



# Update on the Metro Area Water Supply Plan, a part of the 2050 Water Policy Plan

Lanya Ross and Judy Sventek

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# Regional Development Guide Structure

## Values

Core beliefs that guide how we work toward our vision

## Vision

What we want to achieve for the region

## Goals

Desired end states for the region, to successfully achieve the vision

## Objectives

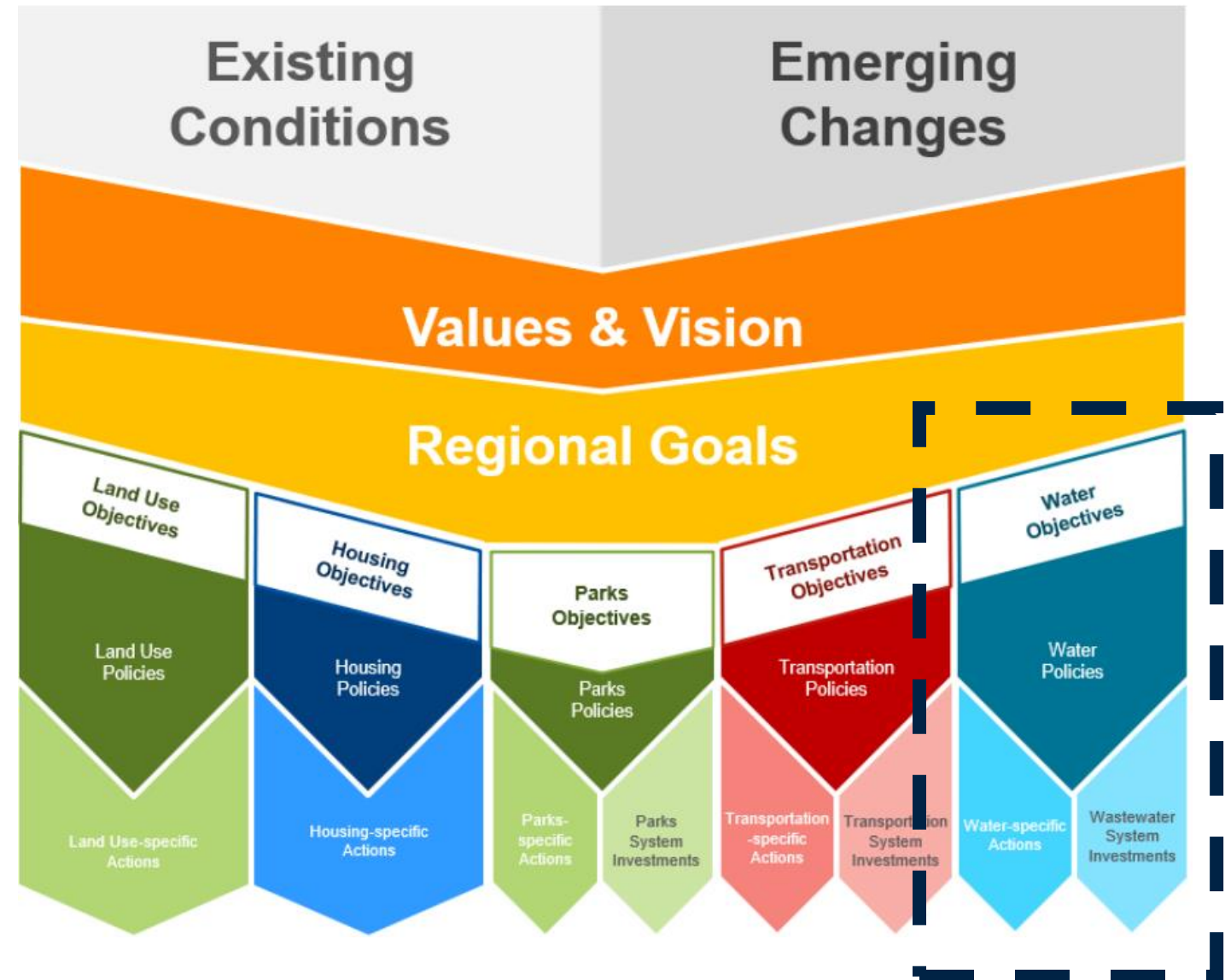
Achievable results that advance regional goals through areas of Council responsibility

## Policies

Intent and approach to achieve objectives (expectations for both Council and partners)

## Actions

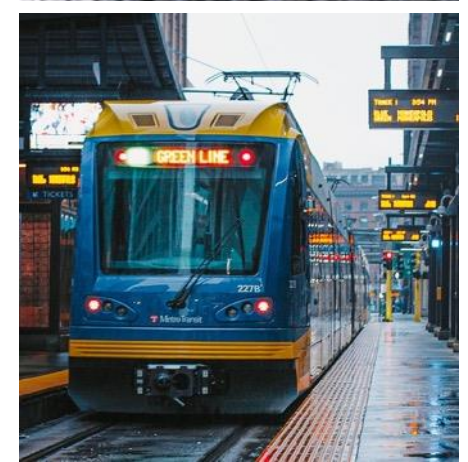
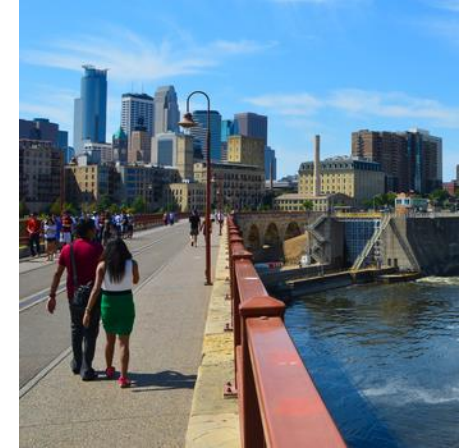
Policies are implemented through specific actions by the Council and partners



# 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.



# Statutory requirements for metro area water supply planning



## Minnesota Statute 473.1565

The Metropolitan Council must carry out planning activities addressing the water supply needs of the metropolitan area

- A. Provide technical information
- B. Make recommendations about roles, streamlining, and funding
- C. **Develop a metropolitan area water supply plan that:**
  - **Provides guidance for local water supply systems and future regional investments**
  - **Emphasizes conservation, interjurisdictional cooperation, and long-term sustainability**
  - **Addresses the reliability, security, and cost-effectiveness of the metropolitan area water supply and its local and subregional components**

The plan must be prepared in cooperation with and subject to the approval of MAWSAC. TAC will inform MAWSAC.

The Council must consider the work and recommendations of MAWSAC when it prepares its regional development framework.

# Key roles in regional water supply planning

<b>Met Council</b> <i>Plan for water supply</i>	<b>MAWSAC</b> <i>Assist the Council with water supply planning</i>	<b>TAC</b> <i>Inform MAWSAC (technical)</i>
<b>Regional Development Guide</b> Develops and approves the plan	<b>Regional Development Guide</b> Recommends water supply-related content (ex: vision, goals)	<b>Regional Development Guide</b> Recommends water supply-related content (ex: vision, goals)
<b>Water Resources Policy Plan</b> Develops and approves the plan	<b>Water Resources Policy Plan</b> Involved with the development of water supply-related content (policy focus)	<b>Water Resources Policy Plan</b> Involved with the development of water supply-related content (technical focus)
<b>Metro Area Water Supply Plan</b> <u>Adopts</u> the plan and collaborates to support its implementation  <i>The Council is NOT a water supplier or regulatory agency. We do not consider water supply a regional system.</i>	<b>Metro Area Water Supply Plan</b> <u>Approves</u> the plan and recommends Met Council adoption	<b>Metro Area Water Supply Plan</b> <u>Recommends</u> MAWSAC approve the plan

# Metro Area Water Supply Plan draft content



## Part 1 Desired Outcomes

- Rational approach to regional water supply planning
- Regional desired outcomes with 2050 water supplies and regional goals in mind

## Part 2 Regional Commitments

- Connection to regional policies in the Water Policy Plan with more detail around water supply-related actions

## Part 3 Regional Dashboard Measures

- Regional summary of information that provides context for water supply planning, describes the current state of sustainable water supply practices, and supports the development of measurable and trackable regional targets

## Part 4 Subregional Info

- Subregional information related to water, land use, and other factors
- Key water supply issues, risks and opportunities identified by stakeholders
- Implementation needs (high-level)

# Connecting regional goals, the WPP, the MWSP, and local water supply plans

## Regional Goal

We lead on addressing climate change

## Water Policy Plan

### Objective

Create climate-resilient water sources, ecosystems, and water infrastructure

### Policy

Water stewardship and sustainability

### Action

Support programs that target water and energy conservation practices and implement efficient water and energy use

## Metro Area Water Supply Plan (*Regional Implementation & Technical Assistance*)

### Regional approach

Convene partners to advocate for expanded water use efficiency grant funding across the region

### Subregional approach

Identify most cost-effective actions for conservation and develop grant programs to incentivize adoption (ex: Northeast)

## Local Water Supply Plan and/or Wellhead Protection Plan (*Local Implementation*)

### Local plan content

Address water conservation and supply and demand reduction measures

## Dashboard Measures

Water use over time (region, subregion, local)



# Water advisory membership

## Wastewater / Water Supply Experts

- Scott Anderson (Bloomington)
- Bruce Elder (St. Paul)
- Charles Howley (Chanhassen)
- Jennifer Levitt (Cottage Grove)
- Richard McCoy (Robbinsdale)
- Bryan Dodds (Minneapolis)
- Bryan Bear (Hugo)
- Tom Weslowski (Shoreview)
- Russ Matthys (Eagan)
- Racquel Vaske (SPRWS)
- Bruce Westby (Ramsey)
- Andrew Brotzler (Prior Lake)
- Paul Carpenter (St. Francis)

## Watershed Experts

- Phil Belfiori (Vadnais Lake WMO)
- Laura Jester (Bassett Creek WMC)
- Tim Kelly (Coon Creek WD)
- Paul Moline (Carver County WMO)
- Vanessa Strong (Scott County WMO)
- Nick Tomczik (Rice Creek WD)
- James Wisker (Minnehaha Creek WD)

# Water supply advisory committees

## Metro Area Water Supply Advisory

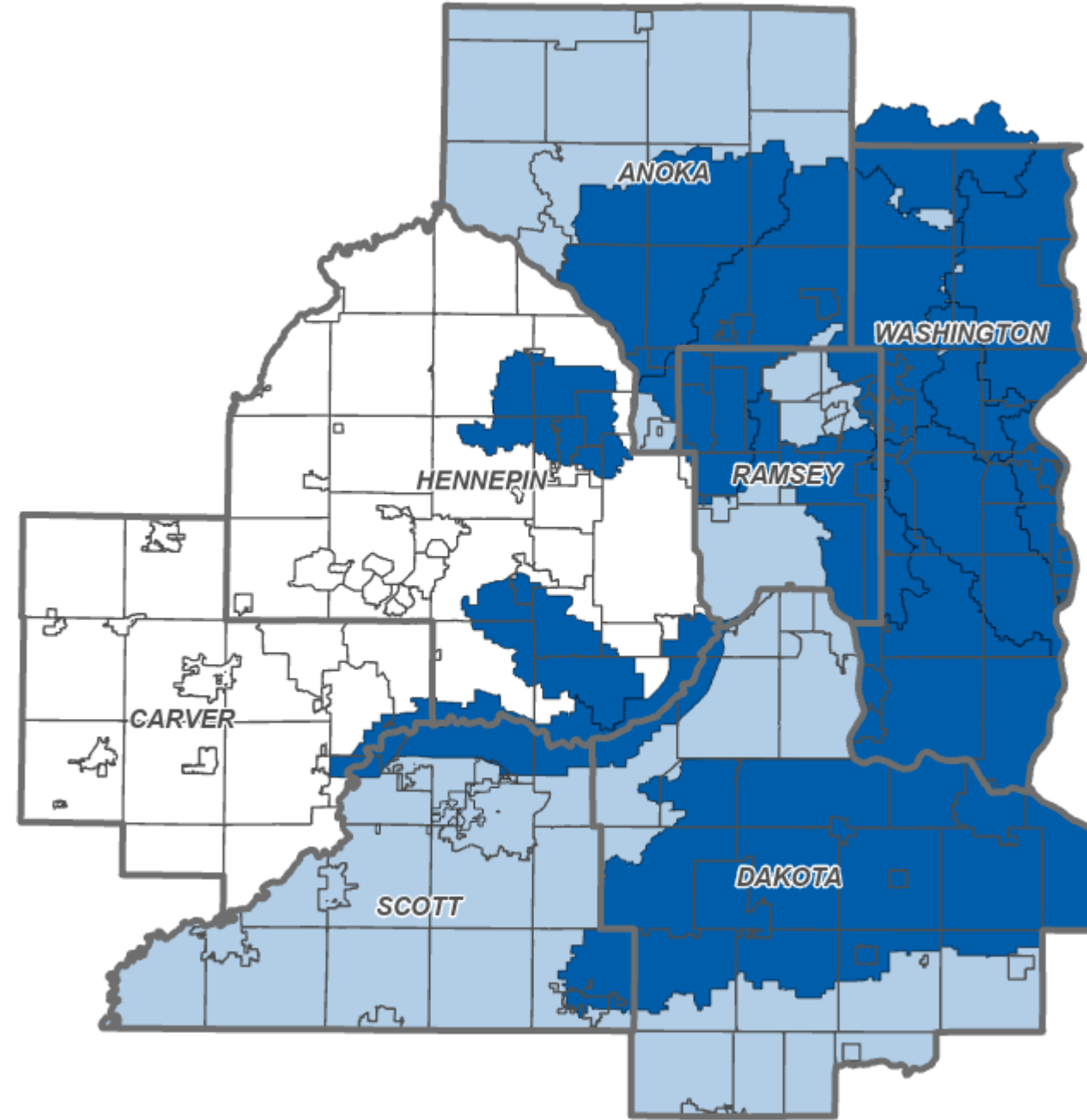
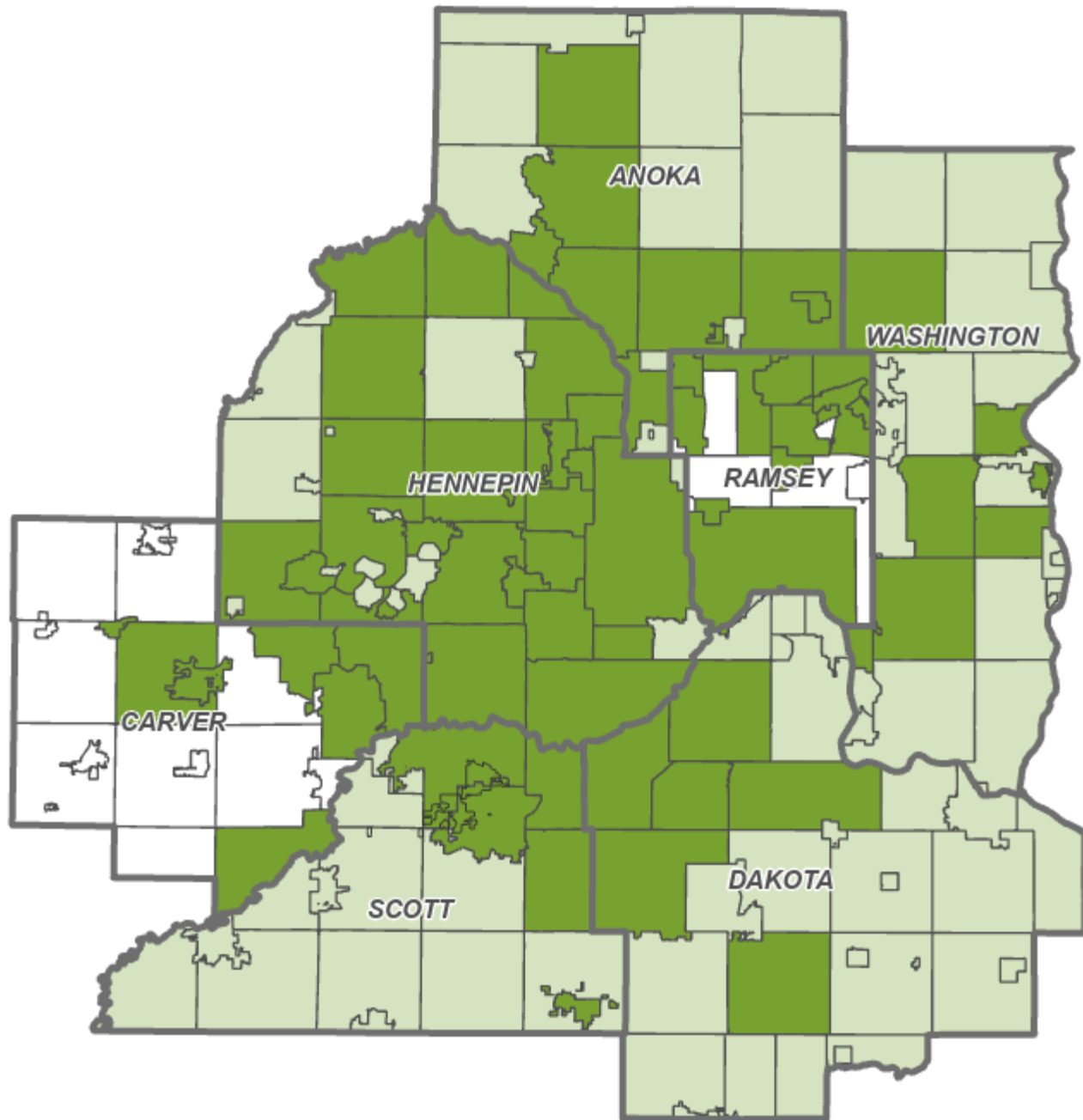
- **Wendy Wulff**
- Annika Bankston (Minneapolis)
- Brad Larson (Savage)
- Ellen Considine (Mn DNR)
- Erik Smith (MPCA)
- Jamie Schurbon (ACD, Anoka County)
- Jeff Berg (MDA)
- Kevin Watson (Vadnais Heights)
- Mike Huang (Chaska)
- Sandeep Burman (MDH)
- Phil Klein (Hugo)
- Todd Blomstrom (SPRWS)
- Valerie Nepl (Dakota County)

## Technical Advisory

- **Scott Anderson** (Bloomington)
- John Dustman (Summit Envirosolutions)
- Robert Ellis (Eden Prairie)
- Dale Folen (Minneapolis)
- Elizabeth Kaufenberg (MPCA)
- Kristin Asher (Richfield)
- Matt Saam (Apple Valley)
- James Stark (USGS, Legislative Water Commission)
- Jim Westerman (Woodbury)
- Ray Wuolo (Barr Engineering Company)

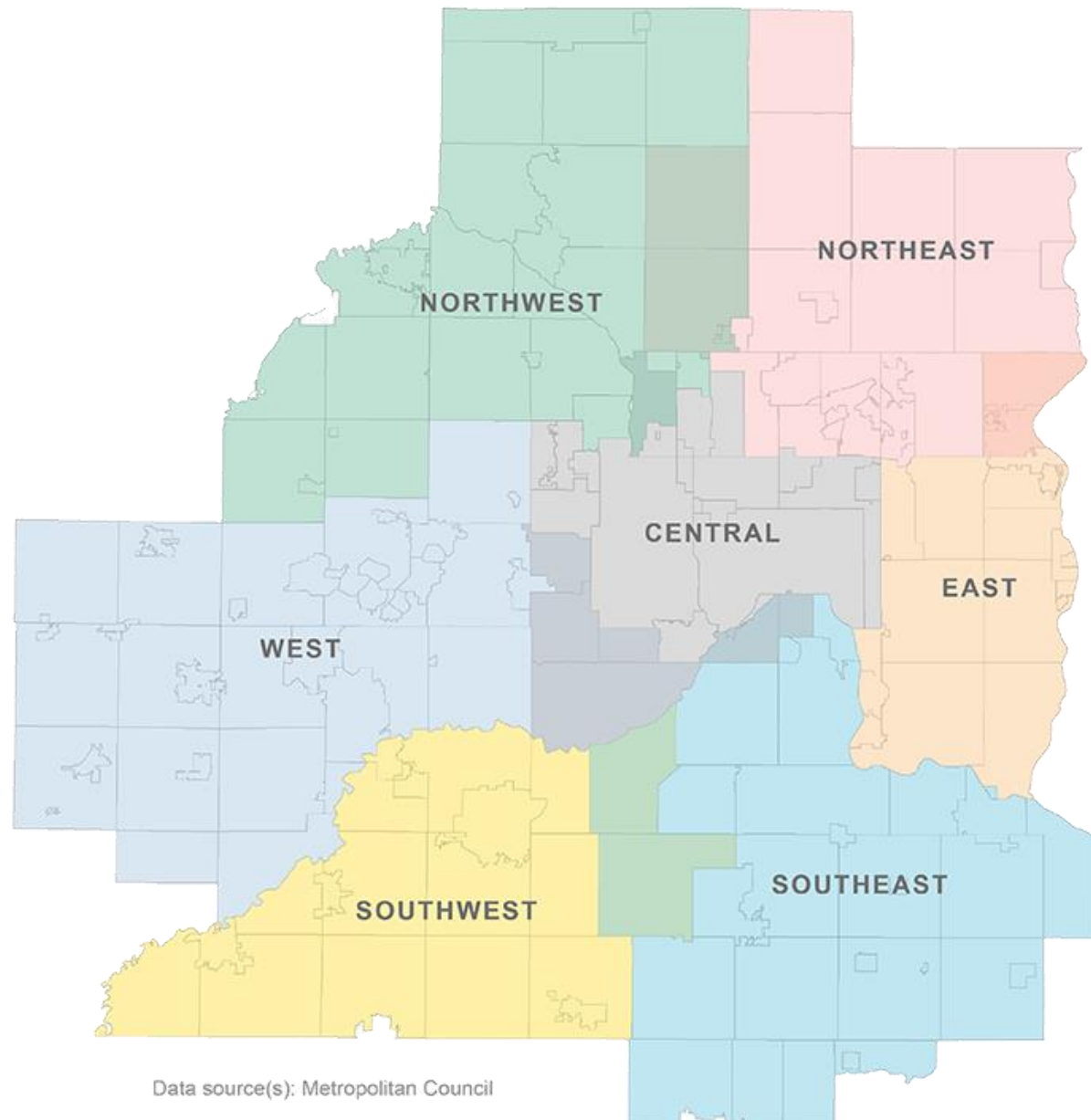
\* Names in bold are committee chairs

# Subregional Engagement Participants



# Subregional Engagement

- ~150 people participated
- 23 engagements over 7 months
- 76 cities and townships represented
- 44 non-community organizations represented:
  - 14 watershed organizations
  - 12 county and county soil water conservation districts
  - 5 state agencies
  - 5 consulting firms
  - 3 private large-volume water users
  - 3 nonprofits/advocacy groups
  - 1 community advisory group member (Washington County Groundwater Plan)
  - 1 tribe
- Included updates to CONDAC, Water Utility Council, and MDH staff working on the Minnesota Drinking Water Plan



# Are MAWSAC and TAC water supply outcomes supported by WPP?

## Do you see any conflicts that need to be resolved? Where does Met Council have a clear and strong role? Where is more clarity needed?

- 1. Water Supply Infrastructure:** Communities can act quickly, thoughtfully, and equitably to address aging infrastructure, contamination, changing groundwater conditions, changing water demand, and financial challenges.
- 2. Water Quality:** Communities have the resources they need to provide a safe water supply. A shared process is developed that allows communities, water utilities, and regulators to respond in a more coordinated and effective way to both contaminants of emerging concern and existing contamination.
- 3. Land use and Water Supply Connections:** Public water suppliers, land use planners, and developers have tools a, funding and authority to work together – supported by aligned agency directions - to guide and support development in ways that balance communities' economic needs while protecting the quantity and quality of source waters that are vital to the region's communities.
- 4. Understand and Manage Groundwater and Surface Water Interactions:** Water resource managers, community planners, and leaders understand how groundwater and surface water interact and how those interactions impact water supply sustainability.
- 5. Sustainable Water Quantity\*:** Communities and water agencies understand the sustainable limits of groundwater and surface water sources. Agency directions are aligned and support local plans to supply demand that exceeds sustainable withdrawal rates using the most feasible combination of alternative groundwater or surface water sources, conservation, reclaimed wastewater and stormwater reuse.

*\*Added after 2022 report to Met Council, Legislature.*

# Are subregional stakeholder vision elements and actions reflected in WPP?

## What's the future you're hoping for? 1/2

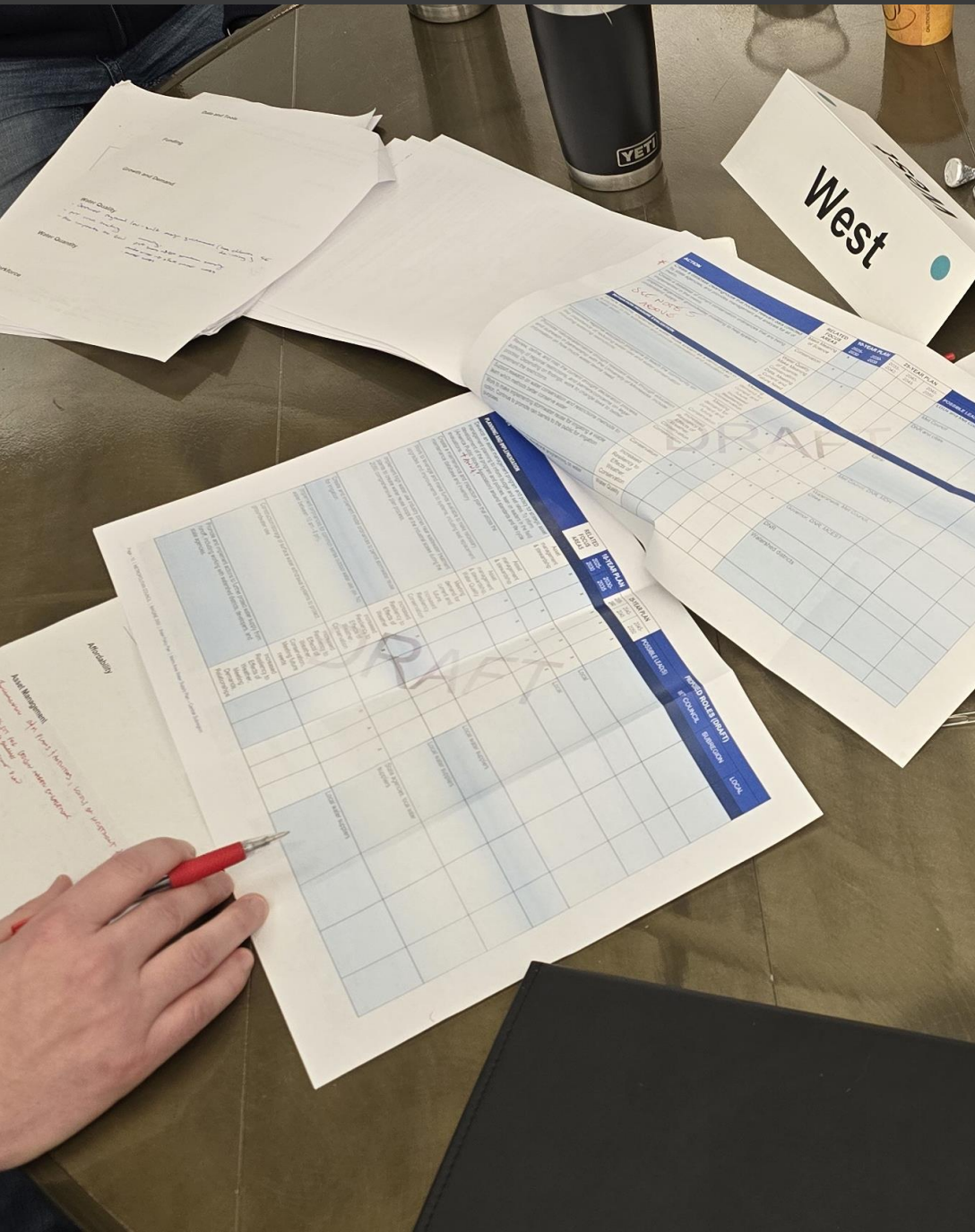
- The full range of diverse needs are met because **all voices are heard**
- **Clean, safe water for everyone**—regardless of supply type, community size, or personal income. Emerging contaminants are understood and addressed.
- **Adequate supply**—for people, the economy, the function of local ecosystems, and future generations
  - Regional sustainability
  - Using (and reusing) water wisely
  - Increasing infiltration and recharge
  - Surface water features are not impacted by groundwater withdrawals
- **Growth is responsible** and supported by reliable and adequate supply
- Communities and water supplies are **resilient to the impacts of climate change**
- **Source water is protected**
- Tools and data are available to support **informed decision-making and adaptive management**

# Are subregional stakeholder vision elements and actions reflected in WPP?

## What's the future you're hoping for? 2/2

- **Collaborative and proactive approaches** within and across communities
  - Local control and implementation with regional planning and resources
  - One water approaches for integrated water management
  - Organizational structures and policies support collaboration and resource sharing
- The **policy framework is streamlined and improved**
- **Increased state and regional support** for planning and plan implementation
- There is **sufficient funding** for water supply--infrastructure, staff, new treatment needs, etc.
- **Public trust and understanding** are enhanced, and a culture shift around water use has occurred (green lawns no longer king)
- There is **consistency across systems**, including public communications, while acknowledging every city is different

# Are these regional commitments aligned with WPP?



## Subregional asks of Met Council

- Research
- Technical assistance
- Financial assistance
- Convening for governmental collaboration
  - Agencies
  - Subregions
  - Water supply and land use planning
- Lobbying
- Coordinating messaging (education, workforce)
- Demonstration



# How should these partners be reflected in WPP, MWSP?

## “Water Supply Planning” involves more than water suppliers

- Communities
  - Water suppliers/operators and city engineers
  - Land use planners and community development staff
- Met Council
- State agencies
- Counties
- Watershed districts and management organizations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Federal
- Professional organizations
- Academics
- Farmers
- Water drinkers and other users—all of us

# What measures are appropriate to track regional progress?

<i>For all = what investments, actions, outcomes?</i>	<b>Collaborate and build capacity</b>	<b>Assess the region's water supplies</b>	<b>Evaluate hazards and risks</b>	<b>Evaluate mitigation measures</b>
<b>Climate</b>	Subregional work group activity Technical assistance for local planners  	<u>Minneapolis/St. Paul climate</u>	<u>Drought monitor</u> <u>River monitor</u> (flood)  	Community awareness of drought and flood conditions (web hits) Local controls for water conservation (ordinances, <u>rates</u> , etc.) <u>Mutual aid agreements and interconnections</u> <u>Tree canopy</u>
<b>Landscapes and sources</b>	Subregional work group activity Technical assistance for local planners  	<u>Land use</u> and associated contaminants # of <u>building permits</u> (density/distribution) Groundwater quality ( <u>MPCA</u> , <u>MDA</u> ) <u>Surface water quality</u> Sustainable limit of sources (use <u>MC estimate</u> ?) Recharge estimates <u>Groundwater levels</u>	<u>Land use change</u> that increases contaminants in <u>DWMSAs</u> Widespread gw declines and near sensitive resources <u>Well interference</u> , conflicts Emerging <u>sw</u> & gw quality issues, trends Increased # priority waters on the <u>impaired waters list</u> Impervious surfaces limit recharge, increase runoff  	Local controls for source water protection and conservation Source water protection <u>BMP grants</u> in metro DWMSAs Acres and practices in the <u>Agricultural Preserves program</u> Contaminant site clean up through <u>Tax Base Revitalization Account</u>
<b>Local water supply infrastructure</b>	Number of community rate payer assistance programs Customer confidence and satisfaction (Survey?) <u>Interconnections</u> and <u>mutual aid agreements</u> <u>Number of licensed water operators</u> Subregional work group activity Technical assistance for local planners	Firm capacity of existing infrastructure (MDH) Miles of pipe installed/replaced (how to document?) Current treatment in place (MDH) Number public and private wells drilled (MWI)	Firm capacity versus future demand <u>PWS water quality violations</u> Age of infrastructure (how to document?) Unused wells in DWMSAs	<u>Interconnections</u> and <u>mutual aid agreements</u> for resilient supply <u>Funding</u> awarded for treatment, addressing lead Reuse infrastructure (how to document?) Number of unused wells sealed (MWI)
<b>Water users</b>	Customer confidence and satisfaction (Survey?) <u>Number of licensed water operators</u> Subregional work group activity Technical assistance for local planners	<u>Residential, industrial, business use</u> (current and future) Total Per capita water use <u>Total water use of gw versus sw sources</u> <u>Water rates</u>  	<u>Well interference</u> <u>Ratio of indoor versus outdoor water use or max day pumping</u> Use compared to capacity and to estimated sustainable limits	Water efficiency grants/activities funded (grant program reporting) Local controls for water conservation (ordinances, <u>rates</u> , etc.) Setting and tracking progress against regional goal (ex: 90 gpcd)
<b>Local wastewater infrastructure</b>	<u>Number of licensed wastewater operators</u> Subregional work group activity Technical assistance for local planners	I & I estimates (MCES data)	<u>Wastewater spills; actions leading to MPCA permit enforcement</u>	<u>Funding</u> awarded for treatment
<b>Regional wastewater infrastructure</b>	Task forces established with local stakeholders Subregional work group activity Technical assistance for local planners	Volume of water treated at regional facilities (MCES data) Regional system condition (MCES data)	<u>Wastewater spills; actions leading to MPCA permit enforcement</u>	Volume of water recharging groundwater (MCES data)  

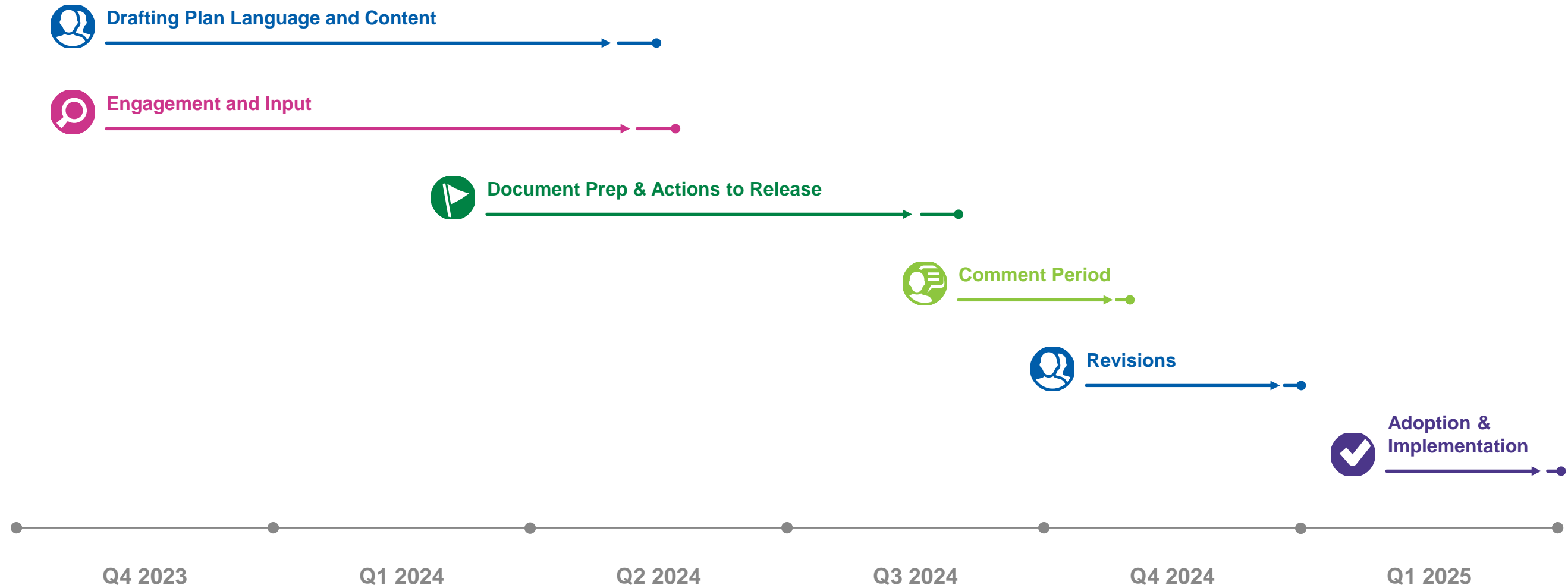
# Similarities and differences in focus areas by subregion

Priority focus area	West	Northwest	Northeast	East	Southeast	Southwest	Central
Water quantity	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Water quality	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆
Coordination and collaboration*	◆	◆	◆	◆	*	◆	*
Growth and demand	◆	◆	◆		◆	*	◆
Asset management	◆	◆			◆		◆
Changing behaviors and norms*	*	*	◆	*	*	◆	◆
Data and tools	◆			*		◆	◆
Workforce*		◆	*	*	◆		◆
Funding*	*	*	◆	*	*	*	*
Climate change*	◆	*	*	*	*		
Affordability	*						◆

◆ = Priority focus area

\* = Incorporated into multiple focus areas as an "implementation consideration"

# WPP Timeline



# Future WPP engagements

## There's more to come...

- Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm at Cottage Grove City Hall Training Room
- Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am at Chanhassen Recreation Center
- Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm at Shoreview Community Center
- Virtual information session – late May-early June





Thank You

**Lanya Ross**

Environmental Analyst, Water Resources

**Judy Sventek**

Manager, Water Resources

