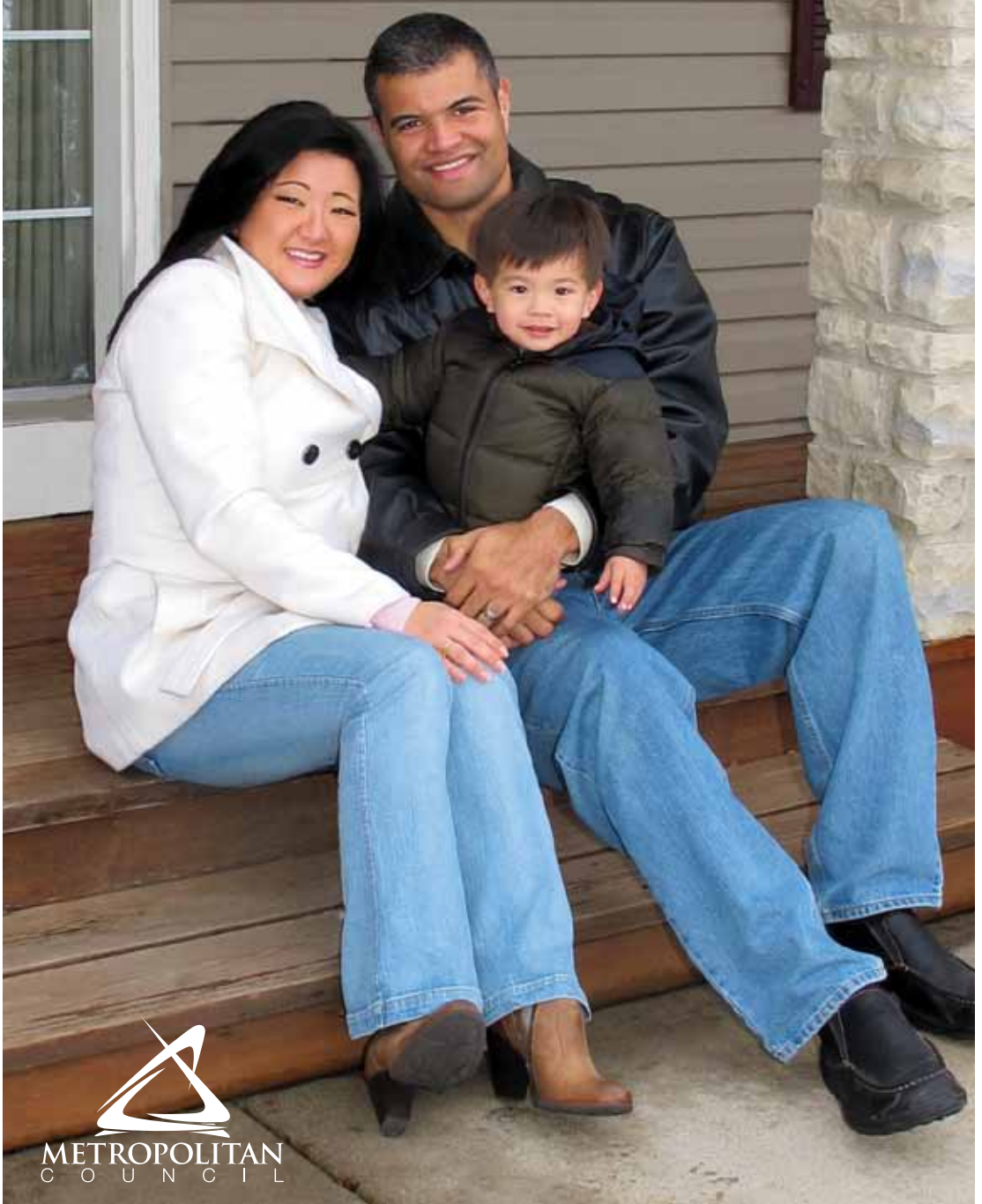


The region we call
HOME ▶



METROPOLITAN
COUNCIL



GREATER MSP:
HIGHEST METRO
LABOR FORCE
PARTICIPATION

“We’re optimistic about the future. We see continued growth and expansion of our businesses.”

Gregg Murray, Senior Vice President,
Opportunity Partners, Minnetonka

The region we call HOME ▶



The Twin Cities metro area is home to 18 Fortune 500 businesses, more per capita than any of the nation's 30 most populous metro areas. To support our region's economic vitality, the Metropolitan Council plans for and makes strategic, efficient public investments in:

- A growing network of transitways
- Transit-oriented development
- Affordable housing
- World-class wastewater treatment
- Unparalleled regional parks and trails

The Council's Thrive MSP 2040 long-range planning effort is engaging our entire region to develop a vision to maximize future opportunities for growth and prosperity, and achieve goals too big for any one community, but possible to accomplish as a region.



“Our regional investments are good for business, they’re efficient, and they support healthy communities and families.”

Susan Haigh, Chair, Metropolitan Council

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“Transit is so easy and convenient. I get a little nap on my way to work, and on the way home I can check some emails and wrap up work. On top of that, it’s less expensive and I don’t have to worry about the wear and tear on our vehicles.”

Toccarra Torres, Metro Transit Park & Ride user, Lakeville



▼
TRANSIT HAD
94.4 MILLION
RIDERS IN **2012**

The region we call HOME... **IS ON THE MOVE**



The region's bustling international airport, our freight and river transportation systems, regional highways and our growing transit system all work together to support our vibrant regional economy.

The Council and its partners are planning and investing in a 21st century transitway network that connects people to jobs, housing, recreation and vital services like health care. Commuter and light rail, rapid bus lines, and improved bicycling and pedestrian facilities will all benefit our growing and aging population.





“I grew up in Rondo. Everyone in the neighborhood knew us. It was home, and I loved it. That’s why I wanted to come back. In my final years, where else would I go?”

Joyce Williams, resident of Kings Crossing, senior affordable housing on the future Green Line LRT, St. Paul

WE SUPPORT
A **THRIVING**
R E G I O N

The region we call HOME...

DEVELOPS IN WAYS THAT CONNECT PEOPLE

The Council works with its partners across sectors to integrate our region's emerging transitway system with economic development and revitalization.

Livable Communities Act and Corridors of Opportunity investments catalyze economic development and affordable housing near transit. The result? Tens of thousands of living-wage jobs, thousands of new affordable homes, greater access to opportunity, and millions of dollars added to our local property tax base.

Transit-oriented development makes efficient use of existing infrastructure. Well into the future, transitway corridors will help guide our region's growth and competitiveness.





“Quite honestly, I’m a business guy and we conserve water because that also conserves money. But I’m also a St. Paul guy, and a guy with a daughter who is looking into the future. I’m interested in the well-being of this community.”

Tom Thomasser, Chief Operating Officer, Summit Brewing, St. Paul

The region we call HOME... **RELIES ON WATER**



The Twin Cities metro area is water rich. Three major rivers, vast underground aquifers, and thousands of lakes make us the envy of urban areas the world over.

Yet our water supplies are not limitless. Population growth, development, localized water shortages, the impact of groundwater withdrawal on surface waters, contamination, and drought could impact our future water supply.

In partnership with state agencies, water suppliers and cities, the Council created and regularly updates a cutting-edge regional water supply plan to ensure a sustainable water supply for current and future generations. Working together, our water future is bright.

WE TRACK THE
HEALTH OF THE
REGION'S
WATERWAYS





“I see a lot of people creating new solutions that save energy and generate clean energy, which drive down our energy costs and create wealth in the community.”

Timothy DenHerder-Thomas, Board Chair, Cooperative Energy Futures, Minneapolis



The region we call HOME... **BUILDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

The Council's region-wide wastewater collection and treatment system regularly earns national awards for compliance with strict environmental permits, and operates at a cost to ratepayers of 60% of the national average for peer regions.

How do we do it?

EFFICIENCY. INNOVATION. VISION.

By 2020, the Council plans to reduce consumption of fossil-fuel energy in wastewater operations by 50% from 2006. So far we're saving ratepayers \$3.9 million annually in reduced energy use.



We're also upgrading the Metro Transit bus fleet and reducing energy use at transit facilities, saving millions of dollars annually. The Council will continue to adopt innovative technologies to improve operations and use resources more sustainably.



The region we call HOME... **OFFERS ABUNDANT RECREATION**

Young, creative professionals today are highly mobile and can live anywhere they want.

Yet they choose regions that offer the ability to go places without a car. Places with a diverse population, and a rich arts and entertainment culture. They choose places of natural beauty with abundant recreation.

The Twin Cities metro area's 58 regional parks and 308 miles of trails showcase the unique landscapes of the region and provide year-round recreation. For future generations, the Council plans to add another 10 parks and 700 miles of trails to our regional system by 2030.

"I like the trails because no matter how old you are, you can enjoy them. If there were more trails throughout the parks and connecting the parks, I think that would be great."

Sequoia Hauck, student,
Champlin



**WE'RE SAVING
GREENSPACE
FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS**





The region we call **HOME** ▶

CREATES HOUSING FOR ALL

Thriving communities need housing that accommodates a wide variety of incomes so that residents can live where they choose. Stable, affordable housing is critical for people to be able to work productively, for their children to learn, and for our families and communities to thrive.

The Council continues to invest in affordable housing through the Livable Communities Act and Metro HRA to help sustain this region that we all call home.



**EVERYONE
HAS A PLACE
THEY CAN
CALL HOME**





“My hopes and dreams for my family, my kids especially, are that they will never have to worry about where they’re going to live, if they’re going to eat, or be safe. I just want them to be able to be good people when they get older.”

Stephanie Gulner, Brooklyn Center





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February 2013
Publication number 14-13-004