



TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Ryan Schroeder, City Manager
Ross Beckwith, Park & Rec/PW Dir.
FROM: Dave Schletty, Asst. Parks & Rec. Dir.
DATE: December 11, 2017
SUBJECT: Discuss City Pond Treatments

City of West St. Paul

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Currently West St Paul spends about \$5500 annually to contract for treatment of five ponds (Mud Lake Pond, Richard Circle Pond, Edgewood Lane Pond, Duck Pond, and Humboldt Ave Pond). All these ponds are surrounded by public and/or private property. Mud Lake is completely surrounded by public land and visible from the right of way, and treated strictly for control of cattails. Richard Circle and Edgewood Lane are surround by both public and private land, but not visible from public right of way, and are treated for control of submerged aquatic weeds, duckweed and algae. Duck Pond and Humboldt Ave ponds are surrounded by both public and private land, visible from public right of way, and are also treated for control of submerged aquatic weeds, duckweed and algae.

This program has been in existence for at least 15 years. Due to the fact that this these treatments have mostly aesthetic value, staff feels this program could be eliminated to save money and instead give residents permission to pursue treatment themselves. Staff has recently conducted a survey of other Cities for how they handle treatment of their ponds/lakes. Of our surrounding neighbors, SSP and IGH have no pond treatment programs for either public or private property. Mendota Heights does not treat any public or private ponds, but tells residents they can get together and do it on their own. They do however treat Rogers Lake 50/50 with residents and if needed treat two other lakes as well. They annually spend about \$1500 to accomplish this. A few other metro communities such as Edina and Eden Prairie have programs to partially fund treatment of lakes that have established HOAs who adopt and treat their own lakes. If West St Paul chooses to discontinue this treatment program, staff would send notice to all property owners that are adjacent to currently treated ponds, informing them of the change and giving them information to continue treatment on their own.

FISCAL IMPACT:

		Amount
Fund:	101	
Department:	43100	
Account:	40399	\$5,500

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council discuss the City's treatment of ponds and decide if this practice should continue.