

Business Item 2017-286 SW: Wastewater Reuse Policy Task Force Report

Jennifer Levitt, P.E., Community Development Director and City Engineer,
City of Cottage Grove

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Environment Committee: December 12, 2017



Task Force Purpose

- To review the Council's existing wastewater reuse policies and recommend clarifications needed to respond to opportunities for wastewater reuse.

Approved by Metropolitan Council, March 22, 2017

Task Force Composition



Representation of communities which are served by MCEs...

- Large and small ratepayers
- Geographic diversity
- With or without history of interest in or experience with wastewater reuse

Appointed Task Force Members

Community/ Organization	Name	Title
Metropolitan Council	Sandy Rummel	Metropolitan Council District 11 and Chair, Environment Committee
Bloomington	Mary Hurliman	Deputy Director of Public Works
Cottage Grove	Jennifer Levitt	Community Development Director/City Engineer
Eagan	Jon Eaton	Superintendent of Utilities
Hugo	Bryan Bear	City Administrator
Lakeville	Chris Petree	Public Works Director
Maplewood	Michael Thompson	Public Works Director
Metro Cities	Steven Huser	Government Relations Specialist
Ramsey	Kurt Ulrich	City Administrator
St. Paul	Beverly Farragher	Public Works Operations Manager
St. Louis Park	Debra Heiser	Engineering Director
Vadnais Heights	Mark Graham	City Engineer/Public Services Director

Stakeholder input from development community & Department of Natural Resources

Task Force Policy Focus



Do wastewater reuse projects have a regional benefit?



If so, should the region, through MCES' municipal wastewater charge, contribute a regional cost share?



How should MCES partner with local communities or water utilities for wastewater reuse projects?

Task Force Findings and Recommendations

Consensus Items:

- ✓ Reasons for wastewater reuse program
- ✓ Responsive approach
- ✓ Cooperation and partnership rather than competition
- ✓ Cost-of-service basis for reclaimed water rate
- ✓ Regional benefit evaluation
- ✓ Funding from non-Council funds

Council Decision:

- ✓ Regional cost share

Task Force Findings and Recommendations, cont'd

If Met Council decides to implement a regional cost share, Task Force recommends pilot program:



Cap on regional cost share



User agreement



Public hearing



Reporting on MCES' reuse activities



Council governance decision making



Future policy review

Thrive Lens Analysis



Thrive MSP 2040 Plan

Pursue wastewater reuse where economically feasible as a means to promote sustainable water resources.



2040 Water Resources Policy Plan



Work with our partners



Promote a more sustainable region



Maximize regional benefits from regional investments



Provide efficient, high-quality, sustainable wastewater services

Proposed Action

- That the Council accept the Wastewater Reuse Policy Task Force Report

Questions