

# Wastewater Reuse Policy Alternatives

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# Meeting Objectives

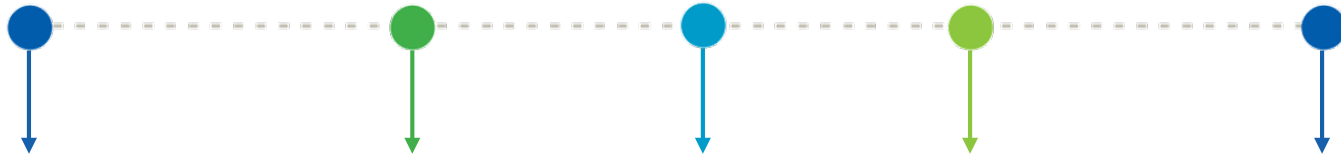


- Review public comments on alternative wastewater reuse-related policy amendments
- Review staff's recommended policy amendment
- Provide opportunity for discussion about the above

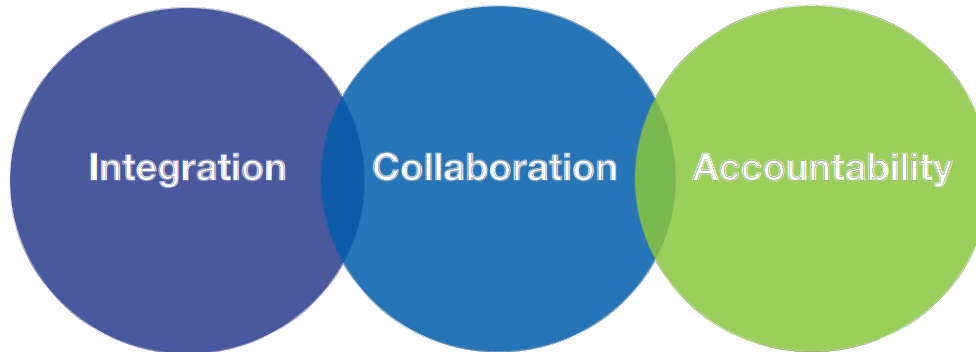
# Thrive-Driven Outcomes & Principles

THRIVE-DRIVEN OUTCOMES THAT DEFINE OUR SHARED REGIONAL VISION:

Stewardship Prosperity Equity Livability Sustainability



PRINCIPLES TO CARRY OUT THE COUNCIL'S WORK:



# Thrive Principles

## Integration

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### Integration

Integration is the intentional combining of related activities to achieve more effective results, leveraging multiple policy tools to address complex regional challenges and opportunities. The Metropolitan Council is committed to integrating its activities to pursue its outcomes, achieve greater efficiencies, and address problems that are too complex for singular approaches. The *Thrive* outcomes—stewardship, prosperity, equity, livability and sustainability—are lofty ideals that cut across the Council's functions and responsibilities. Pursuing them demands that the Council use its full range of authorities and activities in more coordinated ways.

#### Achieving integration means:

- Moving beyond organizational silos to leverage all of the Council's divisions, roles and authorities in addressing regional issues.
- Coordinating effectively with partners and stakeholders across and throughout the region.

INTEGRATION

THRIVE PRINCIPLES

Coordinating effectively with partners and stakeholders throughout the region

**Metro Cities**

**State Representatives Garofalo and Barr**

**5 Labor-related organizations**

**SKB Environmental**

**MnDNR**



- Workshop location
- Comment submitted
- Task Force Member

# Thrive Principles

Collaboration



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## Collaboration

Collaboration recognizes that shared efforts advance our region most effectively toward shared outcomes. Addressing the region's issues—particularly the emerging challenges of climate change, economic competitiveness, racial disparities, and water sustainability—requires collaboration because no single entity has the capacity or the authority to do the work alone.

Even when one entity is the primary funder or investor in a project, success requires the coordinated collaboration of a range of public and private entities to fully realize the development potential—witness, for example, the extensive partnerships supporting development beyond the rails along the METRO Green Line (Central Corridor).

For the Council, acting collaboratively means:

- Being open to shared strategies, supportive partnerships, and reciprocal relationships.
- Convening the region's best thinkers, experts, and stakeholders to address complex regional issues beyond the capacity or authority of any single jurisdiction or institution.
- Providing additional technical assistance and enhanced information to support local planning and decision-making.

COLLABORATION

THRIVE MSP 2040

THRIVE: PRINCIPLES

Be open, convene the region's best thinkers, and provide technical assistance



# Thrive Principles

Accountability

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## Accountability

**Results matter.** For the Council, accountability includes a commitment to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our policies and practices toward achieving shared outcomes and a willingness to adjust course to improve performance. *Thrive MSP 2040* aspires to be the foundation for regional policy that is accountable to the hopes, dreams, and vision expressed by the region's residents, local governments, and the Council's regional partners throughout the development of this document.

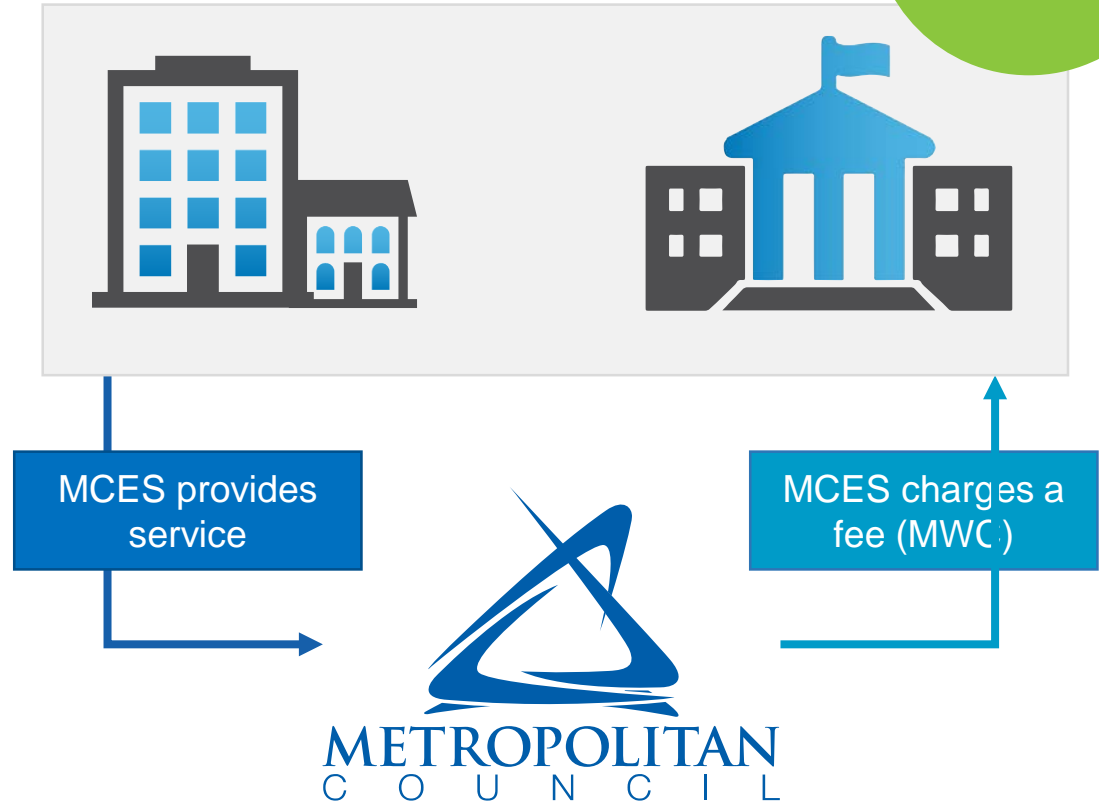
### Acting accountably means:

- Adopting a data-driven approach to measure progress.
- Creating and learning from Thrive indicators.
- Providing clear, easily accessible information.
- Deploying the Council's authority.

ACCOUNTABILITY

THRIVE PRINCIPLES

Adopt a data-driven approach, create and learn from Thrive, provide accessible information, deploy the Council's authority



# Task Force Findings

## Consensus Items:

- ✓ Reasons for wastewater reuse program
  - ✓ Responsive approach
  - ✓ Cooperation and partnership rather than competition
  - ✓ Cost-of-service basis for reclaimed water rate
  - ✓ Regional benefit evaluation
  - ✓ Funding from non-Council funds
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- ✓ If Council moves ahead with regional cost share, implement a pilot wastewater reuse program with: caps on cost share, user agreement, public input process, Council decision making

## Non-Consensus Items:

- ✓ Regional cost share



Alternative policy amendments (see handout) grew out of task force findings

# Comments Received From

- **State Representatives Garofalo and Barr**
- **Labor-related organizations:**
  - North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
  - St. Paul Building Trades
  - International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 49
  - Iron Workers Local 512
  - IBEW Local 110
- **Local Cities (MCES wastewater customers):**
  - Minneapolis
  - Lakeville
  - Burnsville
  - Hugo
  - Cottage Grove
  - Rosemount
- **Metro Cities**
- **SKB Environmental**
- **Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**



See meeting mailing for all comments



Summary of comments contained in handout



# Conclusions from Public Comments

- Comments reflect varied opinions about regional cost share issue
  - Consistent with task force findings
  - Consistent with previous Council discussions
- Council's wastewater customers (i.e., cities) either can support Alternative 3 (cost share based on wastewater system benefits) or have provided comments on what they would want to see if Council proceeded with Alternative 3
- For pilot program, projects under consideration could proceed equally well under Alternative 2 (cost share based on environmental and economic benefits) or Alternative 3
- Given Council's Thrive principles, staff recommend policy based on Alternative 3 (see handout)

# Recommended Policy



Staff recommend a wastewater reuse pilot program with a cost share component based on wastewater system benefits (Alternative 3) – see handout

## Recommendation reflects:

- Listening to task force and public comments
- Thrive principles
- Department of Natural Resource's comments
- See handout with recommended policy amendment

# Questions