

Technical Memorandum

To: Linda Loomis, Administrator
Lower Minnesota River Watershed District

From: Katy Thompson, PE, CFM
Della Schall Young, CPESC, PMP

Date: May 12, 2020

Re: Area 3 Site Visit Meeting Summary

The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD or District) has been working with the City of Eden Prairie (City) since 2008 to evaluate locations along the Minnesota River that have been experiencing bluff erosion, listed in the District's 2018–2027 Watershed Management Plan as "Minnesota River Study Area 3 – Bluff Stabilization Project." The following summarizes the site visit recommended during the December 18, 2019, meeting (see attached 12/18/19 meeting summary).

May 7, 2020, Site Visit

Linda Loomis, District Administrator; Patrick Sejkora, City of Eden Prairie (City) Water Resources Engineer; and Della Young and Katy Thompson, Young Environmental Consulting Group (Young Environmental) met at 12641 Riverview Road in Eden Prairie for a site visit of the bluff and review of inclinometers.

The owner of 12613 Riverview Road was outside and allowed access to the bluff on her property. She has lived there since 2003 and said that the rate of erosion on the bluff near the property has accelerated in recent years. She said that she reached out to LMRWD, the City, and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) several times to discuss the neighborhood concerns, especially the need to install retaining walls to protect their residences. The backyards of 12557, 12585, 12613, 12641, and 12669 Riverview Road all were observed to have relatively new retaining walls located near the residences (see attached landowners map and photos).

The homeowner confirmed that the soils around her property were extremely sandy, as evidenced by active bank erosion in nearby gullies. The gullies contained numerous

brush clippings and vegetation, placed in the gully at the advice of USACE staff several years ago.

The inclinometers could not be found during the visit, but no signs of active landslides or mass wasting processes were observed in the field. The active erosion seemed to be contained to the existing gullies and runoff from private property.

Next steps

1. Young Environmental will contact Braun Intertec for inclinometer coordinates because the inclinometers could not be located in the field.
2. The City of Eden Prairie will provide electronic storm sewer maps of the area. (Received 5/8/2020)
3. Young Environmental will overlay inclinometer locations, lidar topography, storm sewer outfalls, available photos, and historic aerials to identify possible concentrated flow locations that could exacerbate the erosion processes and reconvene in June/July 2020 to discuss the results at a later date.
4. District will evaluate options for a team to view the site in the fall (September or October) from the Minnesota River.
5. The District will also contact the Freshwater Society to find out if it has identified potential areas of erosion.
6. Young Environmental will review the Federal Emergency Management Agency hot spots report.

Attachments:

December 18, 2019, Meeting Summary

Riverview Road Landowners Map

May 7, 2020, Site Photos