



System-Wide Evaluation of Flood-Risk Mitigation Options

Beltline Resiliency Study

Prepared for
Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District

November 2020

System-Wide Evaluation of Flood-Risk Mitigation Options

November 2020

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Certifications

I hereby certify that this report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota.



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PE #: 49540

November 19, 2020

Date

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|---|
| LiDAR | Light Detection and Ranging |
| MDNR | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources |
| MnDOT | Minnesota Department of Transportation |
| NOAA | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration |
| RWMWD | Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District |
| TP40 | Technical Paper 40 |

1 Introduction

The Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD or District) has a long history of planning and managing water resources to mitigate flood risk. The District was formed in 1975 in response to concerns about severe erosion and flooding on Battle Creek. Since then the District has continued to work closely with the 12 cities and two counties in the watershed to identify and mitigate flood risk throughout the watershed.

Recently, the District completed an evaluation to identify potentially flood-prone structures based on updated rainfall depths published in Atlas 14 (Reference [1]). As a result, numerous structures were identified in flood-risk areas upstream of the Beltline. This study evaluates potential system modifications that could be implemented in the Beltline watershed to reduce flood risk to those habitable structures in those areas. While not the primary focus, a cursory benefit would be also protecting some non-habitable structures and low-lying lands. Much of this study is centered on evaluating ways to optimize the use of the Beltline to lower flood levels upstream. For the purposes of the study we assumed 1) the size and/or the peak capacity would not be increased and 2) flood prone homes upstream of the Beltline were not purchased and removed from the flood plain.

1.1 Identification of Potentially Flood-Prone Structures

In 2013, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released updated precipitation frequency estimates for the Midwestern states (NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 8) (Reference [1]). These estimates, which serve as an update to the U.S. Weather Bureau's Technical Paper 40 (TP 40) (Reference [2]), published in 1961, reflect the results of statistical analyses performed for a much longer period of recorded precipitation data. The results show significant increases in rainfall amounts in the Twin Cities area; for example, the 100-year, 4-day rainfall depth increased by approximately 23% when compared to TP 40. Following the release of Atlas 14, the District updated the hydrologic and hydraulic model of the stormwater system to incorporate the updated precipitation estimates to calculate the 100-year floodplain.

Floodplain extents were intersected with available building structure outlines to identify habitable structures. RWMWD defines the term "habitable" as *Any enclosed space usable for living or business purposes, which includes but is not limited to: working, sleeping, eating, cooking, recreation, office, office storage, or any combination thereof. An area used only for storage incidental to a residential use is not included in the definition of Habitable* (reference [3]).

Auxiliary structures such as detached garages, sheds, park pavilions, etc. are not considered habitable, and potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk for auxiliary structures were not evaluated. There were 785 structures identified as potentially flood prone throughout the District; these are shown on Figure 1-1.

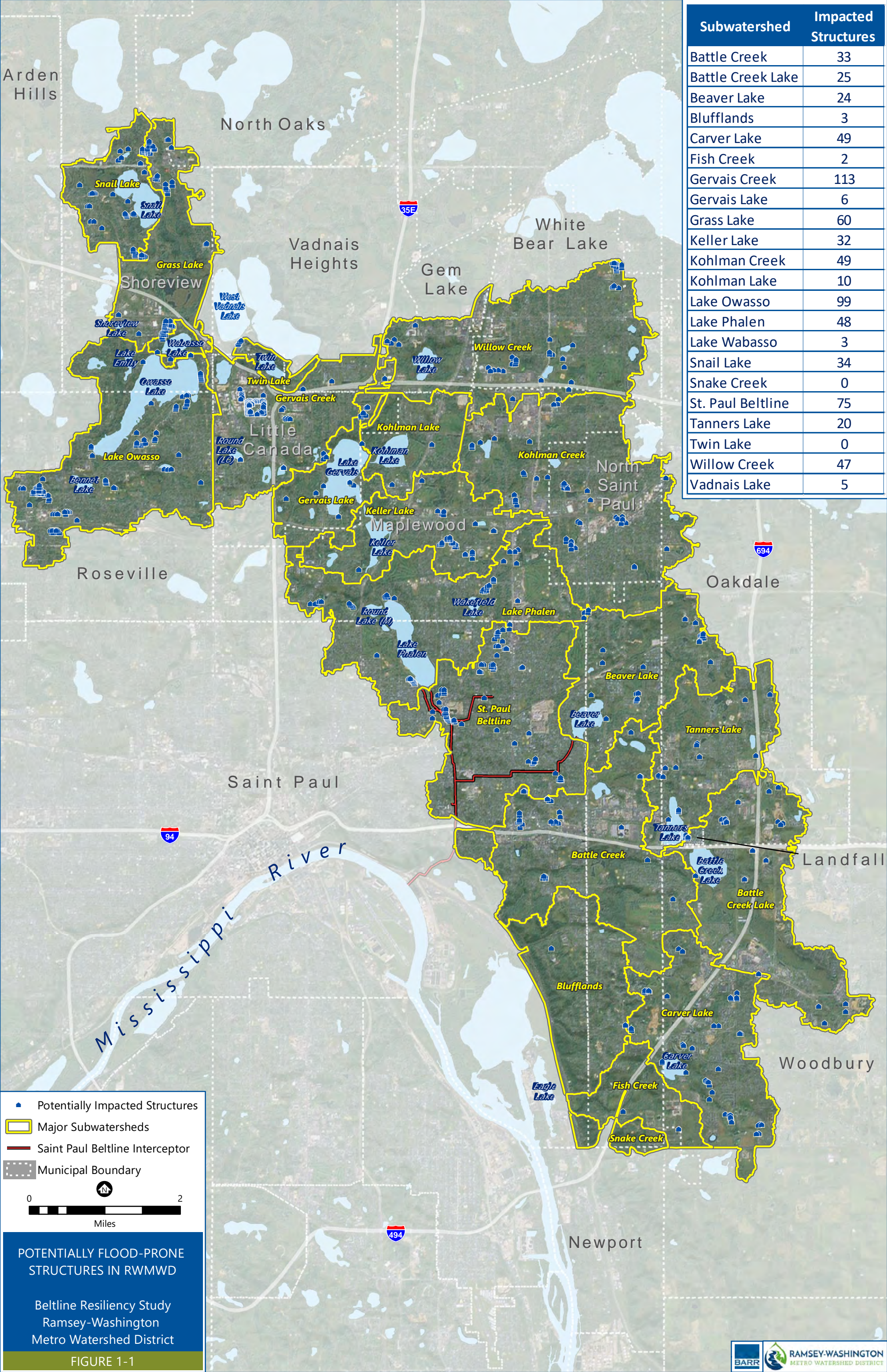
1.2 Beltline Background

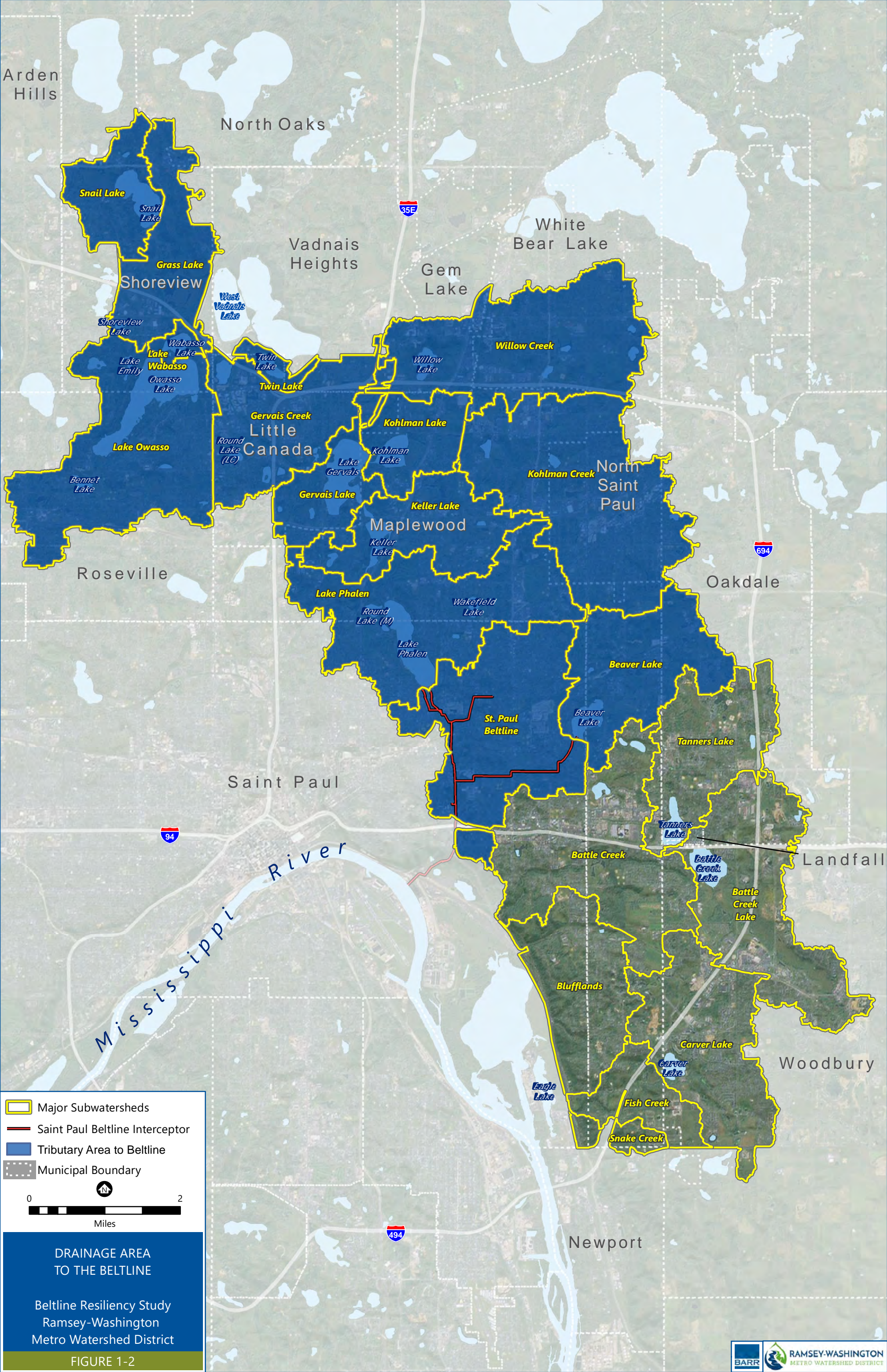
The Beltline Stormwater Interceptor (Beltline) is a critical part of the District's stormwater infrastructure; it not only collects a large percentage of stormwater runoff from Saint Paul's east side, but also conveys runoff from the entire Phalen Chain of Lakes and Beaver Lake to the Mississippi River, as shown on Figure 1-2. The total drainage area to the Beltline Interceptor is over 17,800 acres (27.8 square miles). There are 605 potentially flood-prone structures upstream of the Beltline; these are shown in Figure 1-1.

The Beltline is approximately 6.4 miles long, extending from the outlets of Lake Phalen and Beaver Lake to the Mississippi River. Constructed in 1920, large sections are cast-in-place concrete horseshoe-shaped pipe buried up to 30 feet underground, with heights varying from 7 to 12 feet. During flood events, the size of the Beltline creates a restriction in stormwater flow to the river. This restriction has resulted in pipe pressurization and above-ground surcharges of water in the downstream reaches. In 2001 modifications to the Beltline were constructed to relief pressure near the outfall, and more recently extensive repair work was complete in 2018. As a result, there is no additional capacity for an increase in peak flow rate into the Beltline to lower upstream flood levels.

Due to the large number of potentially flood-prone structures upstream of the Beltline, and its lack of additional capacity, this study evaluates whether real-time mechanical operation of Lake Phalen and Keller Lake channel outlet structures, as well as other critical system infrastructure, could provide flood damage reduction by manipulating the time at which the peak flows arrived at those structures. The theory is that active real time management of flows throughout control points upstream may allow the district to optimize the use of the Beltline during times in a flood event where the pipe is not flowing at full capacity. Further, if successful, this optimization would result in lower flood levels and, in turn, fewer homes impacted by flooding.

This study considers a variety of operating conditions at each critical control point in the upstream watershed independently and in concert with other points and areas in an attempt to discover if the real time operation will work to lower flood levels in areas without raising flood levels in other areas, and, if so, what operating conditions will have the most positive impact toward reducing flood risk to existing habitable structures.





2 Methodology

The goal of this study is to evaluate potential system-level flood-damage-reduction options, including real-time operation of Lake Phalen and Keller Lake channel outlet structures, to actively manage stormwater runoff from flood-prone areas tributary to the Beltline to reduce flood levels that would otherwise impact habitable structures.

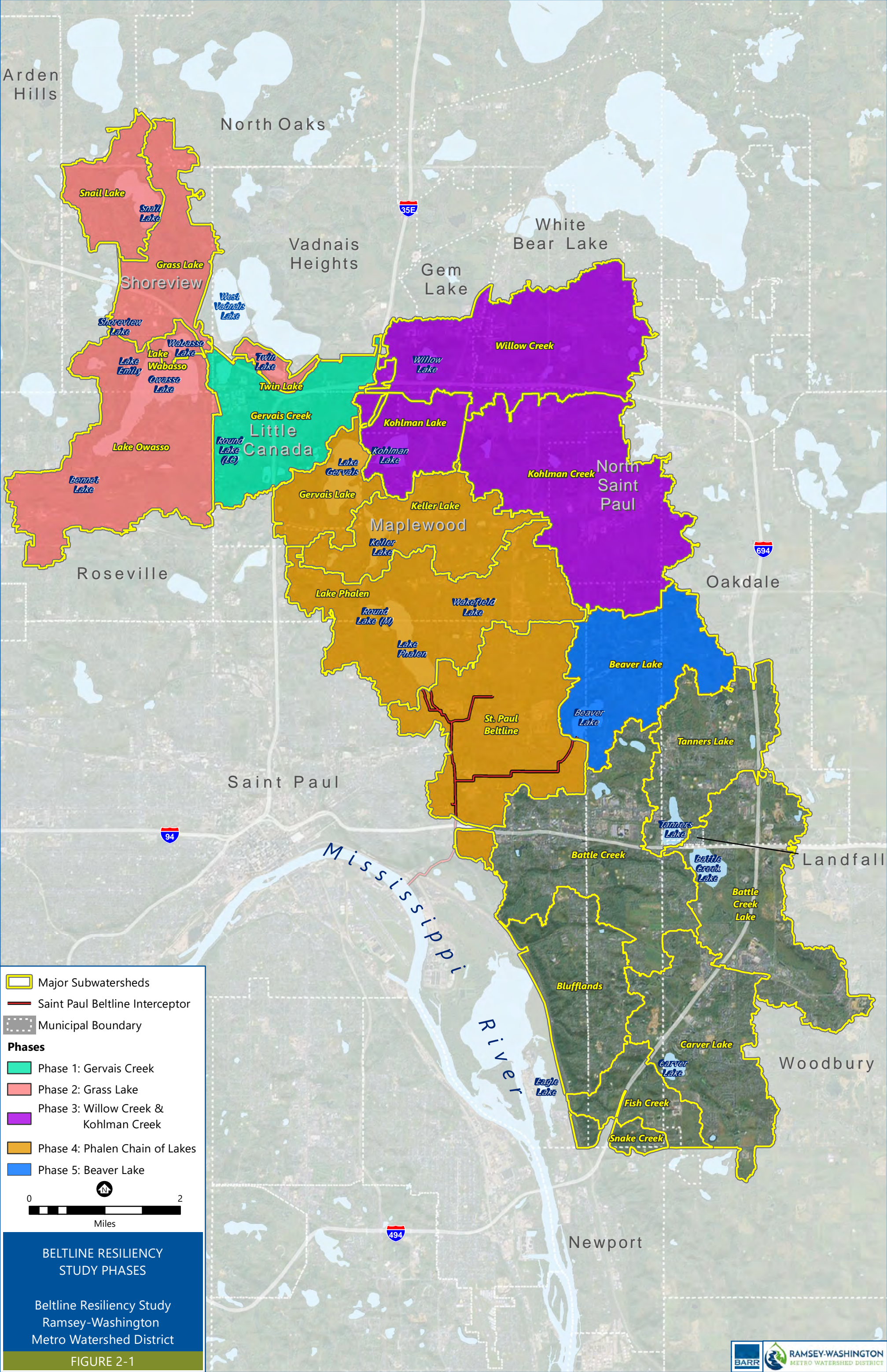
Systems modifications summarized in this report are one option for mitigating flood risk that does not include purchasing flood-prone property. There may be other flood-risk-reduction options that could be considered, and prior to implementation of any modification additional feasibility studies may be required to verify that the optimal, most cost-effective modification has been identified.

In general, the study was phased so that flood-prone areas in the upstream portion of the watershed were addressed first, working downstream. This approach was followed to ensure that we were reasonably confident there are no adverse impacts (e.g., increased flood levels) downstream as a result of upstream system modifications and/or operations. In this manner, the drainage area upstream of the Beltline was divided into five phases:

- Phase 1: Gervais Creek
- Phase 2: Grass Lake
- Phase 3: Kohlman Creek and Willow Creek
- Phase 4: Phalen Chain of Lakes
- Phase 5: Beaver Lake

The one exception was the Grass Lake subwatershed. The District Managers requested that this subwatershed be included in the evaluation at the February 2019 board meeting, after modifications in Gervais Creek had already been evaluated. The five study area phases are shown in Figure 2-1.

The following sections describe the methodology for identifying potentially flood-prone structures and evaluating system modifications. Study limitations or items that are not addressed by the methodology are also described.



2.1 Identification of Potentially Flood-Prone Structures

In 2017, RWMWD collected stage data at 11 ponds, wetlands, and lakes and flow-rate data at five streams. The monitoring data was used to validate the results of the District stormwater models (Reference [4]). After validating the models to measured stage data, the 100-year, 4-day Atlas 14 rainfall event (8.3 inches) was simulated and floodplain elevations were calculated.

For the purposes of this study, the 100-year floodplain elevation represents the elevation that each water body has a 1-percent chance of exceeding as a result of a storm that has a 1-percent chance of occurring in any given year. This elevation is called the annual-exceedance elevation. In this case, it is assumed that the waterbody is at the control elevation (the invert of an outlet, or the crest of an overflow weir, for example) when this storm occurs (in other words, prior to these large storm events, the water body has had adequate time to drain down to its control elevation.) Outlet control structures for water bodies are also assumed to be free of debris and sediment and functioning as designed.

In recent years, several water bodies in RWMWD have experienced high elevations as a result of several consecutive years of very wet weather. Certain RWMWD water bodies in particular have stayed high because they are landlocked (have no outlet or overflow structure that is regularly used, such as Snail Lake or Twin Lake) or have very restricted outlets that have not drawn down to their outlet elevations for several years (Grass Lake/West Vadnais Lake). Recent high elevations in these areas were not used as the starting elevations for the purposes of calculating the annual exceedance elevation to identify flood prone structures. The reason is the way practitioners typically look at hydrologic probability. Combining the already unlikely (though existing) high water levels that have been experienced recently with a coincident (and rare) storm event that has a 1 percent chance of happening in any given year compounds risk in a way that is typically not evaluated. This type of evaluation uses what is called “conditional probability”.

While this study does not look at the conditional probability of certain flood levels in the landlocked or highly restricted portions of RWMWD, RWMWD has acknowledged the vulnerability of these areas and has prioritized efforts to minimize flood risks to habitable structures.

For this reason, RWMWD regularly uses the stormwater model to estimate resulting water levels assuming a 100-year rainfall event occurs when starting water levels are high to help plan flood response strategies undertaken by both RWMWD and its member cities. For example, in March 2019 a series of snowmelt scenarios were modeled to estimate potential flood elevations in April 2019, if the starting elevation of the waterbodies was an estimate of existing conditions. Also, although Twin Lake’s lowest home does not appear on Figure 1, it is below the outlet from Twin Lake, RWMWD is currently evaluating flood risk reduction options for Twin Lake (and Grass Lake) outside of the scope of this Beltline Resiliency Study.

Floodplain extents were intersected with building structure outlines in Ramsey and Washington Counties. The building outlines in Ramsey County are based on the footprint derived from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources’ (MDNR) light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data, (Reference [5])corrected by Ramsey County in 2015 (Reference [6]). Building outlines in Washington County were based on the nationwide Microsoft Building Footprints dataset (Reference [7]). Habitable structures (e.g., residences, office and commercial buildings, apartments, etc.) that intersected the

floodplain were identified as potentially flood-prone. Within the Ramsey County dataset structures identified as “residential,” “non-residential,” and “mobile home” were considered habitable structures. Because similar data categories do not exist in the Washington County dataset, structures greater than 550 square feet in area were considered to be habitable structures. Auxiliary structures such as detached garages, sheds, park pavilions, etc. were not considered.

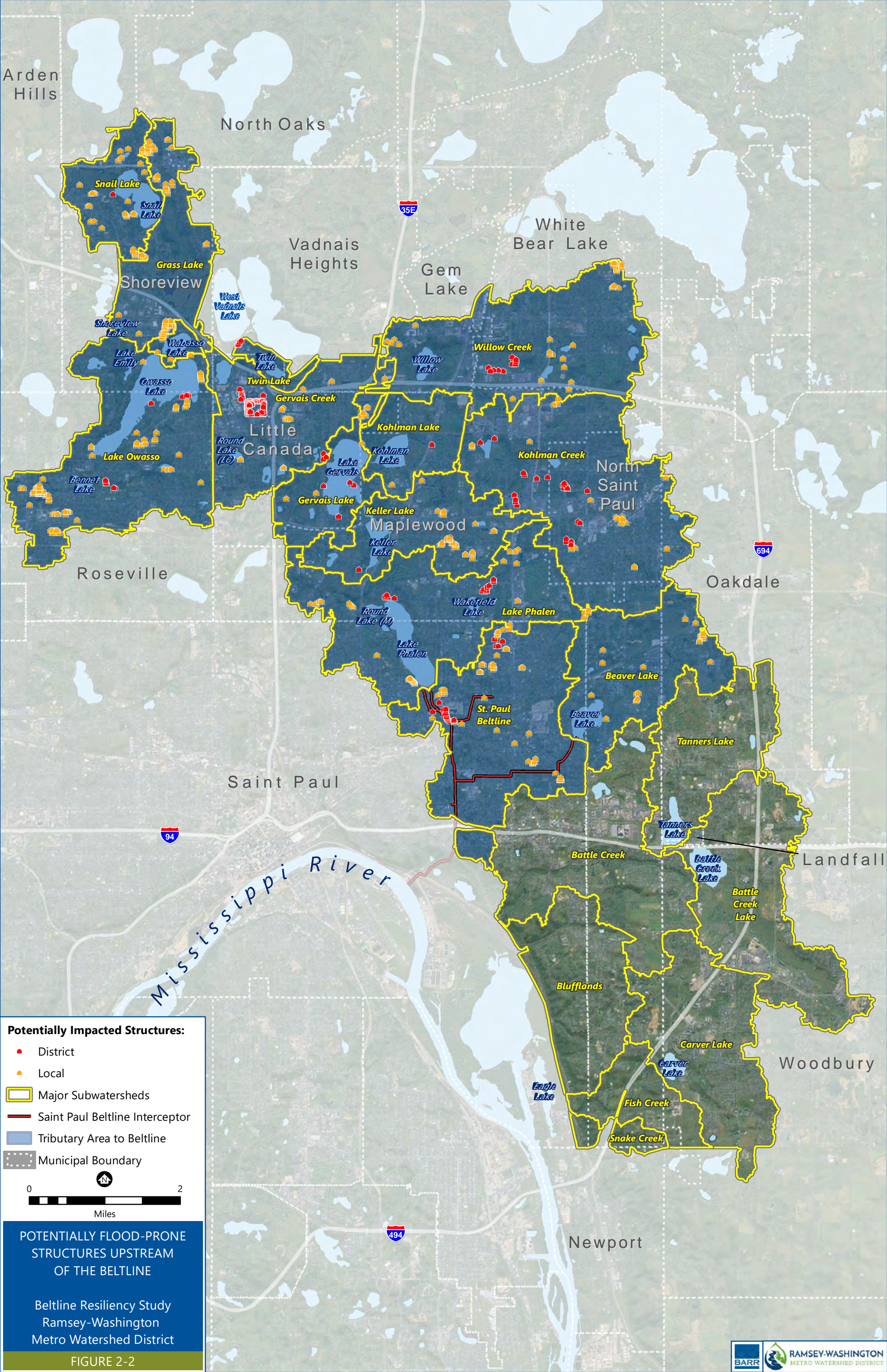
A desktop planning-level identification of potentially flood-prone structures was completed using best available information. Unless noted in Section 3, field survey of the low adjacent grade or low-entry elevation was not completed as part of the analysis. Field survey, as part of future feasibility studies, may change the number of structures identified within the floodplain or elevations of structures identified.

A high-level evaluation of each potentially flood-prone structure, shown in Figure 1-1, upstream of the Beltline, was completed to estimate if flooding was caused by:

- Proximity to District-managed water bodies or facilities (e.g., high water level of a District-managed water body, capacity through a District-managed culvert, etc.). These structures were classified as “District.”
- Local flooding potentially not related to District-managed water bodies or facilities (e.g., high water level of municipal pond, capacity through municipal storm sewer infrastructure, etc.). These structures were classified as “Local.”

There were 605 structures upstream of the Beltline identified as potentially flood-prone; 202 structures were classified as “District” and 403 were classified as “Local.” These two types of flood-risk areas are shown on Figure 2-2.

Although potentially flood-prone structures classified as both “Local” and “District” are shown on Figure 2-2, only system modifications to reduce flood levels adjacent to structures classified as “District” were considered for this evaluation. These areas typically require system modifications that affect peak discharge rates or water levels across municipal boundaries. However, the District should continue to work cooperatively with the cities to address localized flooding concerns and manage inflows to District water bodies.



2.2 System Modifications Considered and Evaluated

The District stormwater model was used to evaluate possible modifications to the stormwater system within the watershed. Several types of modifications were considered and evaluated as part of this analysis to determine which, if any, implementation recommendations for future feasibility study could be made. In general, potential system modifications can be classified by the following general categories:

- **Decrease conveyance capacity** – Reducing the conveyance capacity through culverts and lake outlet structures was considered and evaluated in locations upstream of potentially flood-prone structures where the 100-year water level was more than 2 feet lower than the low adjacent grade of existing structures in the upstream location.
- **Flood storage volume** – Providing additional flood storage volume either above-ground (e.g., excavating stormwater ponds to increase surface area, or to create new stormwater ponds) or underground (e.g., storage chambers) was considered and evaluated.
- **Modification of overflow** – Modifications to existing overflows were considered and evaluated to either redirect runoff or provide additional upstream storage volume. Overflow modifications evaluated included raising roads and/or trails.
- **Modification to storm sewer system** – Storm sewer modifications considered and evaluated that redirected drainage from flood-prone areas to downstream locations with available storage volume.
- **Mechanical operation of outlet structures** – Operation of the Lake Phalen and Keller Lake outlet structures was considered and evaluated to optimize floodplain storage in the Phalen Chain of Lakes and control discharge into Beltline. Mechanical operation was not considered for outlet structures from smaller stormwater ponds and wetlands.
- **Increase conveyance capacity** – Increasing the conveyance capacity of culverts, storm sewer, or lake outlets were considered. In general, increasing conveyance capacity was considered and evaluated in locations where options for providing additional floodplain storage volume was limited. In locations where conveyance capacity was increased as a part of the evaluations, downstream system modifications then also needed to be considered and evaluated to mitigate increases in 100-year water elevations in those areas.
- **Site specific flood-proofing** – In a few locations, site-specific flood proofing (i.e., localized grading or structural modifications) were considered as a part of the evaluation. Typically, these modifications were considered for locations where the 100-year water level was within the accuracy of the LiDAR data and further system modifications did not appear feasible.

The goal of each system modification being evaluated was to lower the 100-year floodplain elevation below the low adjacent grade of the lowest habitable structure. System modifications were not evaluated to provide freeboard above the flood elevation generated by the 100-year event. And, potential future increases to the 100-year floodplain as a result of climate change were not considered in this evaluation.

Finally, the evaluation did not consider any system modifications that conveyed water to adjacent watershed districts, increased the capacity of the Beltline (i.e., replacing the existing pipe with a larger pipe or conveyance system), or purchasing of flood-prone structures. These options may need to be considered as part of future feasibility studies if the evaluated alternatives are ultimately considered to be ineffective or not feasible.

2.3 Study Limitations

The system modifications being considered and evaluated represent an approach for possible mitigation of flood risk for habitable structures within the District. However, as with any study and model of natural systems, there are limitations. There are practical limits on the level of detail used to achieve the study objectives. Although data sets for model inputs are frequently updated, they are not always complete or error free. Nonetheless, the data is useful and appropriate for the purpose of this study.

Acknowledgement of study limitations is important so that the findings and recommendations can be used with professional judgment in developing recommendations that are consistent with the intent of the study. Understanding the limitations also makes it easier for future evaluations to build on the results of this study.

Major assumptions for this study are listed below:

- Possible system modifications presented are intended to demonstrate one possible option for mitigating flood risk. There may be other options that may be considered to reduce flood risk during future feasibility studies.
- Possible system modifications may require permits and approvals from cities or agencies. During the evaluation, potential system modifications were not discussed with other local permitting jurisdictions to determine permit requirements. It is possible that permit requirements may change the configuration or function of system modifications.
- Potentially flood-prone structures were identified based on topographic information and aerial photographs available at the time of the evaluation. Only limited survey information was available in many parts of RWMWD. Additional field survey work may change the number and location of potentially flood-prone structures.
- The District stormwater model was developed and calibrated to District-managed lakes, creeks, and facilities. It is important to note that the models developed do not simulate all of the local storm sewer systems within the watershed. As a result, each city may identify separate, localized flooding areas that are not discussed in this report. The District should continue to work cooperatively with the cities to address localized flooding concerns and manage inflows to District water bodies.
- Data sets used for model development are not always complete or error free. In general, the RWMWD stormwater model was developed using a combination of survey information, as-built plans, LiDAR, and GIS information publicly accessible and/or provided by municipalities and other public agencies within the District. As additional information is collected or provided by the

municipalities and public agencies, the number of potential flood-prone structures may change and the potential system modifications necessary to mitigate flood risk may change accordingly.

3 Resiliency Study Phases

The Beltline resiliency study represents a nontraditional approach to optimizing a regional urban stormwater system. In general, the study is phased so that flood-prone areas in the upstream portion of the watershed were evaluated first, working downstream. In general, the study was phased so that flood-prone areas in the upstream portion of the watershed were addressed first, working downstream. This approach was followed to ensure that we were reasonably confident there are no adverse impacts (e.g., increased flood levels) downstream as a result of upstream system modifications and/or operations. The following sections describe the current flooding concerns, system modifications, and post-modification flood concerns for each of the five phases:

- Phase 1: Gervais Creek
- Phase 2: Grass Lake
- Phase 3: Kohlman Creek and Willow Creek
- Phase 4: Phalen Chain of Lakes
- Phase 5: Beaver Lake

3.1 Phase 1 – Gervais Creek

The Gervais Creek subwatershed is in Ramsey County. It is approximately 1,800 acres and includes portions of Vadnais Heights and Little Canada. There are several flood-prone areas within Gervais Creek, including North Star Estates, a manufactured housing development south of the Owasso Basin, where many homes are located within the 100-year floodplain.

3.1.1 Current Condition Flooding Concerns

There are 113 potentially flood-prone habitable structures within the Gervais Creek subwatershed. The 101 structures classified as “District” are near District-managed facilities, lakes, or creeks, or are in locations where addressing flooding may change downstream peak flow rates and water levels in multiple municipalities. Sixteen structures are classified as “Local,” which indicates that the structure is likely not adjacent to District-managed facilities, lakes, or creeks, and that flooding may be a result of the local storm drainage system. Potentially flood-prone structures within the Gervais Creek subwatershed are shown in Figure 3-1.

Most of the potentially flood-prone structures in the Gervais Creek subwatershed are in the North Star Estates development south of Owasso Basin. There are also four structures near Gervais Mill Pond.

There have been several reports of flooding within this subwatershed. More recently, two properties north of Owasso Basin (200 and 209 Ryan Drive) were flooded in 2011. During the same event, the water level in Owasso Basin extended into the North Star Estates development.

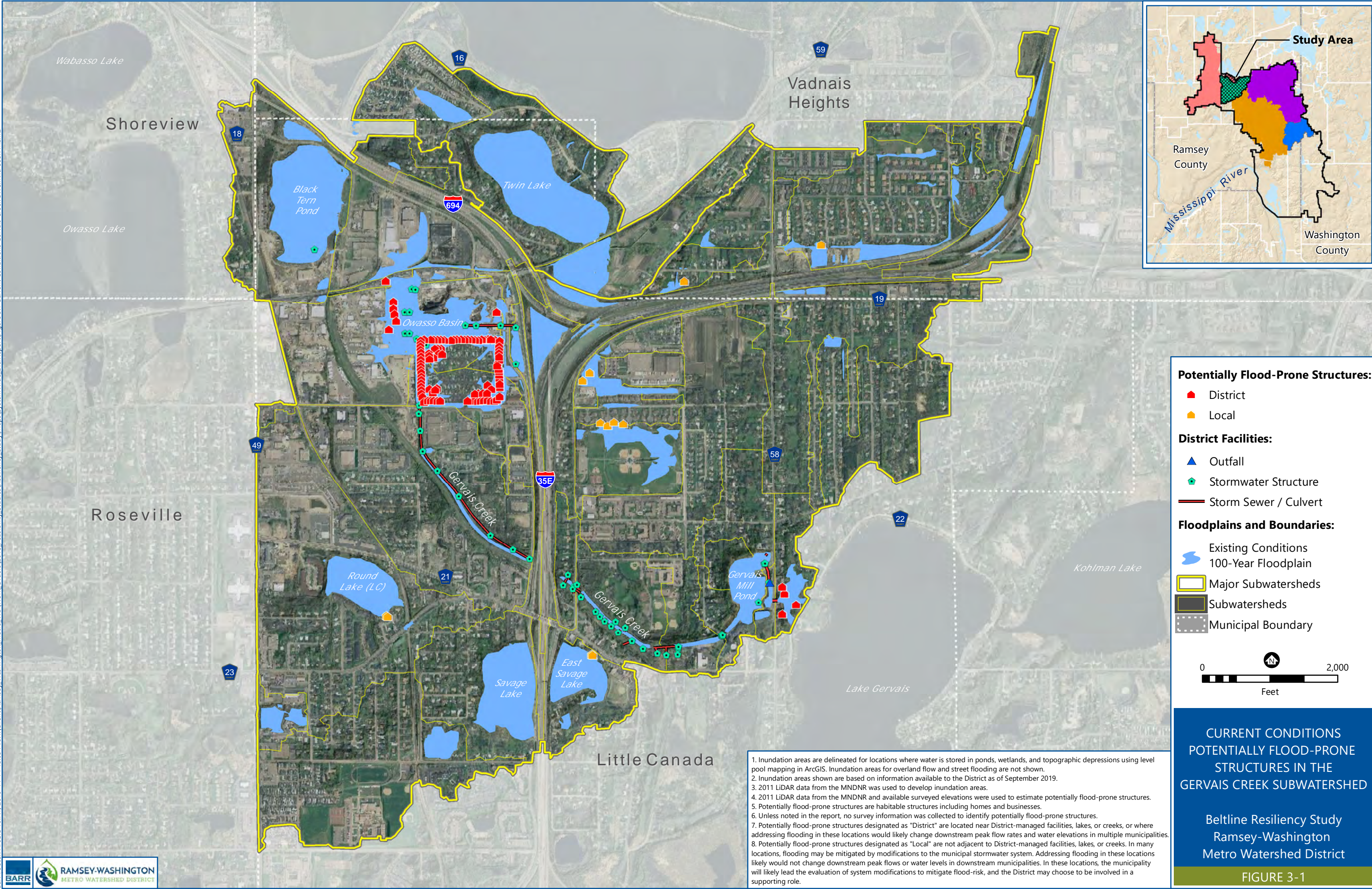
The District also has a long history of implementing flood-risk-reduction projects within the subwatershed. Previous District projects include construction of Owasso Basin in 1990, Gervais Mill Pond and County Ditch 16 improvements in 1992, South Gervais Area drainage improvements in 1999, Black Tern Pond outlet construction in 2002, and Owasso Basin performance improvement in 2005.

Table 3-1 lists the potentially flood-prone structures in the Gervais Creek subwatershed classified as "District." System modifications discussed in Section 3.1.2 were evaluated to remove structures listed in Table 3-1 from the floodplain.

Table 3-1 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Gervais Creek Subwatershed

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ² | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation |
|--------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 062922120005 | 3001 Country Dr, Little Canada 55117 ¹ | 872.1 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 062922210037 | 3164 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.7 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 062922210038 | 3168 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.6 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 062922210019 | 3101 Country Dr, Little Canada 55117 | 875.8 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 062922120003 | 3172 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.0 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 062922210018 | 3176 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.1 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 062922120004 | 196 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 875.3 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 313022340017 | 200 Ryan Dr, Little Canada 55117 | 876.8/76.6 | Survey ³ | 873.9 |
| 062922210017 | 193 Ryan Dr, Little Canada 55117 | 875.8 | LiDAR ⁴ | 875.9 |
| 052922430036 | 627 Keller Pkwy, Little Canada 55117 | 864.2 | LiDAR ⁴ | 864.4 |
| 052922430024 | 2746 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 862.6 | LiDAR ⁴ | 864.4 |
| 052922430025 | 2756 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 864.3 | LiDAR ⁴ | 864.4 |
| 052922430032 | 2718 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 864.3 | LiDAR ⁴ | 864.4 |

- (1) 3001 Country Dr, Little Canada 55117 is North Star Estates, which includes two adjacent parcels (123-062922120005 and 123-062922120004). There are 89 buildings which are individual mobile homes; the lowest adjacent grade listed is the lowest among all 89 buildings.
- (2) Limited survey is available in this area; therefore, LiDAR is the primary source for the lowest adjacent grade analysis. The mobile homes' building outline could change over the time; the estimated elevations listed are based on 2019's high-resolution aerial image provided by Near Map.
- (3) The original low adjacent grade was 873.7 feet (Reference [8]); this building was rebuilt in 2016 and the current low adjacent grade has been raised by 2.9 feet.
- (4) Reference [5]



3.1.2 Evaluation of Potential System Modifications

The District stormwater model was used to evaluate potential system modifications within the Gervais Creek subwatershed. The stormwater model was modified to evaluate the impact that potential system modifications would have on the 100-year floodplain. The goal for each system modification was to prevent the 100-year flood level from inundating habitable structures

Evaluation of potential system modifications did not include discussions with property owners, permitting agencies, or other stakeholders. Additional evaluation for system modifications, including detailed feasibility studies that further evaluate economic and social considerations, is necessary prior to modifying the drainage system.

Based on available topographic information (reference [5]), the lowest adjacent grade to the low home within the North Star Estates development was estimated to be 872.1 feet, and the low structure west of Owasso Basin was estimated to be 872.6 feet. The low structure in the industrial area north of Owasso Basin is 877.2 feet.

There are four single-family residential buildings potentially impacted by the 100-year flood level in the Gervais Mill Pond area. The lowest adjacent grade of these four homes is 862.6 feet, estimated from available topographic information (reference [5]).

Flood-risk mitigation near North Star Estates includes a combination of modifications near Owasso Basin and diversion of flow around Owasso Basin. System modifications near Owasso Basin are based on previous District feasibility studies that explored diverting flow from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) system around Owasso Basin (Reference [8]). System modifications near Gervais Mill Pond improve conveyance to Gervais Lake.

Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk in the Gervais Creek subwatershed are divided into four steps (step 1A through 1D) and are described in the following sections.

1A RYAN DRIVE AND NORTH STAR ESTATES

Potential system modifications near Owasso Basin and Ryan Drive are shown in Figure 3-2. Those possible system modifications would be intended to improve the conveyance capacity below Ryan Drive into Owasso Basin, improve the existing berm west of Owasso Basin, add a berm northwest of North Star Estates, and increase the outlet capacity from Owasso Basin. System modifications shown in Figure 3-2 include:

- Raising a portion of Ryan Drive to 877 feet.
- Increasing culvert capacity at Ryan Drive by adding a box culvert 6 feet high and 10 feet wide, or equivalent.
- Increasing the capacity of the weir south of Owasso Basin by expanding the weir length

- Increasing culvert capacity through the berm west of Owasso Basin by adding eight additional 36 inch or equivalent drainpipes.
- Constructing a berm along the northwestern corner of the mobile home development; the berm will be approximately 1500 feet, an increase of approximately 4 feet.
- Raising the berm west of Owasso Basin from 874 to 875 feet to prevent the existing berm from overtopping.
- Performing minor site grading at 3176 and 3164 Ryan Lane.

1B MNDOT DIVERSION

Potential system modifications east of Owasso Basin are shown in Figure 3-3. Possible modifications include diverting drainage from the MnDOT storm sewer system within the I-35E and I-694 interchange to the south. Modifications shown in Figure 3-3 include:

- Diverting MnDOT flow through an approximately 3,000-foot-long, 60-inch concrete culvert (or pipe with equivalent capacity) along I-35E. The potential diversion outlets in Gervais Creek downstream of the I-35E crossing.
- Blocking three existing 30-inch pipes conveying water from Larry Pond to Porky Pond.

1C WEST INDUSTRIAL DIVERSION

Potential system modifications west of Owasso Basin are shown in Figure 3-4. Possible modifications include diverting stormwater runoff from the industrial area south to the existing storm sewer along South Owasso Boulevard. Modifications shown in Figure 3-4 include:

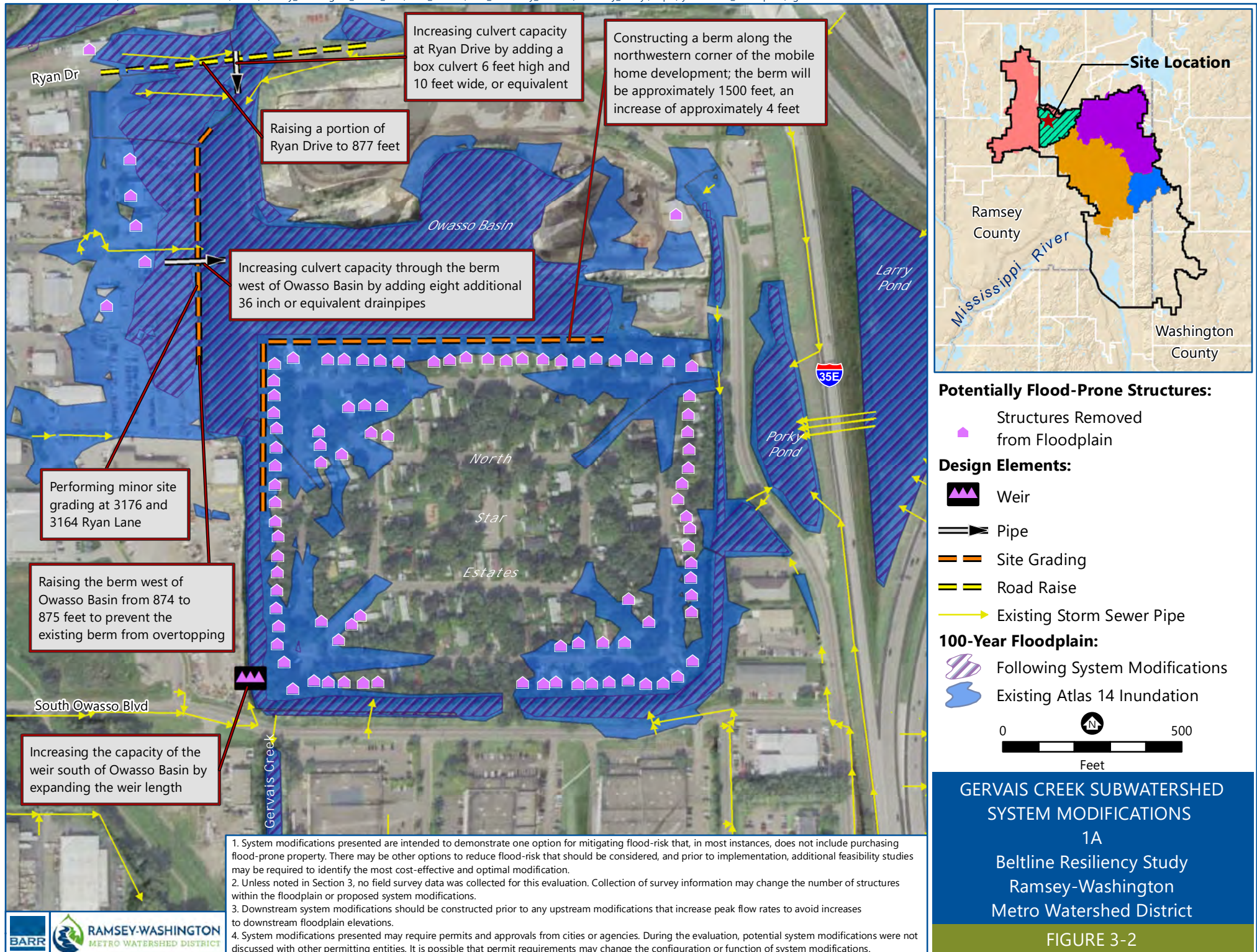
- Rerouting stormwater runoff from the area west of Owasso Basin to Gervais Creek, south of South Owasso Boulevard.
- Grading west of Spruce Street to divert stormwater runoff to the south; the berm is approximately 1,800 feet long and approximately 2.5-feet high.

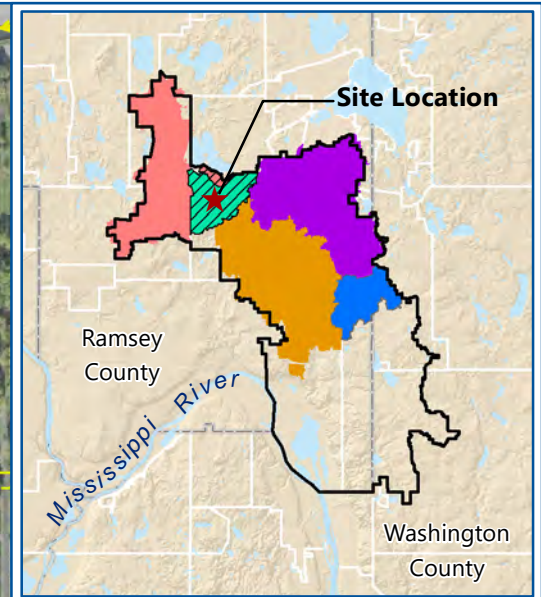
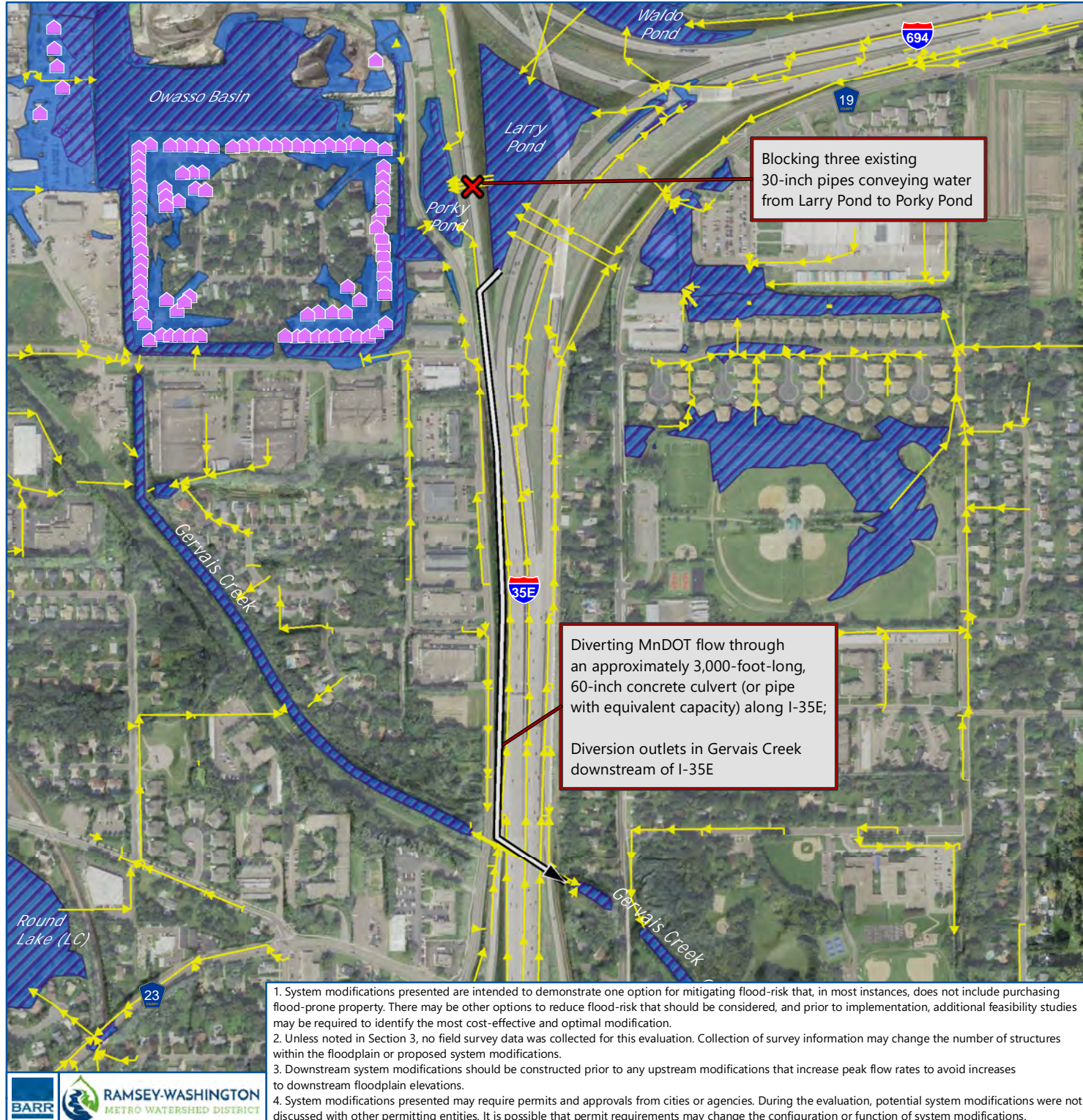
1D GERVAIS CREEK

Potential system modifications along Gervais Creek from South Owasso Boulevard to Gervais Lake are shown in Figure 3-5. Possible modifications include restoring the hydraulic capacity of Gervais Creek and increasing culvert capacity at five creek crossings. Gervais Creek has a nearly flat slope in this portion of the subwatershed, and improvements to conveyance capacity that lower the water surface profile along the creek also lower the Owasso Basin floodplain. Possible modifications shown in Figure 3-5 include:

- Restoring the hydraulic capacity of Gervais Creek between Owasso Boulevard and Gervais Mill Ponds through selective excavation of sediment deposits.

-
- Increasing culvert capacity along Gervais Creek at Highway I-35E by adding two additional 84-inch concrete pipes (or equivalent size) at the invert of the existing 84-inch pipe.
 - Increasing culvert capacity along Gervais Creek at the trail between Centerville Road and Noel Drive by adding two additional 84-inch concrete pipes or equivalent at the invert of the existing 84-inch pipe.
 - Increasing culvert capacity along Gervais Creek at Noel Drive by adding two 84-inch equivalent arch pipes or equivalent) at the same level as the invert of the existing pipe..
 - Increasing culvert capacity along Gervais Creek at Edgerton Street by adding two 84-inch equivalent arch pipes or equivalent at the same level as the invert of the existing pipe..
 - Increasing culvert capacity along Gervais Creek at Keller Parkway by adding two 120-inch equivalent arch pipes or equivalent at the same level as the invert of the existing pipe..





Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

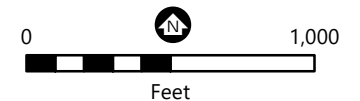
- Block / Restrict Outlet

- Pipe

- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

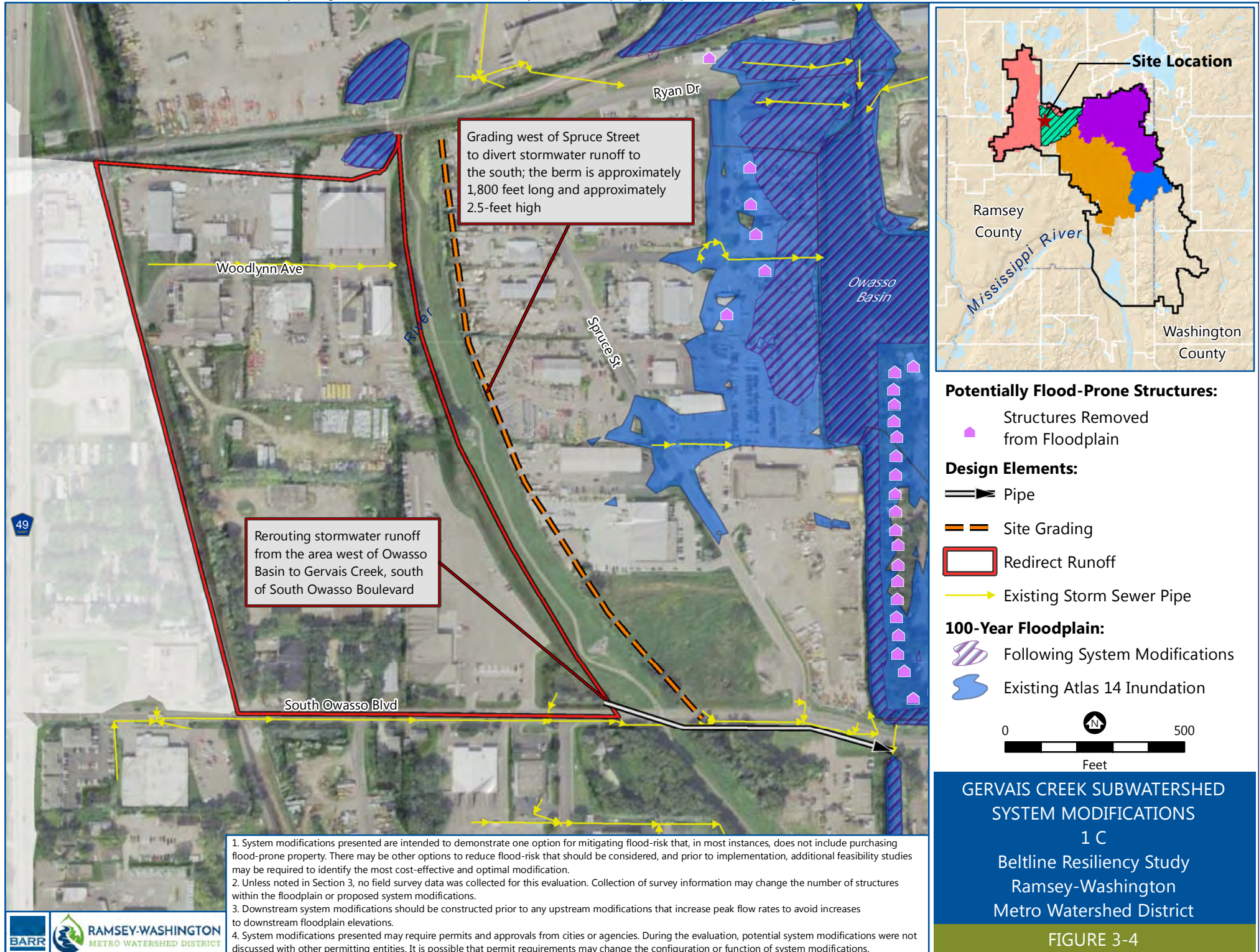


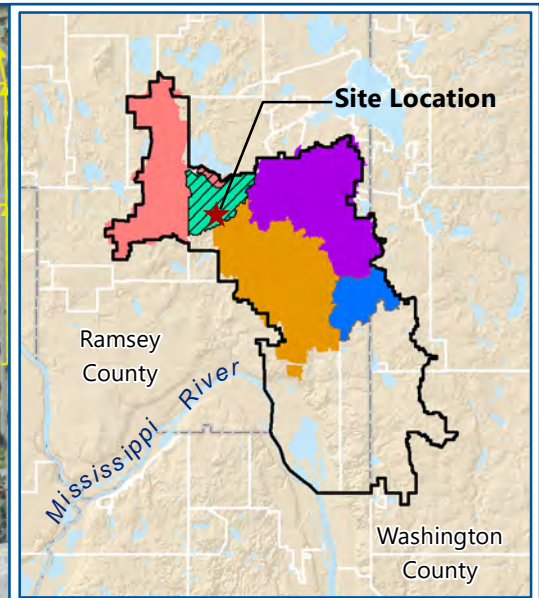
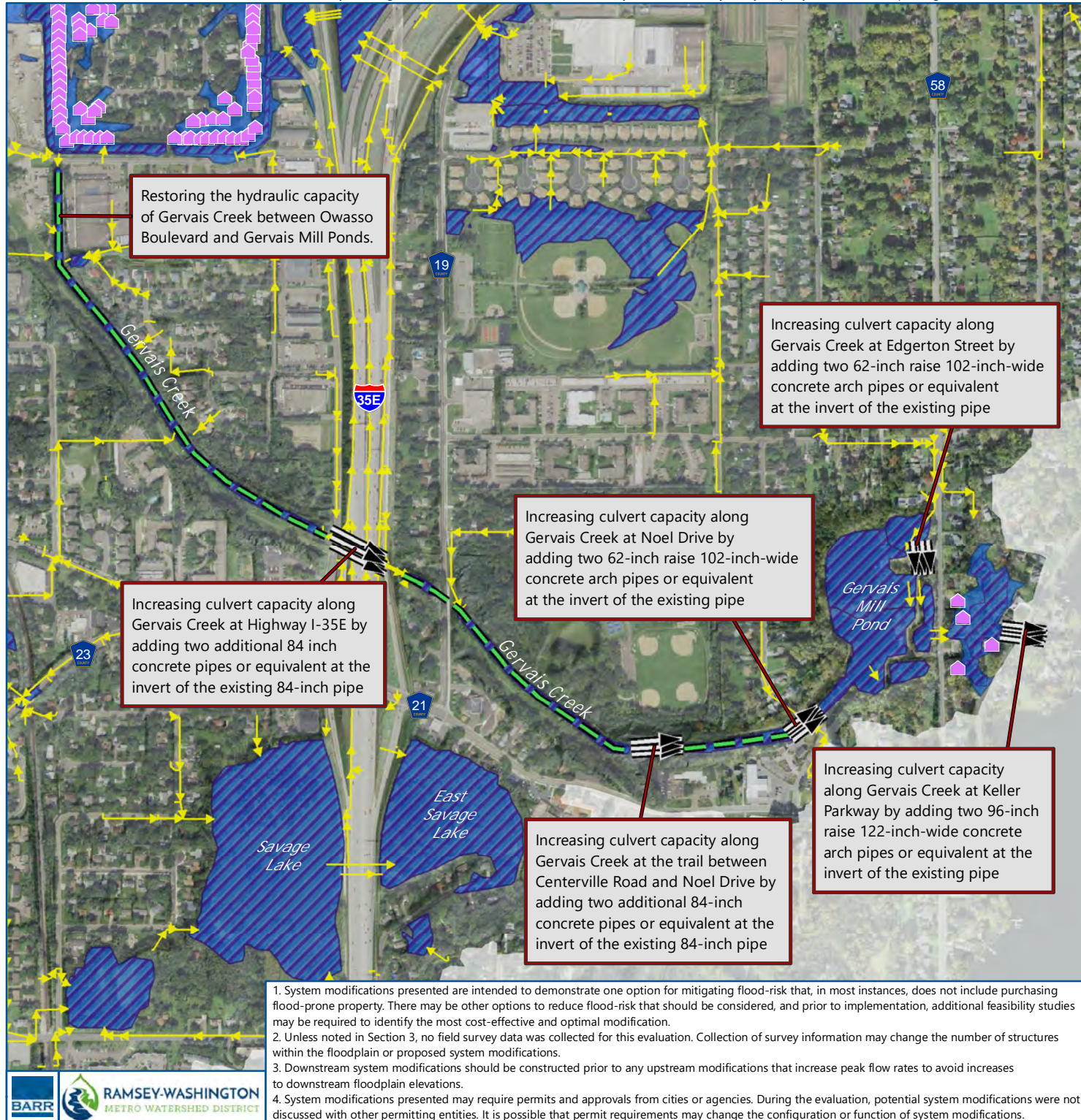
GERVAIS CREEK SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

1B

Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-3





Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

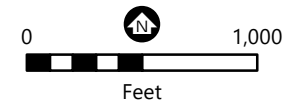
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Restore Ditch Capacity
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation



GERVAIS CREEK SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

1D

Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-5

3.1.3 Flooding Concerns following System Modifications

The potential system modifications result in lowering the 100-year floodplain below the low adjacent grade of habitable structures within the Gervais Creek subwatershed. The 100-year floodplain following system modifications is shown in Figure 3-6.

With these modifications, the 100-year water surface elevation in Owasso Basin could be reduced by 1.7 feet. The resulting floodplain would still extend into the North Star Estates development but would not reach existing habitable structures in that area. During the next phase of evaluation, additional information, including collection of survey information, would be required. Model simulations indicate that the 100-year water level in Gervais Lake would not increase as a result of the system modifications discussed in Section 3.1.2. The peak discharge from Gervais Creek reaches Gervais Lake before the peak water level in Gervais Lake occurs. The modifications evaluated, do not significantly change the timing of inflows to Gervais Lake, and as a result, the peak water level in Gervais Lake does not increase. If the configuration or function of system modifications change during subsequent phases of feasibility study or design, the impact to downstream water levels should be re-evaluated.

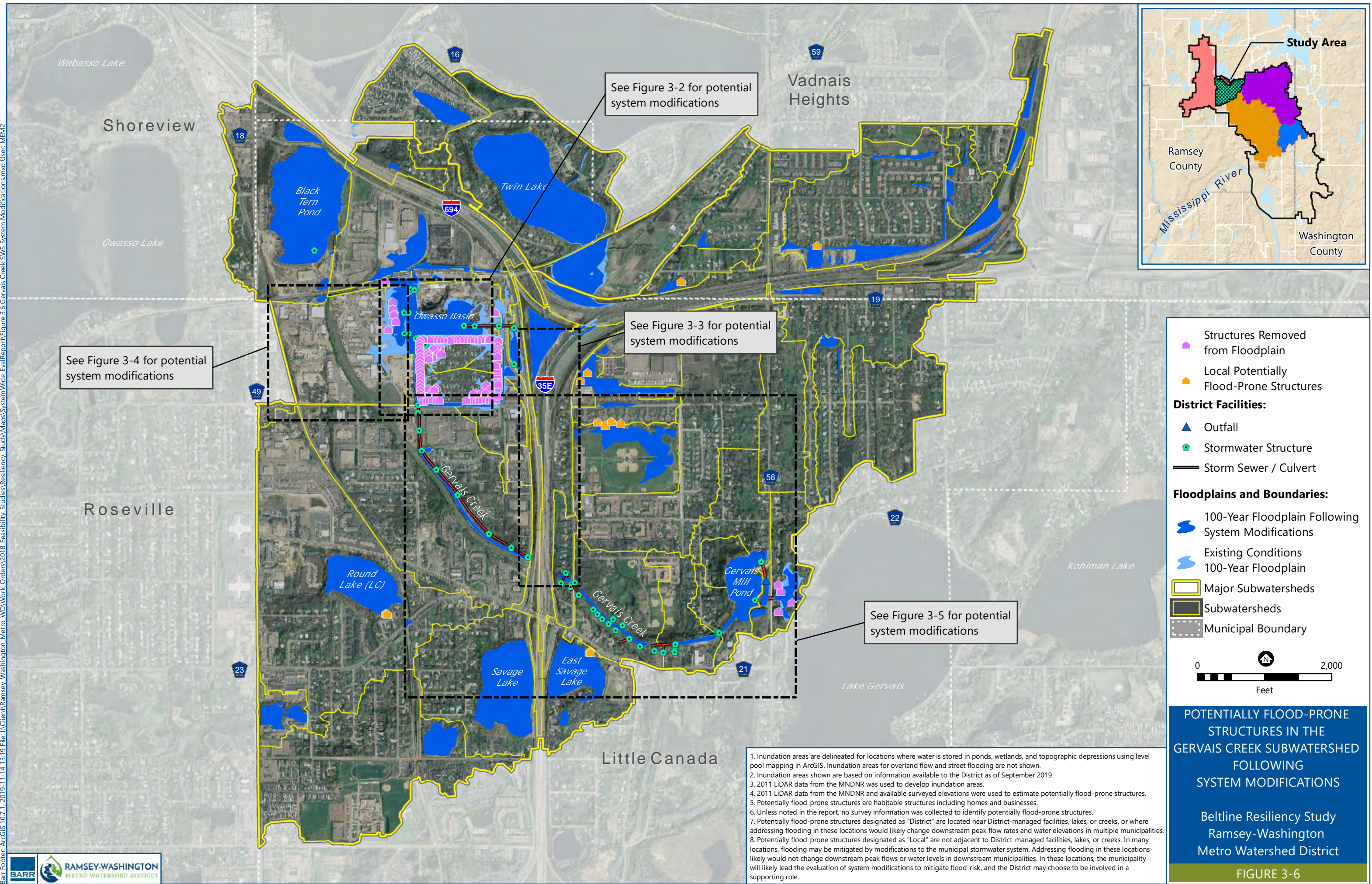
Table 3-2 lists the existing 100-year water surface elevation and the elevation following modifications to the drainage system.

Table 3-2 also includes planning-level considerations related to project sequencing to avoid increases to downstream water levels. Project sequencing refers to the order that system modifications should be constructed to prevent adverse downstream impacts. For this evaluation, sequencing does not refer to prioritization, which refers to which area should be addressed first. For example, improvements to the downstream portion of the system should be constructed prior to increasing the discharge conveyed from upstream areas. Prerequisite system modifications listed in Table 3-2 refer to modifications that should be constructed prior to the system modification to mitigate flood risk for each parcel. For example, the sizing of system modifications presented in step 1A (Figure 3-2) assumes that system modifications presented in steps 1B (Figure 3-3) and 1C (Figure 3-4), diverting stormwater around Owasso Basin, and step 1D (Figure 3-5), downstream improvements to Gervais Creek, have already been constructed. If these system modifications are not in place, then the sizing, function, or configuration of system modifications included in step 1A may change or impact downstream water levels. A planning-level schematic for sequencing of potential system modifications is included in Appendix A.

Table 3-2 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Gervais Creek Subwatershed

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ² | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation | 100-Year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|--------------|---|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 062922120005 | 3001 Country Dr, Little Canada 55117 ¹ | 872.1 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922210037 | 3164 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.7 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922210038 | 3168 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.6 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922210019 | 3101 Country Dr, Little Canada 55117 | 875.8 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922120003 | 3172 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.0 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922210018 | 3176 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 874.1 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922120004 | 196 Ryan Ln, Little Canada 55117 | 875.3 | 875.9 | 873.9 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 313022340017 | 200 Ryan Dr, Little Canada 55117 | 873.7 | 873.9 | 876.6 ³ | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 062922210017 | 193 Ryan Dr, Little Canada 55117 | 875.8 | 875.9 | 875.7 | 1A | 1B, 1C, 1D |
| 052922430036 | 627 Keller Pkwy, Little Canada 55117 | 864.2 | 864.4 | 862.5 | 1D | N/A |
| 052922430024 | 2746 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 862.6 | 864.4 | 862.5 | 1D | N/A |
| 052922430025 | 2756 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 864.3 | 864.4 | 862.5 | 1D | N/A |
| 052922430032 | 2718 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 864.3 | 864.4 | 862.5 | 1D | N/A |

- (1) 3001 Country Dr., Little Canada 55117 is North Star Estates, which includes 89 individual mobile homes. Seventy-five of these have a low adjacent grade above 873.9 feet; 14 of them are lower but will be protected by the site grading.
- (2) Limited survey is available in this area; therefore, LiDAR is the primary source for the lowest adjacent grade analysis. The building outline for the mobile homes could change over the time. The estimated elevations are based on 2019 aerial imagery provided by Microsoft.
- (3) The lowest adjacent grade for 200 Ryan Drive was surveyed in 2012 (Reference [8]). The building was rebuilt in 2016, and the new lowest adjacent grade was raised by 2.9 feet to 876.6 feet.



3.2 Phase 2 – Grass Lake

The Grass Lake subwatershed is approximately 5,688 acres and includes portions of Shoreview and Roseville. There are four structures on Lake Owasso within the 100-year floodplain. However, since there are limited options to store flood water within the Lake Owasso subwatershed, potential watershed system modifications focus on evaluating potential changes to outlet control structures. However, immediately downstream of the Grass Lake subwatershed is the Gervais Creek system. And, as mentioned earlier, there are several flood-prone areas within the Gervais Creek subwatershed, including North Star Estates, a manufactured housing development south of Owasso Basin where many homes are located within the 100-year floodplain. Currently, a peak flow of approximately 4 cubic feet per second flows from the Grass Lake subwatershed to the Gervais Creek system. Increasing this flow rate, without other system modifications, results in increases to downstream water levels.

3.2.1 Current Condition Flooding Concerns

There are 201 potentially flood-prone habitable structures within the drainage area tributary to Grass Lake, Snail Lake, Wetland "A" and Twin Lake, as shown in Figure 3-8. There are 10 structures upstream of Grass Lake that are classified as "District," which indicates that they are near District-managed facilities, lakes, or creeks, or located where system modifications may change downstream peak flow rates and water levels in multiple municipalities. The remaining structures within the subwatershed are classified as "Local."

There are six potentially flood-prone, habitable structures classified as "District" near Victoria Street North and four structures on the eastern shore of Lake Owasso. The lowest home in this watershed, 313 S. Owasso Boulevard, is located on Lake Owasso and has a low adjacent grade elevation of 888.5 feet. Figure 3-7 shows this home and illustrates how the low adjacent grade was estimated when survey information was available. The current 100-year water level on Lake Owasso is 889.3, meaning the lowest home is approximately 0.8 ft below the floodplain.

In 2017, the District staff began coordination with municipalities to develop an Emergency Response Plan for Lake Owasso. The Emergency Response Plan (Reference [9]) includes contact information for local officials, temporary sandbag embankment alignments and details, and information regarding the 100-year floodplain. The Emergency Response Plan was developed to provide information to help the City respond to high water levels in Lake Owasso.

There are several homes within the subwatersheds with basements. For these structures, the elevation of the low adjacent grade was used to evaluate system modifications to mitigate flood risk. In other words, system modifications were evaluated to remove the ground adjacent to the structure from the floodplain; system modifications to lower the floodplain below a basement elevation were not considered.

There are several auxiliary structures such as sheds and garages that are also below the 100-year floodplain. As discussed in Section 2.1, potential system modifications to remove these structures from the floodplain were not considered as part of the evaluation.



Figure 3-7 Low Adjacent Grade for 313 S. Owasso Boulevard

Table 3-3 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Grass Lake Subwatershed

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 112923120009 | 2581 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 891.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 892.3 |
| 112923120036 | 2575 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 890.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 892.3 |
| 112923120037 | 2569 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 890.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 892.3 |
| 112923120038 | 2561 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 890.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 892.3 |
| 112923120080 | 778 Oakcrest Ave, Roseville 55113 | 891.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 892.3 |
| 112923120079 | 768 Oakcrest Ave, Roseville 55113 | 891.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 892.3 |
| 012923120001 | 313 S Owasso Blvd W, Roseville 55113 | 888.5 | Barr 2017 Survey ² | 889.3 |
| 012923120006 | 341 South Owasso Blvd, Roseville 55113 | 888.7 | Barr 2017 Survey ² | 889.3 |
| 012923120002 | 317 South Owasso Blvd, Roseville 55113 | 888.9 | Barr 2017 Survey ² | 889.3 |
| 012923220006 | 3115 Sandy Hook Dr, Roseville 55113 | 889.0 | Barr 2017 Survey ² | 889.3 |

(1) Reference [5]

(2) Reference [9]

Since 2016, there has been significant concern about flooding in other areas near Grass Lake as well. These areas have been a focus of many studies and discussions by RWMWD staff. Some of these areas

may benefit from the potential system modifications evaluated, even though the modifications themselves are focused on mitigating flood-risk for low homes within the floodplain surrounding, and just upstream of Lake Owasso.

SUZANNE POND

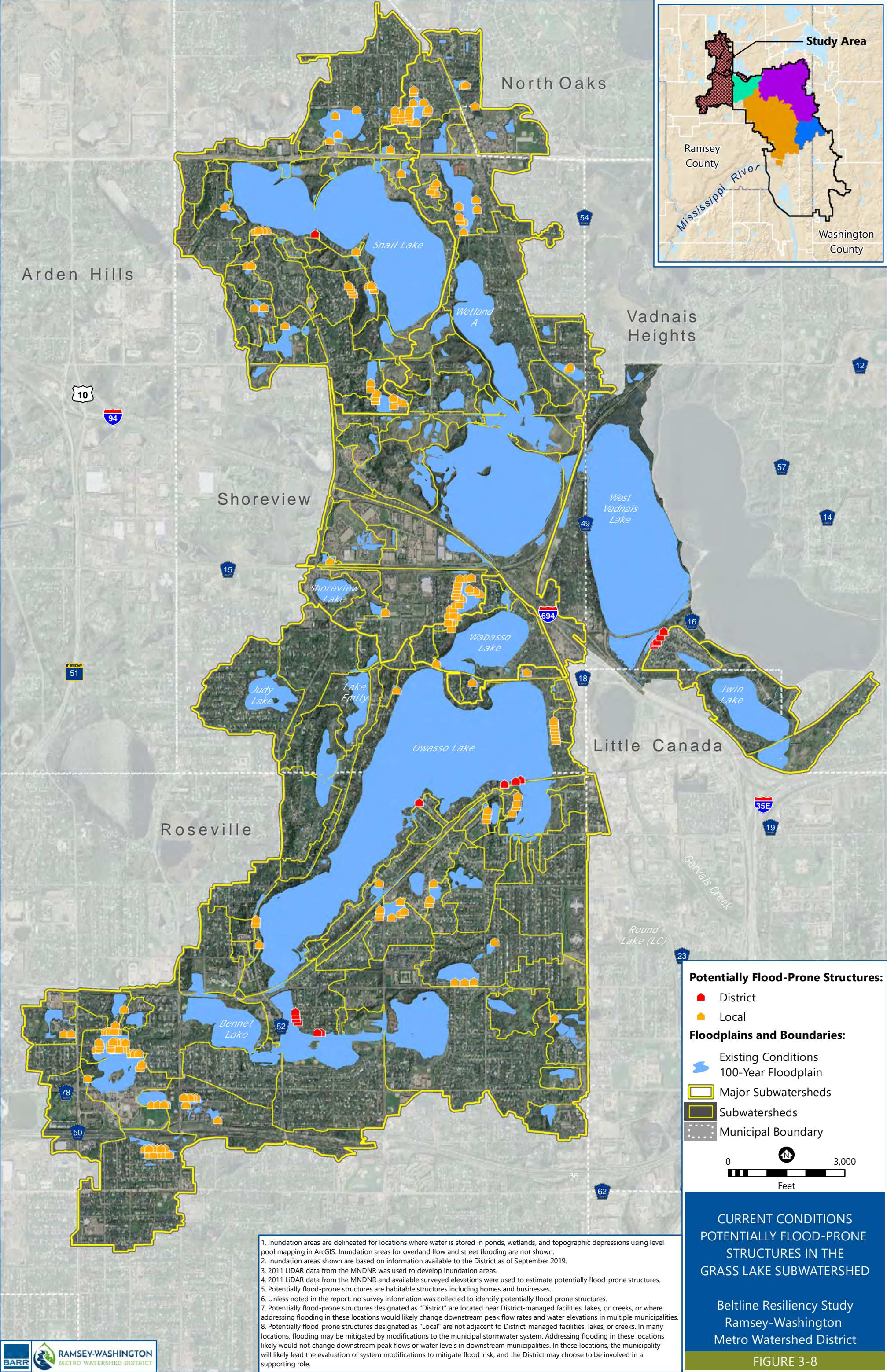
The water level in Suzanne Pond is controlled by a lift station that is operated and maintained by the City of Shoreview. Based on available information, the 100-year floodplain does not inundate low homes adjacent to Suzanne Pond. The most effective flood management strategy in this area is the maintenance of the City lift station and the reinforcement and raising of berms surrounding the pond, both of which are currently being implemented by the City of Shoreview. The City of Shoreview improvements include pump and control replacements, reconfigured inlets and outlets, and the ability to accommodate the drainage from a segment of Gramsie Road (via North Gramsie Pond) to reduce the likelihood of nuisance flooding from smaller rain events. The City of Shoreview is also raising a segment of Gramsie Road to increase the level of protection for the Crestview Neighborhood in the event that Grass Lake overtops. Without the City lift station, the homes surrounding Suzanne Pond would be at risk of flooding during the 100-year storm event.

SNAIL LAKE

The low home on Snail Lake 4380 Reiland Ln (elevation 886.0) lies below the overflow elevation of the lake (which is at 887.9). This home has been recently abandoned (due to vacancy- not due to flood damage) and is up for resale. District staff have been in communication with the property owner and even a prospective buyer of the property, explaining the risk of flooding to the home. Recent water levels in Snail Lake have nearly approached the home's low entry elevation (886.0). Other District studies have looked at several alternatives for mitigating flood-risk for structures on Snail Lake, however, the most viable option (implementing an outlet that connects Snail to Grass Lake) relies on the management of downstream flood levels in Grass Lake, and even then, would have to be shut off during flood events until water can gravity flow from Snail Lake to Grass Lake (and not in the opposite direction). At present, the most effective flood management strategy in this area is flood proofing the low home (dependent on coordination with the current property owners) and informing the current (already done) and prospective future buyers (already done once) about the flood risk on the property.

VADNAIS-SNAIL LAKE REGIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Since 2016, trails in this park have been inundated and are inaccessible to park patrons. While not a focus of this Beltline Resiliency Study (the focus is protection of habitable structures) some of the options discussed here may provide some flood relief in this area.



3.2.2 Evaluation of Potential System Modifications

As described in Section 3.1.2, the District stormwater model was used to evaluate potential system modifications within the Grass Lake subwatershed. The stormwater model was modified to evaluate the impact that potential system modifications would have on the 100-year floodplain. The goal for each system modification was to lower the 100-year flood level below habitable structures.

Evaluation of potential system modifications did not include discussions with property owners, permitting agencies, or other stakeholders. Additional evaluation for system modifications, including detailed feasibility studies that further evaluate economic and social considerations, is necessary prior to modifying the drainage system.

Based on available topographic information (Reference [5]), the lowest adjacent grade to the low home on Lake Owasso is 888.5 feet; the low structure upstream of Victoria Street is 890.2 feet. Flooding within these areas is primarily a result of runoff volume. In other words, flooding typically occurs as a result of longer rainfall events with higher rainfall depths and not for short, intense rainfall events. Since there are no significant locations where large retention projects could be considered, system modifications considered were generally limited changes to outlet control structures and conveyance systems.

Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk in the Grass Lake subwatershed are divided into three steps (step 2A through 2CD) and are described in the following sections.

2A VICTORIA STREET

Potential system modifications near Victoria Street are shown in Figure 3-9. Possible system modifications include improving conveyance between the wetland and Lake Owasso with culvert improvements at County Road C and the railroad. Potential system modifications shown in Figure 3-9 include:

- An additional 48-inch equivalent arch pipe or culvert with equivalent capacity at the same invert of existing arch pipes to route water from this area more quickly into Lake Owasso.

2B LAKE OWASSO

Potential system modifications to the Lake Owasso outlet are shown in Figure 3-10. System modifications include increasing the outlet capacity of Lake Owasso without changing the outlet elevation of the lake. System modifications shown in Figure 3-10 include:

- Three additional 42-inch equivalent arch pipes or pipes with an equivalent capacity.

2C WABASSO, GRASS LAKE AND WEST VADNAIS LAKE

Potential system modifications downstream of Lake Owasso are shown in Figure 3-11 and Figure 3-12. Possible system modifications include increasing the outlet capacity of Lake Wabasso, Grass Lake, and West Vadnais Lake without changing the outlet elevations of each lake. Capacity modifications to all of these outlet control structures would be necessary to mitigate impacts to the 100-year water levels in

each of the lakes. The outlet from West Vadnais Lake, sized to prevent an increase in the 100-year water surface elevation, is assumed to connect to the MnDOT diversion discussed in Section 3.1.2. Other necessary modifications near the lake include improvements that would create a more stable, engineered berm (the current feature is an overgrown earthen embankment and not an engineered flood-risk mitigation feature) along the southeast side, just upstream of Five Star Estates. With this improvement and other modifications within the watershed a smaller outlet may be possible; a detailed feasibility study would be required to optimize the outlet configuration.

In addition, the District is evaluating modifications to the West Vadnais Lake outlet that would lower the invert of the existing 15-inch outlet by approximately 0.8-feet. If the outlet of West Vadnais Lake is lowered, further evaluation of potential system modifications described below would be required, as a smaller outlet from West Vadnais maybe possible. Potential system modifications shown in Figure 3-11 and Figure 3-12 include the following:

LAKE WABASSO

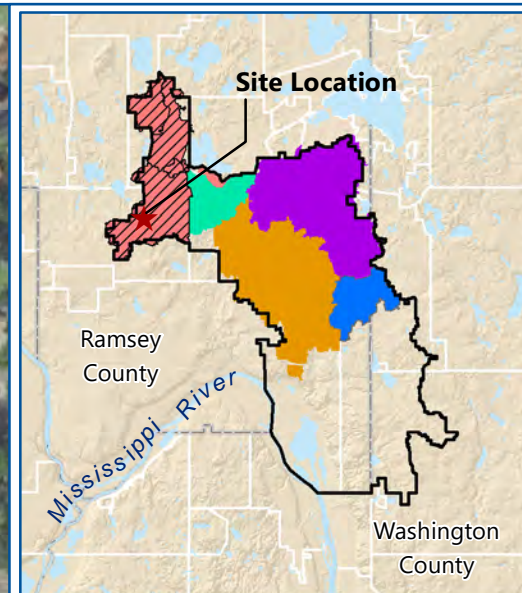
- Evaluate an increased weir length to a total of 20 feet for both weirs and maintain the existing natural channel (Figure 3-11).
- Evaluate adding three 54-inch equivalent arch pipes or pipes with equivalent capacity (Figure 3-11).
- Maintain and cleanout natural channels (Figure 3-11).

GRASS LAKE

- Evaluate adding two 30-inch equivalent arch pipes or pipes with equivalent capacity (Figure 3-11).
- Evaluate adding 60-inch equivalent arch pipe or pipes with equivalent capacity below railroad (Figure 3-11).
- Evaluate adding 36-inch-diameter outlet or pipes with equivalent capacity at existing Rice Street outlet elevation (Figure 3-11).

WEST VADNAIS LAKE

- Evaluate adding three 60-inch equivalent arch pipes or pipes with equivalent capacity through Vadnais Boulevard (Figure 3-12).
- Evaluating adding two 48-inch equivalent arch pipes or pipes with equivalent capacity for West Vadnais outlet (Figure 3-12).
- Construct an engineered berm along the southeast side of the lake upstream of Five Star Estates and Twin Lake (Figure 3-12).



Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

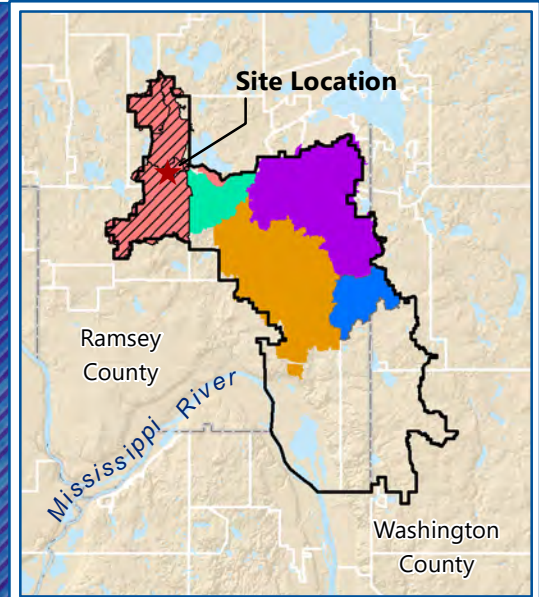


GRASS LAKE SUBWATERSHED
SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

2A

Beltline Resiliency Study
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Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-9



Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

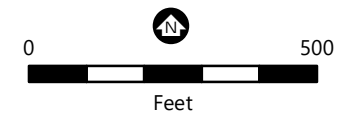
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

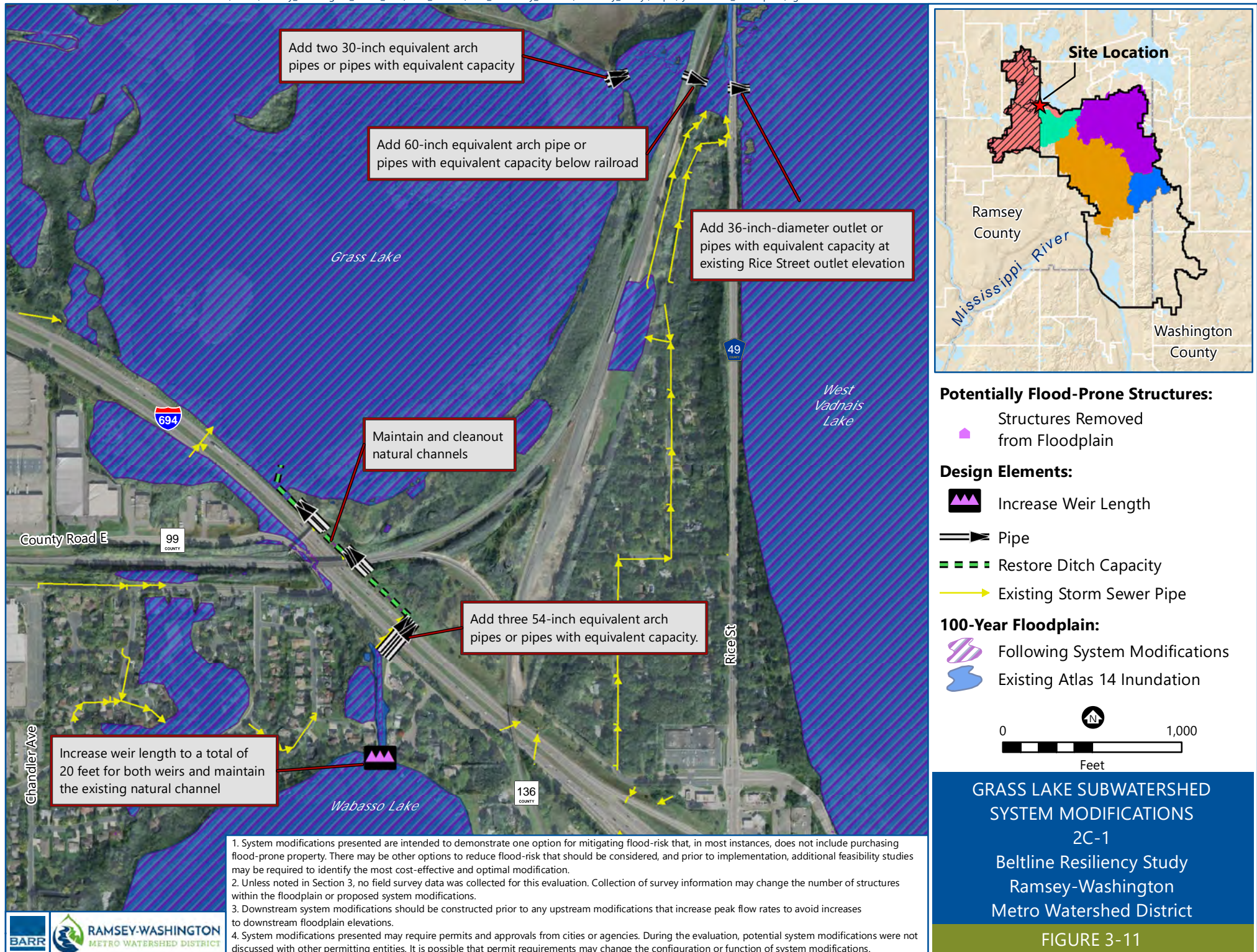


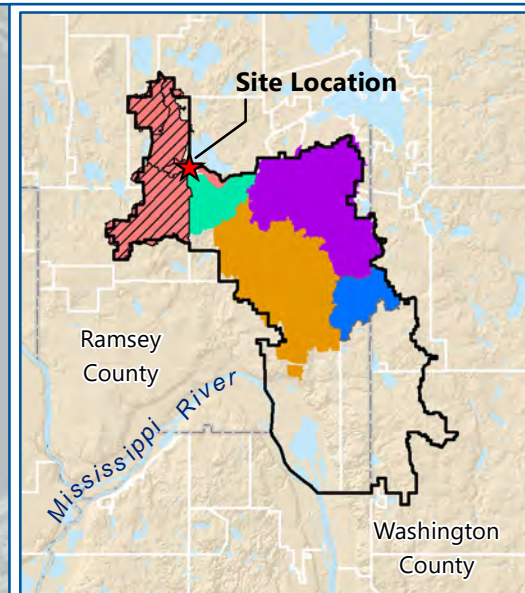
GRASS LAKE SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

2B

Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-10





Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

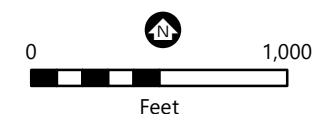
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Increase Weir Length
- Pipe
- Site Grading
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation



GRASS LAKE SUBWATERSHED
SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS
2C-2
Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-12

3.2.3 Flooding Concerns following System Modifications

The potential system modifications result in lowering the 100-year floodplain below the low adjacent grade of habitable structures within the Grass Lake subwatershed. The 100-year floodplain following system modifications is shown in Figure 3-13.

The potential system modifications evaluated include changes to the Lake Wabasso, Grass Lake, and West Vadnais Lake outlets. Outlet modifications for these lakes were evaluated to prevent increases to the 100-year floodplain. Modifications were not evaluated to lower the floodplain in these areas where there have been no habitable structures identified below the 100-year floodplain.

Table 3-3 lists the existing 100-year water surface elevation and the elevation following modifications to the drainage system.

Table 3-3 also includes planning-level considerations related to project sequencing to avoid increases to downstream water levels. Project sequencing refers to the order that system modifications should be constructed to prevent adverse downstream impacts. For this evaluation, sequencing does not refer to prioritization, which refers to which area should be addressed first. For example, improvements to the downstream portion of the system should be constructed prior to increasing the discharge conveyed from upstream areas. Prerequisite system modifications listed in Table 3-2 refer to modifications that should be constructed prior to the system modification to mitigate flood risk for each parcel. System modifications in the Grass Lake subwatershed assume that system modifications in the Gervais Creek subwatershed (Section 3.1) and modification of the Keller Creek and Lake Phalen control structures (Section 3.4) have already been constructed. If these system modifications are not in place, then the sizing, function, or configuration of system modifications presented may change or impact downstream water levels. A planning-level schematic for sequencing of potential system modifications is included in Appendix A.

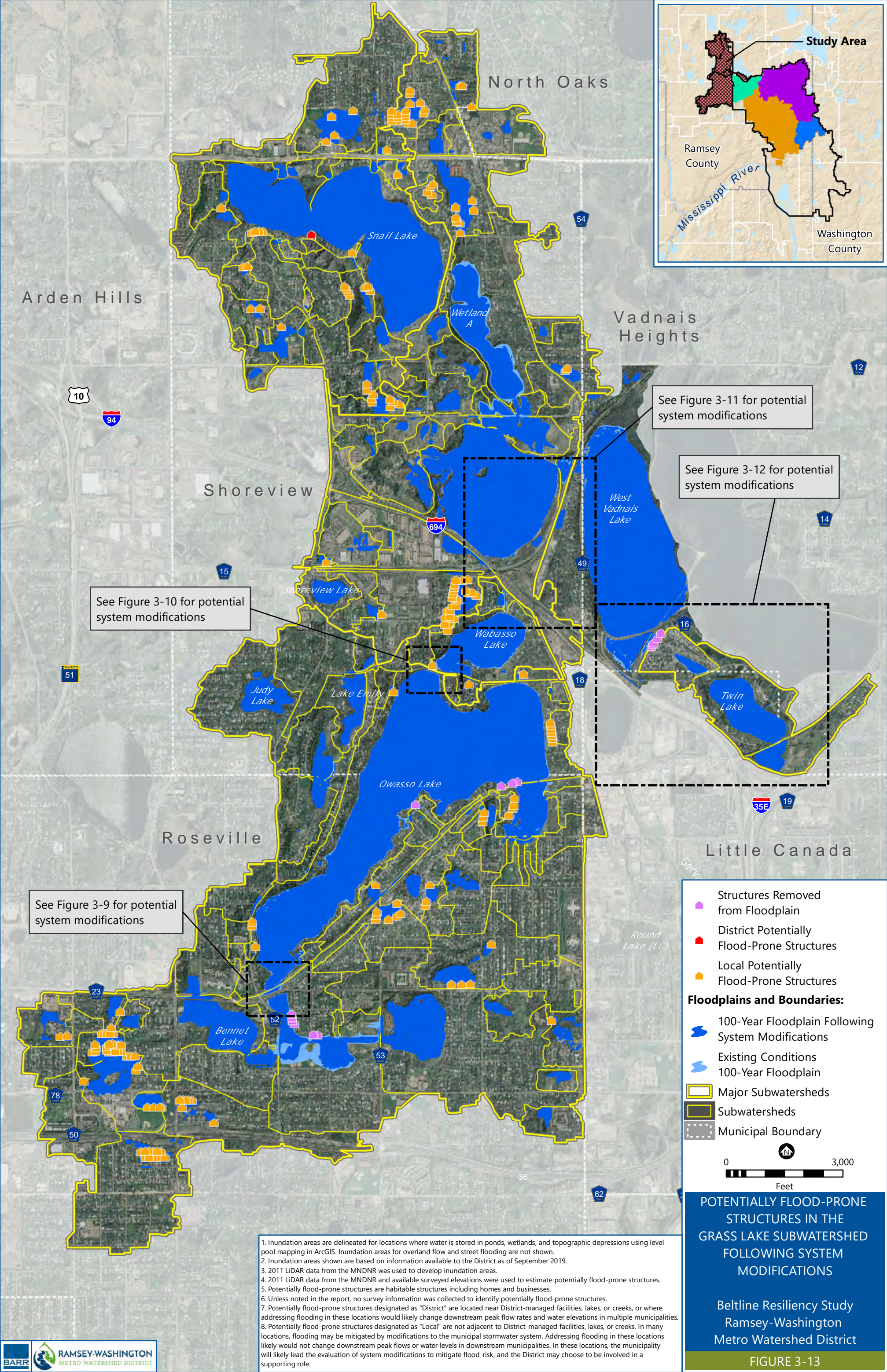
Table 3-4 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Grass Lake Subwatershed

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-year Water Surface Elevation | 100-year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications ³ |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|---|---|--|--|
| 112923120009 | 2581 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 891.34 ¹ | 892.3 | 890.0 | 2A | 2B, 2C |
| 112923120036 | 2575 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 890.5 ¹ | 892.3 | 890.0 | 2A | 2B, 2C |
| 112923120037 | 2569 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 890.2 ¹ | 892.3 | 890.0 | 2A | 2B, 2C |
| 112923120038 | 2561 Fisk St, Roseville 55113 | 890.7 ¹ | 892.3 | 890.0 | 2A | 2B, 2C |
| 112923120080 | 778 Oakcrest Ave, Roseville 55113 | 891.5 ¹ | 892.3 | 890.0 | 2A | 2B, 2C |
| 112923120079 | 768 Oakcrest Ave, Roseville 55113 | 891.5 ¹ | 892.3 | 890.0 | 2A | 2B, 2C |
| 012923120001 | 313 S Owasso Blvd W, Roseville 55113 | 888.5 ² | 889.3 | 888.5 | 2B | 2C |
| 012923120006 | 341 South Owasso Blvd, Roseville 55113 | 888.7 ² | 889.3 | 888.5 | 2B | 2C |
| 012923120002 | 317 South Owasso Blvd, Roseville 55113 | 888.9 ² | 889.3 | 888.5 | 2B | 2C |
| 012923220006 | 3115 Sandy Hook Dr, Roseville 55113 | 889.0 ² | 889.3 | 888.5 | 2B | 2C |

(1) Reference [5]

(2) Reference [9]

(3) See Appendix A for planning-level sequencing schematic. Grass Lake system modifications assume that system modifications described in Phase 1 – Gervais Creek, and Phase 4 – Phalen Chain of Lakes related to the Keller Creek and Lake Phalen control structures have been constructed.



3.2.4 Alternative Evaluations

During the evaluation, two additional alternatives were evaluated to mitigate flood risk upstream of West Vadnais Lake. The first consisted of constructing a new outlet from Lake Owasso to convey stormwater to the east, (bypassing Lake Wabasso, Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake) and the second was a seasonal drawdown of West Vadnais Lake. Each alternative is described in the following sections.

3.2.4.1 Lake Owasso Outlet

The first alternative evaluated is a second outlet from Lake Owasso. During discussions with the Board and residents, this alternative has been referred to by RWMWD staff and managers as the “Lake Owasso Shunt”. The alternative consists of constructing a second outlet on the east side of Lake Owasso that discharges to the east, connecting to either Black Tern Pond and then Owasso Basin, or directly to Gervais Creek downstream of Owasso Basin. Schematics for the Lake Owasso outlet configurations are shown in Figure 3-14.

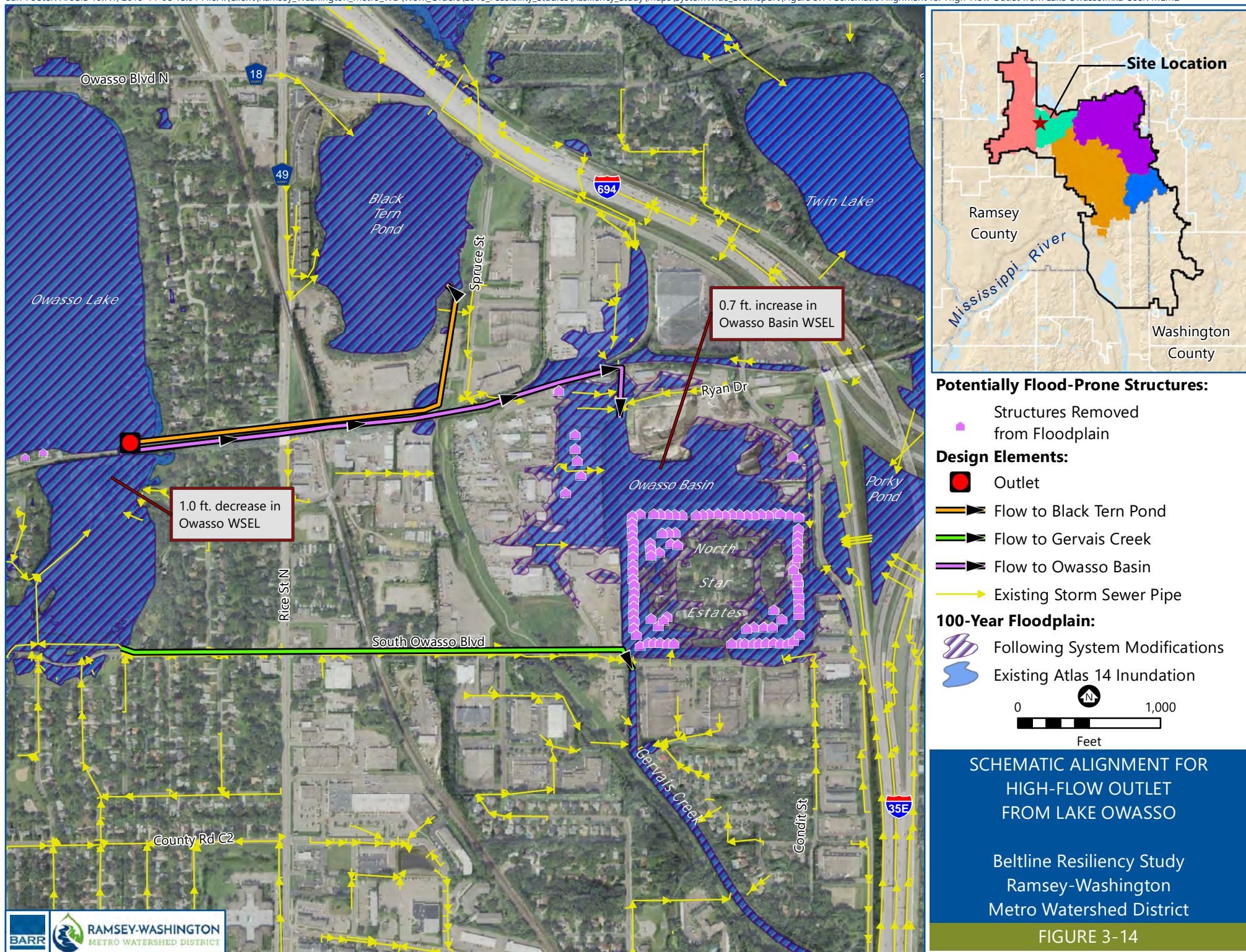
The evaluation of the second outlet from Lake Owasso showed that it was not as effective at reducing flood risk for habitable structures on Lake Owasso or for lowering the water levels in West Vadnais Lake as system modifications included in Step 2C.

To reduce the floodplain in Lake Owasso and mitigate flood risk for existing habitable structures a large volume of stormwater needs to be conveyed to the Gervais Creek system. The Gervais Creek system is currently undersized and does not have capacity to safely convey additional flow downstream. System modifications for the Gervais Creek system, discussed in Section 3.1.2, would divert stormwater around Owasso Basin and lower the 100-year water level, but would not provide freeboard for the low homes. A new outlet from Lake Owasso would increase the stormwater that is conveyed to (or near) Owasso Basin. Additional system modifications in the Gervais Creek subwatershed could be evaluated, but the flat slope of Gervais Creek will likely limit the effectiveness of improvements to add conveyance capacity.

In addition, a second outlet from Lake Owasso increases the rate at which flow reaches Gervais Creek. In other words, flow would reach Gervais Creek faster, because water is not routed through Lake Wabasso, Grass Lake, and West Vadnais Lake. The increase in flow rate results in increases to the 100-year water levels along Gervais Creek and the Phalen Chain of Lakes, even if the outlet structures on the Phalen Chain are actively managed during a flood event.

To mitigate flood risk to habitable structures on Lake Owasso, flow would only be diverted during periods when water levels on Lake Owasso are high. This would have limited effect on recent high water levels in Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake. This is because high water-levels on Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake are generally volume driven. In other words, long wet periods of steady rainfall can result in high water levels in Grass Lake and West Vadnais. Typically, these types of rainfall events do not pose a flood risk for homes on Lake Owasso. Flood risk for Lake Owasso is more likely a result of rainfall events with higher intensity, which don’t necessarily result in higher water levels in Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake. By comparison, the system modifications presented in Section 3.2.2 mitigate flood risk for habitable

structures on Lake Owasso and address recent prolonged periods of high water levels in Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake.



3.2.4.2 Seasonal Drawdown for West Vadnais Lake

The effect of a potential seasonal (late fall through winter) drawdown of West Vadnais Lake was evaluated. A seasonal drawdown could lower water levels below Rice Street temporarily. However, a seasonal drawdown does not mitigate flood risk for habitable structures below the 100-year floodplain.

The effect of a seasonal drawdown was evaluated by using the District stormwater model. The past four years of rainfall were simulated to develop a time series of water levels for West Vadnais Lake. The seasonal operation assumed that West Vadnais Lake would be drawn down during the late fall when water elevations in the Phalen Chain of Lakes are typically low. This operational plan was selected to avoid increases to water levels during the spring and summer months when flooding typically occurs. It was assumed that West Vadnais Lake could be drawn down to elevation 881.0 as shown in Figure 3-15.

The seasonal drawdown simulations indicate that water levels could be lowered during the fall and winter months without significant increases in flood risk downstream. Based on recent rainfall patterns, seasonal drawdown may not result in a significant reduction to the peak water level in West Vadnais Lake, but would reduce the duration high water levels. If a seasonal drawdown is pursued, additional design and analysis of the outlet configuration and operation would be required.

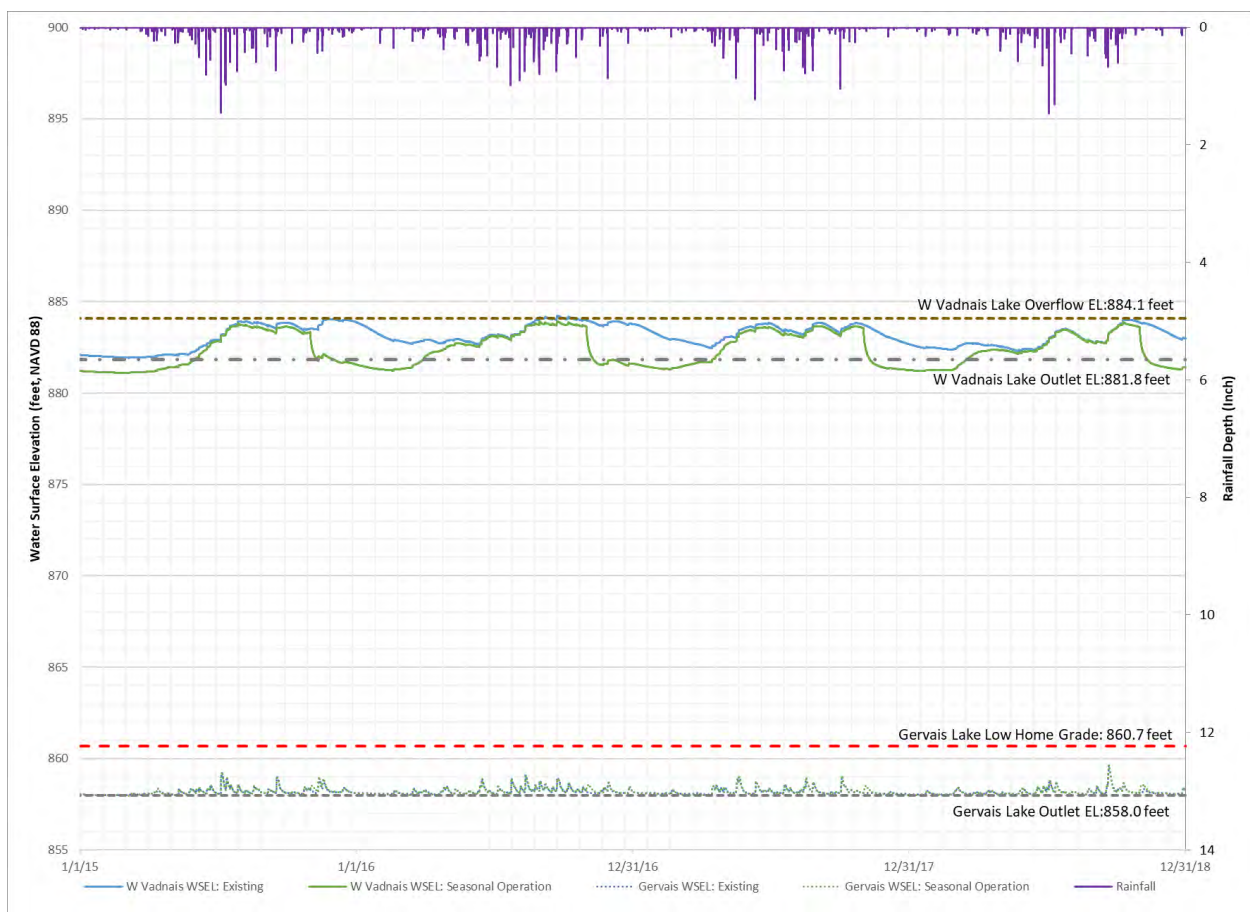


Figure 3-15 West Vadnais Lake and Gervais Lake Water Levels following Seasonal Drawdown

3.3 Phase 3 – Kohlman Creek and Willow Creek

The Willow Creek subwatershed is approximately 2,923 acres and includes portions of White Bear Lake, Vadnais Heights, Gem Lake, and Maplewood. The Kohlman Creek subwatershed is approximately 3,563 acres and includes portions of North Saint Paul, Maplewood, and Oakdale. There are 106 structures within the 100-year floodplain.

3.3.1 Current Condition Flooding Concerns

There are 106 potentially flood-prone structures in the Willow Creek and Kohlman Creek subwatersheds. Potentially flood-prone structures are shown in Figure 3-16 and Figure 3-17. There are 40 habitable structures classified as “District” and 66 classified as “Local.”

The majority of potentially flood-prone structures in the Willow Creek subwatershed are near Burke Road Pond and the upstream wetland. These structures are located near the Willow Creek drainage improvement project that the District completed in 2003.

Table 3-5 lists the potentially flood-prone structures in the Willow Creek subwatershed classified as “District.” System modifications discussed in Section 3.3.2 were evaluated to remove structures listed in Table 3-5 from the floodplain.

Table 3-5 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Willow Creek Subwatersheds

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 343022420021 | 1803 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 343022410009 | 1851 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 343022410013 | 1825 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 343022410007 | 1805 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 343022420018 | 1791 Buerkle Cir, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320025 | 3200 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320024 | 3210 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320026 | 3215 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320022 | 3230 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320021 | 3240 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320030 | 3255 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |
| 353022320032 | 1790 Orchard Ln, White Bear Lake 55110 | 912.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 914.5 |

(1) Reference [5]

Kohlman Creek Current Flooding Concerns

Potentially flood-prone structures are distributed throughout the Kohlman Creek subwatershed. Near the upstream end of the watershed there are flood-prone structures near the North Saint Paul Ecology Center. Moving downstream there are flood-prone structures near PCU Pond, east of White Bear Avenue North, Markham Pond, and Kohlman Basin.

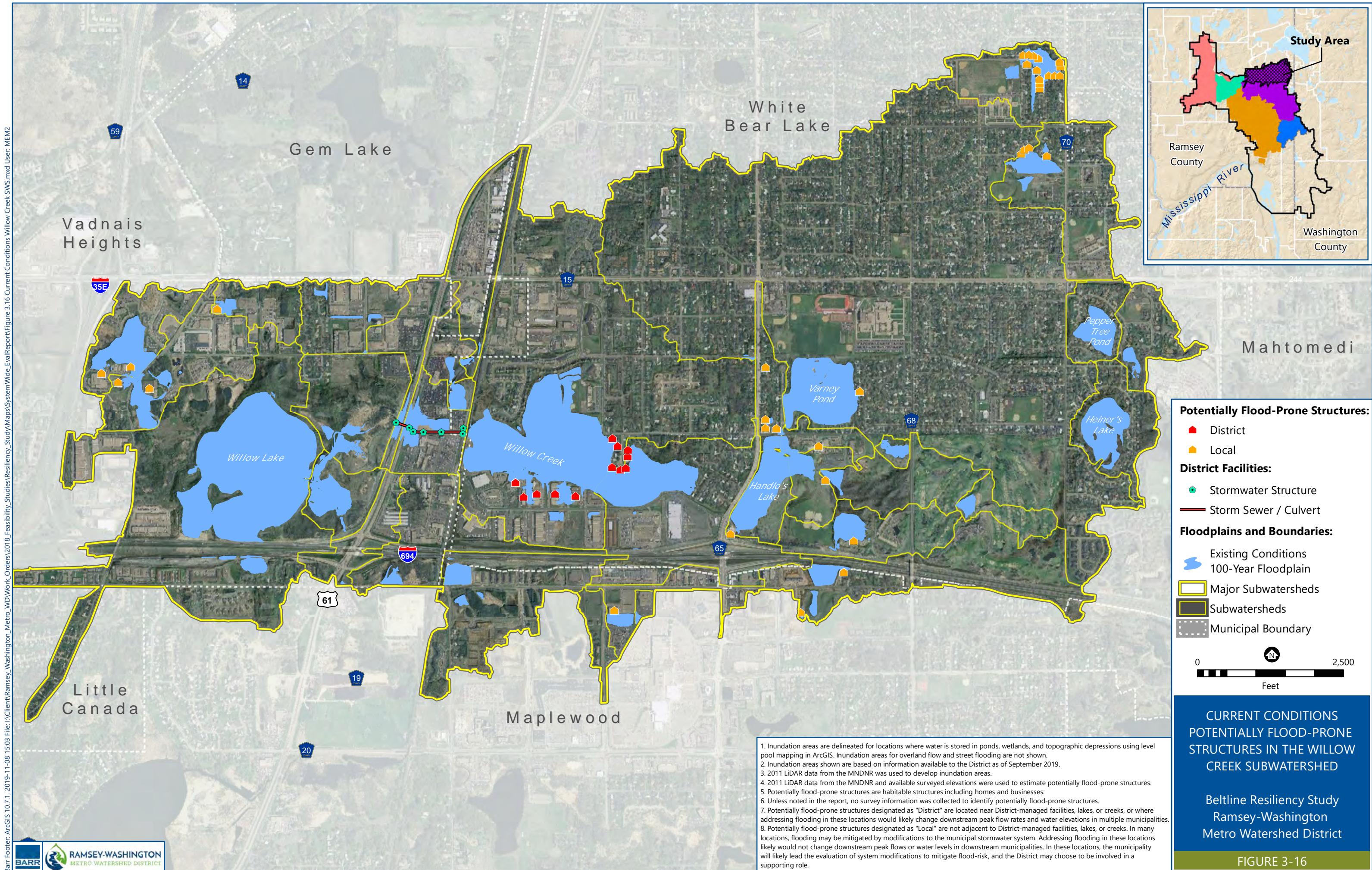
The District has completed several drainage improvement and flood-risk-reduction projects in the Kohlman Creek subwatershed. Previous projects include the Casey Lake outlet in 1991, Target Pond (now known as PCU Pond) and the White Bear road control in 1994, and the Kohlman Basin pipeline in 1996.

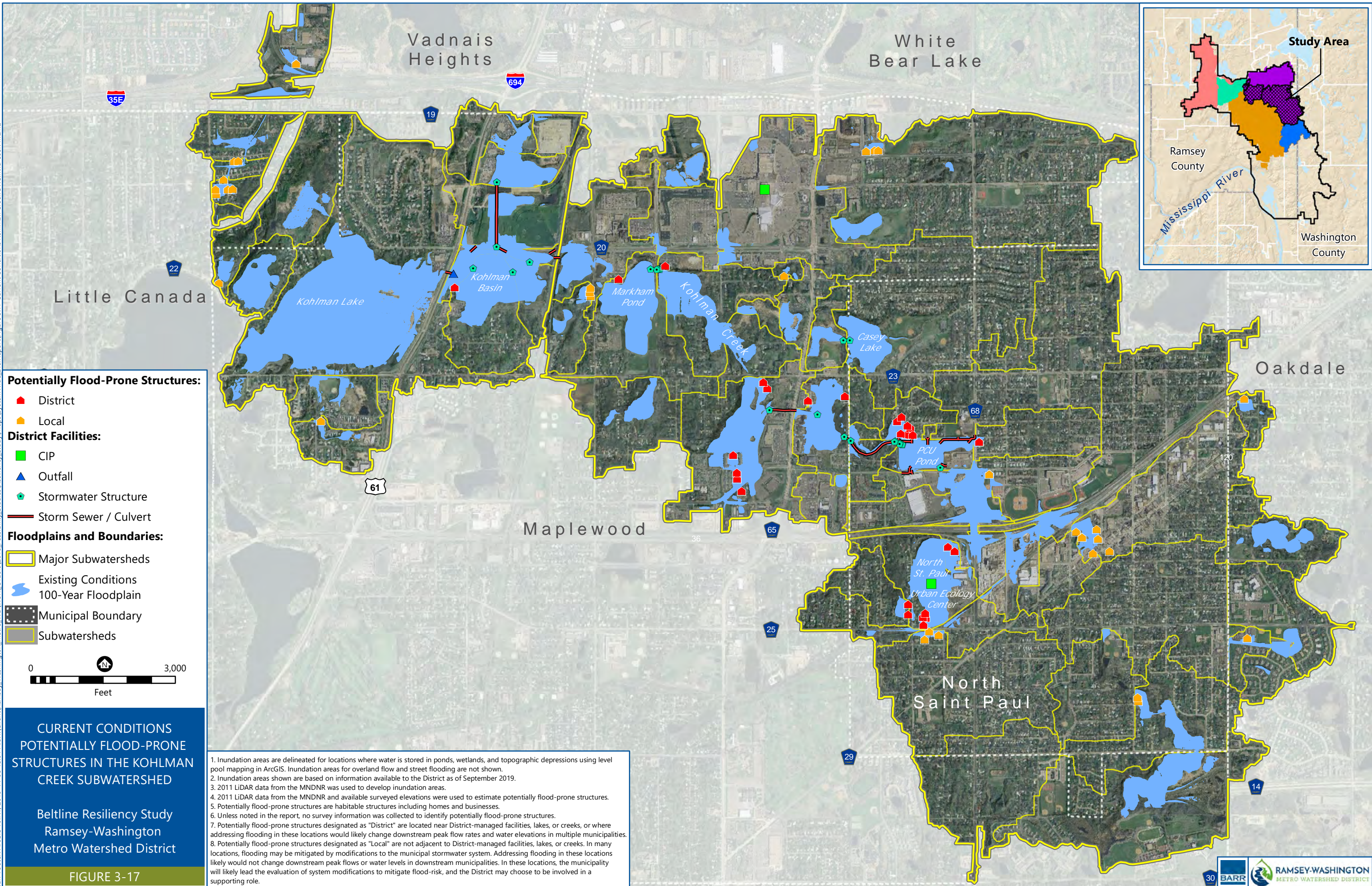
Table 3-6 lists the potentially flood-prone structures in the Kohlman Creek subwatershed classified as "District." System modifications, discussed in Section 3.3.2, were evaluated to remove structures listed in Table 3-6 from the floodplain.

Table 3-6 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Kohlman Creek Subwatersheds

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-year Water Surface Elevation |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 142922110010 | 2145 5th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 945.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 946.2 |
| 112922410013 | 2220 Hwy 36, North St. Paul 55109 | 938.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 940.8 |
| 112922410014 | 2204 Hwy 36, North St. Paul 55109 | 939.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 940.8 |
| 112922210053 | 2600 White Bear Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 920.1 | LiDAR ¹ | 922.7 |
| 042922410013 | 2806 Maplewood Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 867.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 870.3 |
| 032922420009 | 1570 Beam Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 885.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 886.3 |
| 032922410011 | 1670 Beam Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 890.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 890.1 |
| 112922440015 | 2157 South Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 940.8 |
| 112922440014 | 2159 South Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 939.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 940.8 |
| 112922440014 | 2159 South Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 939.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 940.8 |
| 112922430108 | 2187 6th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 941.0 |
| 112922440029 | 2172 6 th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 940.8 |
| 112922430105 | 2205 6th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 941.0 |
| 112922230007 | 1807 Gervais Ct, Maplewood 55109 | 910.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 913.6 |
| 112922230006 | 1801 Gervais Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 913.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 913.6 |
| 112922230006 | 1801 Gervais Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 913.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 913.6 |
| 112922230006 | 1801 Gervais Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 912.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 913.6 |
| 122922230017 | 2268 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 936.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 937.0 |
| 112922120078 | 2133 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 935.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922110071 | 2139 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 937.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922120079 | 2127 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 934.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922120100 | 2119 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 934.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922120077 | 2138 14th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 936.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922120076 | 2132 14th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 935.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922120111 | 2570 Seans Way, North St. Paul 55109 | 932.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922120102 | 2576 Seans Way, North St. Paul 55109 | 935.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 936.6 |
| 112922210025 | 2599 Ariel St, Maplewood 55109 | 922.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 922.7 |
| 112922220022 | 1876 County Rd C, Maplewood 55109 | 911.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 913.6 |
| 112922220017 | 1862 County Rd C, Maplewood 55109 | 911.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 913.6 |

(1) Reference [5]





3.3.2 Potential System Modifications Evaluated

As described in Section 3.1.2, the District stormwater model was used to evaluate potential system modifications within the Willow Creek and Kohlman Creek subwatersheds. The stormwater model was modified to evaluate the impact that potential system modifications would have on the 100-year floodplain. The goal for each system modification was to prevent the 100-year flood level from inundating habitable structures.

Evaluation of potential system modifications did not include discussions with property owners, permitting agencies, or other stakeholders. Additional evaluation for system modifications, including detailed feasibility studies that further evaluate economic and social considerations, is necessary prior to modifying the drainage system.

There are no potentially flood-prone structures on Willow Lake. Potential system modifications considered improve conveyance through Willow Creek and Willow Lake outlet modifications to provide additional floodplain storage. Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk in the Willow Creek subwatershed are summarized in steps 3A and 3B.

Flood-prone structures are more distributed in the Kohlman Creek subwatershed. Potential system modifications considered include drainage improvements, floodplain storage, outlet modifications, and diverting the storm sewer. Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk in the Kohlman Creek subwatershed are summarized in steps 3C through 3G.

3A WILLOW CREEK – HIGHWAY 61

Potential modifications to address flood risk upstream of the Buerkle Road embankment are shown on Figure 3-18. Possible modifications include drainage improvements to convey water downstream of Highway 61. Potential system modifications shown in Figure 3-18 include:

- Evaluating adding culvert capacity at the railroad east of the Burke Road Honda.
- Evaluating adding storm sewer capacity between the railroad and existing pipe on Highway 61, bypassing the Burke Road Honda.
- Evaluating adding culvert capacity under the trail west of Highway 61.

3B WILLOW CREEK - WILLOW LAKE

No flood-prone structures were identified near Willow Lake. However, to mitigate increases to the 100-year water levels downstream, additional floodplain storage was provided near the lake. Potential modifications assumed embankment construction and outlet structure modifications. Possible system modifications near Willow Lake are shown in Figure 3-19, and include:

- Evaluating modifying the trail upstream of Willow Lake to provide floodplain storage.
- Evaluating modifying Willow Lake outlet to actively manage downstream discharge.

3C KOHLMAN CREEK – NORTH SAINT PAUL URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER

Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk near the North Saint Paul Urban Ecology Center are shown on Figure 3-20 and Figure 3-21. Possible system modifications include a combination of upstream retention and drainage improvements. Figure 3-20 shows potential locations for providing additional flood storage volume. The location of the additional storage volume could be optimized during future evaluations. Above- or below-ground storage BMPs could be provided. Underground BMPs may have less impact on existing parks and open space but are more expensive than above-ground storage. Figure 3-21 shows drainage improvements southwest of the intersection of McKnight Road and Highway 36. Drainage improvements include additional conveyance capacity and localized grading or flood proofing of low structures. System modifications near the North Saint Paul Urban Ecology Center are shown in Figure 3-20 and Figure 3-21, and include:

- Evaluate providing floodplain storage southeast of the intersection of McKnight Road and Holloway Ave East. The outlet from the storage BMP should include extended detention or be actively managed to reduce downstream peak flow (Figure 3-20).
- Evaluate providing floodplain storage to the east of the intersection of 7th Avenue and 6th Street (Figure 3-20).
- Evaluate modifying the storm sewer at 5th Street North to divert stormwater to a depression south of the trail before discharging to the Saint Paul Urban Ecology Center wetland (Figure 3-21).
- Evaluate adding culvert capacity at 6th Street North (Figure 3-21).
- Evaluate adding culvert capacity at Highway 36 (Figure 3-21).
- Evaluate providing localized grading or flood proofing the building edge at 2220 Highway 36 (Figure 3-21).

3D KOHLMAN CREEK – PCU POND

Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk near PCU Pond are shown in Figure 3-22 and Figure 3-23. These include a combination of possible modifications to the storm sewer system and drainage improvements near PCU Pond. Figure 3-22 shows potential drainage improvements near PCU Pond, including modifications to 13th Avenue East and underground storage in the Target parking lot. The location of the additional storage volume could be optimized during future evaluations. Above- or below-ground storage options could be considered. Underground BMPs may have less impact on the existing parking lot but are more expensive than above-ground storage. Figure 3-23 shows storm sewer modifications to divert stormwater runoff from PCU Pond to Casey Lake. System modifications near PCU Pond:

- Evaluating installing backflow preventers on the existing pipes below 13th Avenue East (Figure 3-22).

- Evaluate adding culvert capacity and a backflow preventer for the outlet from the depression north of 13th Avenue East. New pipes discharge directly to Kohlman Creek (Figure 3-22).
- Evaluate raising approximately 750 feet of 13th Street East (Figure 3-22).
- Evaluate installing green infrastructure under Target to capture 1 inch of runoff. Green infrastructure may include underground storage chambers, rainwater gardens, etc. (Figure 3-22).
- Evaluate modifying the storm sewer to divert approximately 155 acres to Casey Lake (Figure 3-23).

3E KOHLMAN CREEK – CASEY LAKE

To mitigate flood-prone areas in Step 3D, approximately 155 acres could be diverted to Casey Lake. Modifications to the Casey Lake outlet and downstream creek crossings to convey the additional volume are shown in Figure 3-24, and include:

- Evaluate modifying the Casey Lake outlet.
- Evaluate adding culvert capacity at White Bear Avenue North (one additional 42-inch culvert, or equivalent).
- Evaluate modifying overflow from the wetland downstream of White Bear Avenue North.

3F KOHLMAN CREEK – WEST OF WHITE BEAR AVENUE NORTH

Potential modifications downstream of White Bear Avenue North include drainage improvements, constructing additional floodplain storage volume, and floodproofing existing structures. Providing additional floodplain storage in this subwatershed serves two purposes: (1) the additional storage volume mitigates flood risk for structures along Kohlman Creek and (2) the storage volume also reduces the water levels on the Phalen Chain of Lakes.

Flood proofing is proposed for structures when the 100-year floodplain is within 0.2 feet of the structure and significant system modifications would be required to lower the water level an additional 0.2 feet. This methodology was used for planning purposes because 0.2 feet is generally within the accuracy of the topography used to develop the inundation mapping. During the next phase of design a detailed survey of individual structures within a flood-prone area should be completed; this could change the size, configuration, or function of the potential system modifications downstream of White Bear Avenue North shown on Figure 3-25 to Figure 3-28 and described below:

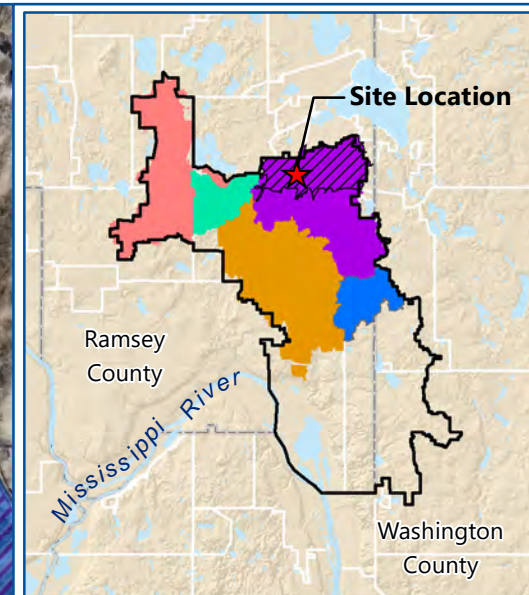
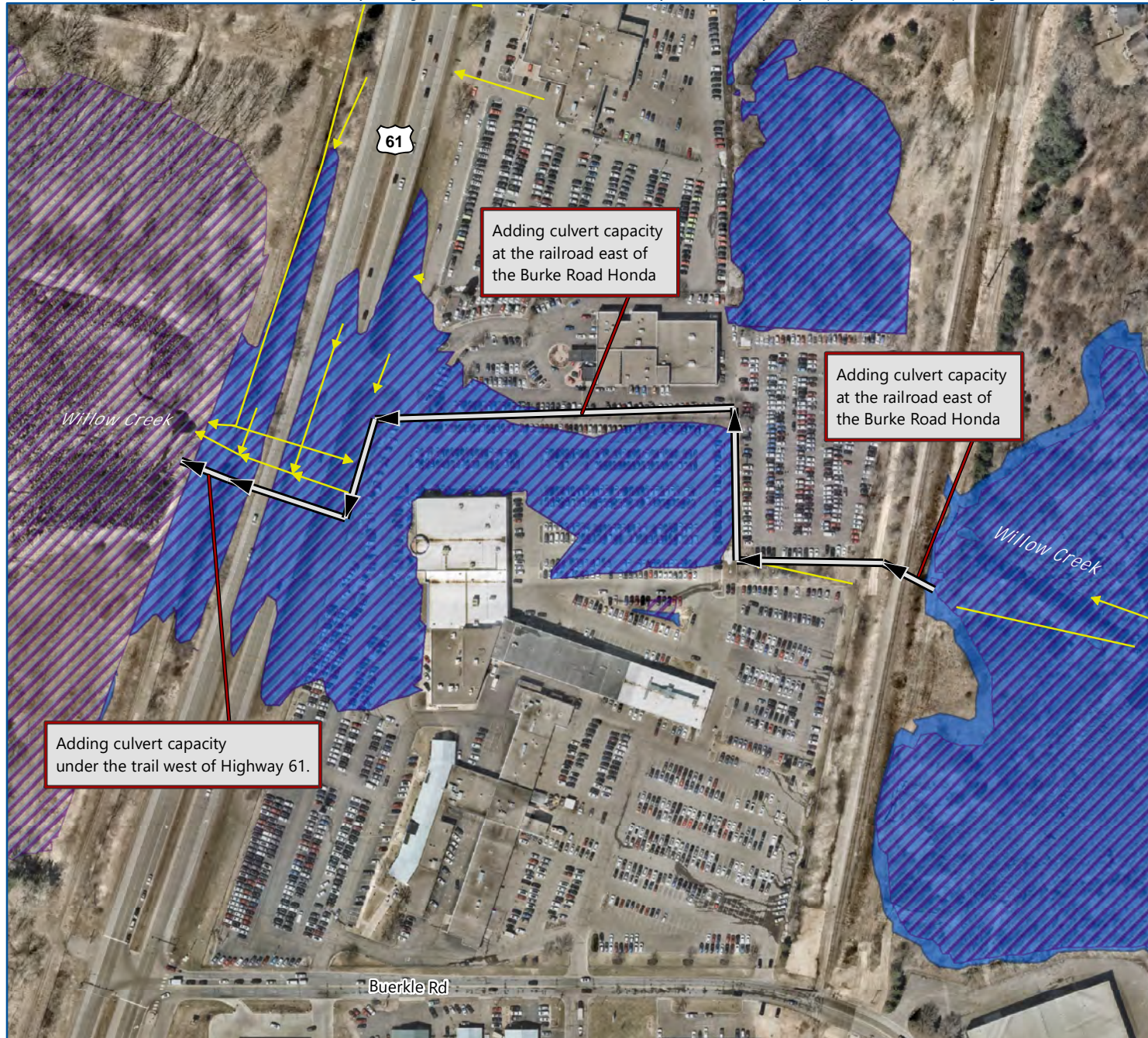
- Provide additional storage volume northeast of the intersection of White Bear Ave and Beam Avenue East (Figure 3-25)
- Modify the outlet from the pond northeast of the intersection of White Bear Ave and Beam Avenue East (Figure 3-25)

-
- Providing additional floodplain storage volume under Maplewood Addition to capture additional 1-inch of runoff. Additional floodplain storage could include, underground storage chambers, rainwater gardens, or other green infrastructure type of BMPs (Figure 3-25)
 - Floodproof 2599 Ariel Street (Figure 3-26)
 - Evaluate performing localized grading at 2600 White Bear Avenue (Figure 3-26)
 - Evaluate providing additional culvert capacity at County Road C (Figure 3-26)
 - Evaluate constructing embankments along Kohlman Creek to create additional floodplain storage (Figure 3-27 and Figure 3-28)
 - Evaluate expanding Markham Pond to provide additional floodplain storage volume (Figure 3-28)
 - Evaluate rerouting the existing 72-inch storm sewer under Kennard Street North to Kohlman Creek (Figure 3-28)

3G KOHLMAN CREEK –THE KOHLMAN BASIN

Potential modifications near the Kohlman Basin include drainage improvements to reduce the peak discharge conveyed to Kohlman Basin and grading near the low structure adjacent to Kohlman Basin. Potential system modifications are shown in Figure 3-29 and include:

- Evaluate modifying the outlet structure north of County Road D.
- Evaluate performing localized grading around 2806 Maplewood Drive (730 feet for approximately 1–3.5 feet) and developing an emergency response plan for low structures.



Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

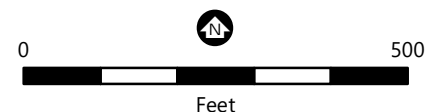
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation



WILLOW CREEK SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

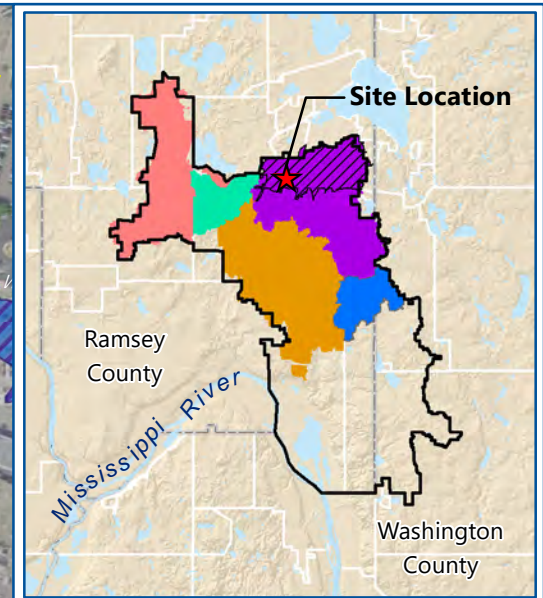
3A

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Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-18

1. System modifications presented are intended to demonstrate one option for mitigating flood-risk that, in most instances, does not include purchasing flood-prone property. There may be other options to reduce flood-risk that should be considered, and prior to implementation, additional feasibility studies may be required to identify the most cost-effective and optimal modification.
2. Unless noted in Section 3, no field survey data was collected for this evaluation. Collection of survey information may change the number of structures within the floodplain or proposed system modifications.
3. Downstream system modifications should be constructed prior to any upstream modifications that increase peak flow rates to avoid increases to downstream floodplain elevations.
4. System modifications presented may require permits and approvals from cities or agencies. During the evaluation, potential system modifications were not discussed with other permitting entities. It is possible that permit requirements may change the configuration or function of system modifications.





Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Outlet Modification

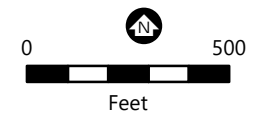
- Site Grading

- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications

- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

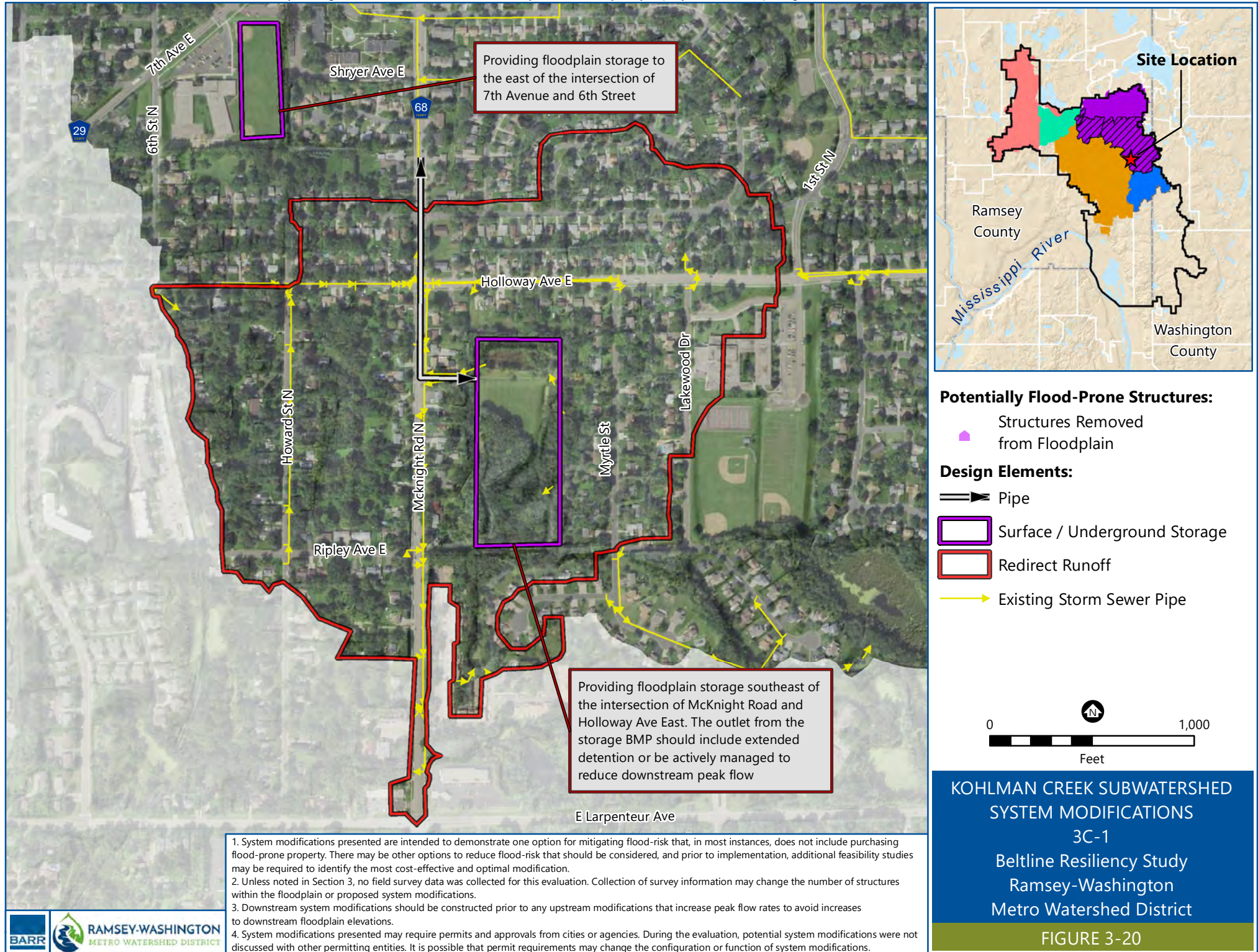


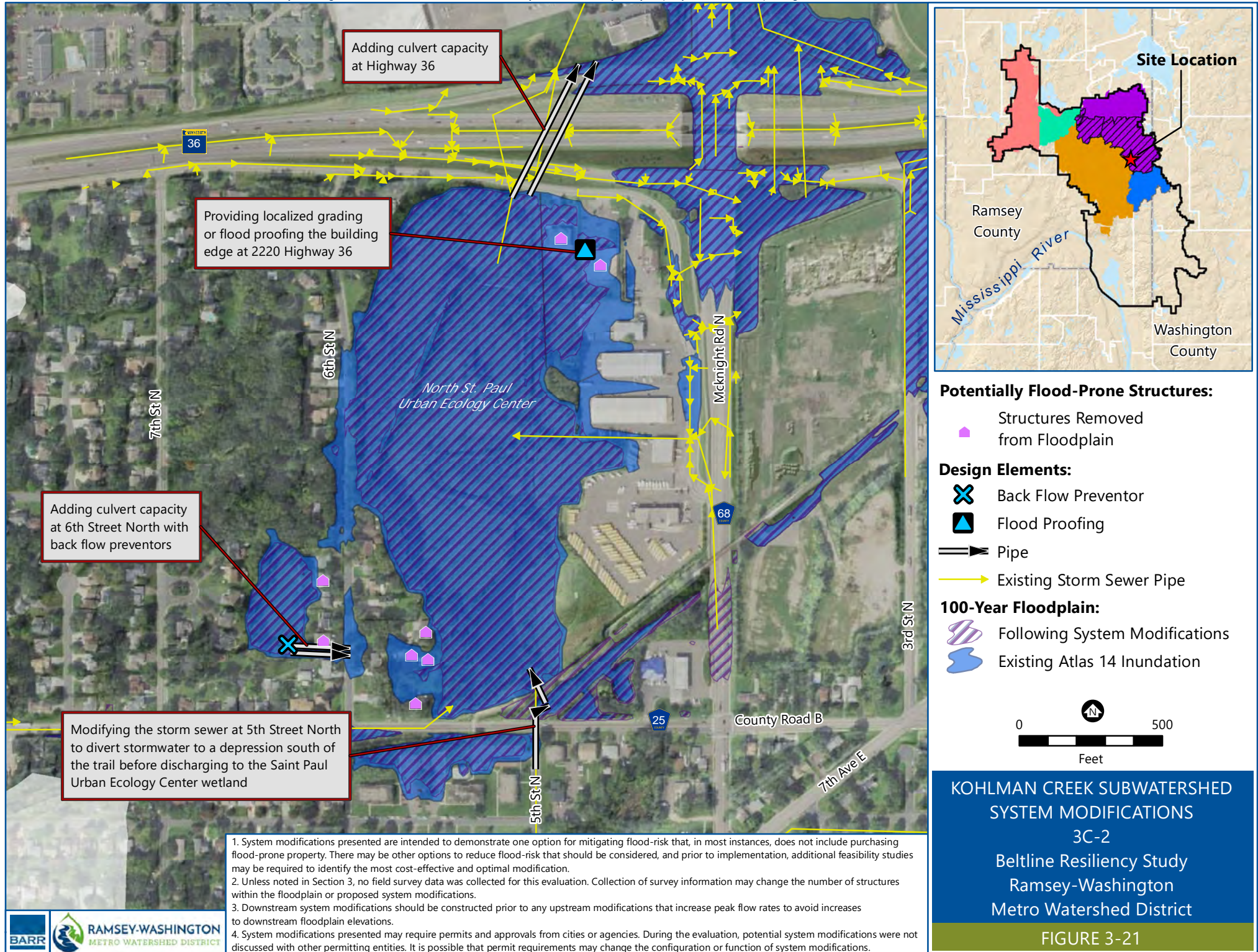
WILLOW CREEK SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

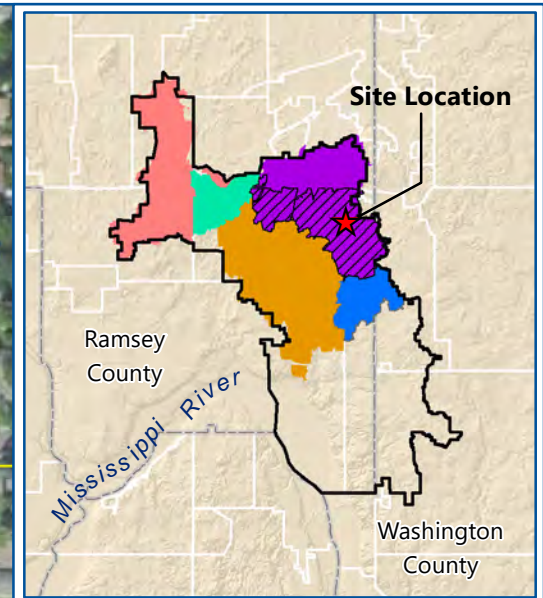
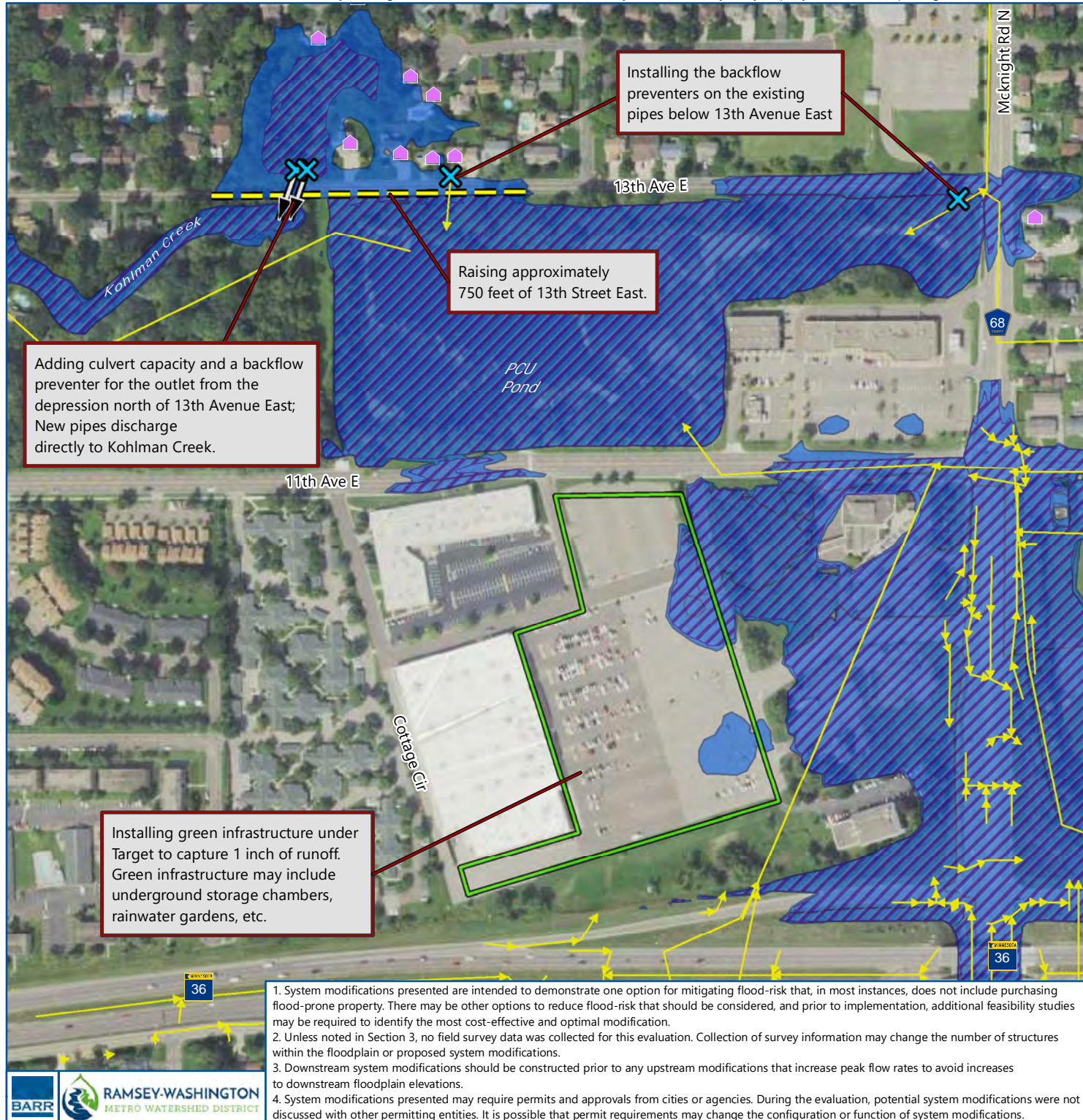
3B

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Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-19







Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

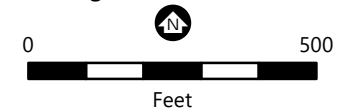
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Back Flow Preventor
- Pipe
- Road Raise
- Green Infrastructure
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

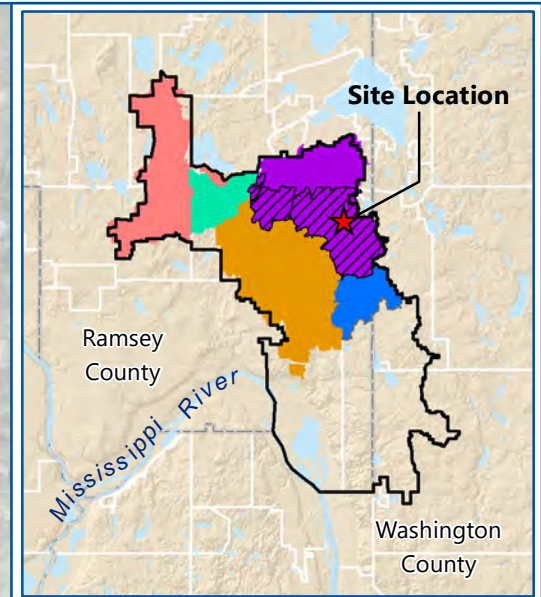
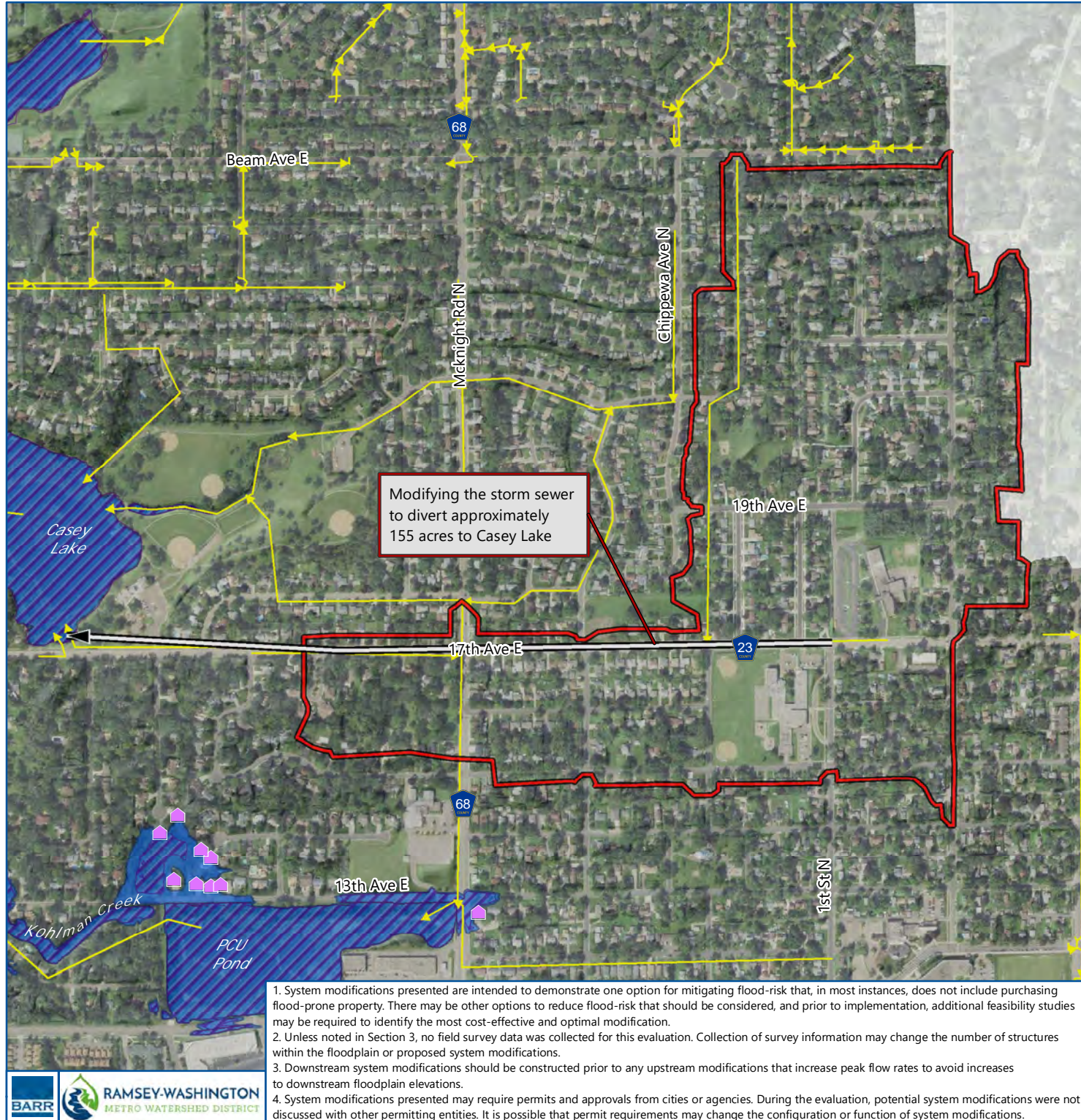


KOHLMAN CREEK SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

3D-1

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Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-22



Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

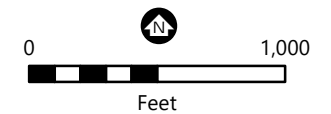
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Redirect Runoff
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

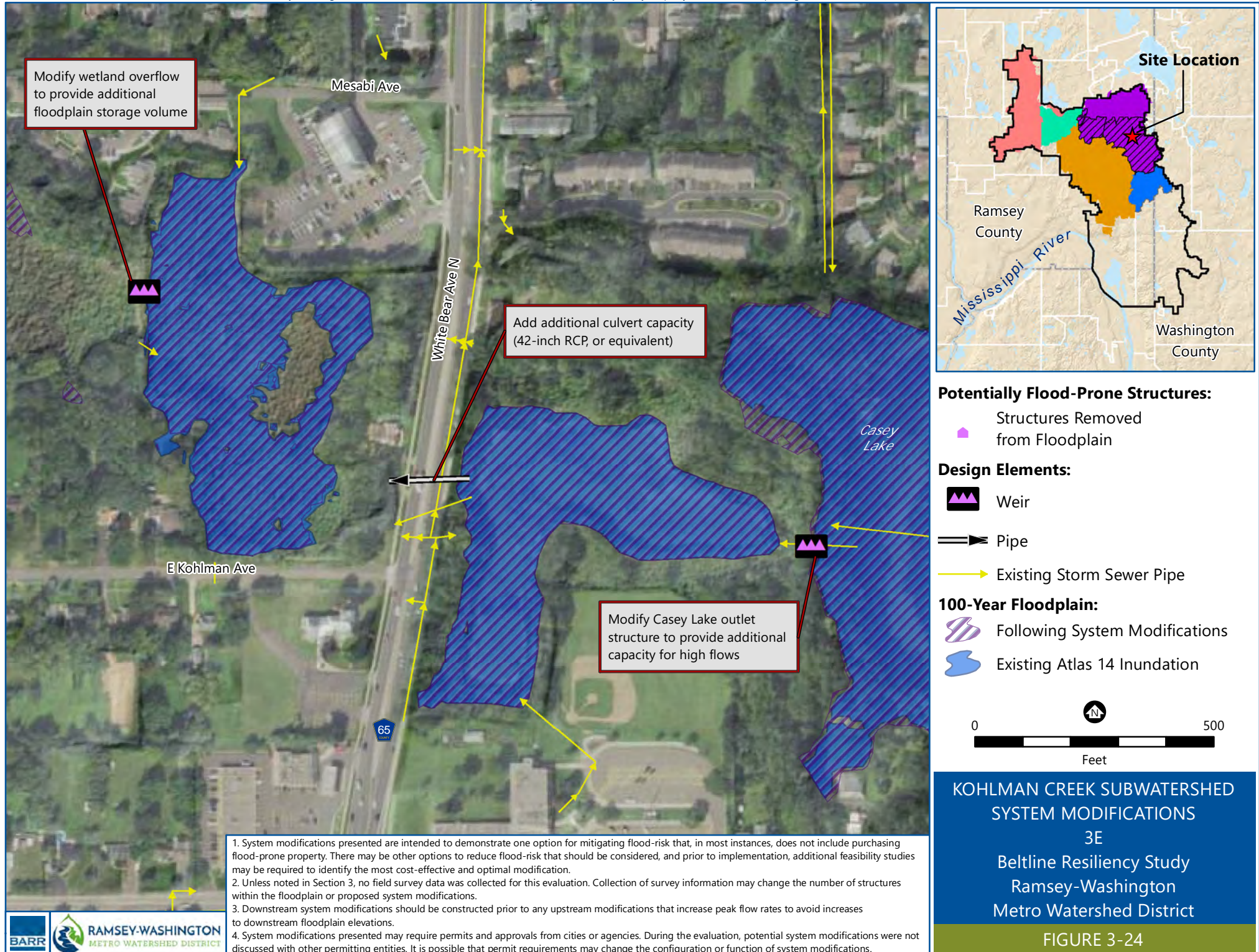
100-Year Floodplain:

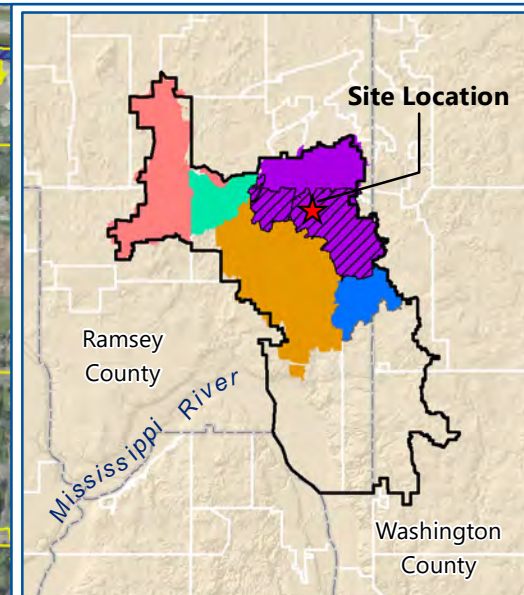
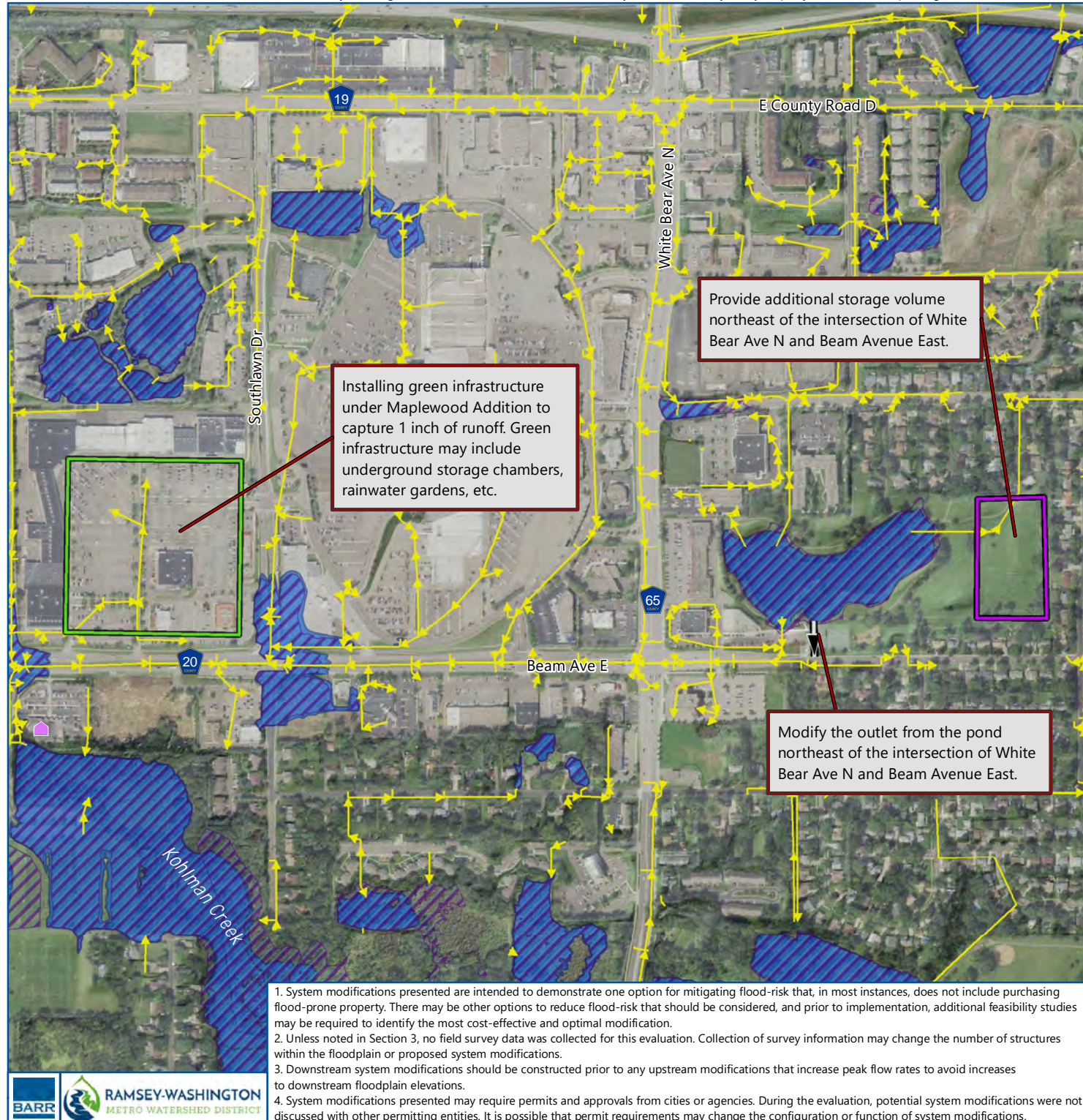
- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation



KOHLMAN CREEK SUBWATERSHED
SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS
3D-2
Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-23





Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Green Infrastructure
- Surface / Underground Storage
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

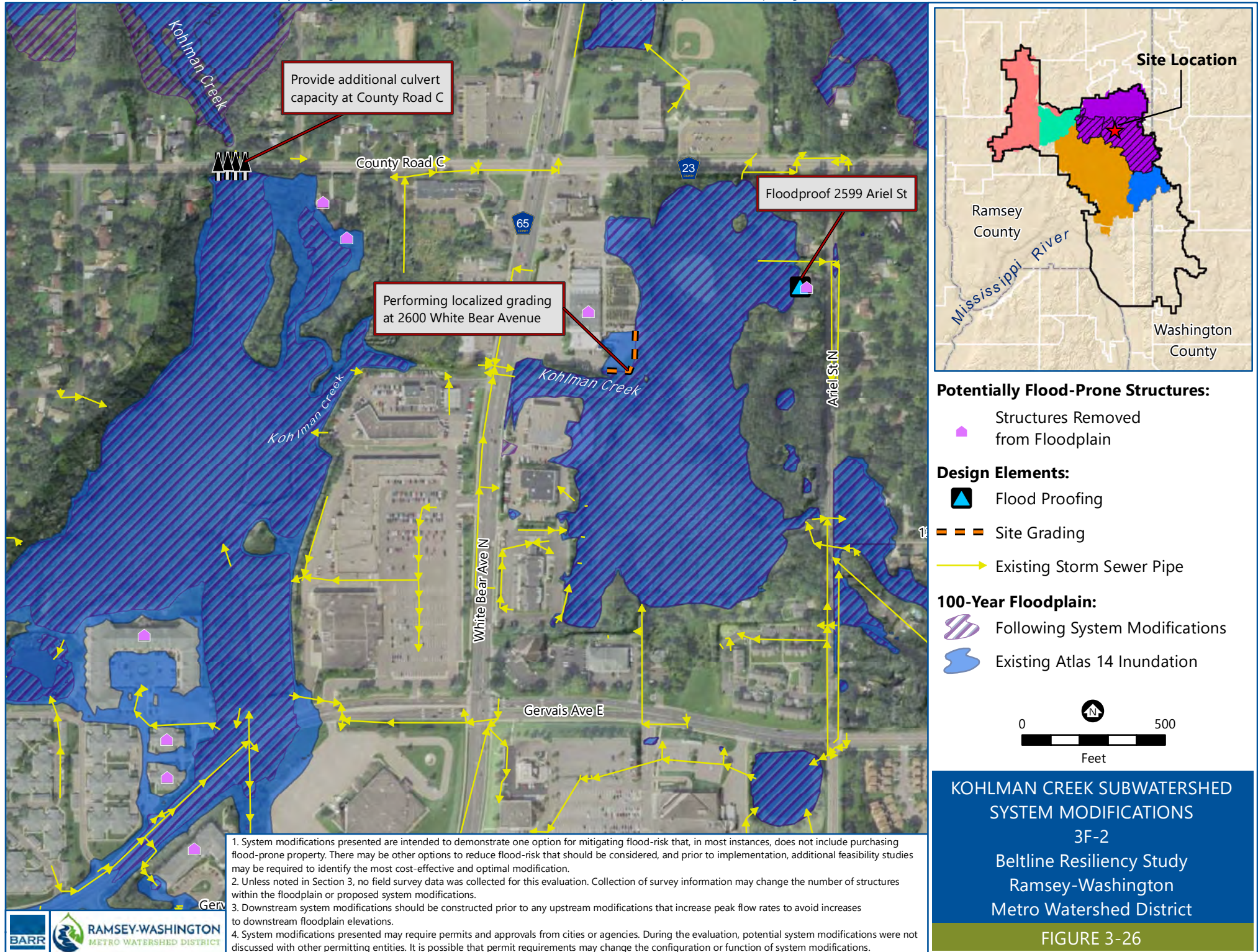


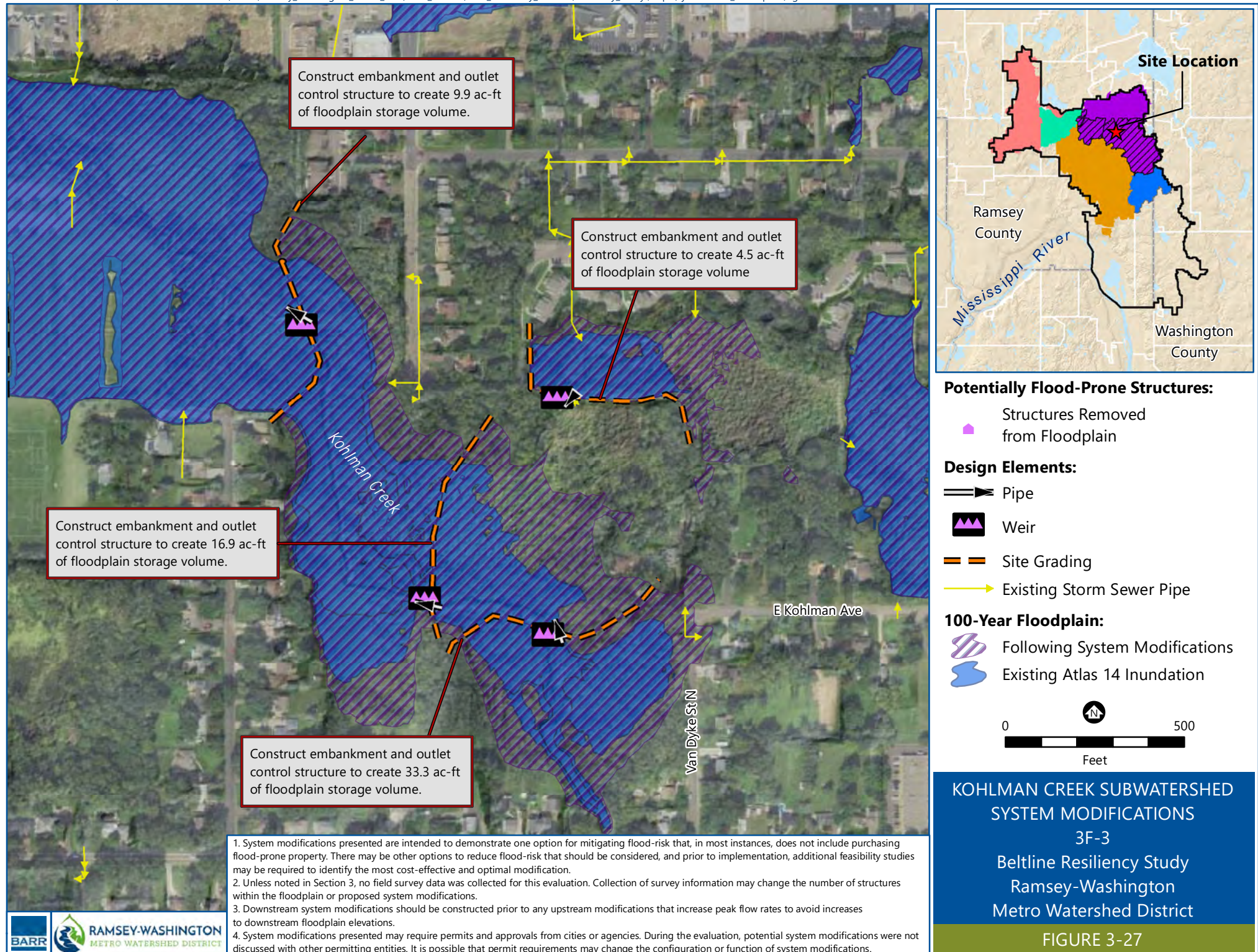
KOHLMAN CREEK SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

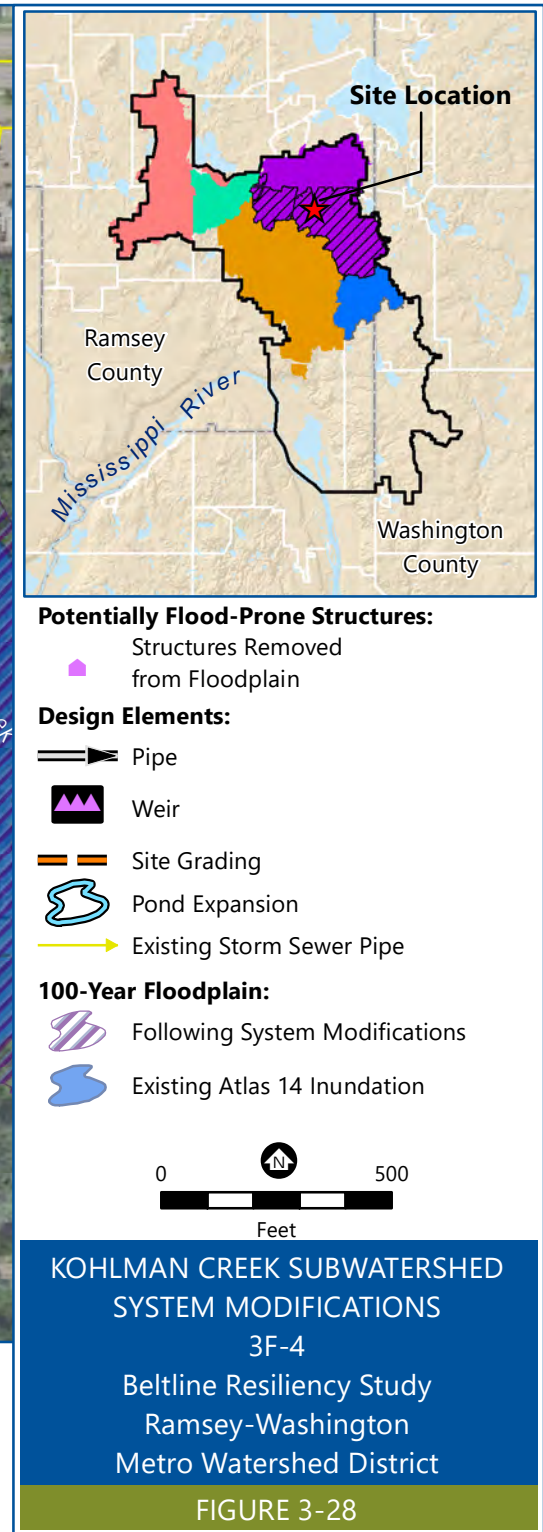
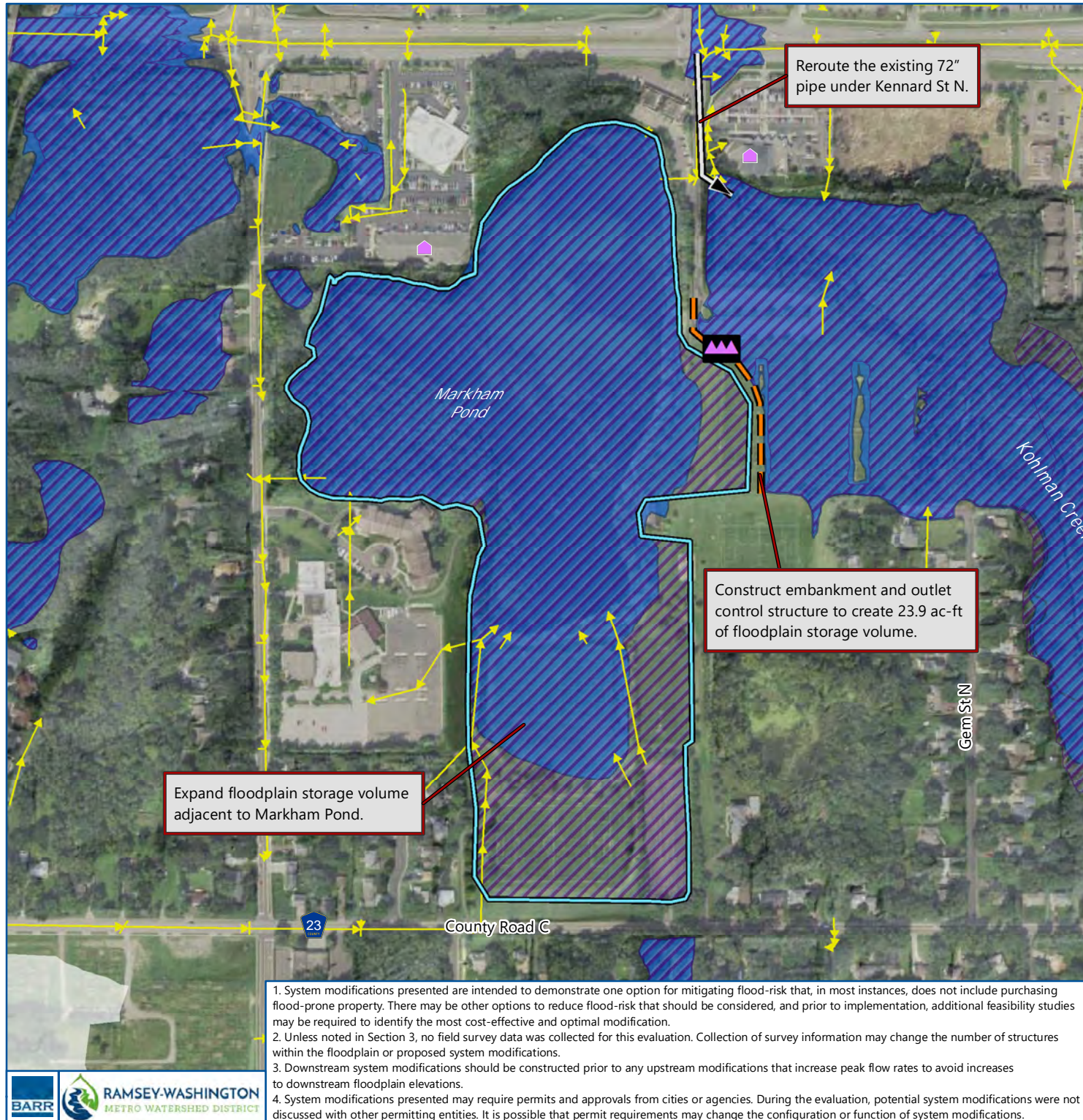
3F-1

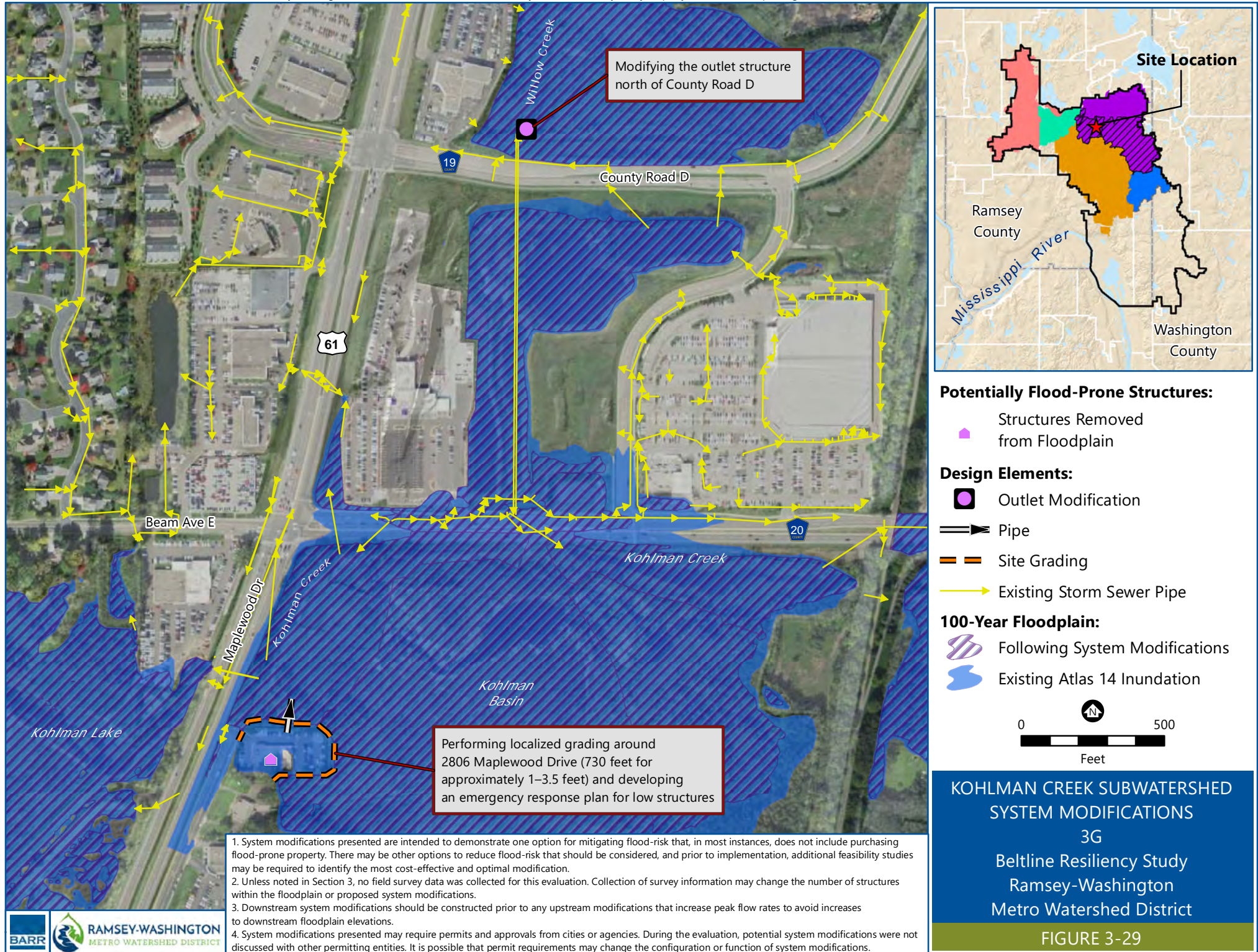
Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-25









3.3.3 Flooding Concerns following System Modifications

The potential system modifications result in lowering the 100-year floodplain below the low adjacent grade of habitable structures within the Willow Lake subwatershed, as shown in Figure 3-30. Table 3-7 lists the existing 100-year water surface elevation and the elevation following modifications to the drainage system.

System modifications in the Willow Creek subwatershed include drainage improvements to convey stormwater to Willow Lake. The modifications result in decreases to the floodplain volume in the upstream portion of the subwatershed and increases to the floodplain elevation in Willow Lake. The change in the 100-year water surface elevation is not anticipated to impact habitable structures or I-694.

Table 3-7 also includes planning-level considerations related to project sequencing to avoid increases to downstream water levels. Project sequencing refers to the order that system modifications should be constructed to prevent adverse downstream impacts. For this evaluation, sequencing does not refer to prioritization, which refers to which area should be addressed first. A planning-level schematic for sequencing of potential system modifications is included in Appendix A.

Table 3-7 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Willow Creek Subwatersheds

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ¹ | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation | 100-Year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|--------------|---|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 343022420021 | 1803 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.6 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 343022410009 | 1851 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.3 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 343022410013 | 1825 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.2 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 343022410007 | 1805 Buerkle Rd, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.4 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 343022420018 | 1791 Buerkle Cir, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.0 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320025 | 3200 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.5 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320024 | 3210 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 913.8 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320026 | 3215 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.3 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320022 | 3230 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.2 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320021 | 3240 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.0 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320030 | 3255 Orchard Ct, White Bear Lake 55110 | 914.4 | 914.5 | 912.9 | 3A | 3B |
| 353022320032 | 1790 Orchard Ln, White Bear Lake 55110 | 912.9 | 914.5 | 912.9 ² | 3A | 3B |

1) Reference [5]

Apart from 2599 Ariel Street, the potential system modifications result in lowering the 100-year floodplain below the low adjacent grade of habitable structures within the Kohlman Creek subwatershed. The 100-year floodplain following system modifications is shown in Figure 3-31.

In some areas of the Kohlman Creek subwatershed there is limited information available for the storm sewer system. System modifications are based on information available at this time. If further evaluation is completed within this subwatershed a detailed survey of the storm sewer system and low structure elevations should be completed.

System modifications include additional storage volume at several locations. These locations were selected based on open areas within the watershed. However, the specific location, size, and configuration could change when additional site-specific information is available. The required storage volume was estimated based on the current District stormwater model. After site-specific information is collected, the model should be revised for these locations to include higher resolution of the storm sewer system, which may affect the configuration, size, and function of proposed storage areas.

The 100-year floodplain is within the accuracy of the topographic information for many locations in the watershed. In these areas, local grading, drainage improvements, or floodproofing were assumed rather than additional regional storage BMPs. During the next phase of design site-specific survey information for low structures should be collected prior to further detailed evaluation.

Table 3-8 lists the existing 100-year water surface elevation and elevation following modifications within the Kohlman Creek subwatershed. Table 3-8 also includes planning-level considerations related to project sequencing to avoid increases to downstream water levels. Project sequencing refers to the order that system modifications should be constructed to prevent adverse downstream impacts. System modifications in Willow Creek subwatershed, which reduce the peak discharge to Kohlman Basin, should be completed prior to modifications in the Kohlman Creek subwatershed. A planning-level schematic for sequencing of potential system modifications is included in Appendix A.

Table 3-8 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Kohlman Creek Subwatersheds

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ¹ | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation | 100-Year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 142922110010 | 2145 5th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 945.7 | 946.2 | 945.7 ² | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922410013 | 2220 Hwy 36, North St. Paul 55109 | 938.6 | 940.8 | 938.8 ³ | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922410014 | 2204 Hwy 36, North St. Paul 55109 | 939.4 | 940.8 | 938.8 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922210053 | 2600 White Bear Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 920.1 | 922.7 | 922.6 ³ | 3F | N/A |
| 042922410013 | 2806 Maplewood Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 867.6 | 870.3 | 864.6 ⁴ | 3G | 3F |
| 032922420009 | 1570 Beam Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 885.7 | 886.3 | 885.9 | 3F | N/A |
| 032922410011 | 1670 Beam Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 893.5 | 889.9 | 889.7 | 3F | N/A |

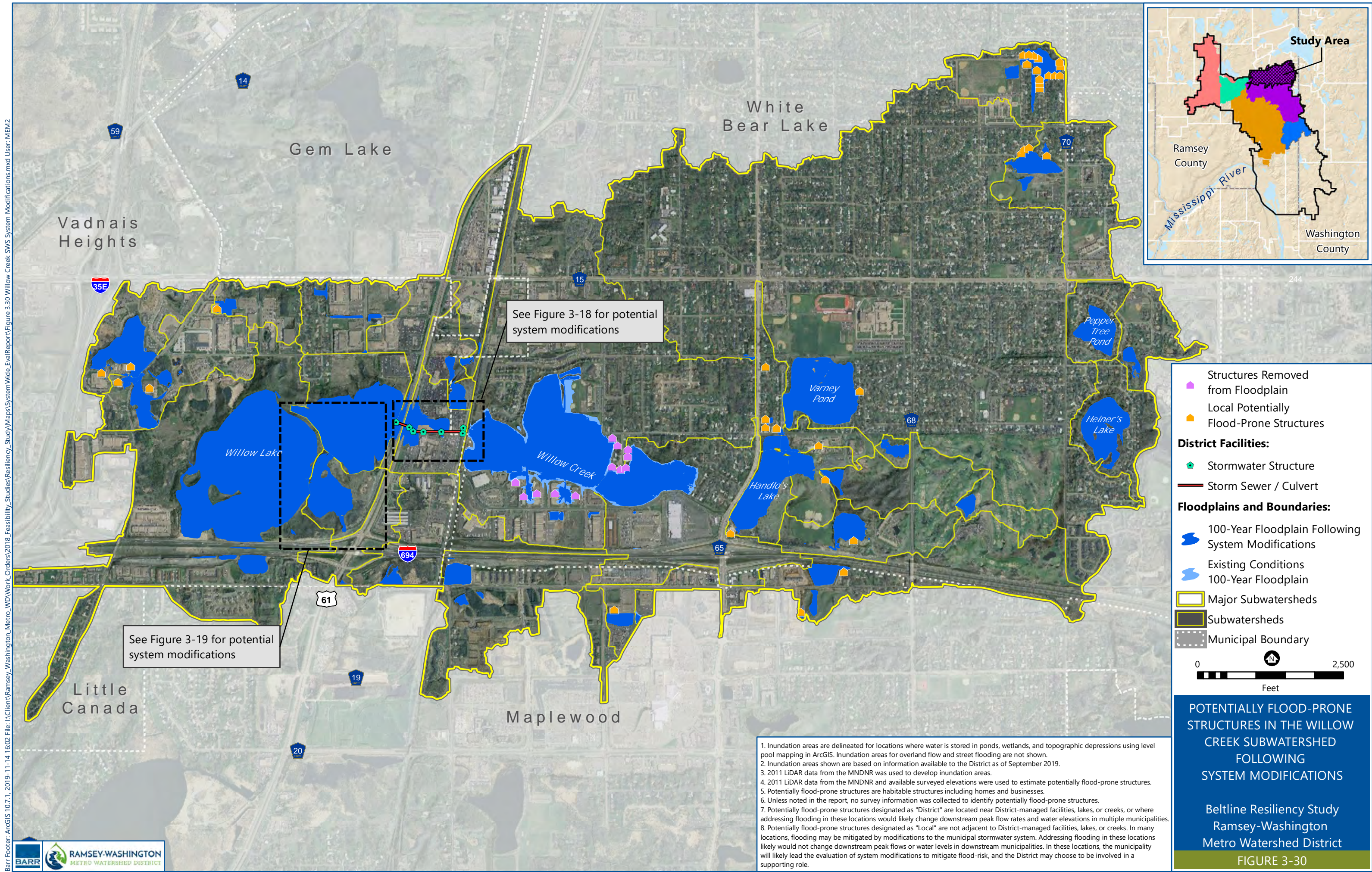
| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ¹ | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation | 100-Year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|--------------|---|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 112922440015 | 2157 South Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.7 | 940.8 | 938.8 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922440014 | 2159 South Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 939.3 | 940.8 | 938.8 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922440014 | 2159 South Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 939.5 | 940.8 | 938.8 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922430108 | 2187 6th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.3 | 941.0 | 940.0 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922440029 | 2172 6 th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.3 | 940.8 | 938.8 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922430105 | 2205 6th St, North St. Paul 55109 | 940.4 | 941.0 | 940.0 | 3C | 3F, 3E, 3D, 3B |
| 112922230007 | 1807 Gervais Ct, Maplewood 55109 | 910.9 | 913.6 | 911.3 | 3F | N/A |
| 112922230006 | 1801 Gervais Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 913.5 | 913.6 | 911.3 | 3F | N/A |
| 112922230006 | 1801 Gervais Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 913.6 | 913.6 | 911.3 | 3F | N/A |
| 112922230006 | 1801 Gervais Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 912.8 | 913.6 | 911.3 | 3F | N/A |
| 122922230017 | 2268 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 936.9 | 937.0 | 936.6 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120078 | 2133 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 935.8 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922110071 | 2139 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 937.7 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120079 | 2127 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 934.5 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120100 | 2119 13th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 934.8 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120077 | 2138 14th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 936.4 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120076 | 2132 14th Ave, North St. Paul 55109 | 935.2 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120111 | 2570 Seans Way, North St. Paul 55109 | 932.6 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922120102 | 2576 Seans Way, North St. Paul 55109 | 935.0 | 936.6 | 931.7 | 3D | 3F, 3E, 3B |
| 112922210025 | 2599 Ariel St, Maplewood 55109 | 922.5 | 922.7 | 922.6 ² | 3F | N/A |
| 112922220022 | 1876 County Rd C, Maplewood 55109 | 911.6 | 913.6 | 911.3 | 3F | N/A |
| 112922220017 | 1862 County Rd C, Maplewood 55109 | 911.9 | 913.6 | 911.3 | 3F | N/A |

(1) Reference [5]

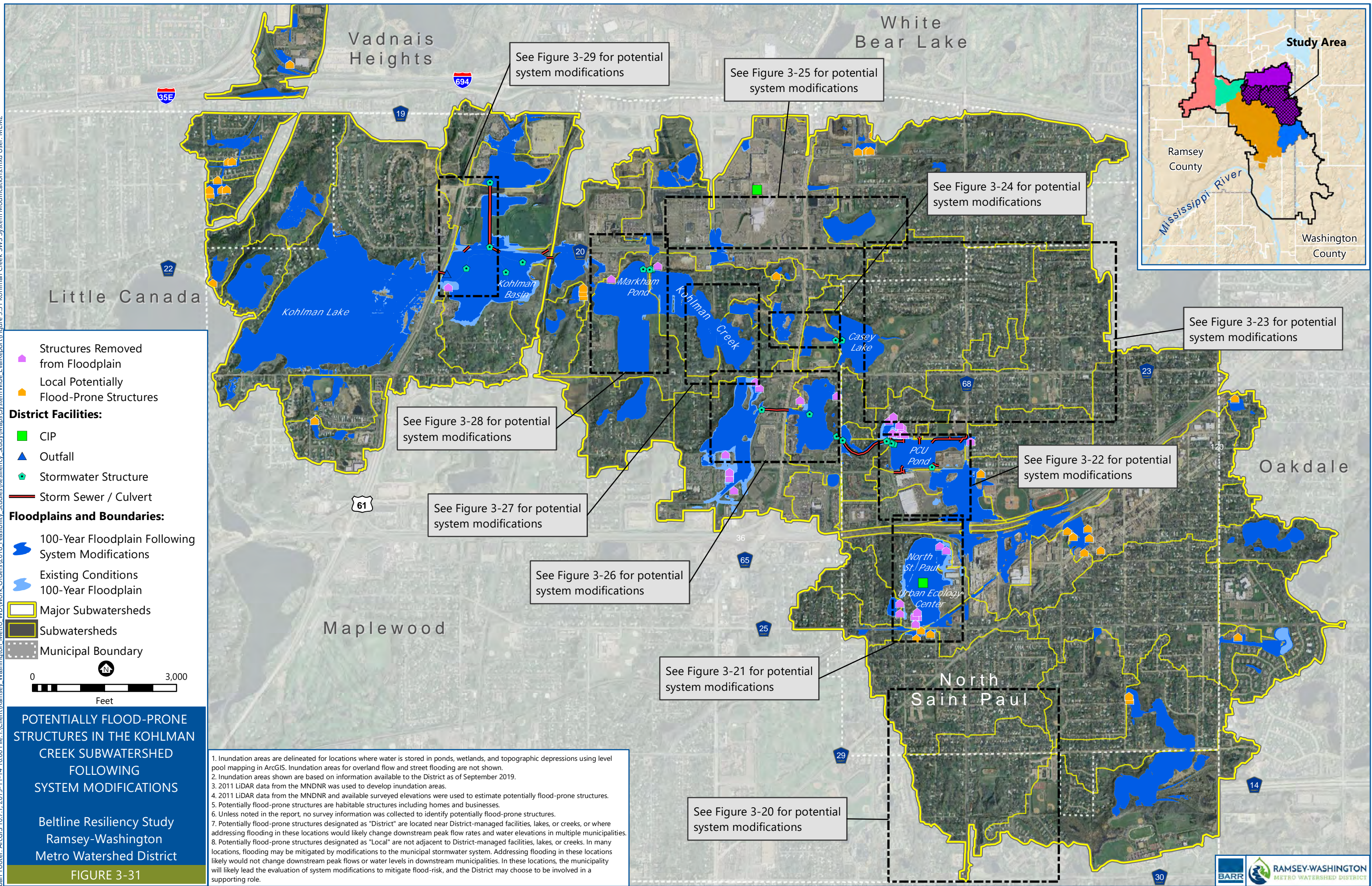
(2) Minor grading to flood proof this building may be required or development of an emergency response plan. Collection of additional site-specific survey information would be required for further evaluation.

(3) The modeling results assumed that sufficient pump capacity is available during the event.

Barr Footer: ArcGIS 10.7.1, 2019-11-14 16:02 File: \\Client\\Ramsey_Washington_Metro_WD\\Work_Orders\\2018_Feasibility_Studies\\SystemWide_Eval\\Report\\Figure 3.30 Willow Creek SWS System Modifications.mxd User: MEM2



Barr Footer: ArcGIS 10.7.1, 2019-11-14 16:06 File: I:\Client\Ramsey-Washington Metro WDW\Work Orders\2018 Feasibility Studies\Resiliency Study\Maps\SystemWide Eval\Report\Figure 3-31 Kohlman Creek SWS System Modifications.mxd User: MEM2



3.4 Phase 4 – Phalen Chain of Lakes

The Phalen Chain of Lakes includes Kohlman Lake, Gervais Lake, Keller Lake, and Lake Phalen. The outlet from Lake Phalen is the upstream end of the Beltline. The total tributary area to the Beltline is 25,618 acres. Within the Phalen Chain of Lakes subwatershed there are 161 structures within the 100-year floodplain.

3.4.1 Current Condition Flooding Concerns

There are 161 potentially flood-prone habitable structures within the Phalen Chain of Lakes subwatershed. Forty-Five structures are classified as “District” and 116 are classified as “Local.” Potentially flood-prone structures are shown on Figure 3-32. In this subwatershed, structures upstream of the Lake Phalen outlet are affected by flood levels on the Chain of Lakes—which are controlled by outlet structures on Keller Creek and Lake Phalen. The District has developed an Emergency Response Plan for structures on Gervais Lake and coordinates with the City of Little Canada during periods of high water levels.

There are also 29 structures classified as “Local” that are downstream of structures classified as “District” located adjacent to District facilities. Potential system modifications considered also considered how to mitigate flood-risk for these additional 29 structures. Table 3-9 lists the potentially flood-prone structures in the Phalen Chain of Lakes subwatershed classified as “District” and the 29 “Local” structures downstream.

Table 3-9 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Lake Phalen Chain of Lakes Subwatershed

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 272922220145 | 1342 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 855.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 857.9 |
| 272922220157 | 1340 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 855.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 857.9 |
| 272922220140 | 1350 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 856.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 857.9 |
| 272922230014 | 1381 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 856.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922220129 | 1360 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 856.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 857.9 |
| 272922230013 | 1389 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 856.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922220134 | 1355 Magnolia Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 857.9 |
| 272922230007 | 1415 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922230011 | 1397 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922230012 | 1393 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922230010 | 1401 Mechanic Ave E, St. Paul 55106 | 857.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922220150 | 1343 Magnolia Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 857.9 |
| 272922230003 | 1433 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 858.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 222922330167-69 ² | 1251,1253,1255 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 858.1 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.0 |
| 272922230006 | 1421 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 858.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 222922330170-74 ² | 1235,1237,1239,1241,1243 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 858.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.0 |
| 272922230002 | 1437 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 222922330175-79 ² | 1221,1223,1225,1227,1229 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 858.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.0 |
| 282922110118 | 1275 Magnolia Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 858.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.7 |
| 272922230009 | 1405 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 858.4 |
| 272922220162 | 1177 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 859.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 861.3 |
| 222922330180-84 ² | 1205,1207,1209,1211,1213 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 859.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.0 |
| 222922330192-95 ² | 1333,1335,1337,1339 Maryland Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 859.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.0 |
| 222922330104 | 1305 Maryland Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 859.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 860.0 |
| 082922120012 | 2540 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 860.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 861.8 |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 861.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.2 |
| 082922420003 | 681 B2, Little Canada 55117 | 861.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 861.8 |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 861.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.2 |
| 082922110018 | 750 Carla Ln, Little Canada 55109 | 861.5 | Survey ³ | 861.8 |
| 172922140072 | 2009 Arcade St, Maplewood 55109 | 861.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 861.8 |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 862.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.2 |
| 272922240056 | 1465 Ames Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 862.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.5 |
| 162922310010 | 1858 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 863.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.0 |
| 282922140007 | 1267 Cook Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 863.1 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.2 |
| 272922240061 | 1442 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 863.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.5 |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 862.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.2 |
| 272922230042 | 1438 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 862.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 863.5 |
| 272922120039 | 1604 Maryland Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 893.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 894.1 |
| 152922420002 | 1638 Frost Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922420006 | 1880 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922420004 | 1904 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922420031 | 1872 Prosperity Rd, Maplewood 55109 | 901.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922420007 | 1870 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922420005 | 1894 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 902.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922420032 | 1871 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 903.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922140032 | 1936 Kennard St, Maplewood 55109 | 903.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 904.1 |

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade | Source for Lowest Adjacent Grade | Existing 100-Year Water Surface Elevation |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 152922420033 | 1885 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 903.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 903.4 |
| 152922140030 | 1948 Kennard St, Maplewood 55109 | 903.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 904.1 |
| 152922140031 | 1944 Kennard St, Maplewood 55109 | 904.1 | LiDAR ¹ | 904.1 |
| 272922140130 | 1688 Lacrosse St, St. Paul 55106 | 909.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 909.8 |
| 222922420114 | 1583 Clear Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 916.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 918.2 |
| 222922420113 | 1577 Clear Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 916.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 918.2 |
| 222922420115 | 1589 Clear Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 916.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 918.2 |
| 222922420139 | 1655 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 921.6 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.2 |
| 222922410125 | 1659 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 922.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.2 |
| 222922410144 | 1660 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.1 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.2 |
| 222922420076 | 1592 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.3 |
| 222922410124 | 1662 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 922.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.2 |
| 222922420075 | 1598 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.3 |
| 222922420025 | 1658 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.2 |
| 222922420036 | 1600 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.3 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.3 |
| 222922410126 | 1665 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.2 | LiDAR ¹ | 923.2 |
| 222922140108 | 1696 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.4 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922140110 | 1684 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922110135 | 1671 Hoyt Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922140109 | 1690 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.7 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922140011 | 1720 Hoyt Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 928.0 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922140111 | 1680 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.5 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922110126 | 1696 Iowa Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 928.0 |
| 222922140158 | 1688 Nevada Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 929.9 | LiDAR ¹ | 929.9 |
| 222922140033 | 1739 Nebraska Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 931.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 932.5 |
| 222922140034 | 1745 Nebraska Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 931.8 | LiDAR ¹ | 932.5 |
| 222922140035 | 1751 Nebraska Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 932.1 | LiDAR ¹ | 932.5 |
| 082922110012 | 737 Carla Ln, Little Canada 55109 | 860.7 | Survey ³ | 861.8 |

(1) Reference [5]

(2) The parcel ID is for a townhouse. There are multiple parcel IDs and structures that are potentially flood-prone in this location.

(3) Reference [10]

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3.4.2 Potential System Modifications Evaluated

Potential system modifications within the Phalen Chain of Lakes subwatershed were evaluated similar to the previous phases. The goal for each system modification was to prevent the 100-year flood level from inundating habitable structures.

Similar to previous phases, evaluation of potential system modifications did not include discussions with property owners, permitting agencies, or other stakeholders. Additional evaluation for system modifications, including detailed feasibility studies that further evaluate economic and social considerations is necessary prior to modifying the drainage system.

Potential system modifications included improvements to and active management of outlet control structures on Keller Creek and Lake Phalen. In areas not directly adjacent to the Phalen Chain, system modifications included drainage improvements, storage areas, and storm sewer system modifications. In some locations, near past District projects, system modifications included items that are typically considered local projects, such as adding a catch basin or inlet capacity. These local system improvements were evaluated as part of this study to avoid adverse impacts as a result of other system modifications. Potential system modifications to mitigate flood risk in the Phalen Chain of Lakes subwatershed are summarized in steps 4A through 4F.

4A LAKE PHALEN AND KELLER CREEK OUTLET STRUCTURES

Potential modifications to the control structures on Keller Creek (downstream of Keller Lake) and Lake Phalen included adjustments to actively manage water levels on the chain. Active management allows for adjusting the timing of when water is conveyed into the Beltline, while not lowering the normal water level in the Chain. The general operation of the outlet structures includes: 1) lowering the outlets as water levels increase so more water will be conveyed to the Beltline, and 2) raising the outlets to their existing levels when the Beltline is near its capacity to minimize the downstream impacts. Locations of flood-prone structures on Gervais Lake are shown on Figure 3-33, and the outlet structures are shown in Figure 3-34. System modifications include:

- Evaluate modifying drainage near 737 Carla Lane (Figure 3-33).
- Evaluate modifying the outlet structure on Keller Creek to adjust the weir crest between 856.0 and 858.0 (Figure 3-34).
- Evaluate modifying the outlet structure on Lake Phalen to adjust the weir crest between 857.4 and 856.3 (Figure 3-34).
- Evaluate modifying the outlet structure on Lake Phalen to adjust the weir crest between 857.6 and 855.5 (Figure 3-34).

4B WAKEFIELD LAKE

The storm sewer between the intersection of Frost Avenue East and Kennard Street North is undersized to achieve the goals of this study. Additional storm sewer capacity is shown in Figure 3-35. The additional storm sewer capacity will lower the floodplain elevation upstream of Frost Avenue East and increase the water surface elevation in Wakefield Lake by 0.7 feet. The 100-year water level in Wakefield Lake will still be 2 feet lower than adjacent habitable structures. Possible modifications shown in Figure 3-35 include:

- Evaluate increased storm sewer capacity between Frost Avenue North and Wakefield Lake.

4C PHALEN VILLAGE

Impacts in this area are due to a combination of high water levels in Lake Phalen and local storm sewer capacity. Following improvements to the Phalen Chain outlet structures, discussed in step 4A, additional storm sewer capacity is required to further lower the 100-year levels. Storm sewer modifications are shown in Figure 3-36.

- Evaluate increasing storm sewer capacity. 1 additional 24-inch (or equivalent) outlet.
- Evaluate increasing storm sewer capacity. 1 additional 36-inch (or equivalent) outlet.

4D DULUTH STREET RECREATIONAL CENTER

Potential system modifications in this area include providing additional storage volume and storm sewer system modifications to convey runoff to the new storage area. System modifications reduce the peak discharge conveyed into the Beltline and are shown in Figure 3-37:

- Evaluate adding storage volume in the park east of Duluth Street
- Evaluate modify existing storm sewer to divert stormwater into the new storage BMP
- Evaluate providing localized grading in multiple locations to reroute overland flow paths
- Evaluate grading the current detention pond in the park southwest of Lake Phalen.

4E HOYT POND

Potential System modifications evaluated in this area include providing additional floodplain storage volume and storm sewer system modifications. Potential system modifications are shown in Figure 3-38 through Figure 3-41 and include:

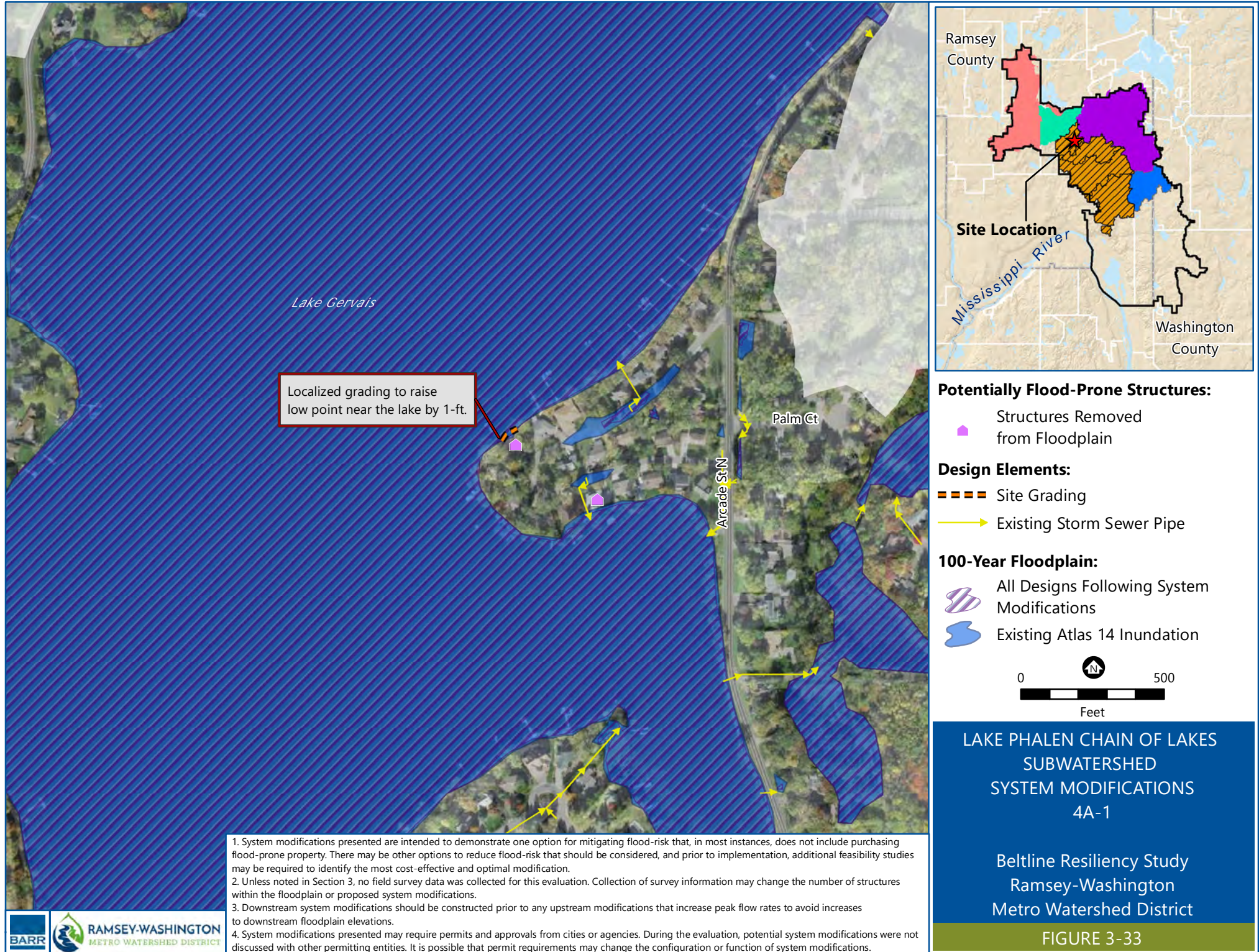
- Providing additional storage volume north of Hoyt Avenue and modifying the storm sewer to connect to the new storage area (Figure 3-38).
- Evaluate adding additional catch basin capacity North of Sherwood Avenue (Figure 3-39).

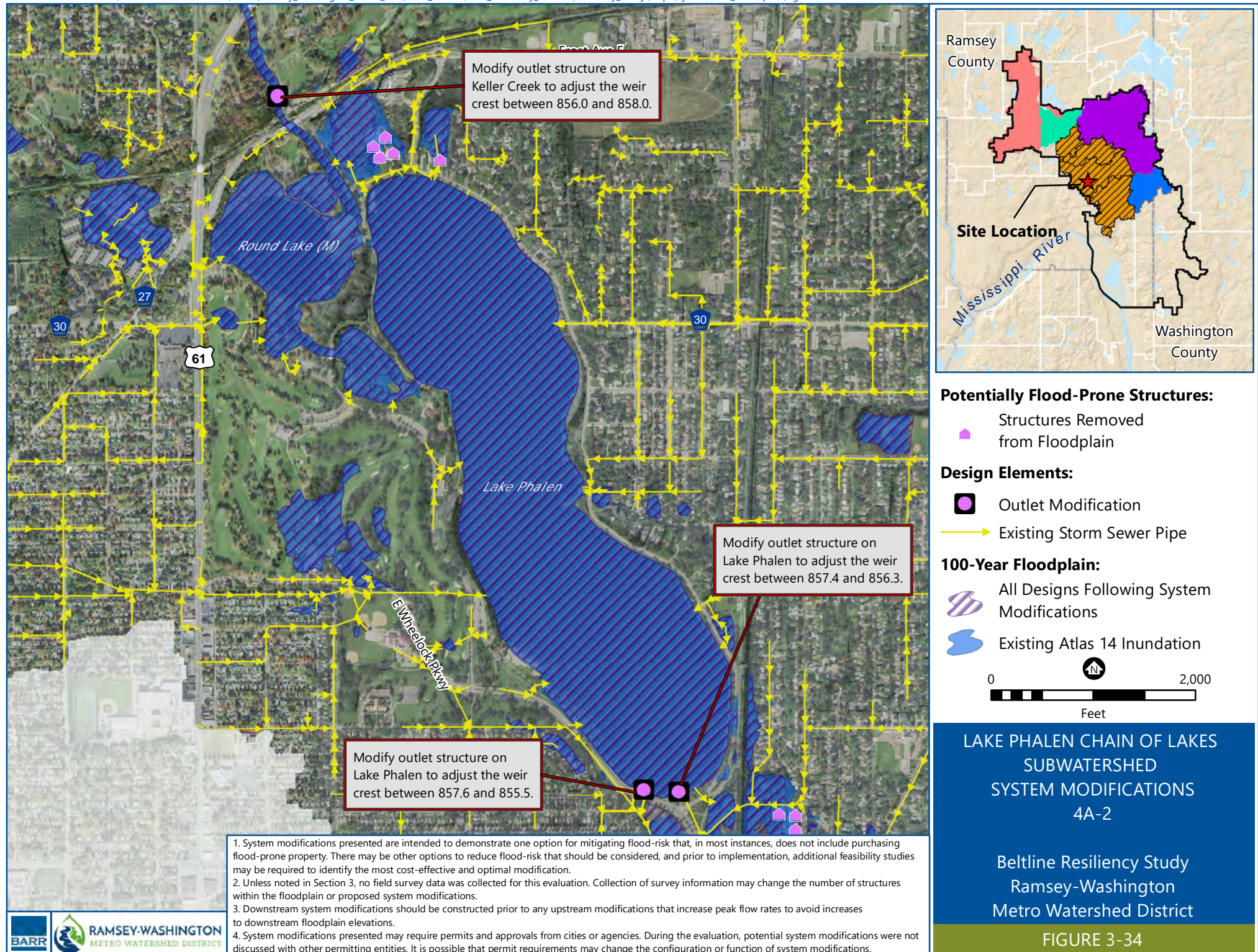
- Evaluate increasing storm sewer capacity along Nebraska Avenue (Figure 3-39).
- Evaluate diverting high flows from Hill Crest Knoll to the pond at 1505 Hoyt Avenue (Figure 3-39).
- Evaluate adding an underground/surface storage BMP in the park (Figure 3-40).
- Evaluate modifying surface overflow paths near the northeast corner of the park to allow overflow into the park (Figure 3-40).
- Evaluate raising Ivy Avenue between Germain Street and Kennard Road (Figure 3-40).
- Evaluate creating a detention pond south of Hoyt Pond (Figure 3-41).

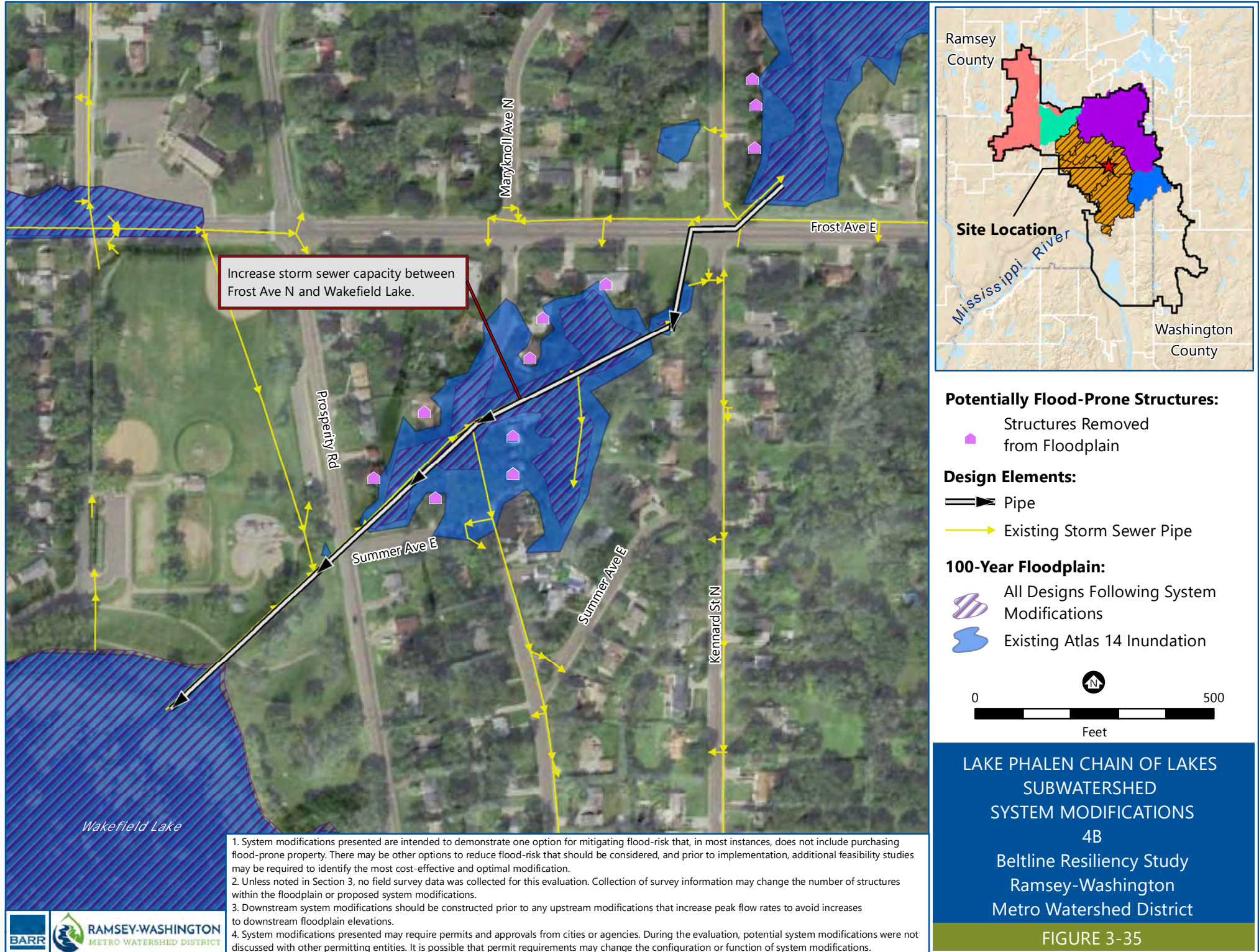
4F AMES LAKE

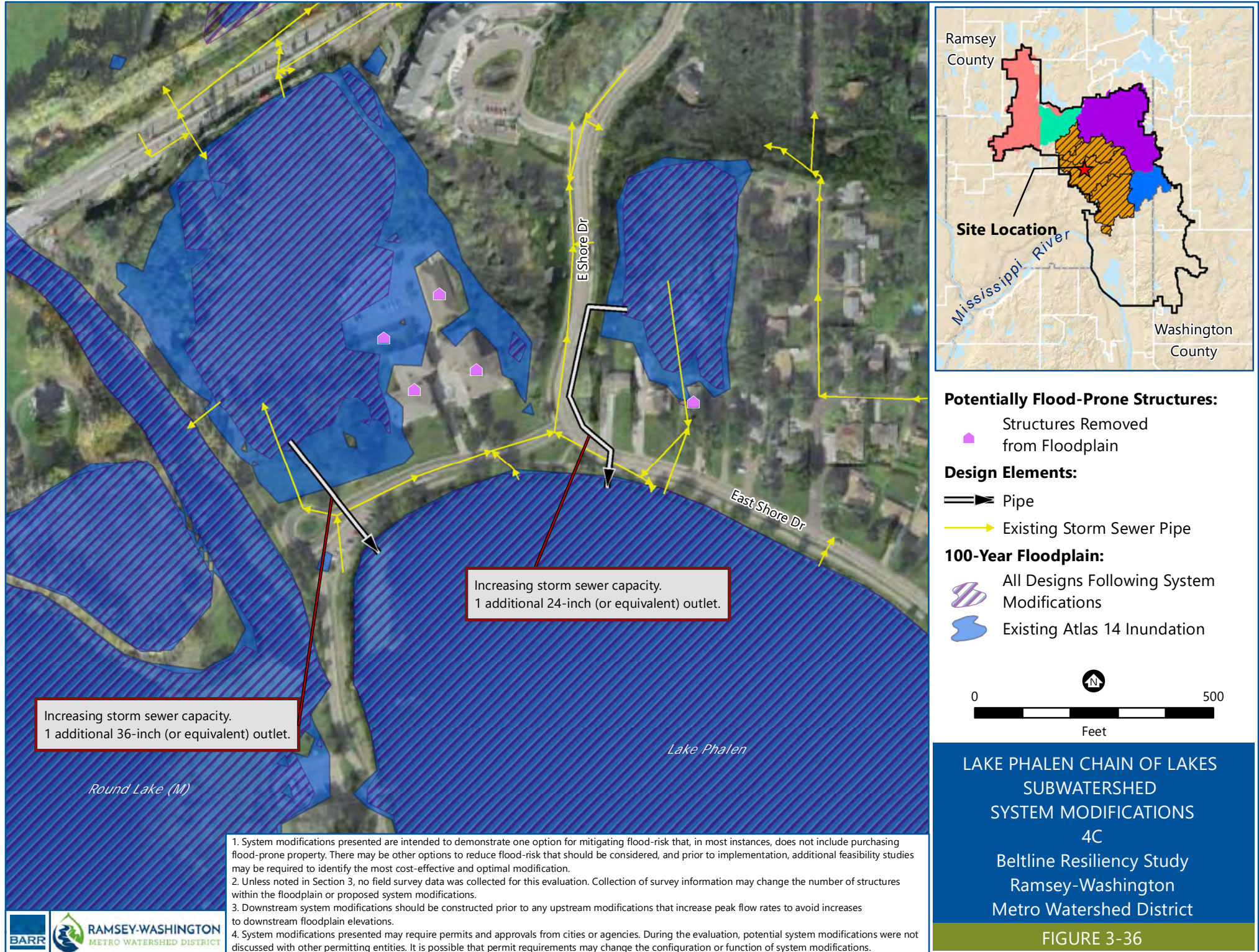
Ames Lake and the surrounding development are located within a topographic depression. Flooding in this area is a combination of local runoff and overland flow from the upstream watershed. Potential system modifications evaluated to mitigate flood risk in this area include rerouting upstream storm sewer, adding new detention ponds, and expanding existing ponds. Potential modifications are listed below and shown in Figure 3-42 to Figure 3-44:

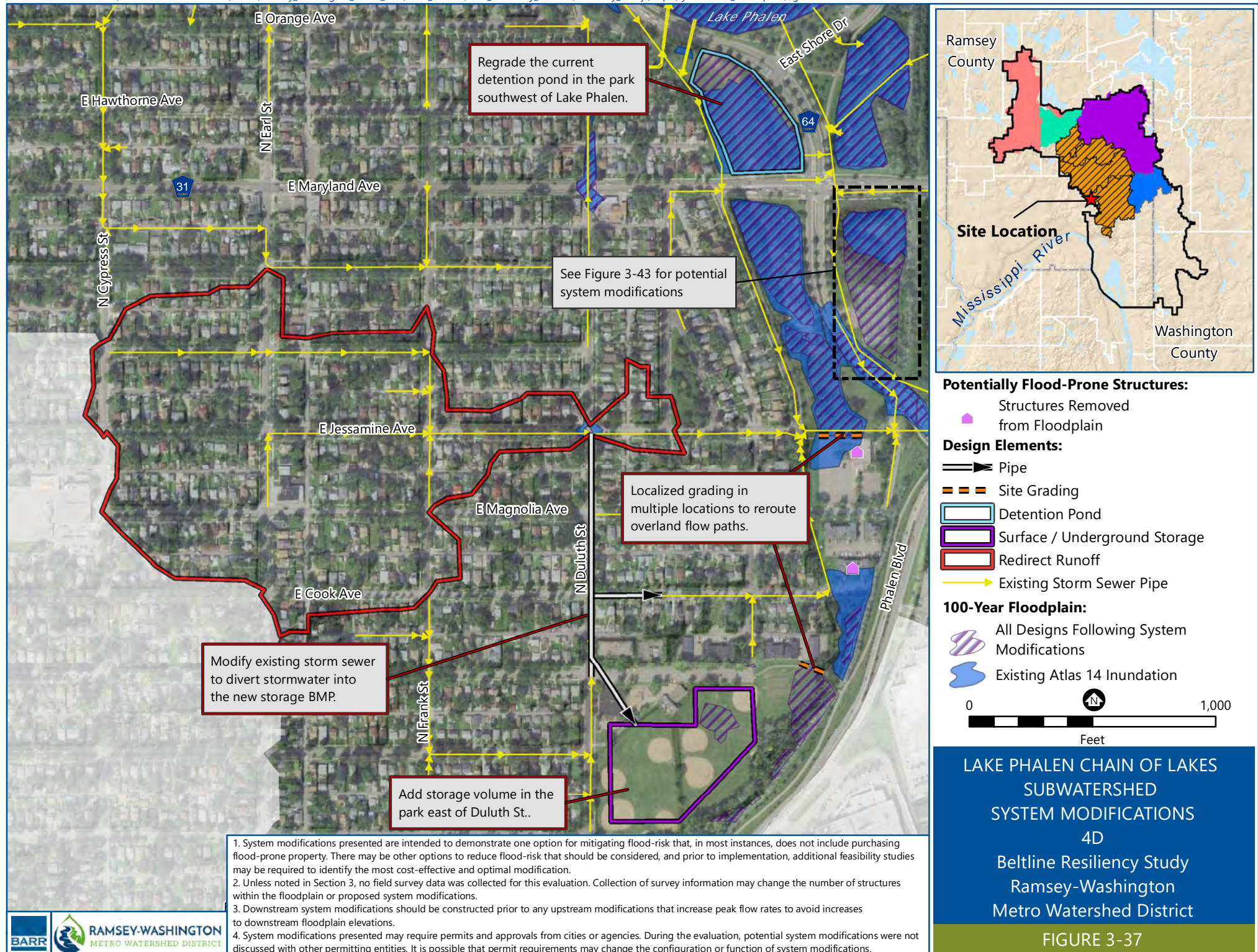
- Evaluate diverting stormwater runoff from east of White Bear Avenue and the connection to the Beltline (Figure 3-42)
- Evaluate constructing a new detention pond southeast of the intersection of Maryland Avenue and Johnson Parkway (Figure 3-43)
- Evaluate regrading the current detention pond north of Maryland Avenue (Figure 3-43)
- Evaluate increasing the culvert capacity south of Magnolia Avenue (Figure 3-44)— by adding a 36-inch circular concrete pipe, or equivalent
- Evaluate increasing the culvert capacity south of Magnolia Avenue (Figure 3-44)
- Evaluate increasing the culvert capacity at Magnolia Avenue (Figure 3-44)
- Evaluate constructing a new detention pond south of Magnolia Avenue (Figure 3-44)
- Evaluate adding a pond southeast of the intersection of Phalen Boulevard and Johnson Parkway (Figure 3-44)
- Evaluate expanding the stormwater pond south of the intersection of Phalen Boulevard and Johnson Parkway (Figure 3-44)

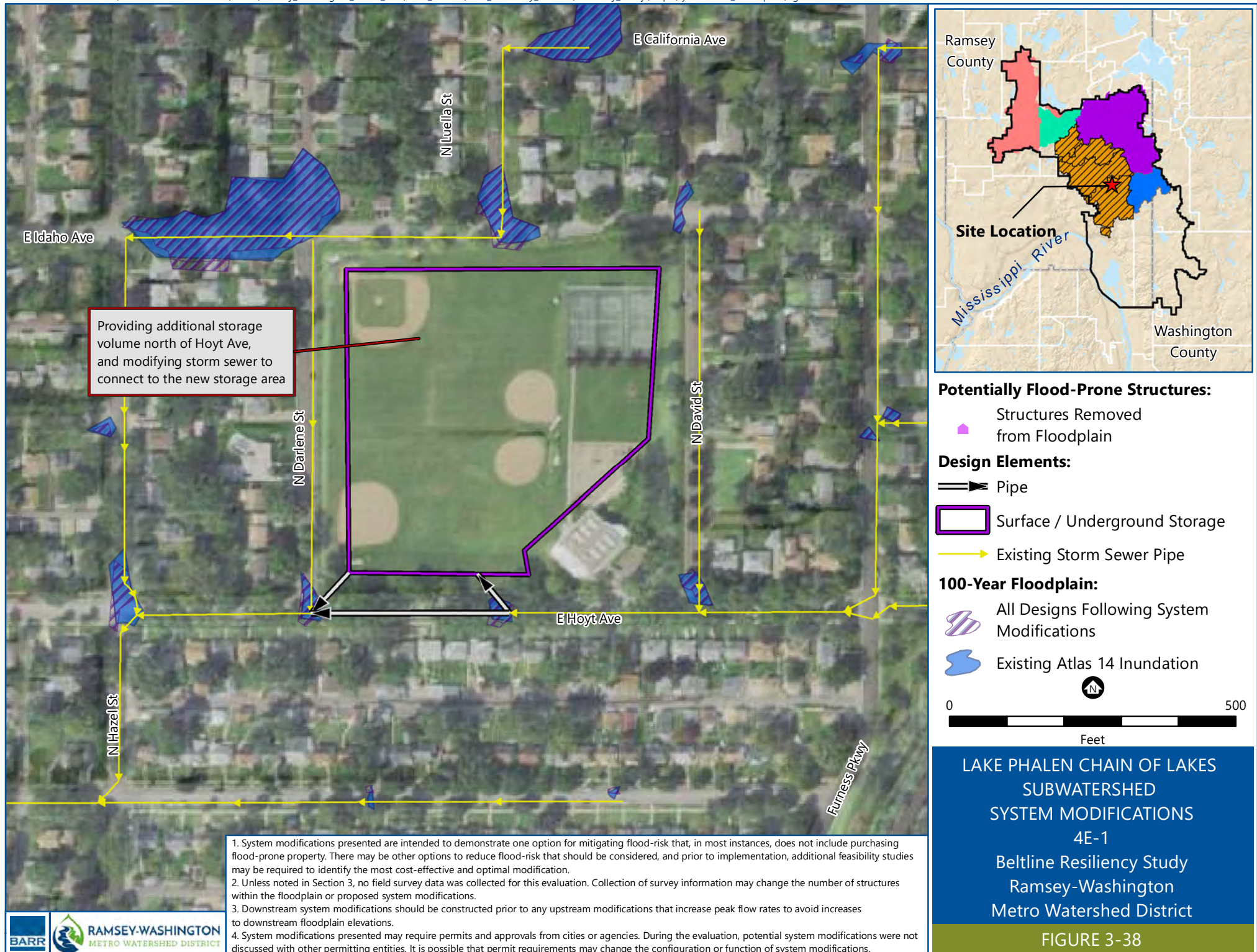


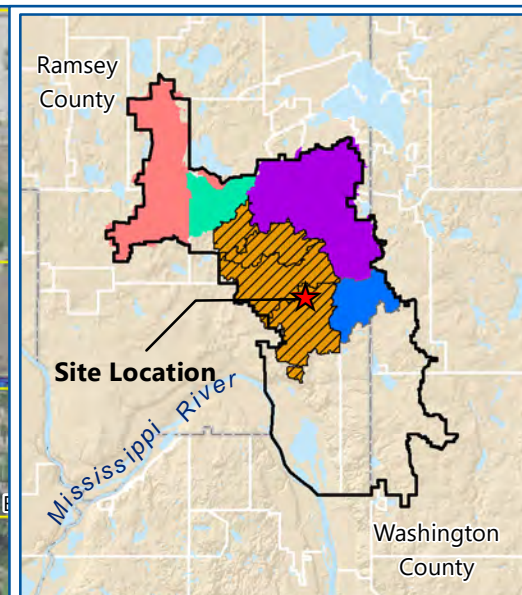
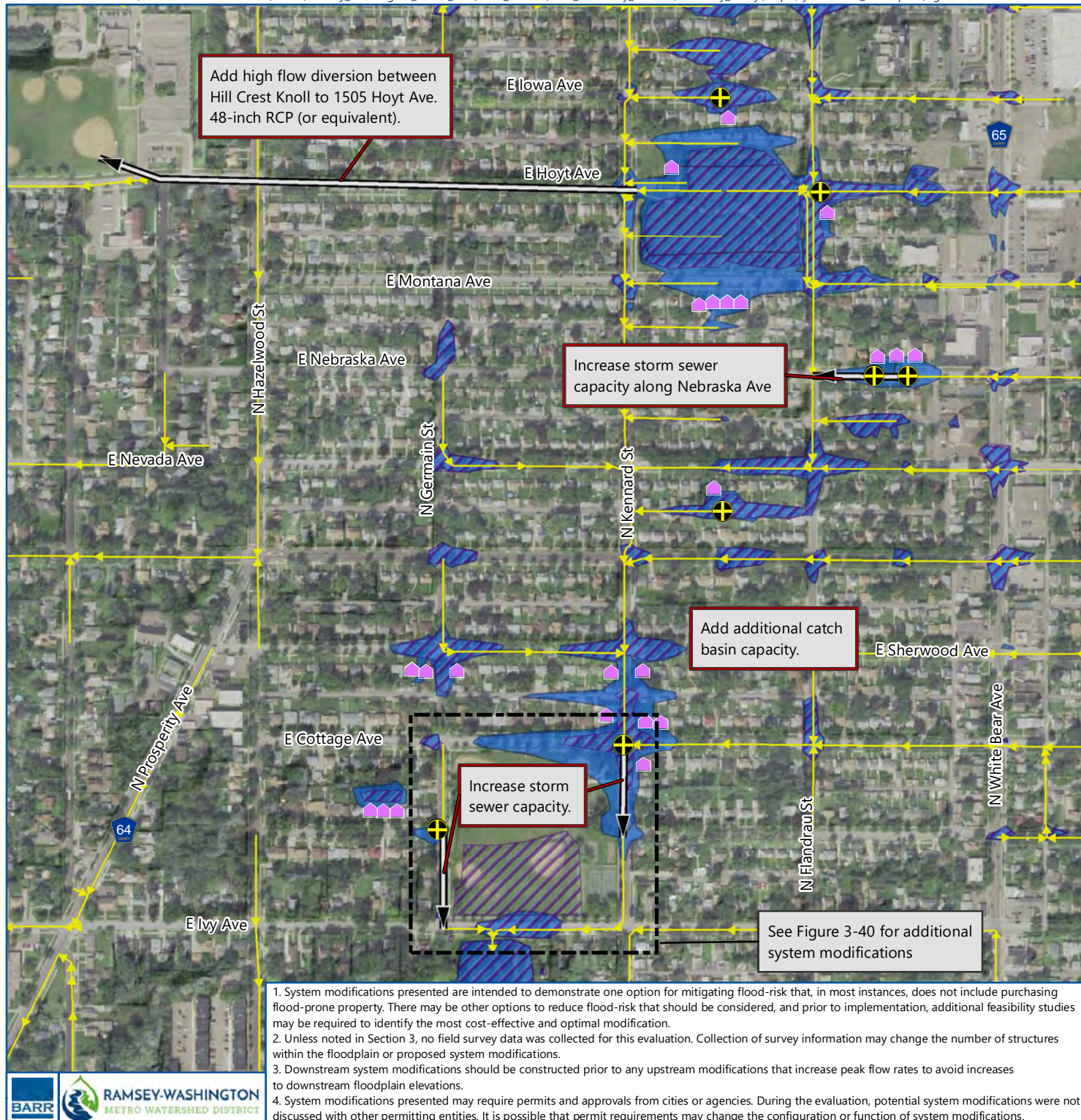












Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

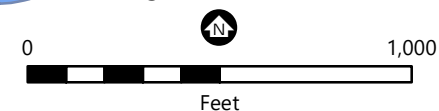
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Add Inlet Capacity
- Pipe
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

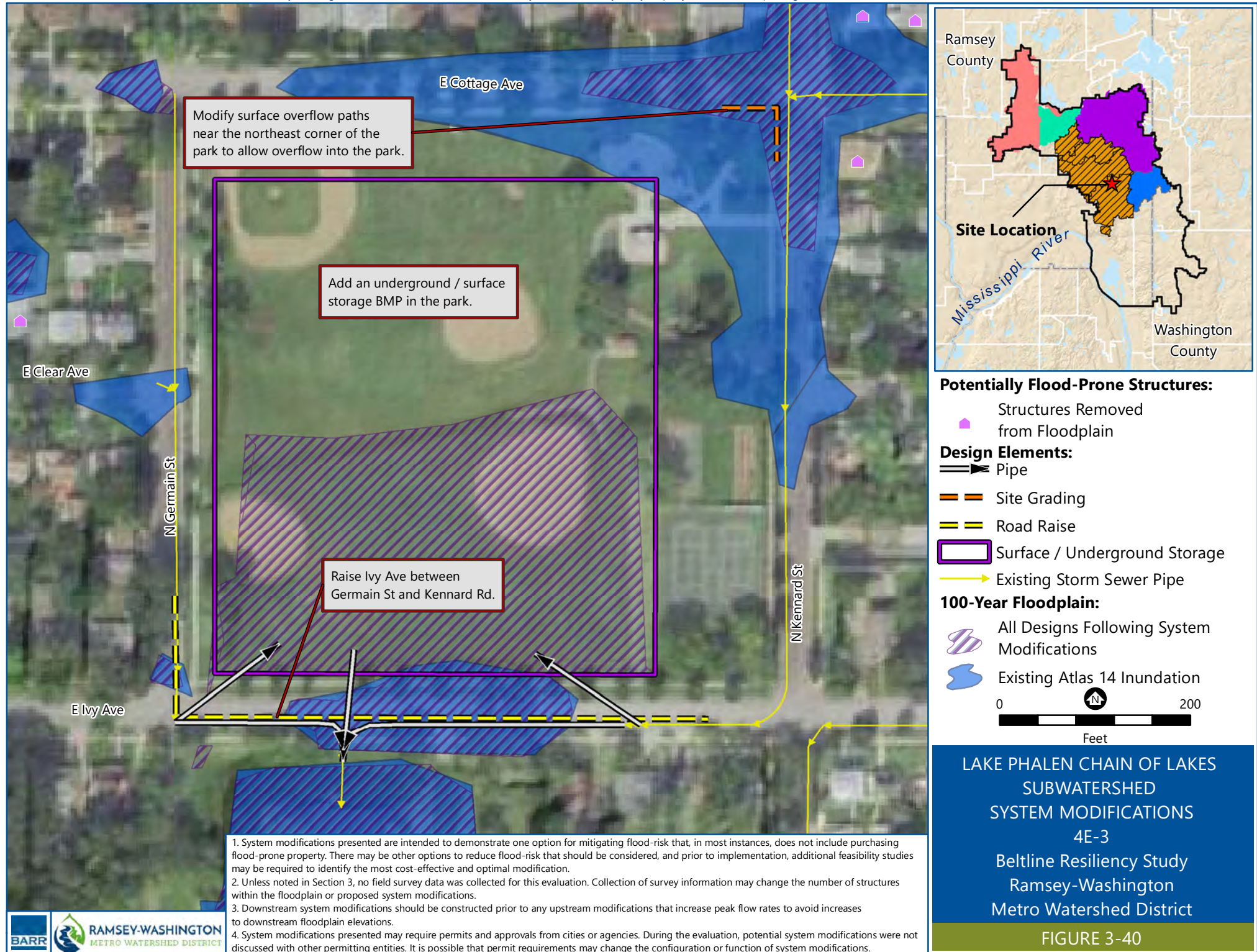
- All Designs Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

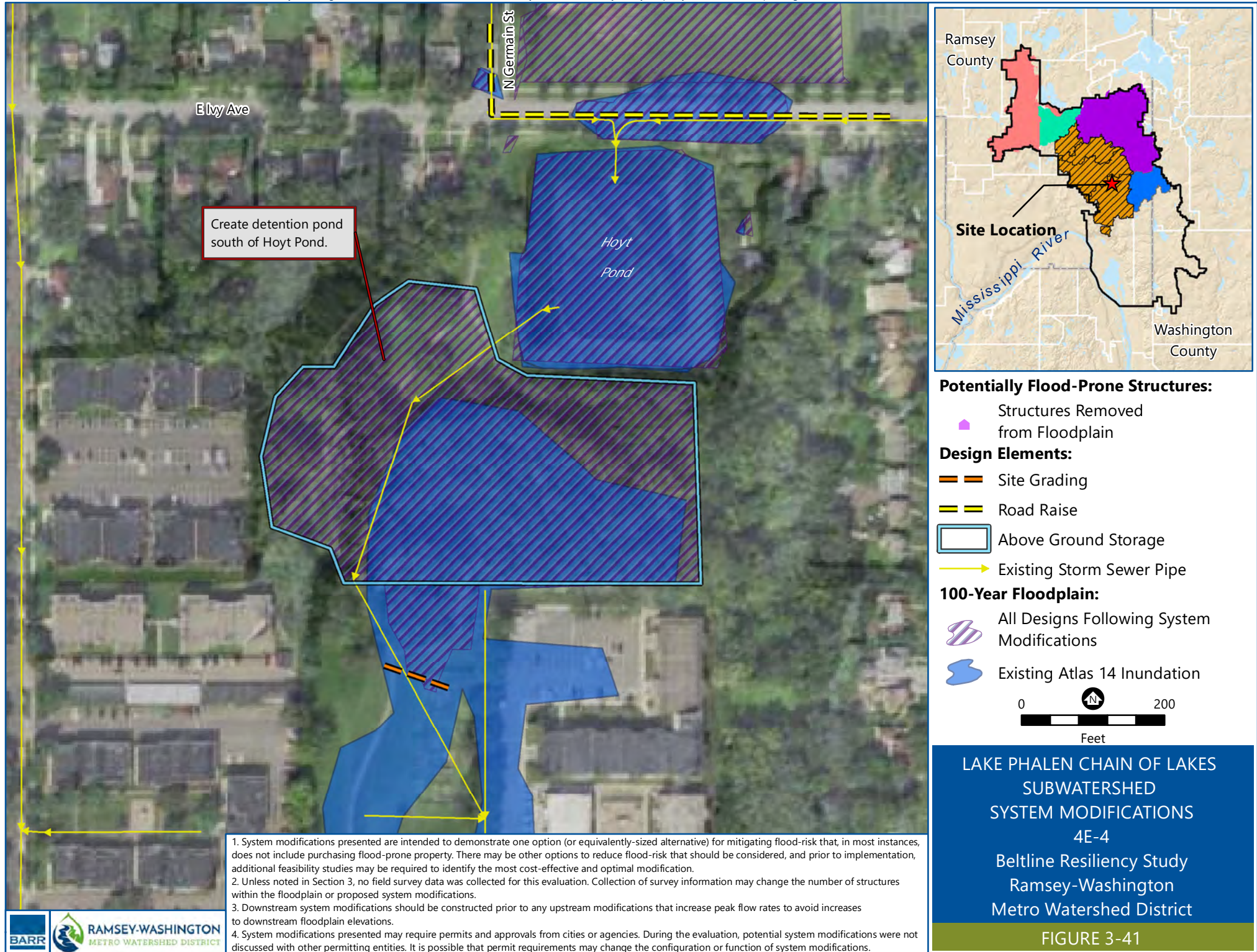


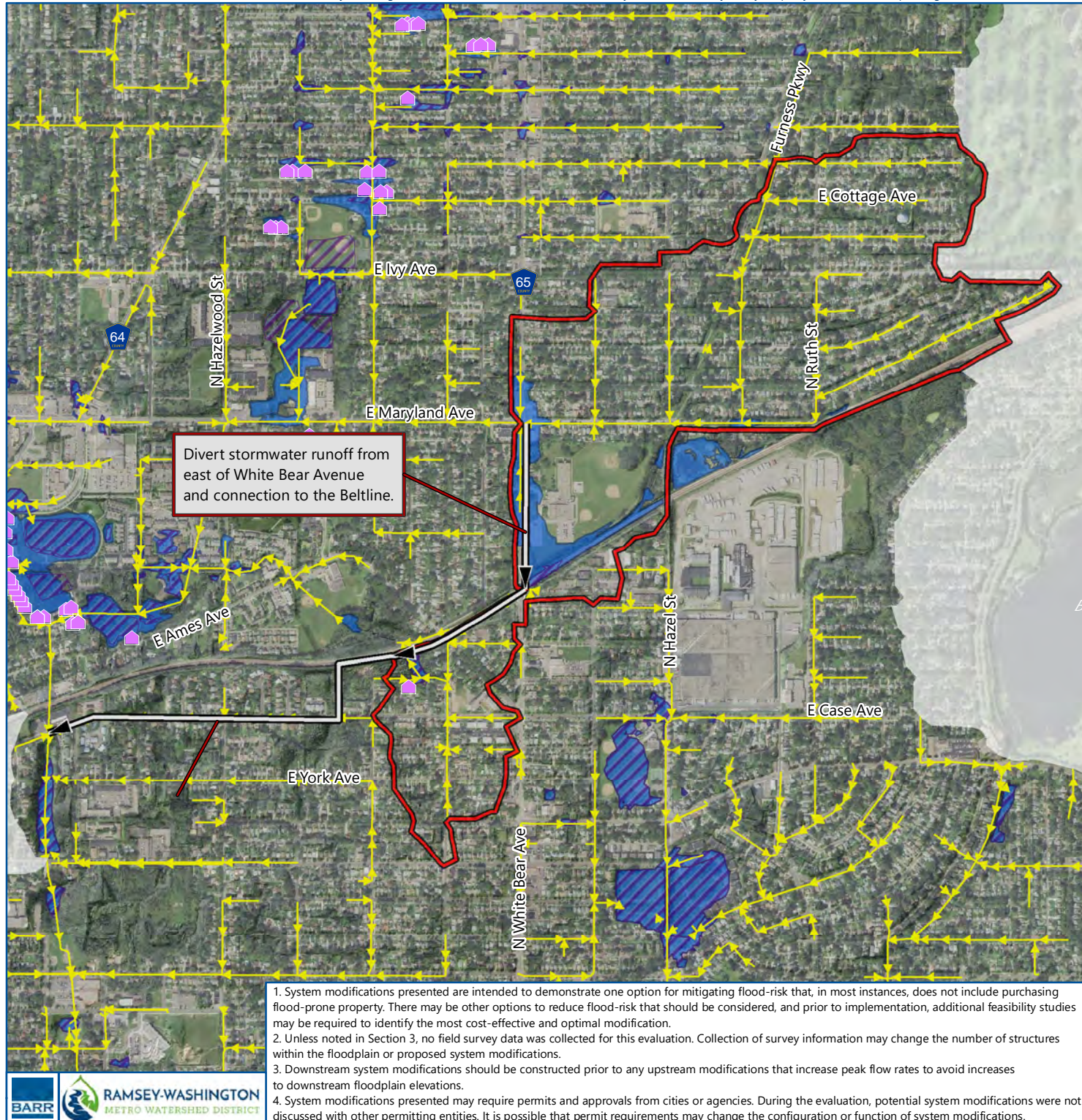
LAKE PHALEN CHAIN OF LAKES SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS 4E-2

Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

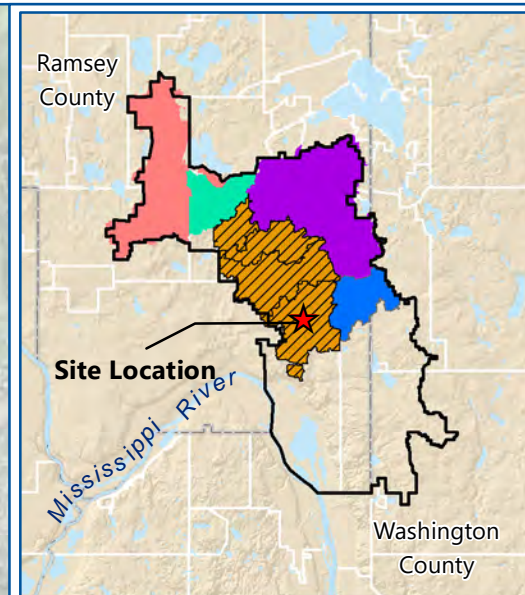
FIGURE 3-39







1. System modifications presented are intended to demonstrate one option for mitigating flood-risk that, in most instances, does not include purchasing flood-prone property. There may be other options to reduce flood-risk that should be considered, and prior to implementation, additional feasibility studies may be required to identify the most cost-effective and optimal modification.
2. Unless noted in Section 3, no field survey data was collected for this evaluation. Collection of survey information may change the number of structures within the floodplain or proposed system modifications.
3. Downstream system modifications should be constructed prior to any upstream modifications that increase peak flow rates to avoid increases to downstream floodplain elevations.
4. System modifications presented may require permits and approvals from cities or agencies. During the evaluation, potential system modifications were not discussed with other permitting entities. It is possible that permit requirements may change the configuration or function of system modifications.



Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

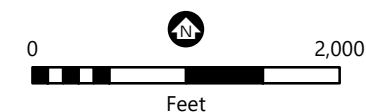
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Redirect Runoff
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

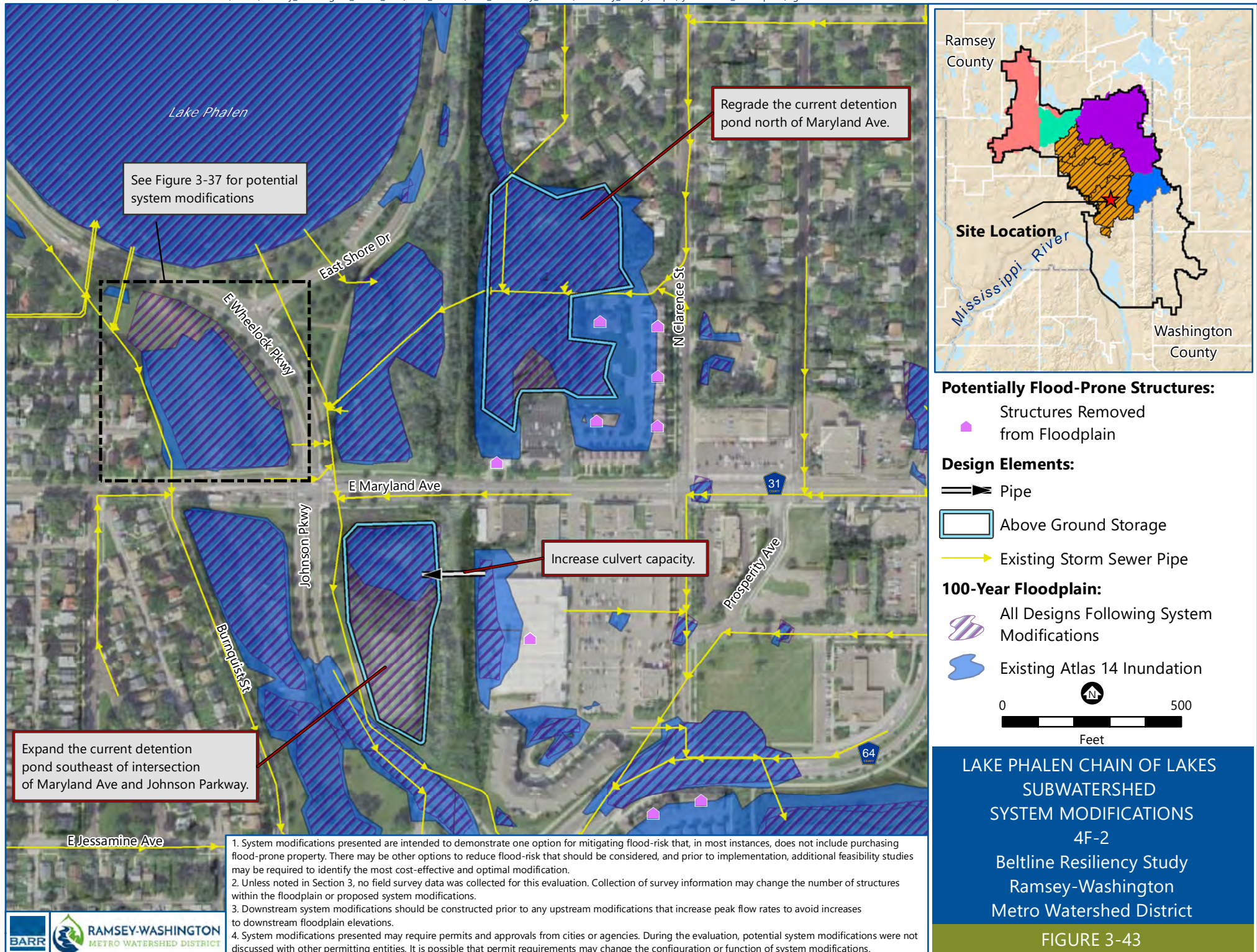
- All Designs Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation

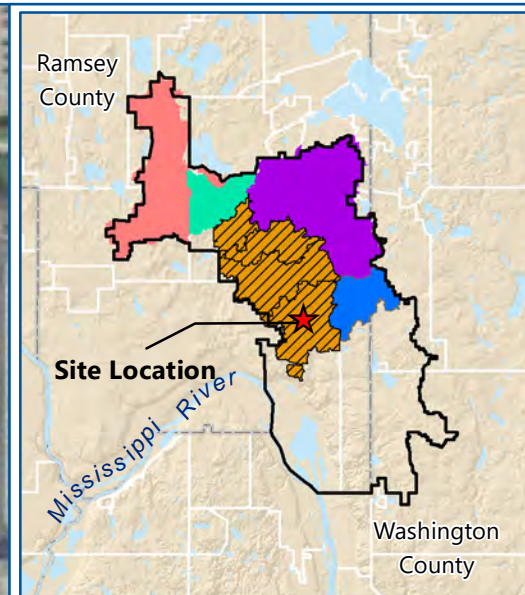
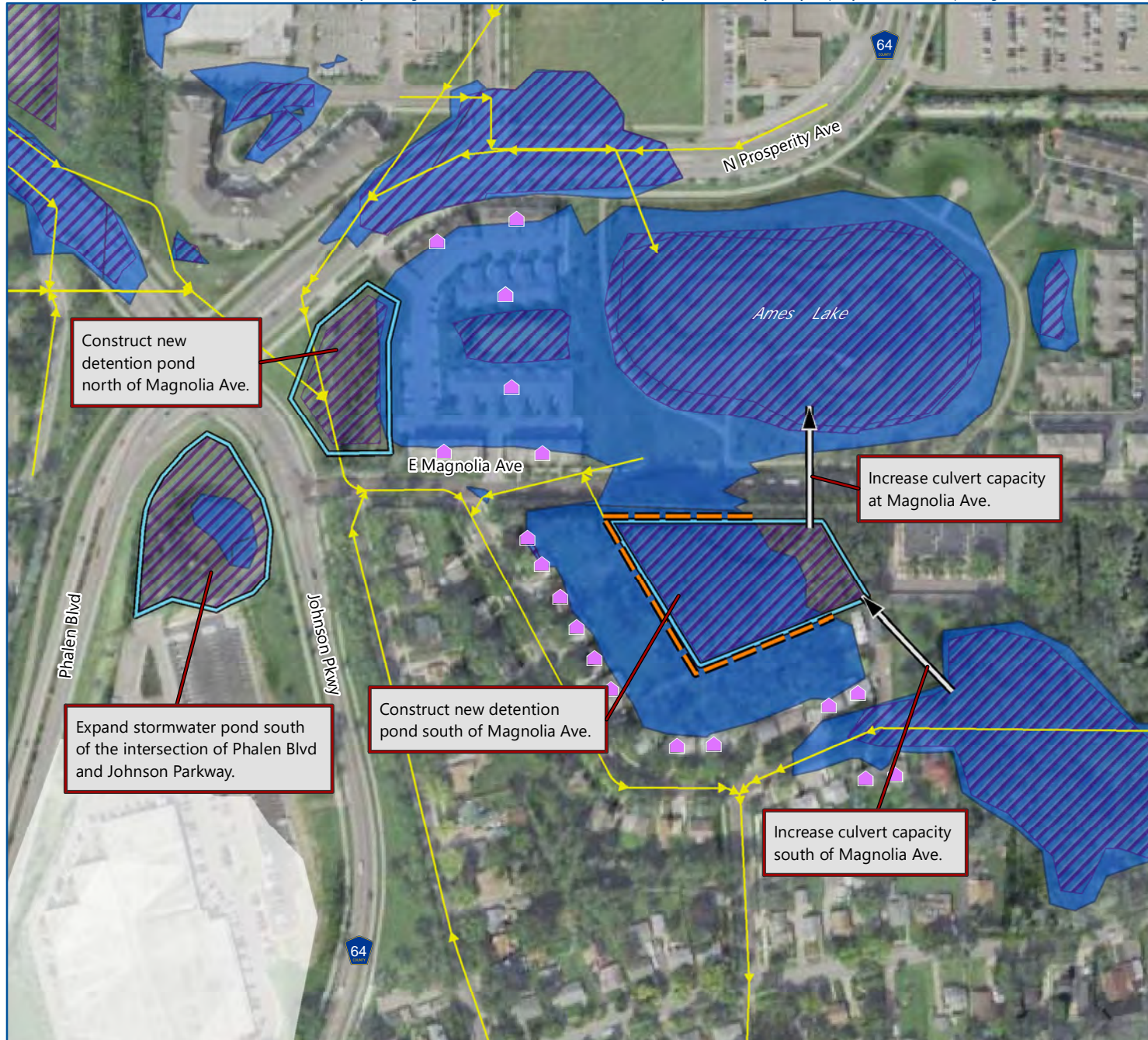


LAKE PHALEN CHAIN OF LAKES SUBWATERSHED SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS 4F-1

Beltline Resiliency Study
Ramsey-Washington
Metro Watershed District

FIGURE 3-42





Potentially Flood-Prone Structures:

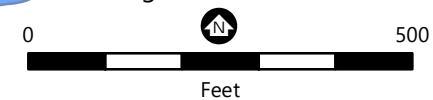
- Structures Removed from Floodplain

Design Elements:

- Pipe
- Site Grading
- Detention Pond
- Existing Storm Sewer Pipe

100-Year Floodplain:

- All Designs Following System Modifications
- Existing Atlas 14 Inundation



1. System modifications presented are intended to demonstrate one option for mitigating flood-risk that, in most instances, does not include purchasing flood-prone property. There may be other options to reduce flood-risk that should be considered, and prior to implementation, additional feasibility studies may be required to identify the most cost-effective and optimal modification.
2. Unless noted in Section 3, no field survey data was collected for this evaluation. Collection of survey information may change the number of structures within the floodplain or proposed system modifications.
3. Downstream system modifications should be constructed prior to any upstream modifications that increase peak flow rates to avoid increases to downstream floodplain elevations.
4. System modifications presented may require permits and approvals from cities or agencies. During the evaluation, potential system modifications were not discussed with other permitting entities. It is possible that permit requirements may change the configuration or function of system modifications.

3.4.3 Flooding Concerns following System Modifications

The potential system modifications result in lowering the 100-year floodplain below the low adjacent grade of habitable structures within the Phalen Chain of Lakes subwatershed. The 100-year floodplain following system modifications is shown in Figure 3-45. Table 3-10 lists the existing 100-year water surface elevation and elevation following modifications to the drainage system.

System improvements, if implemented, provide flood-risk mitigation for habitable structures adjacent to District-managed waterbodies and also several structures where flooding may be due to the local drainage system. A total of 75 structures are removed from the floodplain, as listed in Table 3-10. Of the 75 structures, 28 had been classified as "Local". A key improvement option is the active management of the Phalen and Keller control structures. An operating plan associated with this active management, along with the modification of these structures, will be necessary with any active management of these control points.

Table 3-11 lists the existing 100-year water surface elevation and the elevation following modifications to the drainage system. Table 3-11 also includes planning-level considerations related to project sequencing to avoid increases to downstream water levels. Project sequencing refers to the order that system modifications should be constructed to prevent adverse downstream impacts. A planning-level schematic for sequencing of potential system modifications is included in Appendix A.

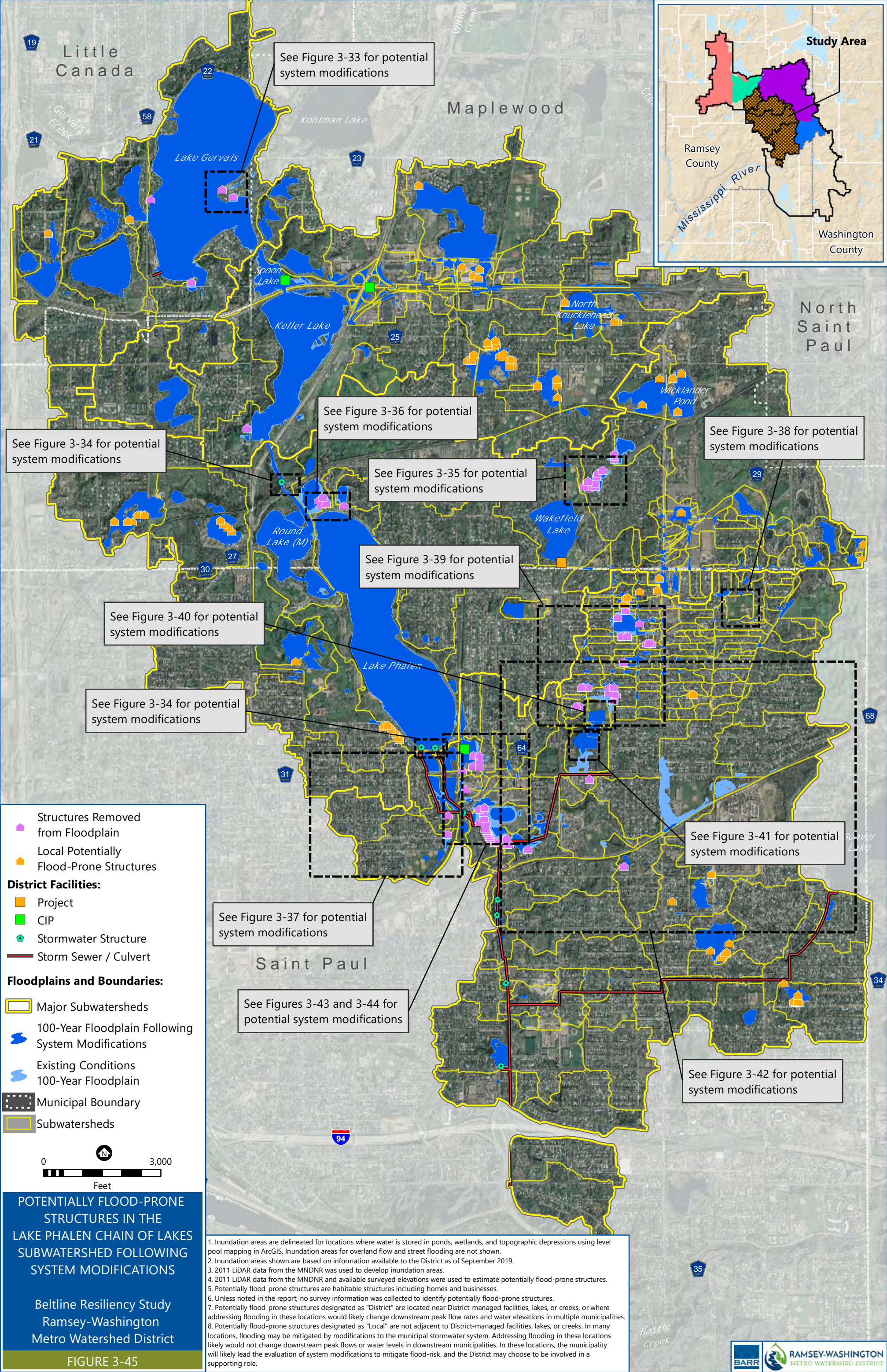
Table 3-10 Potentially Flood-Prone Structures in the Lake Phalen Chain of Lakes Subwatershed

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ¹ | Existing 100-year Water Surface Elevation | 100-year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 272922220145 | 1342 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 855.7 | 857.9 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922220157 | 1340 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 855.8 | 857.9 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922220140 | 1350 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 856.2 | 857.9 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230014 | 1381 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 856.4 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922220129 | 1360 Phalen Blvd, St. Paul 55106 | 856.6 | 857.9 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230013 | 1389 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 856.8 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922220134 | 1355 Magnolia Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.3 | 857.9 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230007 | 1415 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.6 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230011 | 1397 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.6 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230012 | 1393 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.7 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230010 | 1401 Mechanic Ave E, St. Paul 55106 | 857.7 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922220150 | 1343 Magnolia Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.9 | 857.9 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230003 | 1433 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 858.0 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 222922330167-69 ² | 1251, 1253, 1255 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 858.1 | 860.0 | 861.3 ³ | 4F | N/A |

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ¹ | Existing 100-year Water Surface Elevation | 100-year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 272922230006 | 1421 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 858.2 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 222922330170-74 ² | 1235,1237,1239,1241,1243 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 858.3 | 860.0 | 861.3 ³ | 4F | N/A |
| 272922230002 | 1437 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.4 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 222922330175-79 ² | 1221,1223,1225,1227,1229 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 858.6 | 860.0 | 861.3 ³ | 4F | N/A |
| 282922110118 | 1275 Magnolia Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 858.8 | 860.7 | 860.6 | 4D | N/A |
| 272922230009 | 1405 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 857.8 | 858.4 | 854.7 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922220162 | 1177 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 859.5 | 861.3 | 860.6 | 4F | N/A |
| 222922330180-84 ² | 1205,1207,1209,1211,1213 Clarence St, St. Paul 55106 | 859.8 | 860.0 | 861.3 ³ | 4F | N/A |
| 222922330192-95 ² | 1333, 1335,1337,1339 Maryland Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 859.8 | 860.0 | 861.3 ³ | 4F | N/A |
| 222922330104 | 1305 Maryland Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 859.5 | 860.0 | 861.3 ³ | 4F | N/A |
| 082922120012 | 2540 Edgerton St, Little Canada 55117 | 860.8 | 861.8 | 861.5 ³ | 4A | N/A |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 861.7 | 863.2 | 861.7 ⁴ | 4C | 4A |
| 082922420003 | 681 B2, Little Canada 55117 | 861.7 | 861.8 | 861.5 | 4A | N/A |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 861.9 | 863.2 | 861.7 | 4C | 4A |
| 082922110018 | 750 Carla Ln, Little Canada 55109 | 861.5 | 861.8 | 861.5 ⁴ | 4A | N/A |
| 172922140072 | 2009 Arcade St, Maplewood 55109 | 861.4 | 861.8 | 861.4 ⁴ | 4A | N/A |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 862.4 | 863.2 | 861.7 | 4C | 4A |
| 272922240056 | 1465 Ames Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 862.7 | 863.5 | 861.6 | 4F | N/A |
| 162922310010 | 1858 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 863.0 | 863.0 | 862.3 | 4C | 4A |
| 282922140007 | 1267 Cook Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 863.1 | 863.2 | 860.6 | 4D | N/A |
| 272922240061 | 1442 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 863.2 | 863.5 | 861.6 | 4F | N/A |
| 162922310028 | 1880 East Shore Dr, Maplewood 55109 | 862.5 | 863.2 | 861.7 | 4C | 4A |
| 272922230042 | 1438 Mechanic Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 862.8 | 863.5 | 861.6 | 4F | N/A |
| 272922120039 | 1604 Maryland Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 893.8 | 894.1 | 885.8 | 4E | N/A |
| 152922420002 | 1638 Frost Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.5 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420006 | 1880 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.6 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420004 | 1904 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.8 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420031 | 1872 Prosperity Rd, Maplewood 55109 | 901.9 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420007 | 1870 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 901.9 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420005 | 1894 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 902.7 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420032 | 1871 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 903.0 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922140032 | 1936 Kennard St, Maplewood 55109 | 903.3 | 904.1 | 902.2 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922420033 | 1885 Maryknoll Ave, Maplewood 55109 | 903.4 | 903.4 | 901.3 | 4B | N/A |
| 152922140030 | 1948 Kennard St, Maplewood 55109 | 903.9 | 904.1 | 902.2 | 4B | N/A |

| Parcel ID | Address | Lowest Adjacent Grade ¹ | Existing 100-year Water Surface Elevation | 100-year Water Surface Elevation following System Modifications | System Modification to Reduce Flood Risk | Prerequisite System Modifications |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 152922140031 | 1944 Kennard St, Maplewood 55109 | 904.1 | 904.1 | 902.2 | 4B | N/A |
| 272922140130 | 1688 Lacrosse St, St. Paul 55106 | 909.7 | 909.8 | 909.7 ⁴ | 4F | N/A |
| 222922420114 | 1583 Clear Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 916.4 | 918.2 | 916.0 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420113 | 1577 Clear Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 916.9 | 918.2 | 916.0 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420115 | 1589 Clear Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 916.9 | 918.2 | 916.0 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420139 | 1655 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 921.6 | 923.2 | 921.3 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922410125 | 1659 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 922.2 | 923.2 | 921.3 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922410144 | 1660 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.1 | 923.2 | 921.3 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420076 | 1592 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.2 | 923.3 | 923.2 ⁴ | 4E | N/A |
| 222922410124 | 1662 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 922.9 | 923.2 | 921.3 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420075 | 1598 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.3 | 923.3 | 923.2 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420025 | 1658 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.2 | 923.2 | 921.3 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922420036 | 1600 Sherwood Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.3 | 923.3 | 923.2 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922410126 | 1665 Cottage Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 923.2 | 923.2 | 921.3 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140108 | 1696 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.4 | 928.0 | 927.1 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140110 | 1684 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.5 | 928.0 | 924.5 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922110135 | 1671 Hoyt Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.7 | 928.0 | 924.5 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140109 | 1690 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.7 | 928.0 | 927.1 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140011 | 1720 Hoyt Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 928.0 | 928.0 | 927.7 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140111 | 1680 Montana Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.5 | 928.0 | 927.1 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922110126 | 1696 Iowa Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 927.9 | 928.0 | 924.5 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140158 | 1688 Nevada Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 929.9 | 929.9 | 929.8 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140033 | 1739 Nebraska Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 931.8 | 932.5 | 930.8 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140034 | 1745 Nebraska Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 931.8 | 932.5 | 929.5 | 4E | N/A |
| 222922140035 | 1751 Nebraska Ave, St. Paul 55106 | 932.1 | 932.5 | 929.5 | 4E | N/A |
| 082922110012 | 737 Carla Ln, Little Canada 55109 | 860.7 | 861.8 | 861.5 ⁵ | 4A | N/A |

- (1) Reference [5] and [10]
- (2) The combined parcel ID is based on the multi-family (townhouse) building type; for each building listed, the combined parcel ID and the addresses listed are all impacted.
- (3) This low adjacent grade is lower than the modeling results of the adjacent inundation, but the structures will be protected by the proposed site grading.
- (4) The low adjacent grades are rounded to 0.1 foot due to the accuracy of LiDAR; the actual modeling results are lower than the low adjacent grade before rounding.
- (5) Minor grading to flood proof this building would be brought in as an alternative to the existing Emergency Response Plan (Reference [10]).



3.5 Phase 5 – Beaver Lake Subwatershed

3.5.1 Current Condition Flooding Concerns

A total of 24 structures were identified as potentially flood prone in the Beaver Lake subwatershed. All of the structures identified are classified as “Local.” No flood-prone structures are located on Beaver Lake, but there are two flood-prone structures upstream of Beaver Lake.

3.5.2 Potential System Modifications Evaluated

Beaver Lake is upstream of the Beltline. Active management of the Beaver Lake outlet structure was considered to optimize the timing of water conveyed to the Beltline. The District stormwater model was used to simulate conditions in the Beltline and water levels in Lake Phalen, assuming there was no inflow from Beaver Lake. Simulation results indicated that the water surface elevation in Lake Phalen (and the rest of the Chain) did not change when inflows from Beaver Lake were removed, as shown in Table 3-11.

Table 3-11 Comparison of Water Surface Elevations with and without Beaver Lake Outlet Operation in the 100-Year, 96-Hour Event

| | Water Surface Elevation in Lake Phalen | Number of Potentially Impacted Structures near the Lakes |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Existing Condition ¹ | 861.9 | 3 |
| With Beaver Lake Outlet Operation | 861.9 | 3 |

¹ The existing condition includes the proposed concept updates from Phase 2, Phase 3, and Phase 4.

The peak discharge downstream of Beaver Lake is only 80 cubic feet per second and occurs before the peak discharge from Lake Phalen, as shown in Figure 3-46. Because the timing of the flows from Beaver Lake and Lake Phalen do not line up, there are no significant benefits to actively managing the outflow from Beaver Lake. In addition, storing water or reducing the peak may increase flood risk to structures upstream of Beaver Lake.

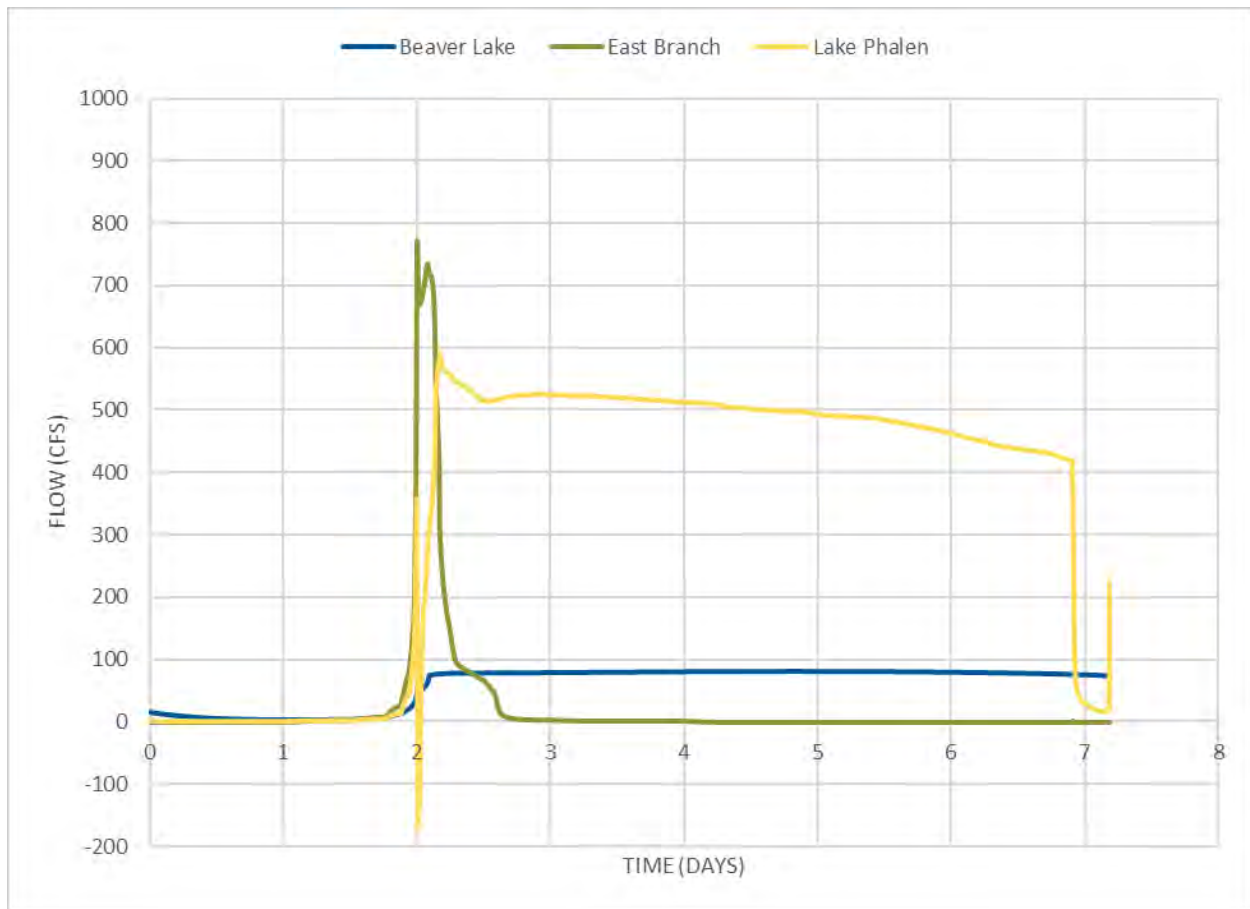


Figure 3-46 Inflow to Saint Paul Beltline

4 Concept Planning-Level Opinion of Probable Construction Cost

There are several factors that affect the cost of implementing a flood-risk-reduction project:

- The volume of stormwater that must be stored within the watershed or conveyed downstream
- The potential to reduce flood risk by retrofitting existing stormwater infrastructure
- The potential to reduce flood risk by constructing new flood-detention facilities
- The potential need to acquire property when other flood-reduction alternatives are not feasible

Evaluating the most cost-efficient flood-reduction project for a given flood-risk area requires (1) review of the source(s) and cause(s) of flooding (requiring detailed hydrologic and hydraulic review), (2) high-level review of available options to mitigate flooding (e.g., Is there sufficient available space for a flood detention project? Is there enough grade to excavate and tie-in to existing storm sewer utilities?, etc.), and (3) preliminary design and cost-comparison analysis of feasible flood-mitigation alternatives. Due to the large number of flood-risk areas identified, it was not practical to perform detailed analysis of multiple flood-mitigation alternatives and develop associated cost estimates for each within the scope of this project.

A planning-level opinion of cost was developed for each system modification. However, more cost-effective modifications may be identified during a detailed feasibility study.

The opinions of cost, project reserves, contingency, documentation, and discussion are intended to provide background information for planning-level alternatives assessment, analysis purposes, and budget consideration by RWMWD. The cost of time escalation is not included in the opinions of probable cost. All costs are presented in 2019 US dollars.

Opinions of costs are primarily based on stochastic estimating methods based on recent bid prices for similar projects within RWMWD and the Twin Cities metropolitan area, published construction cost index resources, and similar stormwater projects. Quantities were estimated with calculations based on available information. Dimensions, areas, and volumes for construction were estimated using Excel, GIS, and available information on the drainage system.

Costs associated with base planning engineering and design (PED) and construction management (CM) are based on percentages of estimated construction cost. Costs associated with construction management are estimated costs to manage the construction process based on Barr's experience with similar projects but may change depending on the type of system modification ultimately selected for a given location.

Due to the limited project definition available at this time, costs associated with mobilization (10%); planning, engineering, and design (10%); construction management (7%); and erosion control (3%) were

estimated as a percentage of the construction cost for each modification. The percentages are based on projects of similar scale to the potential system modification.

The estimates do not include costs associated with permitting and regulatory approvals, easement or land acquisition, wetland mitigation, utility relocation, or regional restoration for disturbed areas outside of the construction extents.

The opinions of cost include tasks and items related to engineering and design and constructing each system modification. The opinions of cost do not include other tasks following construction of each modification presented, such as operations and maintenance or monitoring.

Contingency used in these opinions of probable cost is intended to help identify an estimated construction cost for minor items in the project scope that have not yet been quantified or estimated. Those cost estimates will be refined during site specific feasibility evaluations. Stated another way, contingency is the result of the pluses and minuses that cannot be estimated at the level of project definition that exists. The contingency includes the cost of ancillary items not currently itemized in the quantity summaries but commonly identified in more detailed design and required for completeness of the work. A 50% contingency is applied to the estimated construction cost to account for the costs of these items.

Industry resources for cost estimating (Reference [11], [12]) provide guidance on cost uncertainty, depending on the level of project design developed. The opinion of probable cost for the alternatives evaluated generally corresponds to a Class 5 estimate, characterized by completion of limited engineering and use of stochastic estimating methods. As the level of design detail increases, the level of uncertainty is reduced. Figure 4-1 provides a graphic representation of how uncertainty (or accuracy) of cost estimates can be expected to improve as more detailed design is developed.

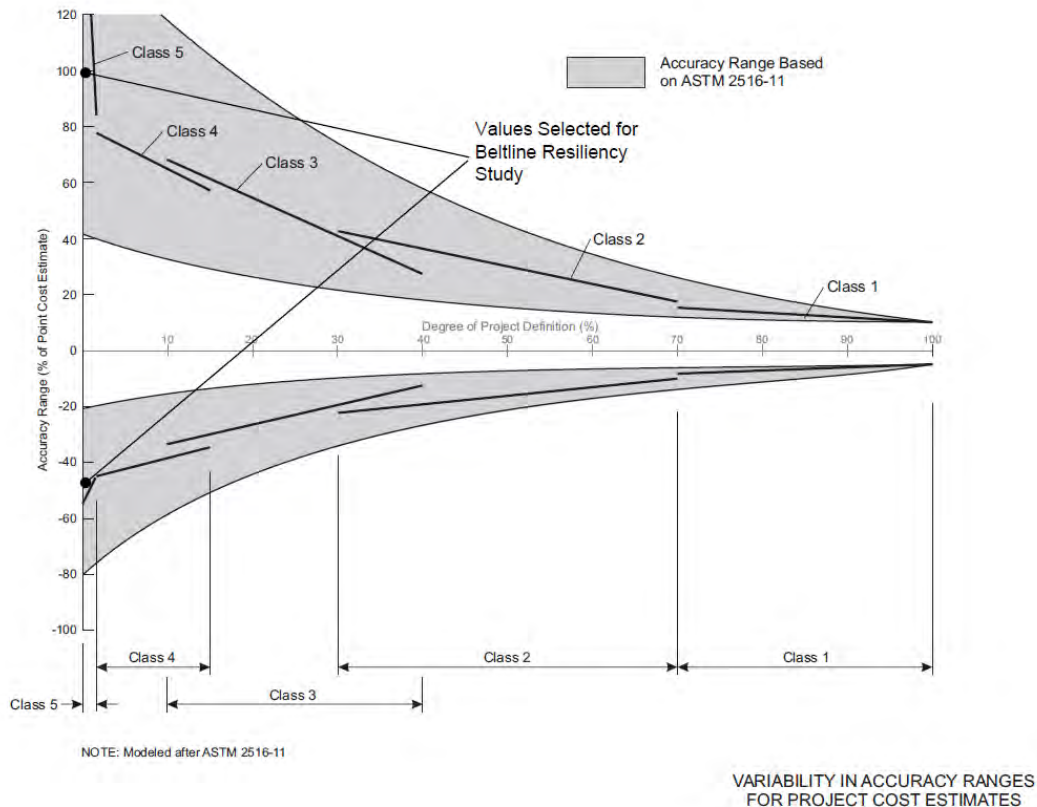


Figure 4-1 Relationship between Cost Accuracy and Degree of Project Definition

At this early stage of project definition, the range of uncertainty of total project cost is high. Due to the early stage of project definition, it is standard practice to place a broad accuracy range around the point cost estimate.

The accuracy range is based on professional judgment considering the level of design completed, the complexity of the project, and the uncertainties in the project scope; the accuracy range does not include costs for future scope changes that are not part of the project as currently defined or risk contingency. The estimated accuracy range for this point estimate is -50% to +100%.

The opinion of probable cost provided is made on the basis of Barr Engineering Co.'s (Barr) experience and qualifications and represents our best judgment as experienced and qualified professionals familiar with the project. It is acknowledged that additional investigations and site-specific information that becomes available in the next stage of evaluation may result in changes to the proposed configuration, cost, and functioning of project features. These opinions are based on project-related information available to Barr at this time and includes a planning-level feasibility design of the project. The opinions of cost may change as more information becomes available and further evaluation is completed. In addition, because we have no control over the eventual cost of labor, materials, equipment, or services furnished by others; over the contractor's methods of determining prices and/or for constructing system modifications;

or over competitive bidding or market conditions, Barr cannot and does not guarantee that proposals, bids, or actual costs will not vary from the opinions of cost presented.

To reduce the uncertainty associated with the opinions of cost, additional evaluation is needed to better define system modifications. In many locations, this may include completion of feasibility studies to identify the optimal type of system modification for the specific location.

Table 4-1 through Table 4-4 include opinions of cost for system modifications for each phase. Table 4-5 includes opinions of cost for all system modifications upstream of the Beltline.

Table 4-1 Opinions of Probable Cost for Gervais Creek System Modifications

| System Modification | Description | Low Cost (-50%) (\$) | High Cost (+100%) (\$) | Figure |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Phase 1 | Gervais Creek | \$10,264,000 | \$41,049,000 | |
| 1A | <i>Ryan Drive and North Star Estates</i> | \$1,070,000 | \$4,279,000 | Figure 3-2 |
| 1B | <i>MnDOT Diversion</i> | \$5,870,000 | \$23,478,000 | Figure 3-3 |
| 1C | <i>West Industrial Diversion</i> | \$488,000 | \$1,950,000 | Figure 3-4 |
| 1D | <i>Gervais Creek</i> | \$2,836,000 | \$11,342,000 | Figure 3-5 |

Table 4-2 Opinions of Probable Cost for Grass Lake System Modifications

| System Modification | Description | Low Cost (-50%) (\$) | High Cost (+100%) (\$) | Figure |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Phase 2 | Grass Lake | \$20,584,000 | \$82,332,000 | |
| 2A | <i>Victoria Street</i> | \$525,000 | \$2,099,000 | Figure 3-9 |
| 2B | <i>Lake Owasso</i> | \$293,000 | \$1,169,000 | Figure 3-10 |
| 2C | <i>Lake Wabasso, Grass Lake, and West Vadnais Lake</i> | \$19,766,000 | \$79,064,000 | Figure 3-11, Figure 3-12 |

Table 4-3 Opinions of Probable Cost for Kohlman Creek and Willow Creek System Modifications

| System Modification | Description | Low Cost (-50%) (\$) | High Cost (+100%) (\$) | Figure |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Phase 3 | Kohlman Creek and Willow Creek | \$53,102,000 | \$212,400,000 | |
| 3A | Highway 61N | \$2,125,000 | \$8,498,000 | Figure 3-18 |
| 3B | Willow Lake | \$395,000 | \$1,578,000 | Figure 3-19 |
| 3C | Saint Paul Ecology Center | \$13,974,000 | \$55,896,000 | Figure 3-20, Figure 3-21 |
| 3D | PCU Pond | \$2,997,000 | \$11,988,000 | Figure 3-22, Figure 3-23 |
| 3E | Casey Lake | \$765,000 | \$3,059,000 | Figure 3-24 |
| 3F | West of White Bear Avenue North | \$32,383,000 | \$129,530,000 | Figure 3-25 – Figure 3-28 |
| 3G | Markham Pond and Kohlman Basin | \$463,000 | \$1,851,000 | Figure 3-29 |

Table 4-4 Opinions of Probable Cost for Phalen Chain of Lakes System Modifications

| System Modification | Description | Low Cost (-50%) (\$) | High Cost (+100%) (\$) | Figure |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Phase 4 | Phalen Chain of Lakes | \$58,030,000 | \$232,111,000 | |
| 4A | Lake Phalen and Keller Lake Outlet Structures | \$746,000 | \$2,984,000 | Figure 3-33, Figure 3-34 |
| 4B | Wakefield Lake | \$1,528,000 | \$6,111,000 | Figure 3-35 |
| 4C | Phalen Village | \$459,000 | \$1,836,000 | Figure 3-36 |
| 4D | Duluth Street Recreational Center | \$9,209,000 | \$36,834,000 | Figure 3-37 |
| 4E | Hoyt Pond | \$30,789,000 | \$123,153,000 | Figure 3-38 – Figure 3-41 |
| 4F | Ames Lake | \$15,299,000 | \$61,193,000 | Figure 3-42 – Figure 3-44 |

Table 4-5 Opinions of Probable Cost for System Modifications Upstream of Beltline

| System Modification | Description | Removed Structures | Low Cost (-50%) (\$) | High Cost (+100%) (\$) |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Phase 1 | Gervais Lake | 101 | \$10,264,000 | \$41,049,000 |
| Phase 2 | Grass Lake | 10 | \$20,584,000 | \$82,332,000 |
| Phase 3 | Willow Creek & Kohlman Creek | 41 | \$53,102,000 | \$212,400,000 |
| Phase 4 | Phalen Chain of Lakes | 75 | \$58,030,000 | \$232,111,000 |
| TOTAL | | | \$141,980,000 | \$567,892,000 |

The planning-level opinions of cost in Table 4-5 are included to provide an estimate of the potential cost of flood mitigation for 227 potentially flood-prone structures upstream of the Beltline that were classified as "District" and "Local." As additional evaluation is completed and site-specific information is available the final cost of flood-mitigation may be significantly lower or higher than the planning-level opinions of cost included in Table 4-5.

5 Conclusions and Recommended next steps

The study includes several potential system-level flood damage reduction options, including real-time operation of Lake Phalen and Keller Lake channel outlet structures to actively manage stormwater runoff from flood-prone areas tributary to the Beltline. System modifications presented are intended to demonstrate options for mitigating flood risk that do not include purchasing flood-prone properties.

The study was phased such that, in general, upstream system modifications were evaluated prior to downstream modifications. System modifications that result in increased outlet capacity should be sequenced such that downstream modifications are constructed first to avoid increases to the 100-year water level in those areas. Beyond that general recommendation this study does not include further priority recommendations. The study phases were selected to efficiently complete the stormwater modeling required to evaluate system modifications and are not intended to imply prioritization. The general sequencing discussion is intended to illustrate considerations to avoid downstream impacts to the floodplain and not provide a recommendation regarding which flood-risk areas should be prioritized or addressed first.

The following items are recommended as next steps by the District for further evaluation as they are the backbone of the added resiliency:

1. **Active management of Lake Phalen and Keller Lake control structures (Phase 4).** Active management of the control structures on the Phalen Chain of Lakes could optimize the use of live storage volume without adversely impacting downstream water levels. Without optimizing the live storage, additional floodplain storage volume would be needed to mitigate flood risk for structures on the Phalen Chain of Lakes. Preliminary design and permitting discussions with the MDNR could begin regarding potential modifications. Implementation of the control modification must be coupled with operating plans for each structure. These plans should be developed in concert with structure modifications.
2. **MnDOT diversion (Phase 1).** Additional conveyance capacity is needed to mitigate flood risk for structures in North Star Estates. Additional evaluation regarding permitting, MnDOT coordination, utility conflicts, and alignment evaluation is needed to evaluate the feasibility of diverting stormwater around Owasso Basin and North Star Estates. Permitting issues will be significant and should be estimated and quantified through involvement of stakeholders.
3. **Floodplain storage.** Several modifications include additional floodplain storage. In general, retention or floodplain storage projects do not result in increases to downstream discharges and can be implemented independent of downstream projects. Retention projects include the Willow Lake outlet and Casey Lake outlet control structures. Feasibility studies for these locations are needed to define permit requirements, utility conflicts, and optimize the location and storage volume.

-
4. **Ames Lake.** Several system modifications are necessary to mitigate flood risk near Ames Lake, many of which are projects that the District typically does not implement, including modifications to the local storm sewer system. A detailed feasibility study would be needed to optimize system modifications, coordinate with the City of Saint Paul regarding responsibilities related to flood risk in this area, and document permitting requirements.
 5. **Stakeholder review (all phases).** Potential system modifications presented should be reviewed with municipalities, counties, and MnDOT. Many system modifications presented may impact municipal, county, or state drainage systems. Coordination with stakeholders may identify opportunities for partnerships with regards to funding or optimization of system modifications.

The Beltline resiliency study represents a combination of traditional and nontraditional approaches to modifying a regional urban stormwater system to add resiliency and optimize the system's performance under flood conditions. The modifications evaluated and presented represent options for mitigating flood risk to habitable structures without purchasing flood-prone structures. As detailed feasibility studies are completed for individual system modifications or continued coordination with stakeholders, the project definition, cost, and function of system modifications will be updated.

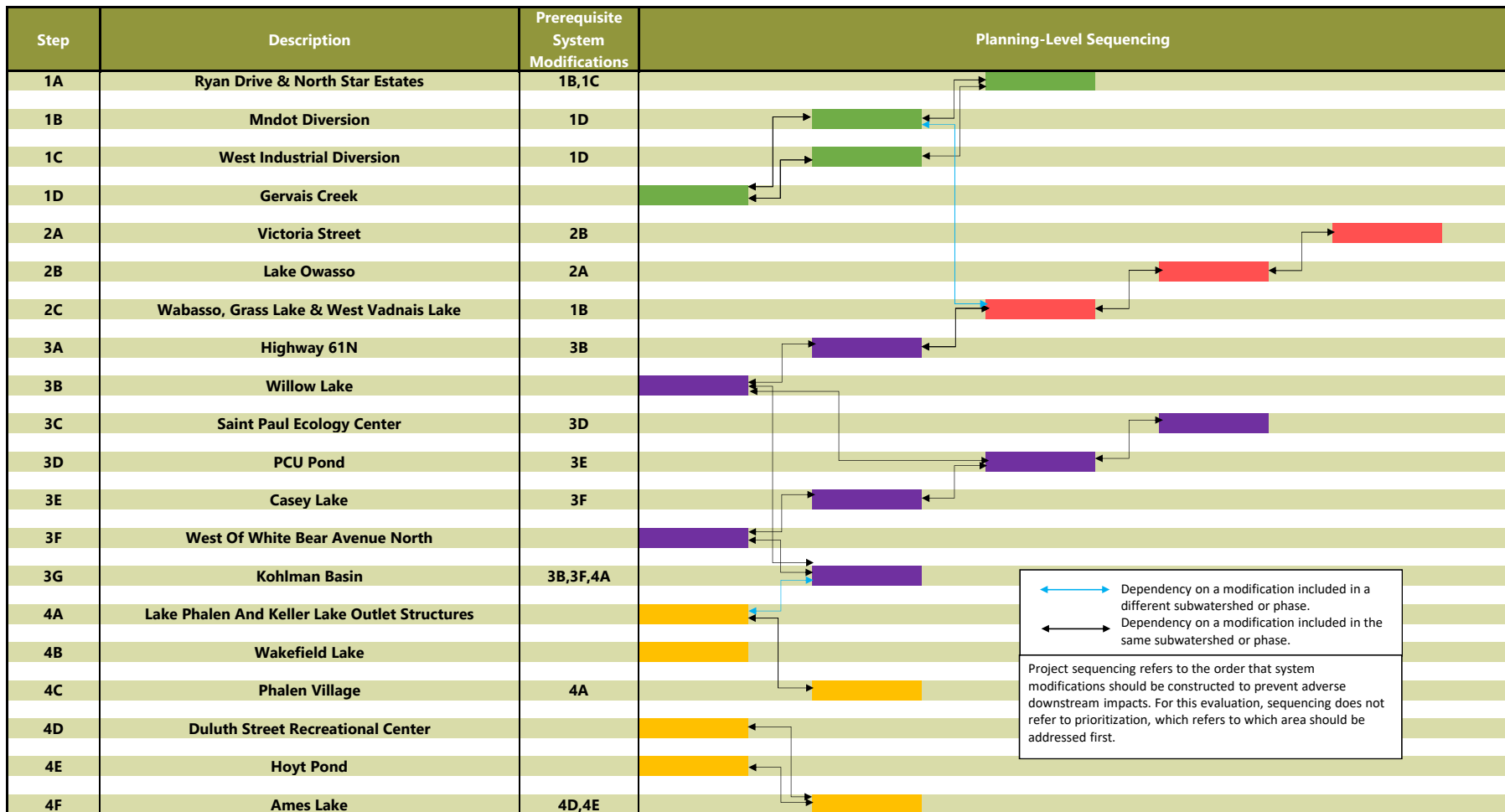
6 References

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Appendix A

Planning-Level Sequencing Schematic

Figure A-1. Planning-Level Sequencing Schematic



Appendix B

Concept Planning-Level Opinion of Probable Cost Verification

There are several factors that affect the cost of implementing a flood-risk reduction project:

- The volume of stormwater that must be stored within the watershed or conveyed downstream;
- The potential to reduce flood-risk by retrofitting existing stormwater infrastructure;
- The potential to reduce flood-risk by constructing new flood detention facilities; and
- The potential need to acquire property when other flood-reduction alternatives are not feasible.

Evaluating the most cost-efficient flood reduction project for a given flood-risk area requires (1) review of the source(s) and cause(s) of flooding (requiring detailed hydrologic and hydraulic review), (2) high-level review of available options to mitigate flooding (e.g., is there sufficient available space for a flood detention project? Is there sufficient grade to excavate and tie-in to existing storm sewer utilities, etc.), and (3) preliminary design and cost-comparison analysis of feasible flood-mitigation alternatives. Due to the large number of flood-risk areas identified, it was not practical to perform detailed review of flood-mitigation alternatives for each location within the scope of this project.

To verify the opinion of cost estimated for potentially system modifications. The cost for system modifications was compared to the cost of acquiring the flood-prone structures. Cost associated with property acquisition were obtained from the Ramsey County Property Records and Revenue department. This check assumed an estimated acquisition cost of 125% of the estimated market value. The additional 25% is intended to account for the cost of appraisals, removals, and adjustments for market value.

Similar to potential system modifications, and accuracy range of -50% to +100% is applied to the estimate to account for costs that are not currently defined.

An important note is that, based on a more-detailed review of flood-mitigation alternatives, optimization of potential system modifications, and completion of detailed feasibility studies, the final cost of flood-mitigation may be significantly lower or higher than the planning level opinions of cost included in Table B-1. The costs provided in Table B-1 are intended to provide a comparison to the costs presented for potential system modifications that were evaluated.

Table B-1 Opinions of Probable Cost for System Modifications Upstream of Beltline

| Description | Low Cost (-50%) (\$) | High Cost (+100%) (\$) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Potential System Modification | \$141,980,000 | \$567,892,000 |
| Acquire Flood-Prone Property | \$58,500,000 | \$234,100,000 |

Appendix C

Comments on Draft Report and Response to Comments

| Comment # | Comment Provider | Report Reference | Comment | Response to Comment |
|-----------|------------------|--|---|--|
| 1 | Bruce Copley | General | Overall we believe that the Beltline study is important to provide RWMWD with an initial roadmap for addressing the many potential flooding problems in the district and support this effort. | Thank you for your comment. |
| 2 | Bruce Copley | Atlas 14 Precipitation Assumptions | The inundation maps utilize Atlas 14 data. Are Atlas 14 estimates for the Twin Cities already outdated? How frequently is Atlas 14 updated? Six years of above normal precipitation suggests the norms used to publish Atlas 14 may be under predicting the rainfall resulting in under design of water management. How is the most recent rainfall data taken into account when suggesting system changes? Is it still reasonable to use a model 100-year storm event predicated on historical data given climate change observed thus far? Given the "new" high water level of Grass Lake, will there be a new 100-year flood elevation determined? If no, please comment on why it is reasonable to use old elevations in modeling. What safety factor have you incorporated in the event that Atlas 14 underestimates the precipitation amounts? Can you comment? | <p>Before the Atlas 14 precipitation record was published in 2013, the last time the precipitation record was updated was 1961. There are currently no planned updates to Atlas 14. Atlas 14 is the current industry standard for defining design rainfall depths for a given return frequency and duration. The District currently and historically designed flood-risk reduction projects to provide a 100-year level of protection. However, the District has also been evaluating incorporating resiliency into the design of flood-risk reduction systems by using the 500-year storm event for emergency planning (keeping emergency evacuation routes open, considering pathways to hospitals, grocery stores, etc. and not necessarily protecting homes from flooding). The first step in this process was to develop inundation maps for the 500-year event, which have been created and will soon be distributed to member cities for review. For flood-risk mitigation project design in the Grass Lake area in recent years, staff have been using a starting elevation of 884.1 for water bodies in the Grass Lake area (this is the elevation of Grass Lake's emergency overflow) with a 100-year storm event on top of it. The City of Shoreview's recent planning and design efforts have incorporated this assumption as well. This assumption does incorporate a safety factor implicitly, as there is currently significant storage available below 884.1 north of Grass Lake.</p> <p>Please note that this work has been done, and continues to be done outside of the scope of the Beltline Resiliency Study work and its associated feasibility studies.</p> |
| 3 | Bruce Copley | Page 7: Starting Water Level Assumption for Grass Lake | On page 7 it is stated that recent high water levels are not used as the starting point for identifying impacted structures and modeled inundation. Residents in our area are very concerned about a large storm hitting when the area water bodies are much above normal as they have been for several years. We believe the extended periods these water bodies have been above normal significantly increases the probability of an adverse event. Can you comment? We believe inundation maps in the area around Grass, Snail, Wetland A and W. Vadnais should use the higher lakes levels as a starting point for the inundation maps. Would restoring surrounding water bodies to historical norms provide protection from inundation? The inundation maps of Crestview addition on the Barr website show properties touched by projected surface water, well away from Suzanne Pond, yet these properties are not shown as at-risk. Why not? | <p>While the inundation maps and Beltline Resiliency study reflect a starting water level for Grass Lake at the outlet elevation, modeling for specific flood control projects in the Grass Lake area that inform flood management actions and projects assumes a starting elevation of Grass Lake of 884.1 (as described above). With recent flood management projects undertaken by the RWMWD and now the City of Shoreview, No homes would be at risk of flooding during the 100-year storm event even when the water level in Grass Lake begins at 884.1.</p> <p>Please note that this work has been done, and continues to be done outside of the scope of the Beltline Resiliency Study work and its associated feasibility studies.</p> |
| 4 | Bruce Copley | Conditional Probability Analysis | It has been acknowledged by Barr that the area north of I694 is very slow draining and as a result goes high and stays high after several concurrent small rain events. The area seems to be in a permanently flooded state. The decision to not use "conditional probability" analysis for this area should be reconsidered. The study seems to acknowledge that the area is unique within the water district. This suggests to us that a unique analysis and set of solutions is appropriate for this area. Can you comment? | <p>For the Beltline Resiliency study, a conditional probability was not considered for use in inundation mapping as a part of the Atlas 14 work for reasons described in the study. However, as stated above, modeling for specific flood control projects in the Grass Lake area has assumed that the lake has been at its emergency overflow elevation (884.1) when the 100-year storm happens.</p> <p>Please note that this work has been done, and continues to be done outside of the scope of the Beltline Resiliency Study work and its associated feasibility studies.</p> |
| 5 | Bruce Copley | 48-hour Drawdown Question for Grass Lake Area | Also, how does the District square the "48-hour drawdown requirement" for temporary floodwater storage against using the Grass Lake parkland for additional storage, knowing that the drawdown is months or years under current conditions? Why does this requirement apply some places and not others? | <p>The District's rules require 48-hour drawdown for infiltration areas (District Rule C: Stormwater Management 3.c.1.vi. As described in the Minnesota Stormwater manual the 48-hour drawdown requirement was established to provide wet-dry cycling between rainfall events, unsuitable mosquito breeding habitat, suitable habitat for vegetation establishment, aerobic conditions, and storage for back-to-back precipitation events. Many of these considerations do not apply for naturally occurring wetlands, ponds, and lakes. In locations where water levels take more time to draw down, the District evaluates water levels using other methods such as continuous simulations, back-to-back events, or higher starting water levels. For the Grass Lake area, a starting water level of 884.1 has been used to identify whether there are flood-prone habitable structures. The Beltline Resiliency study used the outlet elevation such that the evaluation was applied consistently throughout the study area.</p> |
| 6 | Bruce Copley | Snail Lake and Wetland A | We would like to see more included in the study about the ability to control Snail Lake and Wetland A once Grass and W. Vadnais are adjusted to a lower level. This is a significant advantage of any system modification designed to maintain a lower level of Grass and W. Vadnais lakes. The dynamics of interconnectivity for Snail, Wetland A, Wabasso, Owasso, Grass, West Vadnais and Twin Lake are not clearly defined in the study. | <p>Noted. As stated in Section 1 of the Beltline Resiliency Study, this study evaluates potential system modifications that could be implemented in the Beltline watershed to reduce flood risk to habitable structures. As shown in Figure 2-2, there are no flood-prone structures identified as District within the Grass Lake or Wetland A subwatersheds. The Board of Managers may consider additional studies to evaluate the costs and benefits for providing additional connectivity as suggested. However, the Beltline Resiliency study focused on mitigating risk to flood-prone structures, and the additional evaluation in this area is outside the current scope of the study.</p> <p>The first four feasibility studies have already been identified for 2020 (Owasso Basin Bypass Pipeline Feasibility Study, Ames Lake Area Flood Damage Reduction Feasibility Study, Willow Creek Area Flood Damage Reduction Study and West Vadnais Lake to South of I-694 Conveyance Feasibility Study).</p> |
| 7 | Bruce Copley | Owasso Basin Bypass Option | It would seem that the most critical bottleneck once the Keller lake and Lake Phalen outlet are modified is flooding around Owasso Basin. Most of the modifications upstream are blocked by this issue, a problem that is mostly solved by adding a large pipe along the west side of I35. This opens numerous possibilities for controlling Owasso, Wabasso, Grass, Snail, Wetland A and W. Vadnais Lakes. We strongly support the addition of a pipe along 35E or alternative that allows for high throughput to Gervais Lake. Are there other options (short of purchasing Owasso Basin) being considered in light of the high cost of the 35E pipe? Given the expected long timeline to study, permit and install a pipe, are there temporary options that can be executed? | <p>The RWMWD is currently working on a feasibility study that further evaluates the potential for a piped "bypass" of high flows around Owasso Basin to protect it from flooding (Owasso Basin Bypass Pipeline Feasibility Study). In the interim, RWMWD staff will be working on an emergency response plan that would protect the homes around Owasso Basin under existing conditions, as well as the feasibility of other options that would affect the water level in West Vadnais Lake over and above lowering the 15" outlet to an elevation of 881.0 (West Vadnais Lake to South of I-694 Conveyance Feasibility Study).</p> <p>Please note that this work has been done, and continues to be done outside of the scope of the Beltline Resiliency Study work and its associated feasibility studies.</p> |

| Comment # | Comment Provider | Report Reference | Comment | Response to Comment |
|-----------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 8 | Bruce Copley | Owasso Shunt Option | The Owasso shunt operation needs to be considered at “opportunistic” pumping times not just seasonal pumping. By opportunistic pumping we mean that the narrow winter operation window could be expanded to include any time, year round, when flood risk downstream is minimal. Same comments apply for pumping of W. Vadnais. There is minimal detail in the study regarding the “shunt”. Can more detail be provided? We would be interested in the impact of the Owasso Shunt on Grass and W. Vadnais. This is not shown as the option and is rejected with minimal discussion. | <p>The Beltline Resiliency study presents one set of system modifications to mitigate risks for habitable structures. In general, the study does not include discussion for other potential modifications. The Study does not “reject” the shunt option. This option is not presented because it is less effective at mitigating flood-risk for habitable structures on Lake Owasso. Similar to any other modification not presented in detail in the study, future evaluation could be included in a feasibility study to identify optimize system modifications at the direction of the Managers.</p> <p>The Resiliency Study does not discuss impacts of the second outlet from Lake Owasso on Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake because there are no flood-prone habitable structures adjacent to those water bodies.</p> |
| 9 | Bruce Copley | Seasonal Pumping of West Vadnais Lake | The analysis of seasonal pumping of W. Vadnais does show three important results. First, the time that Grass/W. Vadnais are at peak levels is minimized, thus the risk of severe flooding from a 100 year storm is proportionately minimized. Second, the peak is below the overflow level for Grass and W. Vadnais lakes. Third, the average level is lower and therefore storage capacity increased. All three results appear to be advantageous to minimize flooding in the Grass/W. Vadnais area. All might look even better if the analysis was coupled with the lowering of the 15” pipe outlet from W. Vadnais. We would like to see the analysis considered with the “opportunistic” vs. seasonal pumping. Please comment on these three issues and a more detailed analysis of inundation for the area if opportunistic pumping were to be implemented and the 15” culvert lowered. | <p>Regarding comment 1, seasonal pumping does reduce the duration of when water levels are above the outlet from West Vadnais. Within the context of the Resiliency Study, system modifications were evaluated to reduce flood-risk to habitable structures. No habitable structures were identified as being flood-prone around Grass Lake or Wetland A. Additional modifications could be evaluated to further reduce water levels in this area, but since they would not address flood-risk to habitable structures they are outside the scope of the Resiliency Study.</p> <p>Regarding comment 2, the benefits of seasonal pumping are highly dependent on the amount of rainfall within a given year. As shown in Figure 3-15, the peak water levels in West Vadnais are very similar whether seasonal pumping was completed or not.</p> <p>Regarding comment 3, the average water level is lower. This is a function of reducing the duration of time the water level is above the outlet. However, as noted in other comments, there are not flood-prone habitable structures within the watershed. Other studies have evaluated a starting water level in Grass Lake at 884.1, and also did not identify flood-prone structures. The Managers may decide to evaluate additional modifications in this area. However, since the Beltline Resiliency Study focused on reducing flood-risk for habitable structures those modifications are outside the scope of this study.</p> <p>Resulting opportunistic pumping, this appears to imply that discharge from West Vadnais should be allowed any time during the year. While the Resiliency study evaluates reducing flood-risk for habitable structures, it does include a general discussion on sequencing of system modifications. In general, the sequencing presented in the Resiliency study notes that downstream improvements should be implemented prior to conveying additional flow into flood-prone areas. If the Managers decide to further evaluate opportunistic pumping, the same sequencing guidelines should apply to pumping as any other system modification to prevent adverse downstream impacts for habitable structures.</p> <p>Other options that could lower the level of West Vadnais Lake are being further evaluated in a RWMWD feasibility study this year- one of the four that came out of the Beltline Feasibility Study (West Vadnais Lake to South of I-694 Conveyance Feasibility Study)</p> |
| 10 | Bruce Copley | Seasonal Pumping of West Vadnais Lake | In the Barr presentation there is a set of charts on the seasonal pumping of W. Vadnais Lake. It covers the period from 1/1/15 to 12/31/18. When pumping is modeled, W. Vadnais never exceeds the level of the berm at 5 Star Estates and may not have affected Rice Street. Please include these data for 2019. Would a similar level of reduction have been predicted for the 2 periods when W. Vadnais overtopped the berm and closed Rice Street? Would this have eliminated the pumping of Twin Lake and the sandbagging of the low home? | <p>The model results indicate that the water level in West Vadnais did not overtop the crest elevation of the berm. However, the berm had eroded and in 2019, allowing West Vadnais Lake to discharge towards Twin Lake. Based on the period evaluated, pumping did not prevent West Vadnais Lake elevations from reaching the point in the berm that was eroded. The Beltline Resiliency Study included modeling using available information at the time of the analysis. Additional evaluation outside the scope of the Beltline Resiliency Study is ongoing.</p> <p>The low point of Rice Street was raised to 884.7 by Ramsey County in 2019. The eroded portion of the berm between the “triangle wetland” south of West Vadnais Lake and Five Star Estates had eroded, and was restored by RWMWD during the winter of 2019. RWMWD also constructed a bypass system to collect overflow from West Vadnais Lake and divert it around Twin Lake. As such, reducing the potential for impacts to habitable structures.</p> <p>Please note that this work has been done, and continues to be done outside of the scope of the Beltline Resiliency Study work and its associated feasibility studies.</p> |
| 11 | Bruce Copley | General Grass Lake question | Would much longer periods with W. Vadnais below the maximum have prevented long spells of Grass Lake overflow and water moving north of Gramsie Rd? | <p>When water is below 884.1 in Grass Lake, it can not flow north of Gramsie Road through the culvert in the road. When water is lower in Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake, it is less likely that water will flow north of Gramsie Road through the culvert in the road due to storm events.</p> <p>Please, note that since no flood-prone habitable structures are identified north of Gramsie Road, the Resiliency Study did not evaluate system modifications to reduce water conveyed into Wetland A.</p> |
| 12 | Bruce Copley | Pumping of West Vadnais Lake | As we have seen from the Twin Lake pumping, opportunistic pumping in periods throughout the year are possible. The cost to do this pumping is tiny compared to the desired installation of a pipe along 35E and may well provide a significant margin of protection from flooding by the Grass/W. Vadnais lake until the 35E pipe could be installed. | <p>This comment implies that the capital cost of pumping is less than the capital cost for installing a pipe along I-35E. However, there are two things that this comment does not consider. First is that if we evaluate the lifecycle cost of a project, then the cost for pumping (maintenance, fuel, staff time, permitting, etc...) over an operational lifespan may be closer to installing a pipe.... Second, is that if the 15-inch pipe out of WVL is flowing full, then there is nowhere to pump the water, so at a minimum pumping would also mean constructing a pipe from WVL to some location south of the highway - which significantly increases the costs.</p> <p>It is important to note that the Twin Lake system is much smaller than the system that drains through Grass and West Vadnais Lakes. As such, Twin Lake could be pumped (opportunistically) down over a relatively short period of time to protect a home that was at imminent risk of flooding, during a summer when we were fortunate to not experience any extreme storm events that would have caused flooding downstream. With the other flood management actions undertaken over the past 2 years and already planned for 2020, as well as the future Suzanne/ Gramsie Road Stormwater Improvements project that will be implemented by the City of Shoreview in 2020 in Grass Lake area, no homes will be imminent risk of flooding in the Grass Lake area up to the 100-year event. The decision to pursue options that would lower the level of West Vadnais Lake further will be weighed as a part of the West Vadnais Lake to South of I-694 Conveyance feasibility study planned for 2020.</p> |

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| 13 | Bruce Copley | Pumping of West Vadnais Lake | We think that RWMWD should commence pumping from W. Vadnais into Waldo Pond immediately, before we get any further into the best time of year to discharge water into Gervais Creek. | <p>Waldo Pond is located south of Twin Lake. It is not feasible to pump West Vadnais Lake into Waldo pond. When discussing pumping from West Vadnais Lake, there are three options that the RWMWD is currently evaluating:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pump from West Vadnais Lake into Stymie Pond. Stymie Pond is a MnDOT stormwater pond, which outlets below I-694. On the south side of I-694, water flows through an open ditch, and then eventually discharges into Jiggs Pond and eventually into Owasso Basin. There are flood-risk concerns near Owasso Basin. In addition, there are concerns with erosion south of the interstate system that must be mitigated following completion of pumping. Pumping from Stymie Pond requires a permit from MnDOT. This is the route that is planned for any bypass pumping to avert overflows from West Vadnais Lake to Twin Lake. 2. Leverage West Vadnais Lake's lowered outlet. Through construction of an inline check valve or other manipulation of the 15-inch and downstream manholes, the RWMWD could pump to enable the 15-inch pipe to flow full until the lake reaches 881.0. This option sends water along the same path as it does now, but allows for the 15-inch to flow full under lower lake levels; it may or may not require MnDOT and DNR approvals, and would not leverage the bypass system described above in #1. This option could maintain a total, consistent 4 cubic feet per second to leave West Vadnais Lake's 15-inch outlet (pipe full flow). 3. Pump (or allow increased piped gravity flow) from West Vadnais Lake into a new pipe below the highway. RWMWD is evaluating the feasibility of constructing a new pipe below the highway. However, for this option pumping could not start immediately. <p>See comment #12 for additional discussion regarding concerns related to downstream impacts associated with pumping.</p> |
| 14 | Bruce Copley | Lowering water levels in West Vadnais Lake, Snail and Wetland A | The addition of a large output pipe from W. Vadnais to Waldo Pond appears to be very effective and should provide excellent control of high water levels in Grass, W. Vadnais, Owasso, and Wetland A. It seems to be adequate to allow a connection between Snail and Grass as a cost effective route to control Snail. We strongly support this addition and also understand the the new pipe along 35E would be required to fully utilize the added outflow capacity. | <p>The Resiliency Study did not evaluate or recommend a piped connection to Waldo Pond. A piped connection to Waldo Pond would have adverse impacts on the MnDOT drainage system and Twin Lake. The Resiliency Study evaluated a piped connection to Porky Pond.</p> <p>The Resiliency Study did not evaluate a piped connection to lower the outlet elevations of Wetland A or Snail Lake, and does not make any assumptions or conclusions regarding the adequacy of the proposed pipe to convey water from these locations. The area around Wetland A was not evaluated because there are no flood-prone habitable structures in this area. The area around Snail Lake was not considered, because there is only one flood-prone structure, and the District completed a detailed feasibility study to identify system modifications, and identified an emergency response plan as the most feasible alternative in this location (see comment #44).</p> |
| 15 | Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD Board Manager | Page 18 | I find the wording in the bullets may be a bit confusing to readers. The phrase "at the invert of the existing pipe" may be clearer if it read "at the same level as the invert of the existing pipe." | This change will be made to the final draft of the report. |
| 16 | Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD Board Manager | Page 18, second bullet | My question is whether this covered section of the creek is needed or whether it could be made into an open channel to add capacity and avoid adding new pipes. A bridge could be added for the trails. | The second bullet includes a note "or equivalent". This implies that a modification to the system that provides equivalent capacity would be sufficient. The suggestion to replace the culverts with a bridge or open channel could be a way to provide additional capacity. The Resiliency Study provides one method for mitigating flood-risk for habitable structures, and further optimization of each modification will be required. In this location, using a bridge could be a way to optimize the modification. |
| 17 | Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD Board Manager | Page 26, End of first paragraph under section 3.2.1. | My concern is that we somehow address the potential problem of cities solving "local" flooding issues by adding capacity to their system, which would then add new volume to "District" projects. | This concern will be addressed during the feasibility study phase of each area that is explored further, in close coordination with member cities. |
| 18 | Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD Board Manager | Page 31, second to last bullet | I don't see this modification reflected on the figure. | The modification is shown on Figure 3-12. The call out box is pointing to the pipe from the triangle wetland south of West Vadnais Lake and connecting to Porky Pond. |
| 19 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 18, Increasing culvert capacity on Edgerton Street and Keller Parkway | Edgerton Street was resurfaced in 2019 and Keller Parkway was resurfaced in 2017. Depending on pavement rating conditions, resurfacing is generally on a 10-20 year cycle factoring in Average Daily Traffic and depth of road base, etc. As I understand it, you will be implementing at the south first and then moving north for possibly a 10-year plan. We should discuss as this phase is in the queue and there is potential to coincide with our resurfacing or reconstruction projects. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 20 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 30, Culvert improvements at County Road C and Victoria | RCPW is planning a pipe lining, apron repair, and slope stabilization in this location in 2020. The catch basin to the east and manhole to the west has deteriorating pipes which will be lined. The large roadway culvert was originally replaced under S.A.P. 62-623-10 in 1972. Between 2008-2012, our crews completed a construction joint throughout the tunnel, as best guessed by our foreman. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 21 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 30, Lake Owasso outlet | Our lake outlet records say Shoreview holds the JPA for this outlet, as owner and operator. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 22 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 31, Lake Wabasso outlet modifications | As owners of the outlet, we have been monitoring some slight degradation in the structure. We planned to have it repaired with a structural joint epoxy in 2019, but scheduling and water levels did not cooperate. We plan to have this repair completed in 2020. We could coordinate dredging, if required. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |

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| 23 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 31, Grass Lake outlet pipes and Rice Street pipes | Parks can comment on the impacts to the trail for Grass Lake's outlet. In 2022, RCPW was planning to reconstruct this section of Rice, but the extents seemed to have shifted. Let's keep the conversation going to sync as much as we can. The storm sewer south of the railroad bridge has been on my "wish list" for some years now. No one is brave enough to tackle. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works and Ramsey County Parks. |
| 24 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 31, West Vadnais Lake Vadnais Boulevard pipes | Resurfacing of Vadnais Boulevard between Rice Street and Twin Lake Boulevard was on the schedule for this year, but has since been shifted. It is expected it will land on 2023-2024. We should coordinate projects on this one. Public Works' desire is that pipes be installed at least one year prior to allowing for settling. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 25 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 42, Seasonal drawdown of West Vadnais | The county is supportive of this, provided dewatering practices don't interfere with traffic on our systems. Depending on the pump setup location, we may require a county ROW permit for hoses and traffic control signs. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 26 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 44, Casey Lake Outlet, White Bear road control, and Kohlman Basin pipeline | I have been searching for record plans for the Casey Outlet project for a year. We seem to have everything related to the road portion, but as I understand it, RWMWD added on work to the Casey Outlet as an addendum. Is that correct? Does RWMWD consider themselves owners of the outlet? What is the White Bear road control? Has the District considered any improvements to the Kohlman Wetland Treatment System constructed by the county in 1984? Our field staff have inquired if this is something the District wants to pursue but I wasn't confident that it was evaluated to have a positive impact to the watershed. | <p>The District has original plans for the Casey Lake outlet. Following construction of the outlet modifications were made which included a trashrack and weir with a sluice gate. The outlet is identified as a District managed facility in the District's 2017 Management Plan.</p> <p>The White Bear Ave control is a sheet pile weir with a v-notch. The District constructed this structure in 1994 to provide some water quality treatment in the wetland upstream of White Bear Ave.</p> <p>RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future maintenance efforts and coordination potential opportunities for system improvements.</p> |
| 27 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 48, Willow Lake Outlet | We would need adequate time to engage with HB Fuller and Parks. | Noted. Thank you for your comment. |
| 28 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 51, County Road C culvert capacity | I don't believe this segment is in the current resurfacing plan. We have a new engineer taking over our resurfacing program. We should schedule a meeting with the District to discuss upcoming projects. | Thank you- RWMWD would welcome this discussion to help in planning future efforts. |
| 29 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Page 51, County Road D outlet | I don't think this is scheduled for resurfacing. | Noted. Thank you for your comment. |
| 30 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Figure 3-21, Storm sewer at 5th Street | This segment is planned for a full width resurfacing as part of the Xcel gas main project in 2020. The resurfacing will be negotiated for Xcel to lead or the county will lead. The storm sewer to the north coming from McKnight discharges into the Urban Ecology Center. Ramsey County holds the easement that runs east-west and North Saint Paul holds the easement that intersects with ours running north-south. There is a sizeable sediment delta at this intersection point blocking flow. It has been too wet in the area for us to access. We've tried to coordinate with North Saint Paul with no success. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 31 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Figure 3-23, Modifying storm sewer to Casey Lake | This segment is not in our scheduled resurfacing plan. There is one resident at 2210 17 th Ave, Mr. Terry Noonan, who was open to having a rain garden in his yard, if we ever reconstruct the road. I told him I would keep it in mind. He has already done the pre-calculations, as expected. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 32 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Figure 3-24, Additional culverts under White Bear Avenue | The condition of these existing culverts is not known. Water levels are too high to inspect properly. This segment of White Bear Avenue is getting resurfaced this year. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 33 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Figure 3-26, County Road C culverts | This segment is not slated for resurfacing. | Noted. Thank you for your comment. |
| 34 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Figure 3-42, Stormwater along White Bear Avenue. | Currently, there is no project identified in this location. If this involves substantial storm sewer replacement, we may evaluate adding it to a larger project. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 35 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | Figure 3-44, Stormwater pond at Phalen Boulevard and Johnson Parkway | According to our Land Survey records, this pond is on county ROW. https://ramseygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b78c7d82f13149758bfa6bbdf77c582 I do not have good records of plans or ownership, though. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD will be sure to coordinate future efforts with Ramsey County Public Works. |
| 36 | Molly Churchich, Ramsey County Public Works Department | General | Let's continue to discuss partnerships as these projects move forward because it could be a good way to optimize our resources, collectively. | Thank you for your comment. We agree, and will keep in touch on these projects going forward. |

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| 37 | William Zajicek St. Paul Resident | Presentation | That presentation wasn't easy to follow. For one thing I don't understand what the sinks and buckets are supposed to represent. | The sinks and buckets slides were meant to show why lowering the level of water in West Vadnais Lake doesn't necessarily produce a significant effect in lowering the frequency of overflows from Grass Lake, given the large volume of water that is effectively constantly entering the area. Even if lake levels are lowered in the "off season", spring snowmelt and subsequent storm events fill the area right back up under existing outflow conditions. |
| 38 | William Zajicek St. Paul Resident | Cost of mitigation projects | Regarding the draft study, given the estimated costs of mitigation projects, the option of purchasing properties at risk didn't seem to be there. One could purchase quite a few homes for 50 million dollars. | As noted in Section 1, one of the assumptions for the Beltline Resiliency study was to present system modifications that would be required if purchasing of flood-prone structures was not an option. Further evaluation of purchasing flood-prone structures should be included in future feasibility studies and optimization of each system modification. However, Appendix B includes a high-level estimate of the cost to purchase flood-prone property. |
| 39 | Stuart Knappmiller St. Paul Resident | Partnerships | We wondered if this was the kind of project that Payne Phalen Community Council would be interested in. We both serve on that board. Of course the sewer runs through other groups geography as well. | Thank you for your comment. Gathering input from a diverse group of stakeholders will be a critical component for identifying and evaluating optimizations for system modifications discussed in the study. |
| 40 | Stuart Knappmiller St. Paul Resident | Request for presentation | Is there a way to have knowledgeable staff explain this project? We would be happy to facilitate a meeting on the Eastside. | Thank you for your comment. Providing information and gathering input from stakeholders is an important part of this work and could be accomplished as projects are identified and pursued. |
| 41 | Stuart Knappmiller St. Paul Resident | Project purpose | Is a significant part of this project the result of contractors and home buyers who apparently didn't walk/run/ride a horse through the Stumptown Creek valley 7 days a week bringing the cows in for the evening milking? Tossing a heavy rock into a raging creek, which washes it's a significant part of this project the result of contractors and home buyers who apparently didn't walk/run/ride a horse through the Stumptown Creek valley 7 days a week bringing the downstream before it sinks, knowing the creek was on this side of the valley last year, that the frog pond is now the creek bed, let's one think about what water does. There were 4 foundations of miners cabins from the European expansion of native lead diggings on our 228 acre farm. One had a well and was on the high ground. 2 were on a platform above flood stage. Only one was (possibly) on the flood stage level. So people in the 1800's knew to not build houses (or roads) where they would flood. Are our taxes subsidizing these lakeshore homes? | Homes throughout the RWMWD were built over a wide range of years and are occupied by a wide range of homeowners who have experienced a wide range of hydrologic conditions on their properties. In addition, our climate in recent years has experienced increasing levels of precipitation that stress this infrastructure. It is the RWMWD's goal to assess flood risk to the built environment across the District, assess why the risk exists and to work with partners to figure out what can happen to decrease that risk. We have inherited this built environment, and we strive to decrease the risk to it, balancing both upstream and downstream properties. |
| 42 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 1, Concerning Flood Risk to Habitable Structures | The City understands the emphasis of the Study to evaluate potential system modifications to reduce flood risk to habitable structures adjacent to Watershed managed facilities. While higher than normal water levels in Shoreview have had significant impact on public infrastructure (e.g. Gramsie Road) and on Ramsey County Regional Park Property, protecting habitable structures should obviously be the highest priority. It is my understanding that carefully sequenced modifications that serve to reduce flood risk to habitable structures in the District will eventually benefit other lower priority impacts. | Thank you for your comment. |
| 43 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 7, Statement "RWMWD is currently evaluating flood risk reduction options for Twin Lake (and Grass Lake) outside of the scope of this Beltline Resiliency Study" | My question would be if the flood risk reduction options being studied here and those outside the scope of the study were interdependent, and if so, how does that impact the proposed sequencing or priority of storm modifications? | The goal of the Resiliency Study was to present one set of system modifications, which if implemented, would mitigate flood-risk to habitable structures. A detailed evaluation of interdependence of each modification was not completed as part of the study. The evaluation was limited to general guidance for project sequencing (i.e., do not increase discharge from one area before making downstream improvements to be able to safely convey the additional discharge) |
| 44 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 8 and Figure 2-2, Observation regarding structures classified as "District" | There is only one structure in the City of Shoreview estimated to be at risk due to a 100-year flood from a District-managed water body: the Snail Lake property at 4380 Reiland Lane. The City and RWMWD previously agreed in principle to an emergency response plan for that property (assuming property owner coordination) that would include the City delivering and possibly assisting in the placement of sand bags to protect the habitable structure. | Thank you for your comment. |
| 45 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 26, Statement "Increasing this flow rate, without other system modifications, results in increases to downstream water levels" | I understand this to be the biggest barrier to the simple approach of just moving water out of the Grass Lake subwatershed at a faster rate. This limiting factor has been discussed at every public meeting on the topic that I've been involved with and it's safe to assume that the Shoreview City Council understands it as well. It is for that reason that the City expects the RWMWD will adequately study and ultimately implement modifications that do not result in increased flood risk for downstream habitable structures. | Thank you for your comment. Please see the response to Comment #13 for more information on RWMWD's feasibility studies addressing this topic. |
| 46 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 28, Suzanne Pond | I believe that the language in the Study could be updated to reflect that the Suzanne Pond Area Improvements are currently under design and on-schedule for constructing beginning May, 2020. The proposed improvements include pump and control replacements, reconfigured inlets and outlets, and the ability to accommodate the drainage from Gramsie Road to reduce the likelihood of nuisance flooding from smaller rain events. A segment of Gramsie Road itself is being raised to provide an increased level of protection for the Crestview Neighborhood in the event that Grass Lake overtops. The cost of these City of Shoreview improvements is currently estimated at \$850,000. | Thank you for your comment. This change will be made to the final draft of the report. |

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| 47 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 28, Snail Lake | The City concurs with the statement concerning the most effective flood management strategy for the home at 4380 Reiland Lane. | Thank you for your comment. |
| 48 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 36, Sequencing | The Study states an assumption that improvements downstream of the Grass Lake subwatershed are made before any proposed outlet modifications for Lake Wabasso, Grass Lake and West Vadnais Lake. If there is a high degree of confidence associated with that position, then the City would urge RWMWD to place the highest priority on those downstream improvements. | Thank you for your comment. |
| 49 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | Page 42, Seasonal Drawdown for West Vadnais Lake | Given that higher levels of West Vadnais Lake act as a constraint for the draining of the Grass Lake subwatershed, the City would strongly encourage and support RWMWD efforts to implement improvements that would permit the drawdown of West Vadnais Lake during the fall and winter months. | The decision to pursue options that would lower the level of West Vadnais Lake further will be weighed as a part of the West Vadnais Lake to South of I-694 Conveyance Feasibility Study completed in 2020. |
| 50 | Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview | General | Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this process. From my perspective, the City and the District are working well together to better understand and hopefully mitigate impacts from unprecedented weather of the past decade. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD looks forward to working with the City of Shoreview on these efforts in the future. |
| 51 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Coordination of Flood Risk Modeling | The city of North St. Paul completed a flood study in 2017. The result of the city's study identified 7 focus areas. Only 2 of the 7 focus areas identified in the NSP study correspond to flood issues in the RWMWD study. Would the watershed district consider including the additional detail of the City's study into their study to help identify upstream storage areas? Partnering on the modeling could help resolve some differences and show a shared benefit between the district and local flooding concerns. See the example below showing the subwatershed inputs between the two models. | The District continuously updates their model based on best available information, and is open to working with member Cities to incorporate better definition of the storm sewer system, add detail, and if appropriate address differences. |
| 52 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Coordination of Flood Risk Modeling | Was additional storage in Southwood Nature Preserve by Cown Elementary in North St. Paul through dredging the ponds downstream from Southwood considered? This area has been previously studied. | In general, dredging of stormwater ponds was not a system modification that was considered. Dredging increases the permeant pool volume, which does not change the peak water surface elevations in the basin. Future modifications to the ponds to increase the live storage volume could be considered. |
| 53 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | PCU Pond | Was providing more storage in PCU Pond considered? | Increasing the storage volume of the permanent pool was not considered. PCU pond currently takes up most of the parcel, so change to the pond footprint were not considered as part of this study, but should be considered as an option for future optimization as part of a detailed feasibility study for modifications in this area. |
| 54 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Coordination of Flood Risk Modeling | The focus of the study was on Potential District Flood-Risk Areas near district managed water bodies, facilities, or previous projects. Local flooding issues were not targeted as part of the study which limits opportunities for collaboration with the Cities. The use of a 100-year, 4-day Atlas 14 rainfall event (8.3 inches) as the critical event is disconnected from existing FEMA FIRM mapping assumptions and building code use of the 100-year, 24-hr rainfall event as the basis of establishing flood plain elevations. Initial review of the results in some cases show inundation areas that exceed existing mapped 500-year flood plains. The implications of public release of these inundation maps is concerning see example below (figures provided). | <p>Potentially flood-prone areas designated as "Local" are typically representative of flooding Cities typically address. Mitigation in these areas may not change downstream peak flow rates and water elevations in other municipalities. The Resiliency study notes that Cities typically lead the evaluation of this type of flooding, but that the District may choose to support the City's efforts in a collaborative role.</p> <p>The use of the 4-day duration event is not disconnected from FEMA guidance. FEMA Guidelines and Specification for Flood Hazard Mapping Appendix C indicates that rainfall duration, at a minimum, must exceed the time of concentration for the watershed and must be large enough to capture all excess rainfall as well as provide reasonable runoff and sediment volumes when performing storage analysis. The Mapping Partner may use the critical storm concept to determine the storm duration, or use the duration specified in guidelines developed by state agencies responsible for flood control or flood regulation.</p> <p>RWMWD selected the 4-day event because it is the critical duration event for the District. The stormwater model is run using a nested rainfall distribution. The distribution was developed such that depths from shorter durations (i.e., 24-hours) are nested within the longer 4-day distribution. The hyetograph was developed so that the peak of the storm occurs at the center with decreasing intensities on either end. Following this methodology, critical storm events of lesser duration are nested in the overall 4-day event distribution. Consequently, only one design event is required to obtain critical flows and water surface elevations throughout the watershed (i.e., the drainage area of any subwatershed is irrelevant because the critical duration storm event for each subwatershed is nested within the 4-day event). This is similar to why the 24-hour duration event is used for small sites or individual parcels. The time of concentration for an individual parcel is much less than 24-hours, but because the nested distribution is used, only a single event must be evaluated. In areas where there are more storage, such as large ponds, wetlands, or lakes, the 24-hour duration event may not be sufficient to calculate the critical water surface elevations or flows.</p> <p>Finally, this comment references an example from the FEMA FIRM. The figure showed the area west of McKnight Road from approximately County Road B to 13th Avenue. The comment implied that because the District's model has a larger inundation area than the FEMA maps there is some concern related to the results. First, the FEMA map in the example area shown does not accurately characterize the drainage in this area. The FEMA map simulates an open ditch that drains south to north within the example area - this is an inaccurate representation of the drainage system in this location. Actually, the City storm sewer drains the area east of McKnight south towards the Highway, where it either flows east under McKnight or to the inlet to the large arch pipe connected to the MNDOT system and then into PCU pond. The summary, is that the current FEMA maps do not accurately represent the drainage system.</p> <p>In addition the FEMA FIS indicates that the analysis for this area was not updated when the FIRM was updated. The Engineering analysis for the inundation shown on the FEMA maps are based on drainage areas delineated using 1970s aerial photos, and 1975 City storm sewer.</p> |

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| 55 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Prioritization and Funding | Cost estimates for all the improvements outlined in the study range from \$142M (-50%) to \$568M (+100%) for mitigation of 227 potentially flood-prone structures. No priority or value was assigned to structures protected and it does not appear that critical infrastructure (e.g. utilities, major access routes) were considered in the analysis for protection. It also is not clear the frequency at which the identified structures would be impacted (e.g. 2, 10, 50 year events). Has a funding mechanism been identified? | <p>The Resiliency Study does not include guidance on prioritization of system modifications. As discussed in Section 3, the Resiliency Study includes general guidance for sequencing to avoid adverse downstream impacts. The intent of the Resiliency Study was to provide one set of modifications to remove habitable structures from the floodplain. Prioritization of individual locations will be considered by the Managers.</p> <p>The Resiliency Study also does not present optimized system modifications. Additional feasibility studies will be completed prior to implementation to identify the optimized modification for each area.</p> <p>The study focused on removing habitable structures from the floodplain. Habitable structures are those that are referenced by the District's rules. The District does not set freeboard for roadways or site other infrastructure referenced. The District is open to collaboration with and support of roadway authorities Cities within the District to mitigate flood-risk in these area.</p> |
| 56 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Verification of Flood Prone Structures | Has there been any verification that structures identified as "flood prone" have actually had flooding issues in the past? Has there been any categorizing of the "flood prone" structures to identified critical infrastructure such as schools, public buildings, emergency responders, etc.? | <p>The flood risk of structures identified in the Atlas 14 modeling effort was based on the 100-year, 96-hour storm event peak water surface elevations relative to structural elevations estimated from LIDAR data. The feasibility studies stemming from the Beltline Resiliency Study that are planned for 2020 involve surveying the structures that may be at risk of flooding to verify low elevations and flood risk. Also, RWMWD has developed District-wide flood inundation maps that show estimated inundation footprints for a range of flood frequency events (2, 10, 50 year events, for example). These maps will be distributed to member cities for discussion and planning.</p> <p>Past flooding has been documented in many areas shown as flood-prone including North Star Estates, Gervais Lake, Lake Owasso. After the model was updated to Atlas 14 inundation areas were shared with municipalities within the District, and in the summer of 2015 District staff met individually with each City. Comments provided by the Cities indicated that the inundation areas shown generally aligned with areas of known flooding and frequent calls.</p> |
| 57 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Phasing | Are any of the phases of project stand alone or do they all have to be sequenced in order to observe the identified benefit. What is the risk to the resiliency study if feasibility or permitting road blocks are encountered? | <p>Projects that provide additional floodplain storage or reduce downstream discharge rates could be implemented immediately. The recommendation in the study, is that projects that increase downstream discharge are dependent on first implementing downstream improvements.</p> <p>Future feasibility studies to optimize modifications and verify feasibility when considering additional information such as utilities, permitting, land acquisition, etc. will be required. As part of future feasibility studies additional options that were not considered as part of the Resiliency study should also be considered, including acquisition of flood-prone property and emergency response plans. It is possible that upon further review, some modifications may not be feasible. If this occurs, re-evaluation of modifications will be required to mitigate flood-risk for habitable structures.</p> |
| 58 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Coordination of Work | Local and county infrastructure improvements are planned in the near future for areas in North St. Paul including McKnight Road and 17th Ave. It should be noted that this work should be coordinated as much as possible with any potential flood improvements. | RWMWD will be sure to involve the City in these efforts, working collaboratively to find solutions. |
| 59 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | Coordination of Work | How will stakeholders be engaged in this process moving forward? | RWMWD encourages Cities to reach out to the District if there are projects planned near areas identified as part of the Resiliency Study. As part of a separate effort, the District identified areas of flood-risk within each City, and plans to share those maps with member cities. Finally, when the District completes feasibility studies for specific sites, we plan to work collaboratively with the Cities to find solutions. |
| 60 | Morgan Dawley and Heather Nelson, City of North St. Paul | DNR Floodplain Mapping | How was the DNR floodplain remapping that is currently underway (scheduled through April 2020) considered in this process? | <p>The floodplain remapping effort that is lead by the MnDNR is based on Existing conditions. None of the system modifications presented in this document are applicable to the DNR's remapping effort.</p> <p>However, the DNR has requested to use the District's stormwater model for remapping areas shown on the floodmaps. Survey information collected by the DNR has been incorporated into the District's model. As-built plans for water bodies shown on the FEMA floodplain have been incorporated in to the Districts model. The District submitted the model, supporting documentation regarding model hydrologic parameters, hydraulic parameters, and model calibration and validation results to the MnDNR. The MnDNR is currently reviewing the submittal. (The DNR extended the anticipated schedule for the remapping effort through the spring of 2021)</p> |
| 61 | Wes Saunders-Pierce, City of St. Paul | General | Thank you for seeking stakeholder input on the Beltline Resiliency study. The review meeting on January 17, 2020 was very informative. The breadth of the 2019 draft study is considerable and reflects the importance and complexity involved to increase system resiliency against flooding. | Thank you. |
| 62 | Wes Saunders-Pierce, City of St. Paul | Coordination of Work | The City developed a Climate Action & Resilience Plan which was adopted by the City Council in December 2019. We look forward to conversations with how RWMWD activities towards advancing the Beltline Resiliency study over the coming years can mutually support our respective goals. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD looks forward to working with the City of St. Paul on these efforts in the future. |
| 63 | Wes Saunders-Pierce, City of St. Paul | Coordination of Work | In particular we are optimistic about the District' Ames Lake, Hayden Heights Recreation Center, and Prosperity Park/Prosperity Heights Park. Staff proposal for active management of Lake Phalen water levels. Additionally, we recommend engaging with city staff before initiating feasibility studies for strategies involving flood storage on city-managed lands. Key areas in the study include near may have local insight regarding constraints or opportunities that could inform further work. | RWMWD will be sure to involve the City in these efforts, working collaboratively to find solutions. |
| 64 | Wes Saunders-Pierce, City of St. Paul | Coordination of Work/Partnering | We appreciate our relationship with your agency and the opportunity to express support for the Beltline Resiliency study. We look forward to partnering with the RWMWD on a variety of initiatives and welcome additional dialogue on potential further work. | Thank you for your comment. RWMWD looks forward to working with the City of St. Paul on these efforts in the future. |