

## Community Development Committee

Meeting date: August 3, 2020

**Subject:** 2019 Agricultural Preserves Program

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Metropolitan Agricultural Preserves (Minn. Stat. § 473H)

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Jerome Benner II, Senior Planner, Local Planning Assistance (651-602-1494)

**Division/Department:** Community Development / Regional Planning

### Proposed Action

None. This item is presented for information purposes only.

### Background

The Metropolitan Agricultural Preserves Program was established in 1980 by the Minnesota Legislature to encourage protection of long-term agricultural uses and to provide direction in equitably taxing these properties. The Metropolitan Council supports preserving agricultural land in the region through specific policies for protection and development in *Thrive MSP 2040*. All the counties in the region except for Ramsey County contain properties enrolled in the program. The Council annually reports on the acres enrolled in the program, with information from these counties and the Department of Revenue. Staff will present this report at the Community Development Committee meeting.