

VILLAGE OF ALLOUEZ

Allouez Village Hall • 1900 Libal Street • Green Bay, Wisconsin 54301-2453
Phone No.: (920) 448-2800 • Fax No.: (920) 448-2850

Department of Public Works

SUPPORT OF NEW WATER'S ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

NEW WATER is proposing to use Adaptive Management compared to expensive plant upgrades to meet DNR water quality standards. The use of Adaptive Management will cost approximately 38 million dollars over the next 30 years compared to 98-million-dollar plant upgrade.

NEW WATER, with help from a number of stakeholders, just recently completed an adaptive management plan in the Silver Creek Watershed. The pilot study started in 2014 worked with landowners and farmers to install conservation practices that included buffers strips, wetland restorations, grassed waterways and the placement of cover crops. Monitoring of the downstream waterways did show an improvement in water quality and supports the use of Adaptive Management.

Due to the success in the Silver Creek Watershed, New Water plans to complete an Adaptive Management plan in the Ashwaubenon and Dutchman Creek Watersheds over the next 20 years. New Water is asking its customers to provide a letter to them supporting their Adaptive Management plan. NEW WATER has provided a letter for communities to use to support the plan. The letter has been included with this staff report.

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Department of Public Works

November 19, 2018

Bill Hafs
Director of Environmental Programs, NEW Water
2231 N. Quincy St.
Green Bay, WI 54302

Subject: Village of Allouez Support of NEW Water's Plan for Watershed Adaptive Management

Dear Bill,

I am writing to you today in support of NEW Water's plans to complete an Adaptive Management program in the Ashwaubenon and Dutchman Creeks watersheds. NEW Water's ongoing work in the Silver Creek watershed pilot project to test NEW Water's work with diverse project stakeholders has demonstrated a cost effective way to improve water quality and proceed in the future. NEW Water's collaboration in the Silver Creek pilot Adaptive Management project with many partners has allowed your team to better understand the complex workings of non-point source water quality improvements. The successes and lessons learned in Silver Creek, and NEW Water's commitment to water quality improvement provides assurance entering into Adaptive Management in the Ashwaubenon and Dutchman Creeks watersheds that will result in continued success with partnerships, watershed improvements, and social and community benefits that will have great impact on all residents and visitors the metropolitan Green Bay area.

NEW Water has completed extensive evaluations of options for meeting permit conditions imposed by the State. As customers of your services, we appreciate these evaluations to ensure that solutions are cost effective and that incorporate important non-monetary criteria such as social and environmental benefits. Specifically, we are supportive of NEW Water's Adaptive Management because it will:

- Allow broad coordination with diverse stakeholders to make measurable improvements in water quality.
- Support economic development and jobs through direct projects that improve water quality, and that result from improved water quality.
- Implement conservation practices that will enhance agriculture economy and improve water quality.
- Elevate community awareness and support on water resource issues.

- Increase monitoring, reporting and public outreach to inform citizens of challenges, progress and successes in improving our water resources.
- Accelerate the schedules for implementing water quality improvements.
- Include accountability for achieving water quality improvements.
- Identify opportunities for water quality improvements for participation by diverse stakeholders.
- Develop innovative tools to empower stakeholders to cost effectively and strategically implement water quality improvement project.
- Supports municipal storm water management planning and implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of support of NEW Water's plan to complete an Adaptive Management program in the Ashwaubenon and Dutchman Creeks watersheds. We look forward to participating with you, supporting your leadership and collaboration, and to physically see improvements to the Fox River and Green Bay.

Sincerely

Sean J. Gehin, P.E.
Village of Allouez
Director of Public Works