



Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program

Continued discussion on the amendment and proposed measures

Sarah Nelson and Krysten Ryba-Tures

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

October 2025



Today's discussion

Picking up where we left off...

- Further discussion on proposed measures for regional goals?
 - Equitable and inclusive
 - Healthy and safe
 - Dynamic and resilient
- Discussion on remaining regional goals' measures?
 - Climate change
 - Natural systems
- Policy measures? Any other aspects of program to discuss ahead of action?



Recap of last week's discussion



Potential co-benefits, process, and alignment

- Opportunity to share expertise and learnings on effective monitoring with other interested partners; story to be told on process, not just data
- Leverage institutional knowledge, collaborate with partners, and consider phases for new data collection efforts to ensure balance (benefits/burdens) and participation
- An outcomes focus de-emphasizes output measures like dollars spent over the results of those investments; anticipate costs may remain part of the conversation
- Interest in learning more about Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process; offered that measures in 2050 program align with data used in plan
- Potential data sources

Program components discussed so far

Amendment Part A

Program narrative

- Background
- Commitments
- Principles
- Structure



Amendment Part B – Technical Appendix

Regional goal measures

- ~~Equitable and inclusive~~
- ~~Healthy and safe~~
- ~~Dynamic and resilient~~
- Lead on climate change
- Natural systems



Policy measures

Discussed at committee level

- Land Use
- Water
- Housing
- Parks and Trails
- Transportation



Outcomes program webpage

CLICK ON A MEASURE BELOW TO SEE FULL DESCRIPTION

Net change in land acreage within the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA) (Regional measure)

This measure is related to Housing Objectives 1 and 2 and is crosslisted with the following policy area(s): Land Use

Land Use

Housing

Parks and Trails

Water

Housing costs and cost of living

Housing cost burden

Area Median Income

Housing cost burden - HCV holders

Share of affordable housing need met

Share of affordable LCA-supported housing

Share of affordable housing with LCA funding

Housing preserved by LCA

Affordability of LCA-supported housing

Local governments - housing stability

Local governments - affordable housing production

Change in housing units by type

SFH land consumption

New affordable housing - built environment

Land acreage in MUSA

Density of new affordable housing

Change in land guided for higher densities

New affordable housing - access to amenities

PBVs awarded with supportive services

PBVs awarded with 3+ bedrooms

Metro HRA's SEMAP utilization

LCA-supported housing with 3+ bedrooms

HCV use in low-HCV areas

HCV households in Opportunity Areas

Filter by measure type

☒ (All)

☐ Regional indicator

☐ Regional measure

☐ Met Council measure

Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program

1. Please tell us what area of the Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program your comment addresses: *

☐ Proposed measures for a policy area

☐ Proposed measures for a regional goal

☐ A specific proposed measure

☐ General comment about program

☐ Other

2. Which policy area's proposed measures are you commenting on: *

Select your answer

3. Which regional goal's proposed measures are you commenting on: *

Select your answer

4. Which specific proposed measure are you commenting on: *

Please type the description of the proposed measure into the text box below.

metro council.org/Imagine2050outcomes

- Program information and key documents
- Interactive tool with updated proposed program measures
- Feedback form
- (Future) amendment public comment details

We lead on addressing climate change



Essential topics recap

- We have mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and have adapted to ensure our communities and systems are resilient to climate impacts.

PREVIOUSLY

- Sustainability
- Operations-focus
- Water conservation and reuse



IMAGINE 2050

- Statutory changes
- Met Council Climate Action Workplan
- All infrastructure & investments

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, limiting climate impacts on infrastructure and natural systems, and calling attention to disproportionate climate burdens

We protect and restore natural systems



Essential topics recap

- Natural systems include the land, air, water, vegetation, and wildlife as well as their connections within ecosystems, natural cycles, and human society.

PREVIOUSLY

- Conservation
- Resource management
- Parks & water focus
- Human livability



IMAGINE 2050

- Protection
- Integration
- Restoration
- All regional systems
- Intrinsic value

- Challenges for natural systems include climate impacts, drought and flooding, contaminants/ pollution, loss of green space and biodiversity

Review

Discussion



- More information needed about proposed measures?
- Does the slate miss any key trends or areas of Met Council's work you want to see included?
- Measures you're particularly interested in or excited about?



Other comments and questions?

Proposed measures for 2050 policy areas

- Each policy area developed slate of measures related to outcomes of plan’s objectives; some overlap with regional goals
- Shared with Community Development and Environment Committees, MPOSC
- Continued measure development over last month to refine, add, or remove. New measures on
 - Transit-oriented development (Land Use, Housing)
 - Solar technical assistance (Land Use)
 - Water quality (Water, Parks and Trails)
 - Lending and adequacy (Housing)

PROPOSED MEASURES FOR THE 2050 REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAIL PLAN

IMAGINE2050

Regional indicators

These measures describe high-level trends about the Twin Cities metro or region. Regional indicators

PROPOSED MEASURES FOR 2050 WATER POLICY

IMAGINE2050

Regional Goals

This document contains a series of tables that show the connection between our proposed measures (regional indicators, regional measures, and Met Council measures) and the regional goals and water policies in the Imagine 2050 Regional Development Guide. For ease of reference, the regional goals are described below and will match the corresponding goal

PROPOSED MEASURES FOR THE 2050 HOUSING POLICY PLAN

IMAGINE2050

Regional indicators

These measures describe high-level trends about the Twin Cities metro or region. Regional indicators can provide context on whether—and to what extent—our region’s trends are similar to other places and offer a sense of scale and persistence. These measures reflect the impacts of intersecting “macro” systems and require collective and sustained action to counter or advance. For that reason, it may be difficult to understand what drives change in regional indicator trends without additional analysis or data.

Regional indicator description	2050 Policies							Connections	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Other policy areas	Regional goals
Net change in the region’s housing units by housing type	X	X			X		X	X	X
Net population change	X	X					X	X	X
Transportation accessibility (by mode) to schools, jobs, SNAP retailers, and other neighborhood amenities	X				X		X	X	
Travelsheds by transportation mode to parks and trails	X					X	X	X	
Growth rate of impervious surface acreage per household									X
Share of region’s population living in proximity to natural spaces			X	X			X		X
Net change in productive agricultural land	X						X		

Regional measures

PROPOSED MEASURES FOR 2050 LAND USE POLICY

IMAGINE2050

Regional indicators

These measures describe high-level trends about the Twin Cities metro or region. Regional indicators can provide context on whether—and to what extent—our region’s trends are similar to other places and offer a sense of scale and persistence. These measures reflect the impacts of intersecting “macro” systems and require collective and sustained action to counter or advance. For that reason, it may be difficult to understand what drives change in regional indicator trends without additional analysis or data.

Regional indicator description	2050 Objectives								Connections	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Other policy areas	Regional goals
Net change in the region’s housing units by housing type	X	X			X		X		X	X
Net population change	X	X					X	X	X	X
Transportation accessibility (by mode) to schools, jobs, SNAP retailers, and other neighborhood amenities	X				X		X	X	X	
Travelsheds by transportation mode to parks and trails	X					X	X		X	
Growth rate of impervious surface acreage per household										X
Share of region’s population living in proximity to natural spaces			X	X				X		X
Net change in productive agricultural land	X						X			

Regional measures

Page - 1

Page - 1

IMAGINE2050

Metropolitan Council

8

Review & discussion



- More information needed about proposed measures for 2050 policy areas?
- Any key trends or areas of Met Council's work you want to see included?
- Measures you're particularly interested in or excited about?



Other comments and questions?

Future Action: Imagine 2050 Amendment

SEPT
15

CDC
**Land Use, Housing
& Parks and Trails**

SEPT
23

ENVIROMENT
Water Resources

OCT
8

MET COUNCIL
All Policy Measures

OCT
15

COW *RESCHEDULED FROM 9/3
Regional Goal Measures

OCT
22

MET COUNCIL
Release draft amendment

JAN
14

MET COUNCIL
Adopt amendment

A

How: Outcomes Measurement Program narrative

- Builds on Imagine's Accountability value
- Describes purpose, scope, and guiding principles
- Sets internal commitments and expectations

B

What: Initial outcome measurement slate

- Technical Appendix C
- Fulfills Imagine 2050 placeholders
- Does not supplant adopted 2050 Transportation Policy Plan performance measurement chapter



Sarah Nelson

Outcomes Measurement Research
Community Development Research
sarah.nelson@metc.state.mn.us

Krysten Ryba-Tures

Strategy & Product Design Manager,
Community Development Research
krysten.ryba-tures@metc.state.mn.us

