Wastewater Reuse Policy Alternatives

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Committee of the Whole: April 18, 2018

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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

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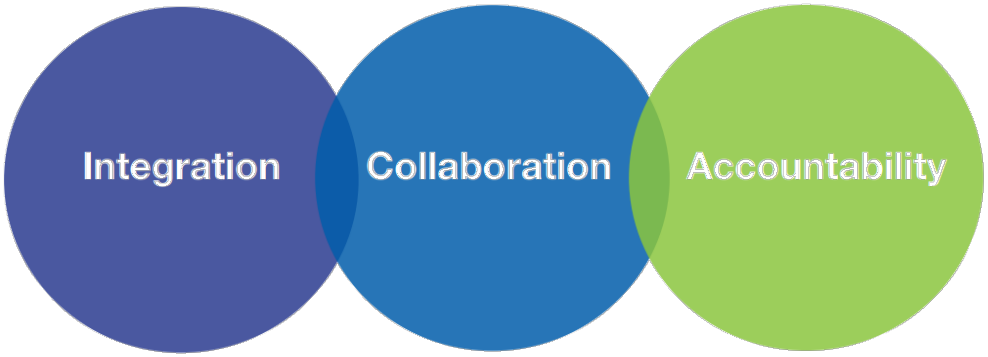
Thrive-Driven Outcomes & Principles

THRIVE-DRIVEN OUTCOMES THAT DEFINE OUR SHARED REGIONAL VISION:

Stewardship Prosperity Equity Livability Sustainability

PRINCIPLES TO CARRY OUT THE COUNCIL'S WORK:



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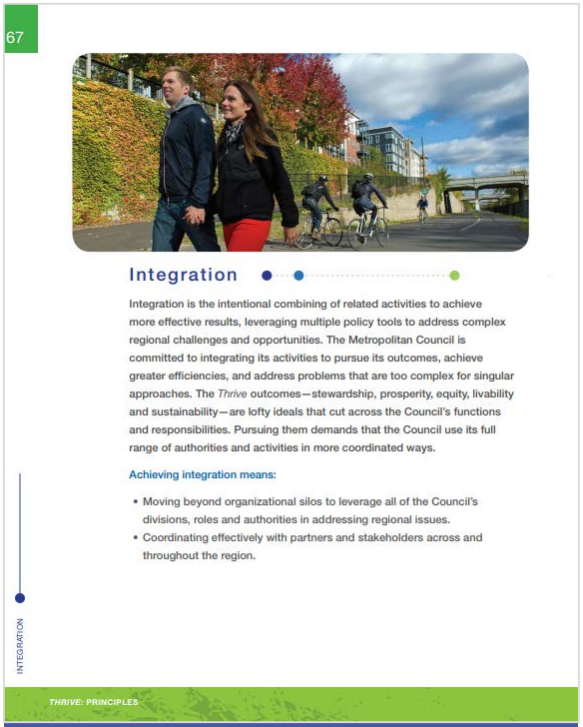
Thrive Principles

Integration



Coordinating effectively with partners and stakeholders throughout the region

Metro Cities

State Representatives Garofalo and Barr

5 Labor-related organziations

SKB Environmental

MnDNR

Workshop location

Comment submitted

Task Force Member

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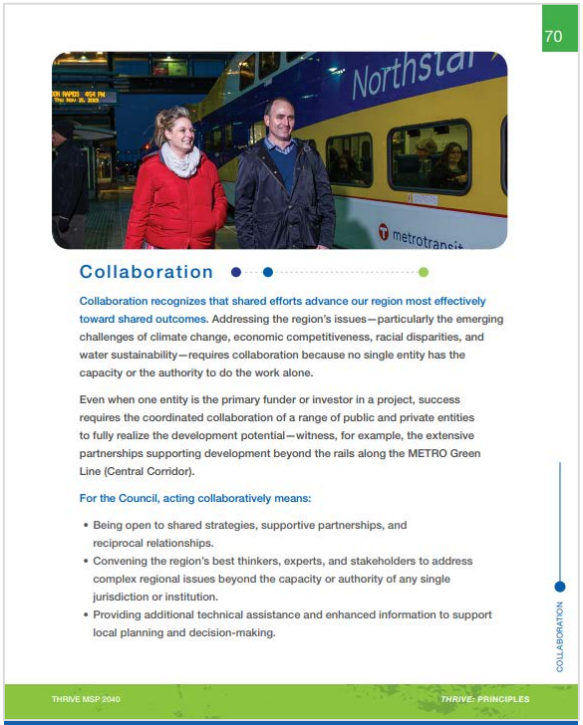
Thrive Principles

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

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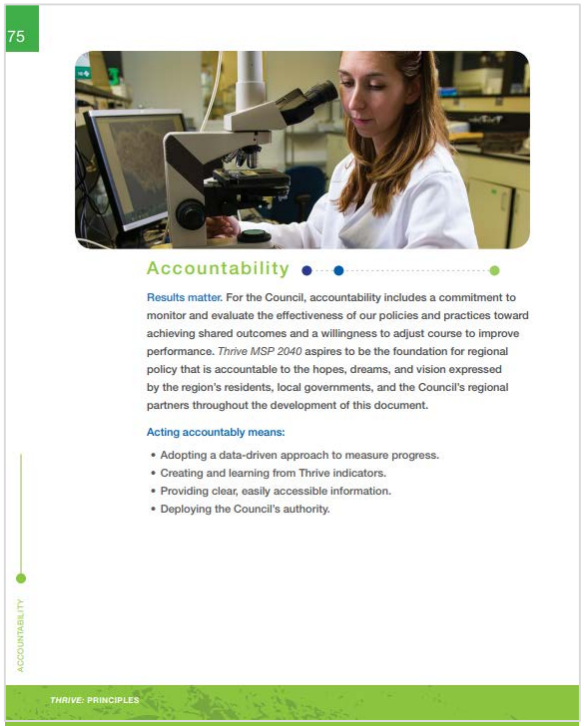
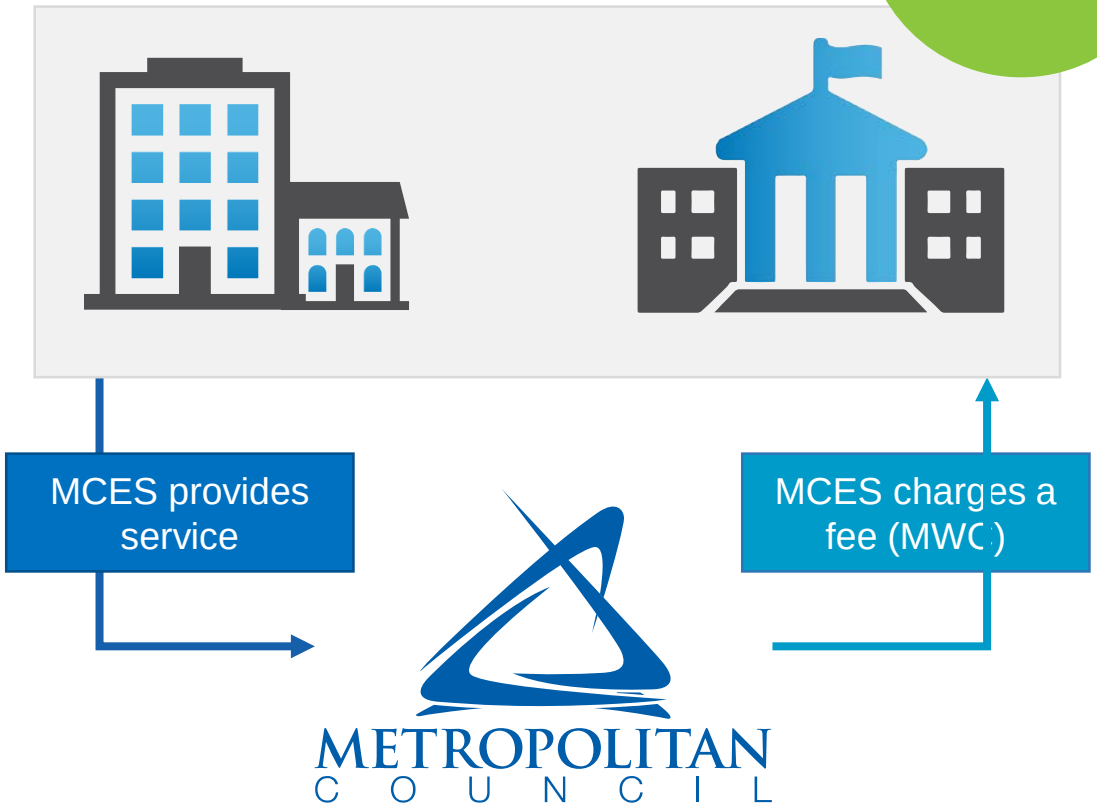
Thrive Principles

Accountability



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



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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

- ✓ 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

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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

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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)

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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

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