

10-8-16

Residents invited to flood study meeting

As Prior Lake policymakers continue their work on a plan to prevent future flood damage, the public is invited to a Nov. 16 meeting to review a recent flood study and proposed strategies.

The flood study meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16 at Prior Lake City Hall, 4646 Dakota St. A draft summary of the study report and a PowerPoint presentation from a recent policymaker meeting

is available at www.pslwd.org/flood-study.

Members of the city staff and council, the Spring Lake Township Board and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District, met in late September to discuss a preliminary storm water management and flood mitigation study designed to update the watershed flood model, review flood-related issues and projects, identify potential

flood reduction strategies and develop an implementation plan.

Policymakers discussed and provided comments on a staff recommendation, including strategies to address short-term needs and longer-term goals to reduce the amount of potential damage from future flood events.

In the short term, the staff recommendation identifies two strategies that include more deliberate use of the low-flow gate on the Prior Lake outlet structure and a coordinated method of deploying temporary flood protection measures. For the longer term, the recommendation includes working with willing landowners to secure areas in the upper watershed where water could be stored. Providing this storage would have flood reduction benefits for both Spring Lake and Prior Lake, and projects could be implemented incrementally.