DATE: November 14, 2022
TO: To Whom It May Concern
FROM: Angela R. Torres, Senior Manager, Local Planning Assistance
SUBJECT: Revised 2022 System Statement Functional Classification Maps

The roadway’s functional classification reflects its role within the transportation system. Some roads, such as interstates, are designed to have limited access to surrounding land uses and accommodate long-distance, high-speed trips. Other classifications, such as local roadways, are designed primarily to provide direct access to homes and surrounding businesses. A roadway’s functional classification also affects its eligibility for Regional Solicitation funds. All roadways have a functional classification.

In 2021, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) conducted a comprehensive review of the region’s roadway network, which resulted in several functional classification changes. This review included technical staff from the counties and cities within the region. Generally, the changes to the network based upon the MnDOT regional review are minor. Many of the changes were to the “Other Arterial” category, some of which were reclassified to an A-Minor or as Major/Minor Collectors.

The Council issued 2022 System Statements on September 30, 2022. Unfortunately, the map illustrating the functional class system was mis-titled “Principal Arterial Roads.” We updated this map with the correct title of “Functional Class Roads” for clarity, which includes all roadway functional classifications. We included information on the Major/Minor Collector system for consistency, which is not required for the purposes of comprehensive plans but was included in the 2015 System Statements. The revised map reflects your community’s functional class network as of September 30, 2022, and meets map requirements for related comprehensive plan amendments. You may review the PDF of the revised map on the Local Planning Handbook’s Community Page (https://lphonline.metc.state.mn.us/commportal) for your jurisdiction. In addition, you can review the region’s functional classifications using an online mapping tool at: https://metrocouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4e02270f13944fe1b9f600123e29618a.

Additionally, the 2022 System Statements issued on September 30, 2022, include another map titled "Functional Class Roads" showing all roadways in which there was an identified change to the functional classification system in your community. Local governments may use this map in conjunction with the revised Functional Class Roads map mentioned above (dated October 2022) to review the roadways with identified changes.

Remember, it is at the discretion of the community to determine if your comprehensive plan needs to be amended to reflect the revised functional classification network. If you have additional questions, please contact your Sector Representative (https://metrocouncil.org/Communities/Planning/Local-Planning-Assistance/Sector-Reps.aspx).