Water Policy Plan Update
Policy discussion and direction

Jen Kostrzewski

January 23, 2024
Water Policy Plan (WPP)

Plan Purpose

• Met Council is developing the 2050 Water Policy Plan, which focuses on ensuring sustainable water resources in the region. It is a part of and informed by the Regional Development Guide.

• The WPP provides a framework for integrative water planning (wastewater, water supply, and water resources) the Metro Area Water Supply Plan, and the Wastewater System Plan.

• It contains water policies, strategies, and actions for both the Met Council and our 180+ local governments within the seven-county region.

• WPP policies will commit the Council to take action in the areas of long-range visioning and planning, regional system investments, facility management, technical assistance, research and assessment, and partnerships.
Regional Values, Vision, and Goals

**Values**
Values are core beliefs or principals that guide the work of the Council, our expectations of partnerships, and our policy and program development.

**Vision**
Our vision is what we want to achieve for the region through our policies, practices, programs, and partnerships.

**Goals**
Our goals broadly describe the desired outcomes that we want to achieve for the region.

**Cross-Cutting Goals**
Goals that require special collaboration across policy and work areas.
Draft WPP objectives

**SUSTAINABLE WATERS:** Ensure clean, abundant waters for current and future regional needs

**CLIMATE:** Create climate-resilient water sources, ecosystems, and water infrastructure through mitigation, innovative design, and adaptive planning.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Maximize water infrastructure investments and identify future investment opportunities that result in benefits at multiple scales.

**FUNDING:** Sustainably fund local and regional water protection and planning efforts.

**HEALTH:** Protect public and ecosystem health to maintain, restore, and enhance a high quality of life across the region.

**EQUITY:** Provide equitable water benefits and water services that are accessible and shared amongst all residents and communities.
## Policy template

**Topic Area**

Narrative language to set context for policy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Water Policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The policies are intended to apply for the whole region, knowing that there are many agencies, organizations, and people connected by water.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired Outcomes:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statements that describe specific changes that will result of the policy.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connected Objectives:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Icons" /></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example Actions:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARTNER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Actions that require collaboration with other organizations to enact.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PLAN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Actions that plan to create, protect, maintain, enhance, and restore regional waters and water infrastructure.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PROVIDE</strong></td>
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<td>- Actions that help the Met Council deliver our water planning and treatment services to the region.</td>
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Draft policy topics

- Integrated Water Policy
- Water and Land Use Connection Policy
- Water and Climate Resiliency Policy
- Equitable Water Outcomes Policy
- Water Conservation and Efficient Use Policy
- Water Monitoring, Data, and Assessment Policy

More policies to come…
Breakout discussion

• What are your first impressions?
• Are we on the right path?
• Should we modify the policies?
• Did we miss an action?
Thank you

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