



# BROWN'S CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

Preserving the integrity of the watershed for future generations

[www.bcwd.org](http://www.bcwd.org) | 455 Hayward Ave N, Oakdale, MN 55128 | 651-330-8220

VIA EMAIL

May 15, 2025

Ted Kozlowski, Mayor  
[tkozlowski@stillwatermn.gov](mailto:tkozlowski@stillwatermn.gov)  
City of Stillwater  
216 North Fourth Street  
Stillwater, MN 55082

Re. Marketplace reuse project

Mayor Kozlowski,

At the April 9, 2025, meeting of the Brown's Creek Watershed District the board of managers conditionally approved the City of Stillwater's application for a permit for a parking lot, sidewalk and driveways at St. Croix Valley Recreation Center. Because the rec center is within the emergency response area for Stillwater's drinking-water well number 10, the city could not utilize infiltration to meet BCWD's stormwater-management requirements. Instead the city will install alternative treatment devices that provide significantly less stormwater-volume control than would be achieved if infiltration were allowed.

City staff explored options for storage and reuse of stormwater for irrigation on the rec center property, but such a system proved infeasible.

BCWD has taken steps to assess the feasibility of a regional stormwater-reuse system utilizing greenspace within the Marketplace area of Stillwater for irrigation. Stormwater for such a system would be collected by a central system, presumably to be constructed by BCWD, from properties within the region. Applicants for BCWD permits would be able to utilize the system to meet stormwater volume-control requirements, which would help conserve water quality in downstream Long Lake.

While the city's stormwater-management system for the rec center project met the applicable BCWD requirements, I wanted to note for you the shortfall from treatment standards and ask the city to commit to support BCWD's development of the Marketplace regional reuse project. With the city as anchor participant, BCWD could move forward with feasibility studies and design, confident that it had a capable partner on board.

BCWD and the city both have an interest in protecting and preserving Long Lake, reducing water consumption; a regional reuse system could also provide potential water quality solutions and

opportunities for private development and redevelopment in the Stillwater commercial area surrounding Market Place. A regional reuse project could be an effective approach if both agencies work together. For instance, there might be incentives for new private development to utilize a regional system and make a financial contribution to offset expenses incurred by the partnership.

Thank you for your consideration of the idea. Karen Kill, BCWD's administrator, will follow up with city staff to explore next steps in developing the project, but in the meantime, I'd be glad to informally discuss the concept with you by phone (651-275-1875) or in person.

Sincerely,

Klayton Eckles, President

c/ Joe Kohlmann, Administrator; Shawn Sanders, Assistant City Administrator (via email)