

IMAGINE 2050 REGIONAL VISION, VALUES, AND GOALS

Preliminary Public Comment Summary

November 2024



A prosperous, equitable, and resilient region with abundant opportunities for all to live, work, play, and thrive.

Regional core values

Equity | Leadership | Accountability | Stewardship

Regional goals

Our region is equitable and inclusive

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

Our communities are healthy and safe

All our region's residents live healthy and rewarding lives with a sense of dignity and well-being.

Our region is dynamic and resilient

Our region meets the opportunities and challenges faced by our communities and economy including issues of choice, access, and affordability.

We lead on addressing climate change

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

We protect and restore natural systems

We protect, integrate, and restore natural systems to protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for the people of our region.



Public Comment period

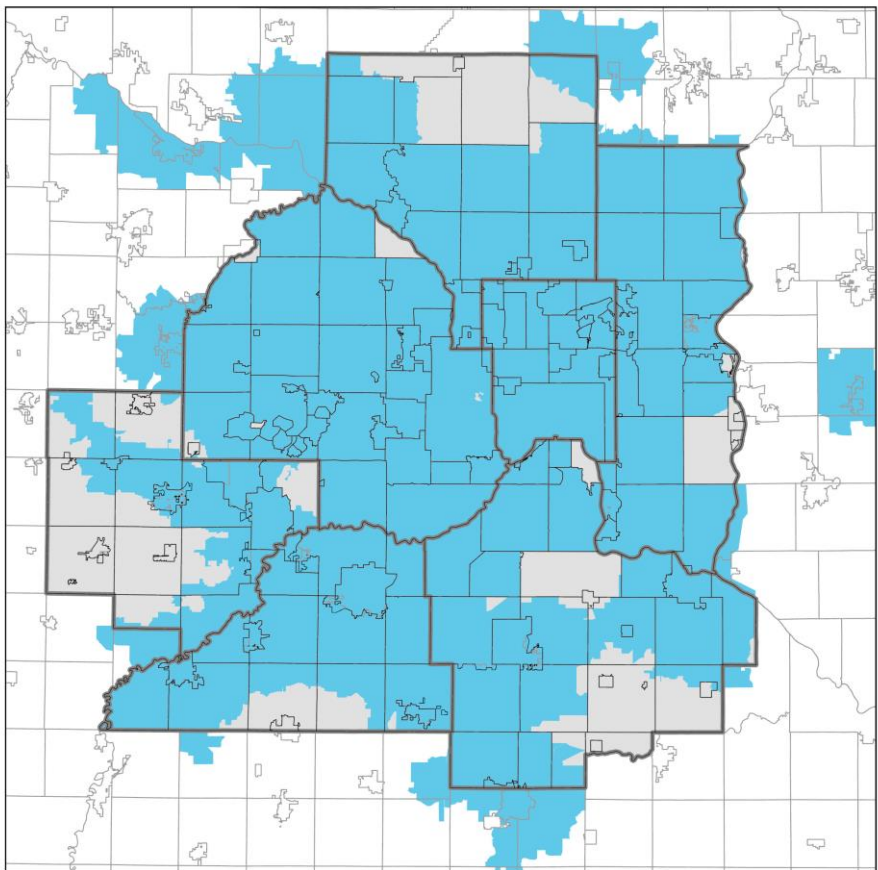
The Metropolitan Council accepted public comments from Aug. 15 through Oct. 7 through various channels, including email, phone, mail, recorded message, an online comment portal, and a public hearing on Sept. 25. During that time, more than 1,200 total comments were received from approximately 500 organizations and individuals.

Comments were accepted via a number of different means:

- Online, via engage.metrocouncil.org
 - 240 people contributed
 - More than 1,000 contributions
 - Plan documents were downloaded more than 3,200 times (including significant download statistics in each of the major policy areas)
- In-person (Art + Policy events, community events, and public hearing)
 - Estimate more than 200 participants
- Email
- Mail

We received comments from all seven counties, 58 cities, 12 non-profit/advocacy organizations, two state agencies, one federal agency, and two regional parks agencies (in addition to the cities and counties who operate regional parks). We heard from people and local government officials in about two thirds of the communities in Dakota and Scott counties, about half of the communities in Anoka, Hennepin, and Ramsey counties, and about 40% of the communities in Carver County.

In addition, the number of direct comments from individuals is significantly higher than previous regional development guide formal comment processes. And by combining the system and policy planning areas into one plan and one comment period, we provided an opportunity to show intersections between and among the systems and policy areas.



Map of areas across the region we received comments from during the Imagine 2050 public comment period.

Participation data

The following information comes from individuals who provided their demographic information on the online portal during the public comment period. Numbers are listed in descending order (greatest to smallest).

Participants by ethnic identity	White	76%
	Other (more than one category)	10%
	Black or African American	4%
	Asian or Asian American	3%
	Hispanic or Latinx	3%
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	2%
	Middle Eastern or North African	2%
Participants by gender identity	Man	53%
	Woman	37%
	Prefer not to answer	7%
	Another gender not listed	1%
	Transgender	1%
	Non-binary	1%
Participants by age category	35-44	22%
	55-64	19%
	25-34	16%
	45-54	16%
	65-74	12%
	18-24	11%
	75-84	3%
85+	1%	
Participants by income category – household annual income <i>(Median household income is \$94,700 in 2022 dollars, according to the 2018-2022 American Community Survey)</i>	\$150,000 and above	35%
	\$50,000 to \$79,000	19%
	\$100,000 to \$149,999	16%
	\$80,000 to \$99,999	13%
	Less than \$30,000	10%
	\$30,000 to \$49,999	7%

General feedback on the Imagine 2050 plan

Overall, the feedback suggests broad support for regional planning, with some concerns about implementation impacts and flexibility for local governments. Many communities expressed an interest in greater flexibility, as well as resources to support achievement toward regional goals. They also expressed values around maintaining the unique character and capabilities of local communities.

Participants in the online forum and among advocacy organizations also noted the following themes:

- Emphasizing public transit, biking, and walking, while reducing car dependency
- Support for dense, mixed-use neighborhoods, with affordable housing
- Environmental sustainability through climate action, restoration, and renewable energy
- Social justice and equity in planning, supporting marginalized communities and local businesses

- Public spaces including parks, natural areas, and recreational areas
- Infrastructure improvements for accessibility, safety, and community gathering
- Prioritizing affordable housing
- Significant focus on climate change mitigation
- Increasing urban tree canopies and restoring native ecosystems
- Protecting water resources and eliminating pesticide use
- Honoring indigenous land rights and treaties
- Addressing homelessness and drug addiction
- Reducing economic inequalities
- More discussion of urban agriculture
- Universal design principles throughout all planning areas

Selected feedback:

“We commend you on drafting a strong and comprehensive document that addresses racial inequities, clearly identifies the region’s strengths and challenges, and sets the stage for growth in a manner that will serve the region well.”

“The city council appreciates the significant time and effort that Metropolitan Council staff has spent collaborating with city staff through various working groups and focus groups in preparation of drafting Imagine 2050 and the efforts put into drafting such substantial documents.”

“[We] are pleased to provide comment for vision and goals of the Draft Imagine 2050 Policy Plan and commends the Metropolitan Council for its emphasis on envisioning an equitable, resilient, and sustainable future for the Twin Cities region.”

“We aren't acting boldly enough on the climate crisis. If we can't be honest about COVID still being here, that doesn't give a lot of confidence we'll do the bold steps needed to stem and address rapidly accelerating climate change that's also here now (and which is also likely to create additional pandemics).”

“We appreciate the four core values of stewardship, accountability, leadership, and equity. One area to highlight further within these values is partnerships and the collaboration needed to achieve the goals of the plan. Partnerships with other agencies, utilities, community members, etc.”

Feedback on the regional vision, values, and goals

Question: How well do the regional vision, values, and goals support the future that you’d like to see in the Twin Cities region?

Very well Well Neutral Not well Not very well

Regional vision	35%	24%	12%	5%	24%
Regional values	29%	29%	18%	0%	24%
Regional goals	29%	29%	13%	0%	29%

Question: What specifically resonates with you about the vision, values, and/or goals statements?

- Equity, health, climate
- Our region becomes more equitable and inclusive for ALL.
- I appreciate the concept of stewardship, acknowledging that our resources are limited. I believe it is too softly stated that these resources may be vulnerable, over time. They are vulnerable now, to climate crises, mass immigration, the COVID economy.
- Preserving Natural Resources while undoing past harm to certain communities.
- It's important for us to remain a place where research is used to make decisions and we call out prejudice when we see it and remain humble in our opinions so that we can hold on loosely.
- Nothing. It is not your job to eliminate alleged racial inequities. It is not your job to ensure communities live healthy with dignity and wellbeing. It is not your job to ensure choice, access and affordability of housing. It is not your job to address alleged climate change. It is not your job to protect natural resources. You are responsible for 3 statutory regional systems - wastewater, transportation and regional parks. That is it. This entire document you drafted is over-reaching, and to be honest, quite offensive.
- The desire to create abundant opportunities for all to thrive is a great vision that includes everyone. Being stewards and aware of our impacts to the environment and future generations is something we should prioritize. Our region is not equitable not inclusive so working towards that goal is very important.
- It sets a good tone for the future.
- Extensive research obviously went into this drafting of this report. It adds legitimacy to the points being made.
- I believe in tackling the issue of climate change. We should not be blindly pro-growth.
- That communities and the region are connected in them. We must work as local as possible while still collaborating and cooperating with our neighbors, whether that be next door, the next municipality over, or any other communities within the region.
- The focus on equity and environmental concerns is heartening.

Question: What do you think could strengthen or add to the vision, values, and goals?

- The vision doesn't seem to center people. It describes the region and starts with "prosperous," which may be desirable but seems to put the economy first over people. Put people first, not the economy. People are too often sacrificed to the economy.
- Including the voices of marginalized population including immigrants.
- I believe we need to include the Public Trust as a resource requiring our stewardship. Public trust goes hand-in-hand with business and a generative economy. Gratuitous violence in our schools and on our streets is detrimental to our resilience in a very real way. There should be consequences. We are too vague in our goals about climate change and natural resources. We need a resilient agricultural industry in the State, perhaps designing a transport system partially funded by the community? Finding opportunities to support this industry should be a primary goal.

- Make it easier for building affordable single family homes so more people can afford the benefits of home ownerships.
- We need to include a statement about our commitment to public discourse and objective problem solving
- The opportunities that are created for all to thrive should include fair wages, affordable cost of living, training opportunities, and less barriers for people to start businesses.
- A clear approach to reducing poverty.
- More concrete examples of how policies decisions of the past have led to current realities.
- Emphasis on stabilization or reduction of population. That will help the issue of climate change.
- That they hinge upon each other to be successfully implemented. For example: yes, we must protect and restore natural systems and yes, we must ensure our region is equitable and inclusive. Efforts made to accomplish each goal also need to address other goals. We need to consider the equity and inclusiveness of which natural systems we protect and restore.
- Expand the climate goals to include "greenhouse gas emissions and other forms of pollution."

Question: Is there anything unclear or confusing about the vision, values, and goals statements?

- In the linked chapter for the vision and goals, some editing is needed to counter a lack of clarity on COVID to better address the health goal. Page 5 - section on the pandemic needs to specify when the shutdown happened. Not mentioning the short duration gives an impression it was a larger chunk of time in the years referenced in the heading (2020-2024). The heading itself needs to delete 2024 and say ongoing. COVID is not over and is not endemic. Rewrite any references to COVID that make it sound like it is strictly in the past unless referring to specific time periods or events. In October 2024, the US still has over 1,000 deaths from COVID each week right now, which is likely an undercount, and this does not include the many who are still becoming disabled from long COVID.
Page 6 - We are not "post-COVID." If you want to specify after the COVID emergency, say that. COVID is very much still here, and it is irresponsible for any level of government to pretend otherwise. This type of poor, inaccurate communication leads to inaction in the public such as incredibly low vaccine rates for updated vaccines, lack of prevention, etc. while people continue to become disabled from COVID and some are still dying. Government needs to communicate more clearly to lead to actions that actually support health.
Page 7 - Third paragraph, same thing - we are not in a "post-pandemic" recovery. Do not conflate the declared emergency with the overall pandemic, which is happening in this narrative.
Page 19 - Good acknowledging that COVID is a mass disabling event, but it's not past tense - it's still happening to people. The virus causes, not caused, illness and death. It's still here, still doing that. Be accurate.
- If we start with core values of stewardship and accountability, how can we not include any studies of cost-benefit analysis in the plan? We need to be investing in generative solutions for youth.
- No, though they do adopt some corporate speak, which is pretty typical and pedestrian.
- I don't think it's clear how the met council is going to eliminate poverty. Address inequality, especially around race? Yes. But eliminating poverty? That seems absent, yet is entirely possible.
- More detail on suggested policies
- "Our region meets the opportunities and challenges faced by our communities and economy including issues of choice, access, and affordability." What does it mean to "meet" an opportunity or challenge? This sounds very passive. Perhaps, "Our region takes advantage of

opportunities and overcomes challenges faced by our communities and economy, including issues of choice, access, and affordability."

Question: What other expectations do you have for the next 30 years?

- We aren't acting boldly enough on the climate crisis. If we can't be honest about COVID still being here, that doesn't give a lot of confidence we'll do the bold steps needed to stem and address rapidly accelerating climate change that's also here now (and which is also likely to create additional pandemics). We just keep on the same path.
- That the issue of land use and housing policy are strengthened so that people who have been historically marginalized can benefit from these new initiatives, That is, people from marginalized communities can begin to build generational wealth for their families. These reforms are long overdue. The fact that Minnesota is currently rated as one of the worse places to live as a person of color in the United States means that we have our work cut out for us.
- Please reference Minnesota's Statewide Preservation Plan: <https://mn.gov/admin/shpo/planning/statewide-plan-new/> For this new plan and ensure that regional vision, values, and goals statements do not conflict, and are incorporated with the goals statements within the ten-year preservation plan for Minnesota.
- Woman-only homeless shelters and resources to protect young and old women at risk for sex trafficking.
- Increase the number of single family homes in the most North West Metro area. Homes are outrageously expensive and one cannot afford to live in the area they may work in. (Dayton, Rogers).
- I want to see us become a leader in infrastructure development that precedes and anticipates growth.
- Population will keep growing so infrastructure should be evaluated now to accommodate that growth. We should also evaluate the impacts that growth will have in the environment and prioritize protecting natural areas, so wildlife isn't displaced/impacted by human growth.
- It seems like we will have a big population growth, so need to develop enough housing to handle that without the price of housing dramatically increasing.
- For me...stabilize or start on reduction of population.
- We need to return much of the urban land dedicated to large roads and highways to more productive and human-focused uses such as housing, businesses, parks, and transitways. The public transit system needs massive investments toward expansion, speed, frequency, reliability, comfort, and safety in order to shift demand away from private vehicles and meet our climate, equity, and health and safety goals.

Selected feedback:

"Overall, we would like to offer strong and qualified support to the goals and policies described in the current Housing, Land Use, and Transportation drafts of Imagine 2050."

"I hope everyone has a home, and no one has to live on the streets."

"We need more apartment buildings for people who can't afford big houses."

Vision, Values, Goals feedback

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
		Imagine 2050	Vision - Engagement	I just learned about this today, and I am fairly in "the loop" on local government communications for civilians. Why such short notice? Why no communication from my Met Council rep? Why have I never heard from my Met Council rep? Why only one public meeting and not on Zoom et al? And why in such an accessible location as rush hour, weekday, downtown St. Paul and nothing in the communities impacted? What was your outreach plan and who was responsible for it? You need to do better outreach and definitely add more meetings and extend deadlind for input until at least January 2025. Shameful work!
MN350	Non-profit or advocacy	Imagine 2050	Vision - Environmental Justice	One aspect missing from the Imagine 2050 plan is food. The Climate Action Work Plan states that it is the responsibility of the Environmental Justice Task Force to create communities where residents can "live in a clean, safe environment and have a healthy quality of life." If this is to be the case, it is crucial that food justice is woven into various aspects of the plan. Minnesotans facing health issues from food insecurity, agricultural pollution, and chemical food enhancers deserve a plan that will put their dietary health first. The MN350 Food Justice Team believes that aspects of the Imagine 2050 Plan should incorporate factors such as community gardens in parks, public transportation to grocery stores, and affordable housing outside of food deserts.
		Imagine 2050	Vision - Environmental Justice	The Council will integrate environmental justice work across divisions. Council leadership at all levels will support it through staffing, funding, and integration into project work
Metropolitan Council – American Indian Advisory Council	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Environmental Justice	The Council will work to increase regional understanding of the American Indian communities, including historical and contemporary environmental injustices faced by the American Indian communities to address community concerns and maximize direct community benefits for the future.
Metropolitan Council – American Indian Advisory Council	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Environmental Justice	The Council will ensure that it produces data and metrics that are clear, accessible, and relevant to the American Indian communities and be accountable to its commitments.

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Regional Goals: "...feel welcome, included, and empowered." While empowered may make sense colloquially, it does not align with avenues of public participation that are often possible or practical for local agencies.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Regional Goals: "...protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for the people..." While this is a document written to center the human experience in the region, this assumes the only value in habitat protection is for use and enjoyment of human beings. This disregards or ignores any inherent value in our natural world and systems and implies that we must protect and restore the environment solely for what we can extract from it. While this comment may err philosophical, the sentiment aligns with the core value of stewardship - creating a world where all beings are thriving and free. This includes non-human residents who share our region.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 4: The narrative and data supporting the section on the "Landscape of the Region" is helpful – good baseline information to ground further policy discussion.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Pages 11 and 12: "We live in a warming, wetter region." Additional data that supports policy guidance might be useful here. Acknowledging the Met Council's need to tie this topic to areas directly under its influence, addressing climate change as a regional goal could use more specifics/data on the elements of concern. Perhaps it is covered later in the document, but what are the outcomes we are trying to avoid? What are the inevitable outcomes we need to prepare for? How should this show up in regional investments and local plans?
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 23: It would be helpful to have a resource that you could direct readers to about the engagement that is mentioned that was done to inform the vision, values, and goals. I can see the engagement update item from the November 2023 council meeting, but including a summary of some kind in the policy document or as an appendix would be useful as we start working on our own engagement efforts.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 25: The narrative on "patterns of historical injustices" appears to be very thorough – well done, helpful context setting.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 31: The equity framework is great as well – it could be useful to know how the Met Council is planning to operationalize the framework by sharing a process/outcome example. Would be helpful to see a demonstration (something like this probably already exists) of a program the Met Council administers where these commitments are operationalized.

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Pages 42 through 44: As we are all still exploring how best to address displacement, the content on pages 42 through 44 is incredibly useful. It would be great if it could take the next step in identifying specifics about strategies that directly impact displacement – not just conceptual outlines, values, and goals. Guidance and leadership from the Met Council in this way would be helpful in preparing us for our next comp plan update. The research and best practices might not be well established on the topic, but we should start defining those practices more clearly together.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 46: This helps to answer some of the questions raised above about Page 23 content, but a summary of the engagement done to prepare these draft documents would be great – perhaps these are found in the individual policy topic documents. The actions on Page 47 are great, would suggest supplementing with ways to hold the agency and its partners accountable for making decisions that reflect the values described in this section.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 51: Glad to see such detailed attention paid to health and safety.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Page 79: Noting that the natural systems info is helpful and might be a good framework for cities to use in addressing environmental concerns.
Washington County	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Washington County is pleased to see objectives, policies and actions woven throughout Imagine 2050 and the various Policy Plans that recognize the connection between the built environment (land use, transportation, access to food, parks, and housing) and opportunities for health.
City of Rogers	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Under the first goal: Our region is equitable and inclusive: it states: racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated. I would recommend amending the wording to read: racial inequities and injustices being experienced. The way it currently reads gives the impression that the past is being eliminated. It is important to recognize that these items took place so we can continue to recognize the impact and work to create a more equitable region moving forward.

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
City of Credit River	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	<p>In general, the statements made in the Vision, Values, and Goals Chapter does not meaningfully reflect the actual vibrant region that we are very fortunate to live in. Our region thrives with quality transportation, robust recreation and a strong economic base. Those qualities should be the foundation of this plan and for the future growth and development of the region. The current draft document sets a very negative and apologetic tone and should instead focus on our prosperous region and how we all move forward.</p> <p>In addition, this Chapter should be shorter as the current content gives very little value or clear guidance to local governments who are compelled to utilize this plan. The overall draft plan is long, repetitive and hard for agencies to read let alone incorporate into our local planning process. It reaches far beyond the purposes of what a "Regional Plan" may include which is fundamentally limited to transportation, regional park planning, and long-term sanitary sewer operations.</p>
City of Elko New Market	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	<p>Vision, Values & Goals. This component of the Draft Imagine 2050 Plan describes almost exclusively the social inequities of the past and there is little focus on any positive growth, planning and development that has taken place in the Region.</p>
National Park Service	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	<p>Support for Vision and Goals</p> <p>We fully support the Land Use Policy's commitment to compact growth and environmental stewardship, which resonates with NRRA's efforts to balance sustainable development with the preservation of the river's unique natural and cultural assets. We are also in support of the Parks and Trails Policy's focus on increasing equitable access to parks and open spaces, particularly for underserved communities. The vision of expanding natural systems protections and integrating more open space into the regional framework will undoubtedly strengthen the region's ecological health.</p>
City of Woodbury	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	<p>The Imagine 2050 Plan establishes robust goals and desired outcomes but, in most cases, does not identify the implementation roadmap. The City of Woodbury reserves a significant portion of our comments until the implementation plans and system statements are provided for evaluation.</p>

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
City of Woodbury	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	The Imagine 2050 Plan has a significant number of goals and forward-looking statements. When evaluating the plan, it is nearly impossible to discern what portions of the plan will create a requirement/ obligation and what portions are aspirational. This ambiguity makes commenting on a document of this length challenging. In several places the term incentivize is used. The Council should not create plan requirements that obligate financial allocation of local resources to meet plan elements. In several places the term support is used. It is difficult to comment on these statements without understanding if the Council intends on requiring communities to support initiatives or if the Council is providing best practices in a facilitative role.
City of Brooklyn Park	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Visions, Values, Goals The City of Brooklyn Park supports the draft Imagine 2050 values, vision, goals, objectives, policies, and actions. The City recommends that the Metropolitan Council recognize religious groups and associated discriminatory behavior.
Freshwater	Non-profit or advocacy	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	We appreciate the four core values of stewardship, accountability, leadership, and equity. One area to highlight further within these values is partnerships and the collaboration needed to achieve the goals of the plan. Partnerships with other agencies, utilities, community members, etc.
Freshwater	Non-profit or advocacy	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	Another point to drive within these goals is to balance economic development while also meeting existing ecosystem and community needs.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	For me...stabilize or start on reduction of population.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Vision - Goals	We need to return much of the urban land dedicated to large roads and highways to more productive and human-focused uses such as housing, businesses, parks, and transitways. The public transit system needs massive investments toward expansion, speed, frequency, reliability, comfort, and safety in order to shift demand away from private vehicles and meet our climate, equity, and health and safety goals.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Vision - Values	We aren't acting boldly enough on the climate crisis. If we can't be honest about COVID still being here, that doesn't give a lot of confidence we'll do the bold steps needed to stem and address rapidly accelerating climate change that's also here now (and which is also likely to create additional pandemics). We just keep on the same path.

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
	Public	Imagine 2050	Vision - Values	That the issue of land use and housing policy are strengthened so that people who have being historically marginalized can benefit from these new initiatives, That is, people from marginalized communities can begin to build generational wealth for their families. These reforms are long overdue. The fact that Minnesota is currently rated as one of the worse places to live as a person of color in the United States means that we have our work cut out for us.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Vision - Values	Please reference Minnesota's Statewide Preservation Plan: https://mn.gov/admin/shpo/planning/statewide-plan-new/ , for this new plan and ensure that regional vision, values, and goals statements do not conflict, and are incorporated with the goals statements within the ten-year preservation plan for Minnesota.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Vision - Values	Woman-only homeless shelters and resources to protect young and old women at risk for sex trafficking.
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050; #Transportation	Vision - Goals; #Transportation - General	Page 66: Work from home is mentioned, would be useful to explore the fiscal impacts in more detail. The statement about reimagining our downtowns is great, but also touting/exploring/analyzing benefits such as a potential to reduce the burden (and spending) on our freeway system as an effect of telework would be good. Then more directly tie this issue to the next section regarding leading on climate change.

General Imagine 2050 feedback

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I am not for imagine 2050. I understand that you want higher increase of houses per parcel. I lived in Robbinsdale MN before moving to Andover MN to get away from the first ring suburb. I wanted to live in a community with homes and not next to higher density housing. I don't understand why we cannot have options on this when we are not a first ring suburb. Please reimagine your plan and fix the issues that the community in whole is asking your to fix. Thank you for your time.
City of Empire	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	It would be helpful to have a document/table summarizing the changes from 2040 to 2050 for each policy to be more transparent in what is changing. It would also be more efficient to focus on key items as there is much to take in with all the Policy Plans. It takes a lot of resources to review and provide meaningful comments on these policy plans. Anything to assist with efficiencies and prioritizing concerns would be helpful to all.

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
City of Minneapolis	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Metropolitan Council's draft Imagine 2050 policy documents. We appreciate the work of the Metropolitan Council staff that developed the draft plan. We commend you on drafting a strong and comprehensive document that addresses racial inequities, clearly identifies the region's strengths and challenges, and sets the stage for growth in a manner that will serve the region well.</p> <p>Attached to this letter are a series of comments developed by staff for you to consider as you refine the regional vision, land use, and housing documents. We are particularly interested in our collective work on displacement, making sure investments align with the regional vision and goals, ensuring development happens in a manner that is consistent with those investments, and addressing barriers to creating housing. Please reach out if you have any questions. We look forward to reviewing system statements next year and working in partnership with the Metropolitan Council on our next comprehensive planning process shortly thereafter.</p>
Washington County	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>On behalf of the Washington County Board of Commissioners thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the draft Imagine 2050 Policy Plan. This plan will serve as the long-range plan for the next 20 years for land use, housing, transportation, regional parks, and water in the 7-county metropolitan area. As a growing county with over 260,000 residents and landscapes that range from urban to suburban to rural, we are encouraged to see the draft Imagine 2050 clearly emphasizes the cross-functional work of natural systems, public health, safety, climate change, equity, and well-being. The Metropolitan Council's values are aligned with the County's recently adopted core values of caring, collaborative, equitable, ethical, fiscally responsible, responsive, and sustainable. The development of Imagine 2050 is beginning of the 2050 Comprehensive Plan process for the Twin Cities region. The county is appreciative of the opportunity for elected officials and staff to participate in the development of each individual policy plan. Washington County looks forward to continuing to collaborate with the Metropolitan Council as well as the region to implement policies and guidelines to build a stronger region. Washington County has reviewed the draft Imagine 2050 Policy Plan and comments for each policy plan are attached. Thank you again for the opportunity to review and comment.</p>
City of Medina	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Appreciation for Collaborative Process – The Medina City Council appreciates the significant time and effort that Metropolitan Council staff has spent collaborating with City staff through various working groups and focus groups in preparation of drafting Imagine 2050 and the efforts put into drafting such substantial documents. Continued collaboration is imperative to ensure that planning and implementation serves the interests of City residents.</p>
City of Newport	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>While many of Newport's goals are aligned with the Metropolitan Council's regional policy, changes made in the Imagine 2050 planning process will impact Newport.</p>

Organization	Commenter Type	Plan	Plan section	Comment
City of Richfield	Government agency	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the comprehensive vision for our region: Imagine 2050. There are many wonderful initiatives in this document that we support and are actively working toward or have adopted in Richfield. However, the document itself feels like the proverbial spaghetti thrown at the wall, including an enormous list of “action items” that go beyond the statutory authority of the Metropolitan Council. Imagine 2050 is exceptionally long and delves into far greater detail than a regional long-range plan that purports to set out a “policy foundation” should. The message and intent are significantly clouded and diluted by the sheer volume of the document. For clarity, this letter is intended to highlight our primary concerns with the document as a whole; our specific questions and comments regarding the individual sections are included as an attachment. Imagine 2050 states that “local comprehensive plans should be clear, transparent policy documents...” but the Imagine 2050 document itself is full of confusing and ambiguous language. What is an “action item”? Is it a mandate to be reflected in local plans? With 174 “action items” in the Land Use section alone, it is unclear how a community could produce a clear and transparent document that our community members would be able to read and comprehend, or that staff would reference. Richfield is supportive of the Metropolitan Council’s outreach efforts, but this document seems to include every idea that has been shared with you as an “action item.” The general ambiguity between what is encouraged versus required, or whose responsibility each action is, will lead to miscommunication and misunderstandings as we prepare—and the Council reviews—our comprehensive plan. Ambiguous language greatly increases concerns that an individual Council reviewer may interpret requirements differently than local staff and community members. Imagine 2050 is intended to set a policy foundation for several systems. It is then the responsibility of individual cities to develop local policies and implementation plans that are consistent with this foundation in a way that also addresses the unique considerations of their community. Imagine 2050 goes into such specificity (e.g. “Adopt a Living Streets Policy,” “Update land use guidance and regulations to incentivize de-paving...”), it seems that the Metropolitan Council is seeking to prescribe every aspect of local plans. This severely discounts any public engagement we would undertake ourselves as part of our comprehensive planning process and assumes that the Council knows better than the local community. In addition to an over-reach in authority, we find a lack of sufficient explanation in many areas. Fiscal implications statements, where required, appear to be missing. Imagine 2050 seems to take local finances for granted, putting a significant number of actions that require funding on cities as a lead agency, without discussion of adequate additional funding to cover the costs. Finally, Imagine 2050 would be greatly improved by better differentiation between urban/urban edge goals and actions versus suburban/rural. We empathize with the enormity of guiding the entire region but would encourage a deeper dive into the areas of Metropolitan Council authority, and an abandonment of the extraneous efforts in this document. Partnership between communities and the Council, specifically in the areas of technical assistance, best practices, implementation</p>

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				ideas etc. is valuable for the region. However, attempting to include all of this in a single document obscures the vision, goals, and policies that this document should highlight. Overall Comments Exceeds statutory authority Unfunded mandates Ambiguous and unclear language Imposes Met Council opinions over local expertise Dismisses local public engagement efforts Critical editing required to clarify intent and message
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I imagine a future where getting from where you live to where you want to go— from work to activities to friend’s houses—doesn’t require a car to be quick, safe or convenient. I imagine a place where more people live in good places they can afford, and that amenities and services support them nearby. I imagine a culture shift from NIMBY to YIMBY.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	My dream for the Twin Cities region is one that deprioritizes cars. I know that the Met Council and the State have been making a lot more investments in transit recently, but I want to see much more. I want to see huge, truly groundbreaking investments in transit. I want to see a robust metro rail system that travels ALL around Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and the inner suburbs, connecting all parts of the cities, not just a slow, at-grade light rail system that reaches limited destinations. I want a robust, high speed commuter rail system where people from all middle- and outer-ring suburbs can reach the core metropolitan area FASTER than they could in a car. I want dense systems of bike trails, road diets on every city street to reduce speeds, and pedestrian priority everywhere. If we continue to funnel the vast majority of our transportation tax dollars into car infrastructure like highways, we will NOT fix congestion issues, we will NOT reach our climate and emissions goals, and we will NOT be creating an economically sustainable metro area for ourselves. I want the Met Council to be brave and take huge steps to increase systems of transit, walking, and biking, and phase out personal cars from the metro area as much as possible. Transit-oriented and walkable metropolitan areas are the future, and the sooner we get on it, the better off we'll be.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Make Minneapolis and St. Paul safe enough to take my family downtown and feel safe leaving a show or event after dark. Ability to cross the cities (east/west or north/south) from suburbs in 30 minutes (ex: woodbury to golden valley or eagan to blaine). more bike paths in the suburbs. more round-a-bouts and less traffic lights in the suburbs. more tree-lined streets in the major cities. quick and easy highway access to hospitals and sports stadiums. more brt and light rail (but on budget and schedule, it is embarrassing and pathetic how much the met council bungled the green line extension). DO NOT REMOVE I-94 FROM ST. PAUL!!! Cap it if you must, but tens of thousands of people from St. Paul and the east metro rely on that for access to massonic childrens hospital, the u of m, and

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				traveling between the down towns. If the highway pollution/noise is too much for that specific region, then it must be too much for all of I-94 from Maplewood to Maple Grove, and both I-35E/W. Why is the highway only a nuisance at that particular neighborhood I wonder?
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Transit should be free for everyone under the age of 18. Ideally, free for everyone.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	More walkable communities, use of eco building materials & renewable energy sources in new buildings, more electric vehicle charging stations, more outdoor communal spaces in both downtown Saint Paul & Minneapolis (bar & cafe patios), more funding to public libraries
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	More trees!!!!
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Dense, mature tree canopies in urban neighborhoods.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	The land use plan and future density requirements should specifically consider three existing DNR regulatory programs that limit density around lakes and rivers in the metro area. This includes the shoreland program which limits density within 1000 feet of basins, including public waters wetlands and within 300 feet of public waters rivers and streams. There is the Wild and scenic river program which also limits density within the legally described boundaries of the Rum River and Cannon River. Finally, there is the Lower St. Croix Riverway district, another district that limits density with legally described boundaries. The boundaries for all three programs fall within every community designation. Assignment of density goals for individual communities needs to consider the physical area of these districts. It is unrealistic for a community to achieve increased housing density by counting land within these districts. Density is accompanied by increased impervious surface and reduction in vegetation and habitat which conflicts with the water quality, habitat and scenic character goals of all three programs. Finding room for new housing is important, but please make a specific effort to consider the fact that these land areas are not available to communities to achieve their increased density housing goals. Conflicts over density in these lake and river shoreland protected areas have occurred in the past when local government state that they need to have higher density to meet Met Council housing goals and therefore need to change their lake and river shoreland zoning standards to meet these goals.

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	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>The design of our city drives energy and GHG emissions, and we can't meet the climate targets that we have without focusing on city design. In my view, the long-term plan should be laser focused on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dense efficient and affordable housing where people work and find their daily essential shopping. This is likely only possible with continued subsidies 2. Road design that priorities the safety of pedestrians and people who bike or roll, and which encourage more cautious driving through their design. Getting to the places you need to go without owning or using a car should be a goal that Met enables. 3. Expansion of transit routes and frequency. The number one factor that people I have spoken to have said several their use of transit is long headways or unavailability during desirable hours. This requires investment but also probably a more robust training and employment pipeline
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Every person is housed in a safe and healthy dwelling unit within a respectful and supportive environment/neighborhood. This must be taken seriously because every person is a taxpayer--even if they are homeless, impoverished, addicted, trafficked. When anyone buys a bottle of water, a beer, an apple, or anything else, they are paying taxes--which entitles them to all the benefits that their money pays for: public housing, public transportation, publicly-funded healthcare, etc. And without a safe place to live, there is no real democracy or actual public accountability.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Way more trees everywhere and way less asphalt. Let's see a road reduction and removal. Let's create pedestrian only areas, especially around lakes and parks.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>I dream of areas set aside for wildlife. Ever intensifying use will eventually destroy the wild places we have left. We should set aside 50% of everywhere for wildlife. No people. Then maybe we can slow this certain climate disaster.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>I dream of a Minnesota that is networked by trains, so that I no longer need to drive and I can use trains to get everywhere I need to go. The hub and spoke model we have now is very insufficient. And buses are not equivalent to rail. Visit Washington DC to see what a glorious networked system should be. And we need to speed up the builds. This last build has been a disaster in timing, budget, route chosen. Do better.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>I dream of an urban area that incorporates the needs of wildlife into our built infrastructure with wildlife overpasses and underpasses, ramps, directional fencing, allowing turtles and fox and opossums and squirrels and deer and raccoons and rabbits and snakes, and all the wonderful fauna with whom we share this land, to have opportunities to safely move through the landscape to fulfill their biological imperatives. Let's take some of these amazing, inspirational ideas, like the Canadian wildlife overpasses, and show that we can do the same and more in urbanized areas. We love our wildlife so let's do this before we lose even more</p>

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				biodiversity. It would be a wonderful opportunity to partner with civil engineering schools, conservation groups, and the government to do something new and incredible.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Whatever the plan is, climate change MUST be at the #1 consideration. We should be reducing vehicle miles traveled whenever possible, expanding public transit, biking, & walking and eliminating all but electric vehicles from the road. NO new road widening projects.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	A clean water refuge state. When more water is contaminated and the ocean rises we will be a place our people will come to drink. Protecting our water must be priority. Land use must be safe for our water filtration.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I would imagine a future where age discrimination does not exist.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	To plan smart. Don't create things that have no funding for future maintenance. Don't create things that may be a current trend but that will end to be filled by another trend. Don't create things for a specific group of people. Only create things to benefit all peoples.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	My view is sustainability should be the priority, not growth. There is no such thing as never-ending growth, if balanced quality of life is important. There is only increasing inequity and discomfort for all. We need to promote NO growth, even if we have to plan for some, for now. We already have 8 billion people on this finite planet, and we are killing ourselves now. All change is local - start here. E-vehicle and solar in the metro, high efficiency vehicles outside (PHEV/natural gas/etc.). Insulate older homes on taxpayer subsidies. Build more solar farms. And so forth. I won't live to see it, but it's important to me to try to help current and future people to a decent life.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	A return of Minnesota native plants and better environmental stewardship in the city!
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Zoning reformation to promote racial and economic justice as well as "15-minute cities" with higher-density housing (that doesn't compromise on public green spaces).
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Local businesses! Tired of chains! Let's stimulate our local economy and reclaim the city's beautiful character.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	The other day I got out of my car and a tractor came by spraying pesticides. I was made sick-- fatigued, dizzy, fuzzy thinking for three days !! For what? So we can have less tufty grass?!? Paris had been pesticide free for years. I would love to see Minneapolis save

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				<p>money by stop poisoning our ground, water, air, plants, bugs, pets, and humans with unnecessary chemicals.</p> <p>While we are at it—let’s make public restrooms ada accessible to folks with health issues by making all public restrooms fragrance free (like Wisconsin restrooms) and this should be true of hand sanitizer too especially at hospitals and public spaces. It’s not hard, and some folks are sensitive so they can safely use the restroom without side effects from chemicals.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>I see a return of the light rail programs, much like to tram network the twin cities used to be known for. I see a dramatic need to shift the cities away from the tried and failed multi-billion dollar highway expansion projects, a dedicated affordable SAFE alternative must be made available, and must be kept available from the drug crowd that have been giving it a bad name for so long.</p> <p>I work with the railroad in St Paul, I’m physically on the trains in and out of the cities, and the new trend we’ve been seeing is the homeless camps are so close that we’ve begun clipping and injuring the “residents” who are so high that can’t even tell when I’m driving 22,000 tons of steel at 25 mph next to them. My coworkers and I are all beyond count of the number of close calls we have, and there’s a disturbing increase in the number of people who we’ve killed. I’ve seen men with 25 years on the job lose their minds over the guilt of killing a trespasser, and all we can do is call and report them, only for the police to play catch and release again and again. We NEED to solve this drug epidemic, and remove these homeless people’s before a major derailment happens. It only takes 1 spilled tank car to KILL tens of thousands of people, and I’m handling them every night.</p> <p>Furthermore, the housing market has fallen apart, everywhere I look there’s homes being bought up for cash and listed for rent at a greater price than a mortgage would have been with no down payment. These homes should be staying in the community, helping us grow, instead they’re being used to artificially increase the price of rent and homes prices, allowing corporations to bleed our communities dry. Minnesota should be the first state to take back these homes by implementing limit on the percentage of single or multi-family homes that a mega corporation can own of their total properties.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Our region has been one of the first in the USA to re-prioritize walkable and bikeable neighborhoods. Having cities built to human scale is proven to boost the economy, reduce injuries and deaths from cars, make opening small businesses easier and cheaper, improve health, and improve happiness. We need to stay focused on making the Twin Cities more human.</p> <p>We have plenty of open road space that can be repurposed to accomodate bus lanes and protected bike lanes, I’d like to see at least 70% of TC roads have safe bike lanes. The bike lanes should not be between parked cars and moving traffic due to risk of cars merging and crashing into bikers.</p>

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				<p>We really need to get more passenger rail here as well. We've got a lot of rail still and can use it to create networks between important MN cities such as Duluth, Bemidji, Itasca, Rochester, Alexandria, Stillwater, and Red Wing. I'd like to take a train to go camping one day, or to another MN city for a day trip. I'd also really love an overnight train to Chicago since the trip takes an entire day if it's during daylight.</p> <p>We also need zoning that allows for mixed use buildings, quadplexes, sixplexes, and anything that can essentially tighten up density within the city. We should prioritize "third places" that are not necessarily businesses that require payment in order to spend time there.</p> <p>There has been a lot of cheap luxury apartment buildings going up in TC, especially in poor areas. These places drive up prices and do not offer the value they charge for rent. These places are parasitic to the economy and livelihood of TC people. Gutting cities and filling them back in with expensive fluff is a great way to wreck them. We need laws and limitations for large corporate entities that limit the amount of homes they can buy or sell, the amount of giant cheap buildings they can put up, and restrict their overall power which they tend to use to wring citizens dry then ditch.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>I would really like to see the met council focus more heavily on preserving and restoring our natural areas. With so much of our landscape already heavily altered by human activity, and with the increasing evidence that "healthy" natural ecosystems are absolutely essential for the well-being of our environment (and therefore to human flourishing), I would like to see more emphasis on retaining and restoring the few intact remnant natural areas that we have left in our metropolitan area. But we should not simply focus on "planting more trees". We should focus on the types of natural areas that were historically important to our area but are in shortest supply: open oak woodland, oak savanna, and prairies. We already have a lot of closed canopy forest in the metro area (even though most of it is in a very degraded condition due to invasive buckthorn and other problems). So we don't just need more trees. We need more diversity. And sometimes that even means removing some trees so that we can restore less healthy natural areas to healthy diverse natural areas. Diversity of habitat means diversity of vegetation. Diversity of vegetation means diversity of birds, insects, and other animals. And the end result of all of this diversity is that the entire ecosystem is more resilient to climate change and many of the other issues that we increasingly face. And that benefits everyone.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>a thriving, self-sustaining, interconnected community. Innovation in public transportation and food production. Light rails, monorails, trams, and subways connecting from Columbus, to Stillwater, to Eagan, to Eden Prairie, to Maple Grove and everywhere in between. Build tall for farming. Hydroponic greenhouses that grow through the winter an assortment of fruits and vegetables. Community housing: less spread out and more grouped together: allows for more green space. Services that allow people to live and thrive. a Proof of Concept for the rest of the world to follow.</p>

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	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Much more public transportation!
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Safety
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Consider the fact that driving is often a necessary activity for families and elders. At the Met Council, please add a Met Council entity for those of us who use horseless carriages (aka cars.) Drivers need a voice like "the Bicyclists" and "Transit." We need to separate the spaces for these forms of movement, giving proportional space to the format of travel people use most, cars. For sure, add bike lines, add paths, but when doing so, remember, citizens need calm ways to travel during the busy/work times of day. Prioritize ease of getting to work, school, etc. over "recreational movement." Change the VMT reductions goal to EPMT (emissions per mile traveled). That would be more scientific and focused on the issues, "emissions" rather than the miles. Do all you can to clean up the water ways.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Encourage more INFILLS in every cities with streets connected with easy access to walking and transit. Convert the many P/R that are sitting empty to HOUSINGS Build housings on top of them Affordable housing without the amenities and ample parking. NO More highways to reduce congestions and pollutions Make transit attractive with more frequent services where people need to travel such as expanding the RED LINE to downtown MPLS via Cedar ,GOLD LINE to Downtown MPLS. Build more light rail along major highways in medium or elevated connections to housings nearby around the stations
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	A place where you could live and get around without driving to jobs,shopping, entertainment etc. REDUCE PARKING Every parking spot cost \$10k+ which adds to the cost of housings.Build affordable housings/mixed used on small lots with limited parking. Give incentives for affordable housings not single family homes. Business that are on regular buslines with few parking should get tax break No more highwaysCover parts of 94 such as downtown St Paul Mpls
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I imagine more prairie and oak savanna and open oak woodland with diverse grasses and sedges and flowers and fire-tolerant shrubs, even in the inner city. The Crosstown Prairie between the VA Hospital and Highway 62 near 46th Ave S and the Morley Prairie north of the Minnehaha Dog Park need urgent work. They are being invaded by woody plants and many of the sun-loving species are dying or have died, but some rare species are still hanging on. Historical savannas along the Mississippi Gorge and in Wirth Park should be restored to a patchy bur and white oak canopy with a thick carpet of plants beneath, maintained by prescribed fire every few years, to keep the oaks from dying of wilt, the soil from eroding into the river, and jumping worms from spreading. I am thinking of Minneapolis, but there should be more of the historical oak and prairie landscape in many parts of

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				the Twin Cities because it is resilient to hotter, drier, and more unpredictable climate and stores more carbon in the soil.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>I believe that increasing density throughout the region will allow our region to be even more climate resilient than it already is. Specifically, a lot of multifamily housing, or “missing middle” housing, is very absent in our region. We can’t simply have apartment buildings and single family homes - some people want to raise a family in something other than an apartment. This is critical - continuing to build single family homes in places like Cottage Grove is an environmental disaster. Hand in hand with this density is high quality transit, which is necessary for reducing how much we use cars. Transit between cities is critical, not just commuter routes that go to and from downtown Minneapolis/Saint Paul. Having express bus routes, or even better, regional rail between cities, will help contribute to smarter growth of our suburbs.</p> <p>Cities in the metro should also make walking and biking much more viable as a way to get around. I understand the density for walkability isn't always there, but making safe biking infrastructure is a great start.</p> <p>Lastly, we need to invest more money in affordable housing and drug rehabilitation. We should be helping those in need with the great wealth our region has. Affordable housing prevents people becoming homeless, and simply building more luxury apartments or condos does not fit this bill - we need housing that is actually affordable. Drug rehabilitation allows us to help those who are struggling the most.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>QUIT building hwy's to encourage driving BETTER LAND USE so people can use transit and not driving Too many SUBURBS it is impossible to walk even when the destination is across the highways or streets TRANSIT build LIGHT RAIL over the major highways for fast services ADD housings near stations .</p> <p>TAX break for transit users.People can deduct driving expenses why should TRANSIT USERS they helping the environment</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>LEss driving and more options for walking ,transit Even COSTCO is building housings over their stores.ALL Cities should adopt these policy more densities. SINGLE family homes should not be build on Cul-De-Sac and the streets need to connect for access to Transit.ALL retail should be mixed used and not easy access to TRANSIT/WALKIN/BIKING.</p> <p>STOP building Park/Ride except mixed use. Housings above the garages/parking lots</p> <p>IMPLEMENT PARKING CASH OUT for the METRO AREA /State. Businesses should have to pay for transit passes since they are paying for parking.this will be few people since most people drive ,but it will be a good</p>

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				<p>program and encourage people to use transit.</p> <p>GOLD LINE extend to MPLS via i-94 RED LINE to MPLS via CEDAR AVE</p> <p>Tax break for Town houses /Apartments ,Higher tax break for Hi-Rises along transit lines if the residents are using transit -,Build parking for 0-1 -car for families.Limited parking will reduce cost. GET BUSINESSES to located on transit lines .TARGET moved thousand of jobs to suburbs creating congestion on the hwysPeople are lessly likely to use transit in the BURBS CITIES should have a plan to connect streets even with walkpath.I used to live in NEW BRighton have to walk in my neighbor yard to get to the bus due to no access the closest street access was 6 blocks away</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Houses closer together with smaller setbacks so we can make the most of the land that we live on without the need to sprawl into nature!
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Better transit, bigger and better parks, more equality for everyone
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Overall higher density in all communities that allow mixed use (commercial in residential areas) so we can have walkable neighbors to get to shops, like grocery and hardware stores, and frequent destinations, like salons, doctor/dentist offices, and . More types of housing need to be allowed in all communities and suburban cores need to be developed (and allowed) so transit between these nodes is viable. Too often transportation dollars are reacting to what land use allows and transit just isn't a great solution when so much of our suburban fringe of farmland and natural areas is being turned into low density housing that requires car use. I'd love to see these urban nodes with frequent transit service to give alternative ways to get around for our communities, especially in a climate crisis and aging population that won't, and perhaps shouldn't, be driving.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Dakota and Ojibwe signage throughout the region
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Restore Dakota place names.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Please teach treaty rights in school.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>All treaty rights honored.</p> <p>Land back!</p> <p>ICWA!</p> <p>Stop the gun violence.</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Learning to live from the land.</p> <p>Ojibwe taught in schools for Native folks.</p> <p>Native children and families protected.</p>

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				Help the drug use in the community.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	Dear Water, Thank you For giving me Life, Thank you For giving the planet color. Thanks For Feeding the animals. I'm sorry people ruin you sometimes. You are so loved.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I hope that we world have affordable housing in the future, we can hope and maKe an effort to make it happen. So what can we do? Well for starters we need to get ahold of the governot and how to we do that? We first find connections to a community that is well known by state officials. So, we ask around, create a community of people who want the same thing, we just have to get media and Public attention, Enough attention brings awareness and notify state officials, Peaceful protests for affordable housing.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	In the future I hope For more affordable housing For Low class people who work alot for this economy. Affordable housing can prevent a lot of people without a home.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	In the Future i hope for clean spring Water For Mni Owe Sni also Known as cold water springs and for the community that Fought for the true owners because they deserve clean Fresh spring water for their resources and survival and to give to the community.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I'm inspired by being told to appreciate the land and water the creator has given us and now we are to be grateful to the land and water because without either we have no life and our LiFE COMES From the life of land and water and we are to be very thankful for that.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I would love to see a Better cleaner environment to explore more Peace no war. Stop water Pollution. to Save fish and oceans Plants, Cherish earth to live Longer.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	I Wanna see No more young kids on the street. I Wanna see someone or a Person to help Whoever has Problems. I wanna see no more stolen sisters. I wanna see People trying I motivate other People. I don't Wanna see anymore overdoses. I wanna see kids grow old. I Wanna see No More Violence.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	My vision for the future is a society that is flourishing with equity, sustainable technology, and cultural appreciation. First Nation Tribes leading us into an era where we prioritize stewardship with the land, protect our animal relatives, and plant relatives, and Water relatives. I see eco-cities, using taking advantage of safer energy sources such as solar panels, water sources & wind energy, etc. SOLARPUUNK! I see communities of all colors and races united and working towards the safety and protection for future generations. Gardens and resources being shared. Everyone looking after

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				those they love. Cultures freely expressing their beliefs, practices, etc. people being able to also express themselves without the worry of another.
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Let's ensure that the 2050 Regional development Guide and other metropolitan system plans will align state, metro, county and city investments to reduce GHGs in current and new buildings, while reducing VMT and building complete neighborhoods that are walkable, affordable and climate resilient. THANKS Sean Gosiewski sean@rccmn.co Read more at https://rccmn.co/regionalclimatecollaboratives</p> <p>We can achieve our Metro Climate Goals Together with all metro cities and counties and cut GHGs from buildings and transportation in half by 2030 while boosting resilience and becoming net zero by 2040, as utilities provide net zero electricity state wide by 2040 (per the 2022 legislation by aligning new federal and state resources/incentives with metro, county/city investments
-supporting cities to implement the climate mitigation and resilience goals and plans they include in their updated 2050 comp plans by
- Supporting metro cities to join current multi city implementation cohorts and launching new multi-city implementation cohorts with partner nonprofits and counties

Let's align the 2050 Regional Development Guide and System Plans, local comp plans and the MPCA and Met Council EPA Climate Action plans to make sure we can get to net zero with building and transportation.
We're proposing that this fall and in 2025 Met Council climate staff convene interested city, county, state agency and nonprofit partners including CERTS, GPI, CEE, Move MN, RCC, LHB, Sierra Club

To develop cross cutting goals and implementation strategies to decarbonize buildings, increase housing supply and reduce VMT and create complete neighborhoods (similar to the Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan
https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2020/11/18/metropolitan-washington-2030-climate-and-energy-action-plan/</p>
	Public	Imagine 2050	Imagine - General	<p>Better connected with Mass TRANSIT with land use conducive for walking /transit/biking METC need to stop URBAN SPRAWL with more mixed used and better connectivity</p> <p>GOLD LINE need to be extended to MPLS downtown to serve more people & places</p> <p>Need incentives for IZ to build affordable housings Smaller units less parking . Tax incentives for cities building affordable housings that are well connected to transit</p> <p>No more HIGHWAY expansion polluting the air for the people that are living near Highways Convert 94 to BLVD and cover the hwy near the Capitol and build over the hways.</p>



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