



Framing Equity

In the *Imagine 2050* process and policies



Goals for Today



Topics

- Refresh foundation for equity in regional planning
- Recap equity approach for 2050 regional planning
- Affirm equity approach in regional planning
- Next steps

Statute Requires Development Guide ⁽¹⁾

Metropolitan Land Planning Act (Minn. Stat. 473.145)

The Metropolitan Council shall prepare and adopt, after appropriate study and such public hearings as may be necessary, **a comprehensive development guide** for the metropolitan area...

Statute Requires Development Guide ⁽²⁾

Metropolitan Land Planning Act (Minn. Stat. 473.145)

... It shall consist of a compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, programs, and maps **prescribing guides for the orderly and economical development, public and private, of the metropolitan area.** The comprehensive development guide shall recognize and encompass **physical, social, or economic needs of the metropolitan area** and those future developments which will have an impact on the entire area including but not limited to such matters as **land use, parks and open space land needs, the necessity for and location of airports, highways, transit facilities, public hospitals, libraries, schools, and other public buildings.**

Equity approach in the 2050 process

Equity Task Force

- Council staff across all divisions
- Responsible to the Integration Team
- Focused on integration of equity in both process and policy development
- Support other 2050 RDG equity initiatives
- Responsible for 2050 RDG equity components (defining equity)

Objectives

- Provide resources to support staff working on process and policy development
- Provide accountability for the Council's commitment to equity
- Center equity in the **process** of developing the 2050 RDG
- Center equity in the **policies** of the 2050 RDG
- Define equity for the 2050 RDG planning process to create shared understanding

Draft Regional Equity Statements

Regional Equity Value Statement

We value the people and communities of our region.

Regional Goal Statement

Our Region is Equitable and Inclusive

Racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated; and all residents and newcomers feel welcome, included, and empowered.

RACIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK



Equity Framework Project Examples



Housing Investment in Western and Southern Twin City Suburbs

- **Project Description:** CURA is working with various governments and community-based organizations on a research agenda to focus institutional investment in the housing market and its impact on tenants. Primarily, this work is being used to identify existing and potential tenant stabilization policies in the western and southern Twin Cities suburbs, increase government transparency around rental licensing data, and spatial analysis to more accurately measure the scope of the various issues
- **Geography:** Edina, Eagan, Bloomington, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park, and Richfield
- **Government Partners:** various city governments in project geography
- **Community Partners:** various advocacy organizations in project geography, including Jewish Community Action, Homeline, and the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
- **Framework:** centering conversation on the voices and experiences of tenants and community-based organizations to impact housing policy discussions in various jurisdictions

Equity Framework Project Examples



Blue Line Extension Anti-Displacement Project

- **Project Description:** CURA worked with various partners to study the types of policies that could prevent housing, business, cultural, and displacement in the Blue Line Extension corridor as the result of implementing the Blue Line Extension
- **Geography:** Hennepin County, Minneapolis, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Brooklyn Park
- **Government Partners:** Met Council, Hennepin County, Minneapolis, Robbinsdale, Brooklyn Park, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board
- **Community Partners:** various advocacy organizations, business organizations, philanthropic partners, and members in community
- **Framework:** broadened the scope of project considerations beyond transit and recentered Blue Line Extension corridor communities to create vision for ensuring they are the primary benefactors of the work

Centering Community

Ongoing work

- Local governments and established partners
- Sector Representatives
- Standing meetings/groups
- Council meetings, Committees, and Work Groups
- Cross-divisional collaboration
- Professional organizations and conferences

Broad Engagement

- Targeted and specific outreach
- Topic-based engagement
- Constituent cohorts
- Surveys/Forms or other electronic feedback
- Community events

New Efforts with Existing Partners

- Regional Planning Advisory Group with Metro Cities
- Tribal Consultation and urban Indian organizations
- Center for Economic Inclusion and Greater MSP
- Governor's Council on Age-Friendly MN
- Local Planning Stories shared by city, township, or county staff
- Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) at UofM

New Initiatives

- Young Leaders Collab
- Historical-Cultural Study
- Regional Policy Cohorts
- Rural Focus Groups with MN Dept of Ag
- Climate and Natural Resources Policy Focus groups
- Environmental Justice Framework Advisory Group

Request for Endorsement



Council direction is needed to move forward.

The Equity Framework:

- Represents commitment to the regional equity goal and Council value statement
- Provides expectations for how equity should be expressed and visible in policy language for Council review
- Provides consistent equity structure for accountability
- Informs next steps

Next Steps



Upcoming and ongoing work

- Review definitions for Equity and Environmental Justice
- Share Engagement Update
- Discuss and draft Regional Equity Objectives
- Define Council commitments to actions to repair harm and prevent further harm to disadvantaged communities
- Determine accountability metrics
- Define how progress is measured



Thank You!

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