



DEPARTMENT OF
**PUBLIC
WORKS**

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 23, 2026
To: Utilities Committee
From: Laura Jungwirth, Director of Public Works
Peter Neuberger, City Engineer/Deputy Director of Public Works
Subject: Riverview Gardens Regional Stormwater Quality Pond

Background

The Department of Public Works (DPW) partnered with a consultant in 2021 to update the City-wide Stormwater Management Plan, as required under the City of Appleton's Stormwater Permit with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). This 25-year plan serves as a strategic guide for future stormwater initiatives and includes evaluation of various practices to achieve water quality goals for the Fox River and other local waterways.

One proven and effective approach identified in the plan is the construction of regional stormwater ponds designed to serve large, already developed areas. Among the ten potential locations identified, the Riverview Gardens (RVG) property emerged as a strong candidate due to the significant level of water quality treatment that could be achieved from the nearly 200-acre watershed draining into the ravine on the site.

Coordination with Riverview Gardens

During the City's recent Comprehensive Plan update process, DPW staff engaged with Riverview Gardens (RVG) staff to discuss the feasibility of installing a regional stormwater quality pond on the property. These discussions continued throughout 2025 and resulted in a shared understanding that the project would support both RVG's organizational objectives and the goals outlined in the City's Stormwater Management Plan.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed collaboratively, and the RVG Board has since reviewed, approved, and signed the document.

General Terms of the Memorandum of Understanding

- RVG will grant the city easements for the proposed stormwater quality pond and its related appurtenances (including piping and access).
- City will engage the services of an engineering consultant to perform stormwater modeling and preliminary engineering.
- City will be responsible for maintenance of the regional water quality pond and associated underground piping.
- RVG will maintain the easement surface and access routes, including trail connectivity and access that will remain established between the RVG Community Center and RVG farm

Next Steps

DPW will solicit a Request for Proposals (RFP) for stormwater modeling and engineering design services. Following staff review, a recommendation will be brought forward to the Utilities Committee and Common Council for consideration.

Please contact the Department of Public Works with any questions or requests for additional information regarding this project.