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March 2, 2021

Dear Resident:

The City invites you to a virtual neighborhood open house on **Thursday, March 18th at 6:00 PM** to discuss the upcoming stormwater improvements at Erickson Park in summer 2021. Based on additional survey work, sediment testing, and preliminary resident feedback, the project scope has been slightly adjusted since original notices were mailed to the neighborhood in late 2019.

The low pond area will be dredged to remove excess sediments that have accumulated over the decades. The sediment testing revealed that the area contains Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs). The PAHs are common urban pollutants from asphalt-based or coal tar-based sealants. The current concentration of PAHs in Erickson Park require disposal of the dredged material at a lined landfill. The pond excavation and expansion will help improve water quality in Erickson Park and downstream.

The existing pollinator native garden area on the northern portion of the Park will remain. Following the pond expansion and clean out, new trees, shrubs, and pollinator-friendly perennials will be planted to further enhance and compliment the Park. Because the project will improve water quality draining to Farquar Lake, the City leveraged significant grant funding from the state's Clean Water Fund and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. These partnerships and grant funds help offset City resources utilized for the project.

At the virtual meeting, staff will be available to provide additional information on the project and answer questions. Information on how to join the virtual meeting can be found on the City of Apple Valley website: www.ci.apple-valley.mn.us – and search “Erickson Park”.

If you have any questions, please call (952) 953-2461 or email pubworks@applevalleymn.gov . If you are unable to join us March 18th but have questions, please reach out before the virtual open house.

Prior to construction we will host an additional neighborhood meeting. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Schaum".

Jessica Schaum
Natural Resources Coordinator

CITY OF APPLE VALLEY
Public Works Department