



# Environmental Quality Board

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**Next Publication: February 2, 2015**

Submittal Deadline: January 26, 2015

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## Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Comment Deadline: February 18, 2015

## Project Title: Establishment of Joint County Ditch No. 350

**Project Description:** This project is intended to remove excessive amounts of sediment from the main channel of Cedar Creek and replace preexisting culverts in two locations. Sedimentation and inadequate culvert sizes have resulted in diminished drainage capacity within the current system contributing to flooding events that threaten adjacent private property and public road infrastructure. Various best management practices will be implemented to decrease future sedimentation and increase water quality. This stretch of Cedar Creek will be established as Joint County Ditch No. 350.

**RGU:** Martin, Jackson, Cottonwood and Watonwan Joint County Drainage Authority

**Contact Person:** Mike Forstner  
Martin County Drainage Inspector  
201 Lake Ave  
Fairmont, MN 56031  
507-238-3201  
[michael.forstner@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:michael.forstner@co.martin.mn.us)

## EIS Need Decision

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does not require preparation of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the EQB Monitor.

- City of Waconia, Trunk Highway 5 Improvements Project, 1-5-15 (10-13-14)
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## Final Scoping Decision Document

### Project Title: Rochester - Twin Cities Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan and Tier 1 EIS (Zip Rail)

**Project Description:** The Scoping Decision Document describes the purpose of and need for the proposed action; the development and evaluation of corridor alternatives; the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts and discussion of the methodology that will be used to address each issue in the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); and responds to comments received during the public comment period between July 7, 2014 and August 22, 2014. The Scoping Decision Document has been prepared to meet state environmental requirements and to guide the preparation of the Tier 1 EIS in accordance with federal regulations.

The Zip Rail study area includes an approximately 100-mile corridor between Rochester and the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and is being examined for potential high-speed rail service. The study area includes Dakota, Dodge, Goodhue, Hennepin, Olmsted, Ramsey, and Rice counties and various termini, or end points, in the Twin Cities and Rochester area. There is no continuous existing railroad connection between the Twin Cities and Rochester. The project will evaluate the use of existing transportation corridors, however, some of the corridors to be evaluated have the potential to create new or "greenfield" transportation routes.

The Scoping Decision Document will be posted on the project website at [www.goziprail.org](http://www.goziprail.org). It will be distributed to the EQB distribution list and available at the following locations in CD format.

- Byron City Hall - 680 Byron Main Court NE, Byron
- Cannon Falls Library - 306 West Mill St, Cannon Falls
- Dennison City Hall - 37622 Goodhue Ave, Dennison
- Dodge Center Public Library - 13 1st Ave NW, Dodge Center
- Dodge County Planning and Zoning - 22 6th St E, Dept 123, Mantorville
- Farmington Community Library - 508 Third St, Farmington
- Galaxie Library - 14955 Galaxie Ave, Apple Valley
- Goodhue County Government Center - 509 W 5th St, Red Wing
- Hampton City Hall - 5265 238th St E, Hampton
- Hennepin County Government Center - 300 6th St S, Minneapolis
- Heritage Library - 20085 Heritage Dr, Lakeville
- Inver Grove Heights City Hall - 8150 Barbara Ave, Inver Grove Heights
- Kasson Public Library - 16 1st Ave NW, Kasson
- Kenyon Public Library - 709 2nd St, Kenyon
- Metropolitan Council - 390 Robert St N, St. Paul
- Minneapolis Central Library - 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
- Olmsted County, Rochester-Olmsted Planning Department - 2122 Campus Dr SE, STE 100, Rochester
- Olmsted County Government Center - 151 4th St SE, Rochester

- Oronoco City Hall - 115 2nd St NW, Oronoco
- Pleasant Hill Library - 1490 South Frontage Rd, Hastings
- Ramsey County Government Center - 15 W Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul
- Randolph City Hall - 4365 292nd St E, Randolph
- Robert Trail Library - 14395 S Robert Trail, Rosemount
- Rochester Public Library - 101 2nd St SE, Rochester
- Rosemount City Hall - 2875 145th St W, Rosemount
- Rice County Government Services Building - 320 3rd St NW, Faribault
- St. Paul Central Library - 90 4th St W, St. Paul
- South St. Paul Library - 106 3rd Ave N, South St. Paul
- Van Horn Public Library - 115 3rd St SE, Pine Island
- Vermillion City Hall - 105 Main St E, Vermillion
- Wentworth Library - 199 E Wentworth Ave, West St. Paul
- Wescott Library - 1340 Wescott Rd, Eagan
- West Concord Public Library - 180 Main St, West Concord
- Zumbrota Public Library - 100 West Ave, Zumbrota

To request a document in an alternative format call 651-366-4718 or email your request to [ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us).

**RGU:** Minnesota Department of Transportation

**Contact Person:** Praveena Pidaparathi, AICP  
 Planning Director - Passenger Rail Office  
 Minnesota Department of Transportation  
 395 John Ireland Blvd, MS 470  
 St. Paul, MN 55155  
 651-366-3199  
[info@goziprail.org](mailto:info@goziprail.org)

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## Petitions

The following petition has been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- City of Minneapolis, Downtown East Commons Urban Park

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## AUAR Update

Comment Deadline: February 18, 2015

# Project Title: Cottage Grove 2015 East Ravine AUAR Update

**Project Description:** The City of Cottage Grove has updated the 2006 East Ravine Alternative Urban Areawide Review. This document was created to address planned growth within the East Ravine Planning District up to the year 2030. The City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan was adopted with information from this planning process.

The East Ravine Planning District is a master-planned portion of the community that was created in 2006 by the City of Cottage Grove to help guide growth in the East Ravine area and to understand the cumulative impacts of this growth on the City's infrastructure systems. The planning area includes roughly 4,000 acres and is generally bounded by Highway 61 on the south, Keats Avenue on the west, the municipal boundary on the north, and Kimbro Avenue on the east. The plan projects roughly 6,550 housing units and 850,000 square feet of commercial development and a number of public improvements to support the development. Development includes areas currently within the Metropolitan Urban Services Area (MUSA) and is expected

to continue to 2030 and beyond. The City of Cottage Grove is the Responsible Government Unit (RGU) for this AUAR update.

As part of this planning project, the City completed an environmental review document called an Alternative Urban Areawide Review, or AUAR. This document was prepared following rules outlined in Minnesota State Statutes governing environmental reviews of development projects. It has been over five years since the master planning document and AUAR were created and adopted. The available update is mandatory and in conformance with State Statutes. Copies of the updated AUAR document are available for public review and comment.

Part of this update process is to allow a 30-day public comment period. This 30-day comment period began January 19, 2015 and ends February 18, 2015. During this period all interested parties are encouraged to review the AUAR Update and offer written questions or comments.

The document can be viewed in the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board Monitor publication at [www.eqb.state.mn.us/eqb-monitor](http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/eqb-monitor); on the City website at [www.cottage-grove.org](http://www.cottage-grove.org); at the Washington County Public Library (Cottage Grove branch); or at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway South.

**RGU:** City of Cottage Grove

**Contact Person:** John M. Burbank, AICP  
City of Cottage Grove  
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### **Draft Environmental Assessment Available**

Comment Deadline: February 18, 2015

## **Project Title: Northland Regional Sports Park**

**Project Description:** The project proposes future construction of a sports park including the development of a 360 acre parcel of public land which Beltrami County has designated.

Proposed development will include access roads, water, sewer, trails, walkways, shooting area, RV parking areas, hiking and horse trails, a training/education center and various shooting ranges.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment, which documents the purpose and need for the project along with the anticipated environmental impacts, are available for public comment beginning January 19, 2015 during regular business hours at the office of Freeberg and Grund Inc. 208 Fourth St NW, Bemidji MN 56601 or the Beltrami County Parks and Recreation office 701 Minnesota Ave NW, Suite 234, Bemidji MN 56601.

To request the document in alternative format, please contact Dana Brekke, Freeberg and Grund Inc. (218)759-9218 or [dana.brekke@freeberggrund.com](mailto:dana.brekke@freeberggrund.com).

The comment period begins January 19, 2015. Written comments will be accepted through February 18, 2015.

**RGU:** Beltrami County

**Contact Person:** Brian Grund, Professional Engineer  
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**EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2015**

<b>Volume Number</b>	<b>Deadline for Submission</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>EAW Comment Deadline</b>
39-1	December 29	January 5	February 4
39-2	January 12	January 19	February 18
39-3	January 26	February 2	March 4
39-4	February 9	February 16	March 18
39-5	February 23	March 2	April 1
39-6	March 9	March 16	April 15
39-7	March 23	March 30	April 29
39-8	April 6	April 13	May 13
39-9	April 20	April 27	May 27
39-10	May 4	May 11	June 10
39-11	May 18	May 25	June 24
39-12	June 1	June 8	July 8
39-13	June 15	June 22	July 22
39-14	June 29	July 6	August 5
39-15	July 13	July 20	August 19
39-16	July 27	August 3	September 2
39-17	August 10	August 17	September 16
39-18	August 24	August 31	September 30
39-19	September 7	September 14	October 14
39-20	September 21	September 28	October 28
39-21	October 5	October 12	November 11
39-22	October 19	October 26	November 25
39-23	November 2	November 9	December 9
39-24	November 16	November 23	December 23
39-25	November 30	December 7	January 6, 2016
39-26	December 14	December 21	January 20, 2016