



**RESOLUTION**

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**Resolution number:** 21-061

**Title:** Resolution Honoring the Contributions of Craig Churchward to Balanced Urban Ecology

WHEREAS the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District mourns the unexpected passing of Craig Churchward, a landscape architect and design consultant working with the District on the 325 Blake Road Restoration and Redevelopment Project;

WHEREAS the purpose of the restoration is to complete a missing link in the Minnehaha Creek Greenway, a decade-long effort to restore the creek and connect a system of green space and trails around Minnehaha Creek to the surrounding community; Mr. Churchward passionately believed in the power of public infrastructure to promote health, conserve and restore natural and cultural communities, and spur economic vitality; he saw his passion reflected in the MCWD’s mission and envisioned the 325 Blake Road project as a final public sector project before his planned retirement;

WHEREAS Mr. Churchward helped build and lead a team that tackled the complicated task of turning a long and complicated set of goals for 325 Blake Road into a cohesive project vision that is responsive to both his client and the community; he displayed deep commitment to collaboration among various professional disciplines to integrate the built and natural environments; he freely shared his expertise to mentor MCWD staff on the importance of transportation planning and thoughtful design regarding Cottageville Park and 325 Blake Road;

WHEREAS Mr. Churchward infused his wit, good-natured humor, and kindness in all aspects of his work, from the most mundane administrative tasks to envisioning a site design; he managed to cultivate meaningful personal relationships while at the same time maintaining a high degree of professionalism;

WHEREAS Mr. Churchward’s experience with MCWD was just one project among many in thirty years of his work to change the way our country plans and designs its highways, streets, and other public infrastructure; his insights and leadership leave lasting impact in promoting context-sensitive design of our common spaces;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby honors the contributions of Craig Churchward to balanced urban ecology, expressing our deepest sympathies to Mr. Churchward’s family, friends and colleagues on his passing, and acknowledging with gratitude his lasting legacy of care for healthy communities.

Resolution Number 21- 061 was moved by Manager \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_. Motion to adopt the resolution \_\_\_ eyes, \_\_\_ nays, \_\_\_ abstentions. Date: September 23, 2021.

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 Secretary Date: \_\_\_\_\_