



COMMISSION FILE NO: 26-081-6 **DATE INTRODUCED:** June 8, 2026

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Director (Signature on File in the Office of the Commission)

REFERRED BY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON TO: Operations Committee

RELATING TO: Approve Changes in Total Project Cost for Project W24004, Honey Creek Reach 4 – McCarty Park to Morgan

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to increase the total project cost (TPC) of Project W24004, Honey Creek Reach 4 – McCarty Park to Morgan, by \$3,520,000 for an amended TPC of \$7,726,837 and to make a corresponding change to the TPC of Project M99001, Allowance for Cost and Schedule Changes.

Honey Creek is a tributary of the Menomonee River under District jurisdiction that is included in the Menomonee River Watercourse Management Plan (MRWMP). It generally flows from south to north, starting near S. 43rd Street and Edgerton Avenue and joins the Menomonee near the intersection of Honey Creek Parkway and N. 72nd Street. Honey Creek flows above ground through McCarty Park, then enters twin box culverts just south of W. Arthur Avenue, between S. 81st and S. 82nd Streets. A trash rack installed at the culvert entrance prevents large debris from entering and potentially obstructing the 2.5 miles of culverts from McCarty Park to where Honey Creek daylights north of I-94. Accessing and removing obstructions is difficult, so preventing debris from entering the culverts is important. In addition, the trash rack prevents individuals from entering the culvert system.

District evaluations have identified about 30 structures in the regional floodplain in the general vicinity of McCarty Park. The scope of Project W24004, Honey Creek Reach 4-McCarty Park to Morgan, currently includes not only addressing flood risks in the vicinity of McCarty Park, but also naturalizing 8,500 feet of existing concrete lined channel from W. Arthur Avenue upstream to W. Morgan Avenue. The project will also reduce flood risk on approximately 11 structures near S. 72nd Street.

ATTACHMENTS: **BACKGROUND** **KEY ISSUES** **RESOLUTION**
FISCAL NOTE **SBE** **OTHER** _____

*OP_W24004_HoneyCreekMcCartyPark_EmergencyProcedure_TPC_Update_legislative_file.docx
05-19-26*

COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

Approve Changes in Total Project Cost for Project W24004, Honey Creek Reach 4 – McCarty Park to Morgan

In 2021, the District performed planning level work to reduce flood risk in the vicinity of McCarty Park and identified, at a conceptual level, improvements for flood flow entering the twin box culverts, which will reduce flood risks related to debris accumulation at the trash rack.

During the August 9-10, 2025, floods, a large amount of debris collected on the trash racks, reducing its capacity to convey flow to the twin box culverts. This loss of capacity, combined with the exceptionally high rainfall driven flows, caused stormwater to back up behind the culverts and may have contributed to flooding.

On August 27, 2025, the Executive Director issued an emergency declaration related to flooding at McCarty Park. The declaration authorized staff to proceed with both design and construction of trash rack related improvements. McCarty Park is owned by Milwaukee County Parks (Parks) and is located within the City of West Allis.

The District has built on the 2021 conceptual analysis to evaluate multiple alternatives to reduce the risk of flooding from debris accumulation in collaboration with the City of West Allis and Parks. Staff now have a recommended alternative and are working quickly under the emergency to finalize design and prepare for construction of the proposed improvements. The District is soliciting public input during the design phase and will continue to conduct outreach to the public prior to construction.

Separate from this Commission request is another request to update the MRWMP. This updated MRWMP includes the following recommendations to reduce trash rack debris accumulation related to flooding in the vicinity of the McCarty Park trash rack:

- Replace the existing trash rack with a trash rack that is significantly larger than the existing. The trash rack design is intended to allow for high flows to pass through even with significant debris accumulation. The trash rack is also designed to facilitate post storm debris removal.
- Construct upstream devices to intercept large debris prior to reaching the trash rack.

The TPC for Project W24004 currently does not include the cost to construct the recommended McCarty Park improvements. The requested TPC increase reflects the construction cost estimate, costs to perform debris cleanup prior to construction, and District labor and expenses

RESOLUTION

Approve Changes in Total Project Cost for Project W24004, Honey Creek Reach 4 –
McCarty Park to Morgan

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the total project cost for Project W24004, Honey Creek Reach 4 – McCarty Park to Morgan, is increased by \$3,520,000 for an amended total project cost of \$7,726,837, and that a corresponding change is made to the total project cost for Project M99001, Allowance for Cost and Schedule Changes.