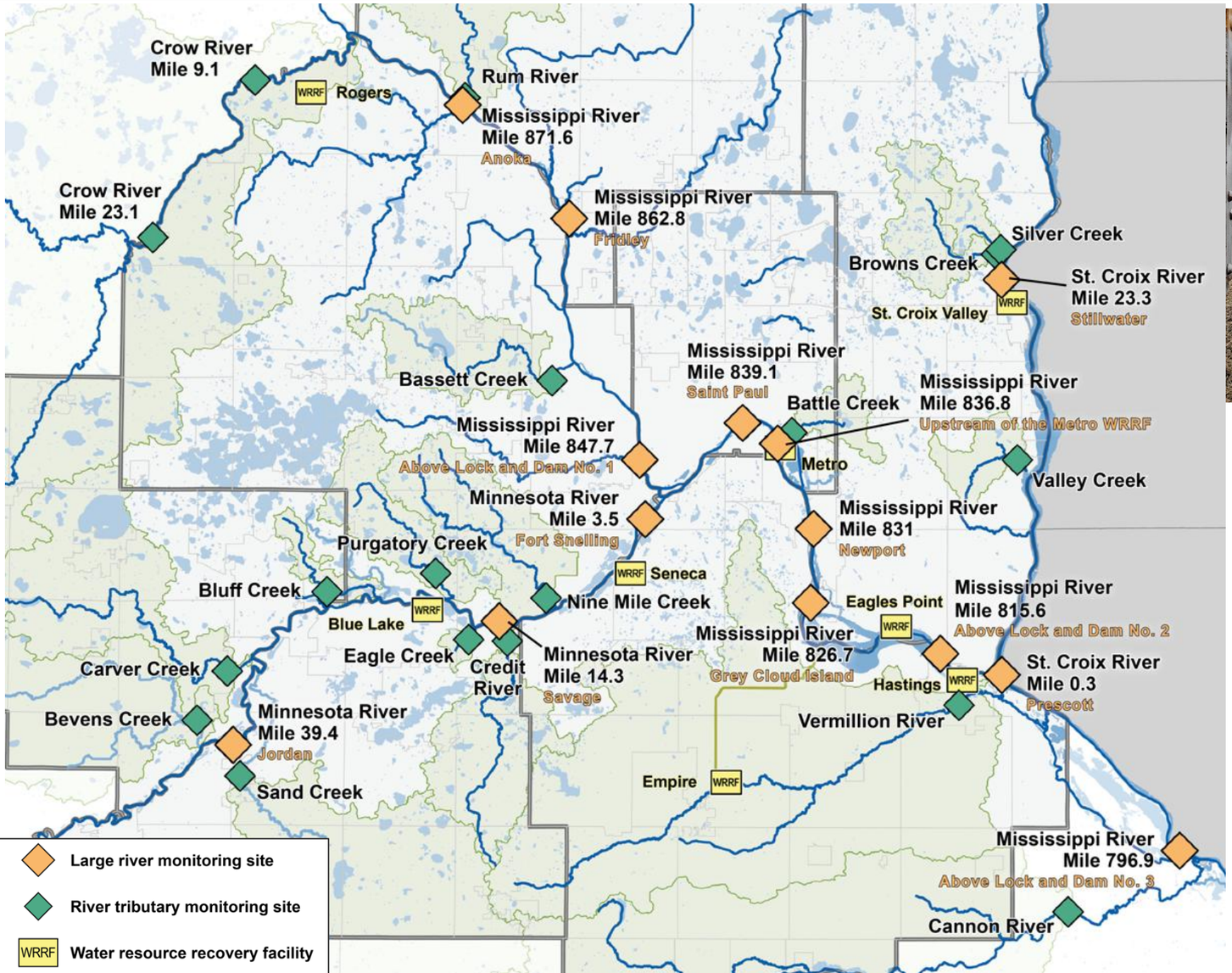
Business Item 2026-190

Joint Powers Agreement with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program, Contract 26G004

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

November 10, 2026

River and Stream Monitoring





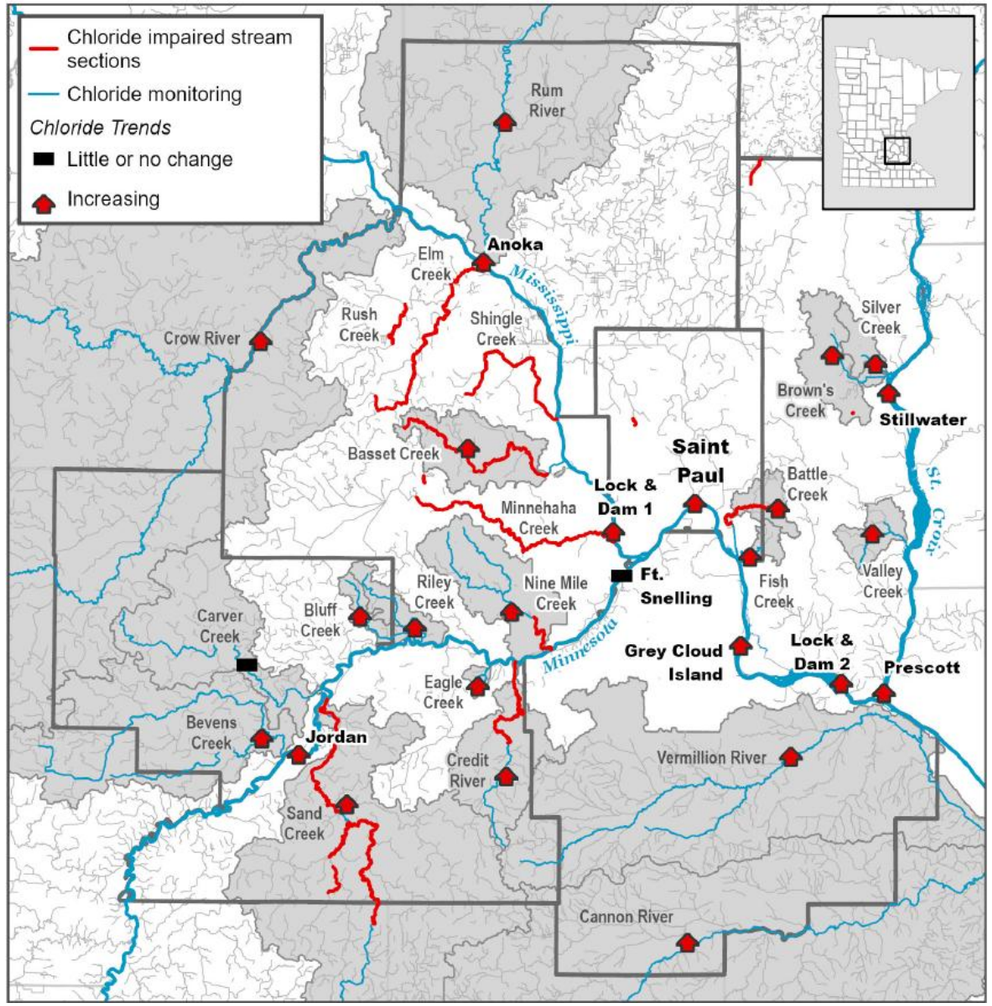






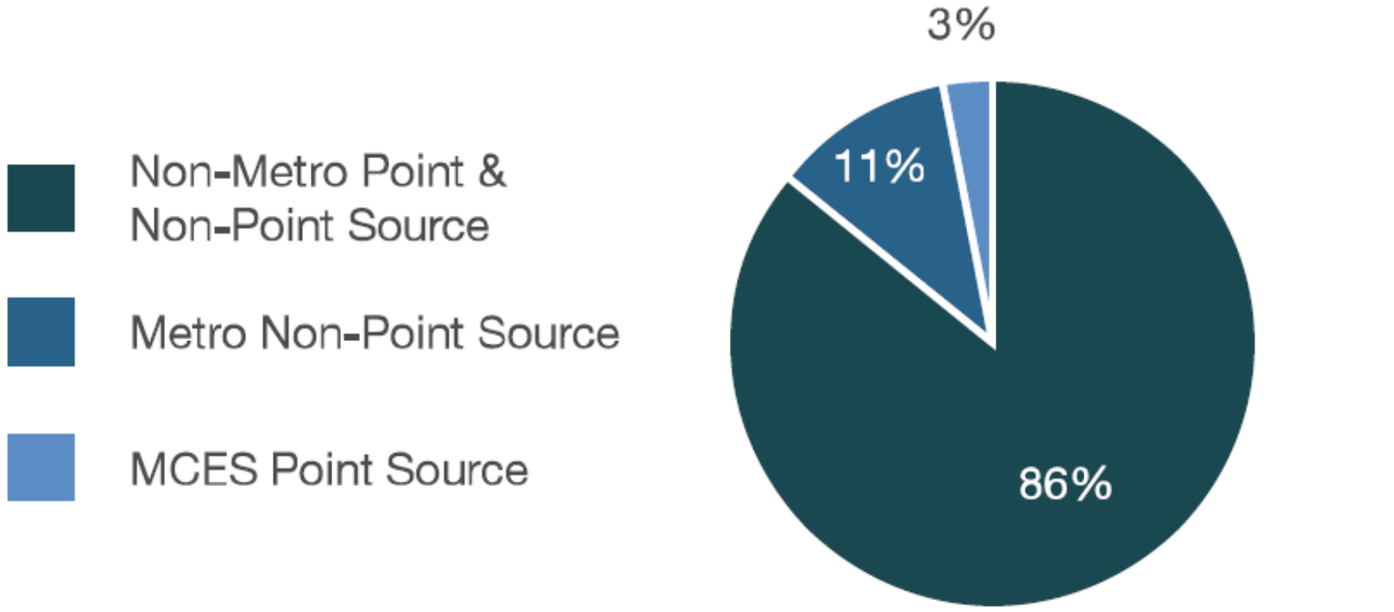
River and Stream Assessments

Long Term Trends



Pollutant Loading

Metro Area Total Phosphorus Load Contributions



Council Stream Program History

- **1989**: Original Council staff stream monitoring began in 1989
  - Evaluate non-point pollution coming into Minnesota River from tributaries in context of Blue Lake and Seneca WRRF
- **1995**: Expanded with a new collaborative partnership program called Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP1)
  - Funded by Environmental Services with payments to local cooperating organizations to perform most of the monitoring
- **1998**: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) expanded the WOMP program with additional stations across the region (WOMP2)
- **2007-present**: funding provided by the Legislature through Clean Water Funds appropriated to the MPCA

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

Stream Program Map

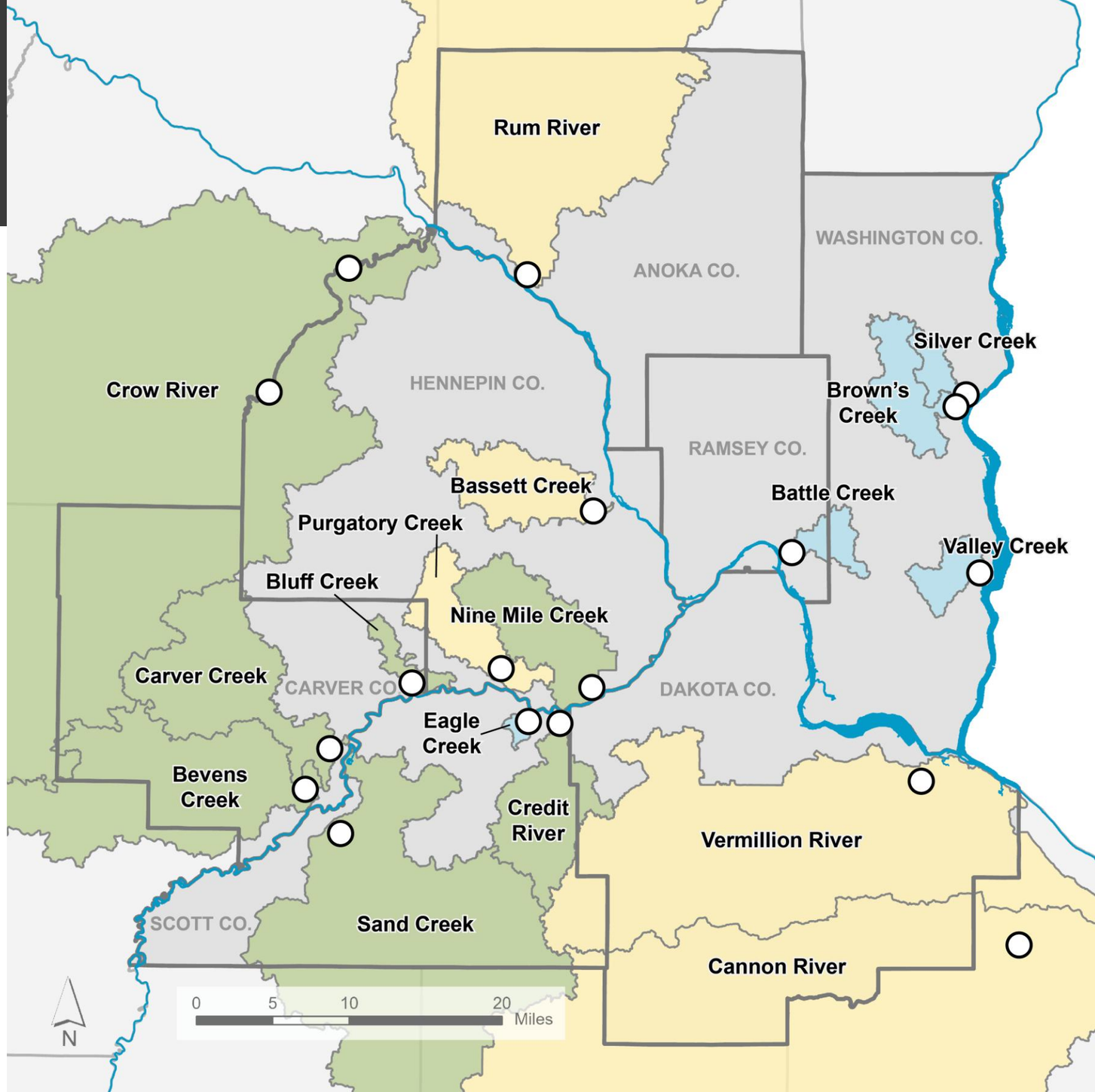
Monitoring site

Stream Monitoring Programs

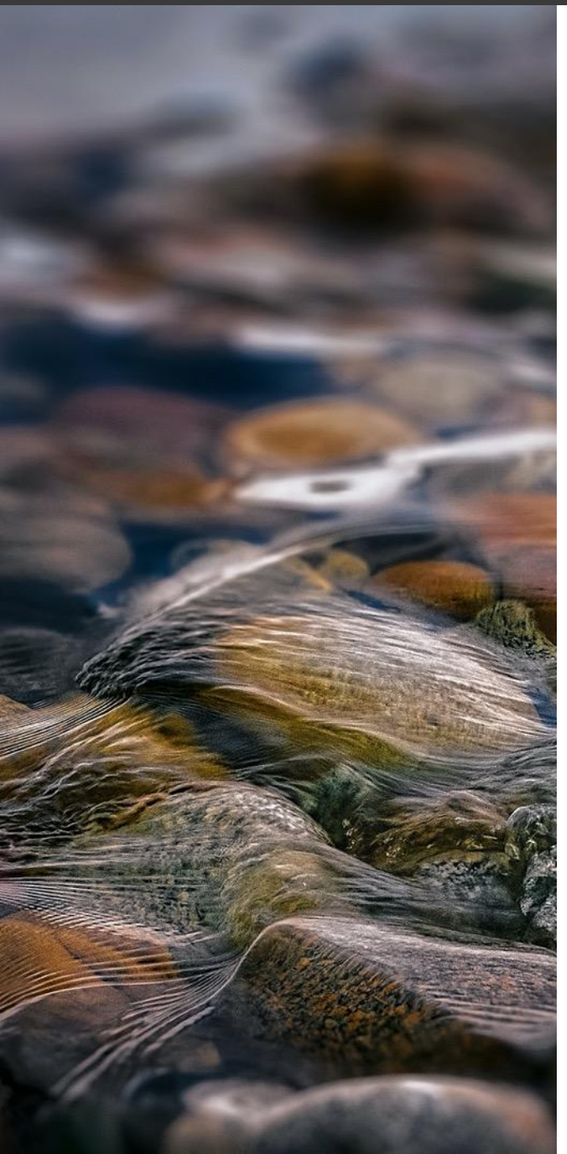
Met Council staff

WOMP1

WOMP2



WOMP Monitoring Partners



- Ramsey Washington Metro WD
- Browns Creek WD
- Valley Branch WD
- Washington Conservation District
- Lower Minnesota WD
- **Bassett Creek WMC**
- **Dakota County SWCD**
- **Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek WD**
- Scott County SWCD
- Wright SWCD
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

MPCA JPA Agreement (WOMP2) Overview

- MPCA changed agreement to a Joint Powers Agreement in 2018.
- Agreement covers partial funding of 5 monitoring stations and includes funds passed on to 3 local cooperators totaling ~$60,000 over the 2-year period
  - Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District
  - Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
  - Dakota Soil and Water Conservation District
- Also funds work by Council staff modeling pollutant loading at several rivers and streams across region

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 26G004 Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and accept Clean Water Funds from the Minnesota Legislature via MPCA in the amount not to exceed $350,000.