



## MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

Date: February 24, 2023  
To: CLFLWD Board of Managers  
From: Mike Kinney, District Administrator  
Subject: Washington County Tax Forfeit Properties



District Wide

### Background/Discussion

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider adopting a resolution declaring interest in acquiring Washington County tax forfeit properties along North Shore Trail North, just north of Forest Lake's middle basin.

These contiguous properties are located on the same wetland complex as the parcel that the McNamara Family Trust donated to the District in 2022 – the "Parson's" Wetland. This wetland complex was identified in the 2019 Hayward Avenue Assessment and Feasibility Study as a potential location for wetland enhancements to improve water quality in Forest Lake.

Washington Conservation District staff notified District staff of these properties being added to the tax forfeit list. District staff has been in contact with Washington County taxation department staff to get more details on the process. Staff has also been in contact with the City of Forest Lake, as the City has also indicated their interest in acquiring these parcels. City staff have expressed an interest in partnering with the District on the ownership and future wetland improvement/stormwater management project(s) that may occur on this site if comes under public ownership. Staffs are in the process of discussing the formalization of this intent and establishing a process for future acquisitions and partnerships as similar tax forfeited properties come available in Washington County.

### Recommended Motion

Proposed Motion: Manager \_\_\_\_\_ moves to adopt resolution 23-03-02. Seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_.

### Attached

- Map of parcels
- Resolution 23-03-02



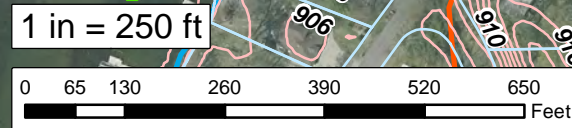
### KEY TO FEATURES

-  Parcels
-  2 ft Contours (LiDAR)
-  National Wetland Inventory
-  DNR Public Waters
-  DNR Public Watercourse
-  Hydric/Wetland Soils



2022 Tax Forfeit Sites  
 - Forest Lake  
 - CLFLWD  
 - Washington County

2019 Aerial Photo



**COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
BOARD OF MANAGERS**

**RESOLUTION 23-03-02**

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING the ADMINISTRATOR to REQUEST that the  
WASHINGTON COUNTY AUDITOR WITHHOLD SALE of  
TAX FORFEITED PROPERTY on NORTH SHORE TRAIL NORTH**

Manager \_\_\_\_\_ offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_:

**WHEREAS** the District is a political subdivision, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota;

**WHEREAS** the Washington County Property Records and Taxpayers Services Department has notified the District of the existence of adjacent tax-forfeited parcels, PID numbers 10.032.21.24.0053, 10.032.21.24.0054, 10.032.21.24.0055, 10.032.21.24.0056, 10.032.21.24.0057, 10.032.21.24.0058, 10.032.21.24.0059, 10.032.21.24.0060, 10.032.21.24.0061, 10.032.21.24.0062, 10.032.21.24.0063, 10.032.21.24.0064, 10.032.21.24.0065, 10.032.21.24.0066, 10.032.21.24.0068, 10.032.21.24.0069, 10.032.21.24.0070, 10.032.21.24.0071, 10.032.21.24.0072, 10.032.21.24.0073 (hereinafter "Property"), located within the District and overlapping the wetland complex on which the District owns another parcel;

**WHEREAS** protection of the wetlands on the Property may result in multiple watershed benefits including the preservation of floodplain storage potential, protection of water quality in Forest Lake, and preservation of wildlife habitat;

**WHEREAS** the District's initial review indicates that the Property merits classification by the Washington County Board of Commissioners, under Minn. Stat. 282.01, as conservation land;

**WHEREAS** the District as a political subdivision has an interest in taking title to the Property pursuant to Minn. Stat. 282.01, subd. 1a, for an authorized public use;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the District Administrator:

1. Is directed to file a written request with the Washington County Auditor, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 282.01, subd. 1a, that the Property be withheld from sale;
  
2. Is to work with Washington County staff to request that the County Board of Commissioners initiate a classification of the Property as conservation land pursuant to Minn. Stat. 282.01, subd. 1;
  
3. In cooperation with the District engineer, is to advise the District Board of Managers as to the acquisition considerations as outlined in section 4.5.12 of the District's watershed management plan, and to work with Washington County and City of Forest Lake staff to develop an initial concept plan to manage the Property and use it to advance the District's water resource goals.

The question was on the adoption of the above resolution and there were \_\_\_\_ ayes and \_\_\_\_ nays as follows:

<b>Manager</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Stephen Schmaltz				
Christopher Loth				
Dave Bakke				
Jackie Anderson				
Doug Toavs				

The President declared the resolution adopted.

Dated: March 9, 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Dave Bakke, Secretary

\* \* \* \* \*

I, Dave Bakke, Secretary of the Comfort Lake–Forest Lake Watershed District Board of Managers, do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct transcription of an action of the Board taken on the date above indicated.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.

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Dave Bakke, Secretary