

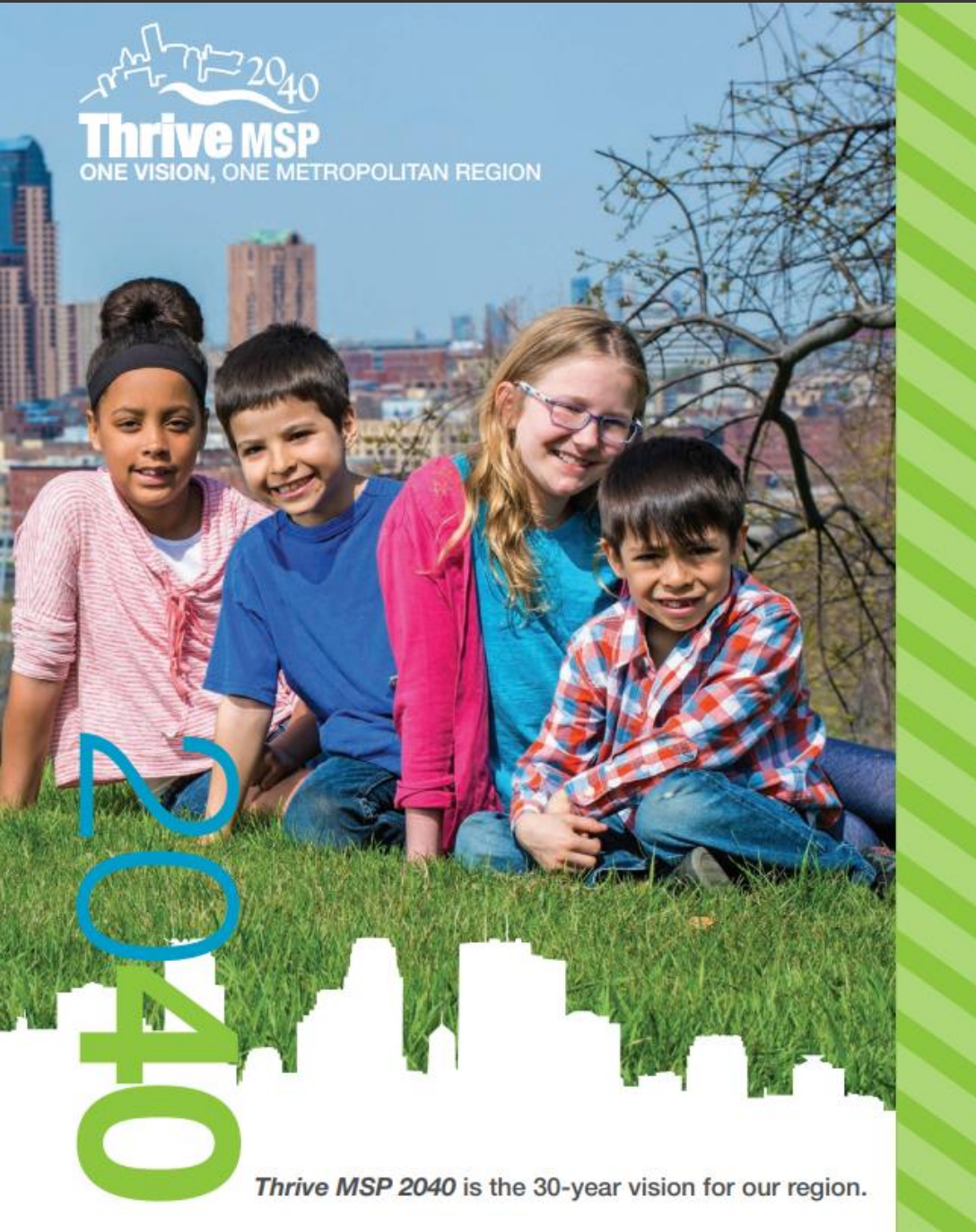


THRIVE MSP 2040

PROGRESS ON EQUITY COMMITMENTS



Promoting Equity means...



Four integrated strategies:

- Using our influence and investments to build a more equitable region.
 - Creating real choices in where we live, how we travel, and where we recreate for all residents, across race, ethnicity, economic means, and ability.
 - Investing in a mix of housing affordability along the region's transit corridors.
 - Engaging a full cross-section of the community in decision-making.
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- Core policy authorities in housing, transportation, parks, transit-oriented development, and community engagement
 - **31 specific commitments**

About this report

Purpose

- Requested by Council Members & community
- Format easily comparable to the original document
- Demonstrates accountability
 - Speak directly to commitments, not regional trends

Scope

- This is not a full accounting of our work to advance regional equity.
- Supplements other data, KPIs, reporting
- Does not include
 - Other Thrive outcomes
 - Internal efforts
 - Work underway (but incomplete)
 - Planned or upcoming work

Using our influence and investments to build a more equitable region



Highlights

- Through the Livable Communities (LCA) programs, Council invested \$59.1M in region's high-poverty neighborhoods between 2014 and 2021 (all grant programs); these funds supported
 - nearly 7,900 new housing units
 - Preservation or rehabbed another 1,042 units
 - 49% affordable (<60% area median income)
- Deep engagement with Council staff, local governments, and community organizations on equity metrics
 - Framing matters; consult communities
 - Concentrated poverty focus caused harm with few upsides

Creating real choices in where we live, how we travel, and where we recreate for all residents, across race, ethnicity, economic means, and ability



Highlights

- Meaningful shifts in our expectations about what **robust and representative** community engagement looks like, and how we use it
- Historic investment in LCA's Local Housing Incentives Account (LHIA) - supports production and preservation of affordable rental and ownership housing
- Multiple avenues to expand housing choice and capacity in Metro HRA
 - Mobility counseling and demonstration programs
 - Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMRs)
 - Homeless Action Team partnership with Metro Transit
- Enhanced equity and engagement requirements in regional parks

Creating real choices in where we live, how we travel, and where we recreate for all residents, across race, ethnicity, economic means, and ability



Highlights (continued)

- Pivot transportation services to offer essential services - like food distribution - during COVID-19 pandemic
- New models of community partnership
 - Metro Transit's Better Bus Stops program
 - METRO Blue Line Extension Anti-Displacement Workgroup
- Centering equity in long-term transit planning
 - annual Service Equity Evaluation (2020)

Investing in a mix of housing affordability along the region's transit corridors



Highlights

- Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) grant program (LCA)
 - awarded \$34.9M between 2015 and 2021
 - Funded roughly 5,300 new housing units; 56% were affordable (<60% AMI)
- New pre-development grants (LCDA, TOD)
 - Prioritizes deep housing affordability, special populations
- FTA pilot program for intensive station area grants for METRO Blue Line Light Rail Transit (LRT) Extension and METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Engaging a full cross-section of the community in decision-making



Highlights

- Public Engagement Plan (2015)
- Organizational partnerships
 - Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) on Rethinking I-94 (2018-19)
 - Center for Economic Inclusion and Greater MSP on the Regional Economic Framework (2020)
- Increasing role of community and diverse voices
 - Advisory committee selection
 - Consultants hired for planning studies, engagement support
- Prioritizing customer audiences in transit service
 - Transit safety study

2050 Regional Development Guide



Takeaways we're applying to 2050:

- Evaluation and metrics discussed now, in the planning process
 - Consult with directly impacted populations
 - Systems to make tracking easier
 - Adopt with framework
- Include regional trends and performance indicators
- Communities of practice and frequent reflections on progress and results



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