To continue to offer and expand technical assistance and support for local governments, such as SolSmart, climate planning tools, and other resources.

To provide sufficient capacity in the wastewater system to meet the growth projections and long-term service area needs identified in the comprehensive sewer plan, including a program to mitigate sources of inflow and infiltration from private property.

To potentially invest strategically to further the effectiveness of the region's nonpoint-source pollution prevention and control.

To develop emissions and infrastructure targets and goals for Council wastewater, transit, and general operations, such as resource recovery, energy consumption, treatment capacity.

To continue to participate in and convene regional conversations regarding adaptation and resilience, including identifying the most cost-effective options for climate mitigation and adaptation actions.

To continue to support educational efforts through partnership opportunities with agricultural communities in the region and collar counties on water and natural resources.

To explore opportunities to address climate resilience with other outcomes, such as through the Brightfields project.

To efficiently use existing sewer investments in developing and redeveloping areas.

To steward the council’s resources, including equitable and transparent decision-making processes for the provision and operation of a regional wastewater system.

To consider pollutant trading or off-set opportunities with nonpoint-sources of pollution when cost-effective and environmentally sound.

To preserve regional wastewater system assets of the Council through effective maintenance, assessment of condition and preservation, and retirement when no longer needed or cost-effective.

To continue to support regional wastewater services to the growing metro area and beyond, with the goals of efficiency, effectiveness, and equity in service, including the goals of the 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan.

To ensure that failing systems do not cause the need to prematurely extend the metropolitan disposal system, the Council will continue to take a proactive stance with communities to ensure that the wastewater service is commensurate with the needs of the growing metro area, and in an environmentally sound manner.

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Work with the State to attempt to (1) make funds available for inflow and infiltration mitigation, and (2) promote statutes, rules, and regulations that minimize inflow and infiltration across the metropolitan area.

Load charges for septage, portable-toilet waste, holding-tank wastewater and out-of-region wastes will be uniform for each type of waste.

Review local water plans in partnership with the watershed organizations that approve the local water plans.

Maintain an up-to-date regional Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources.

The Council will actively seek funding from the state and other sources.

The Council, MnDOT, and local governments will invest in a transportation system that provides travel conditions that compete with or exceed the nation's best.

Livability

Provide adequate and equitable funding for the Regional Parks System units and facilities in a manner that provides the greatest benefit to the residents of the region.

Parks and Trails Legacy Funds spending must conform to the statewide Parks and Trails Legacy Plan.

Operational Action

The Council and MnDOT should work together with cities and counties to provide efficient connections from major freight and passenger rail lines to regional airports.

Sustainability

Promote the implementation of best management practices for stormwater management.

Policy Action

Promote and support water conservation measures, including education, outreach and tool development.

The Council and MnDOT will work with transportation partners to identify the impacts of highway congestion on freight and passenger travel.

The Council will support an interagency approach to preserving right-of-way for future transportation projects that are in the metropolitan area.

The Council will coordinate with other agencies planning and pursuing transportation investments that strengthen connections and users of the region's highway, freight, and transit systems.

Airport that are accessible within reasonable travel times from all parts of the metropolitan area.

Certified by the Council under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Support of the Council and other stakeholders.

Highway corridors.

Strength.

Avoid overloading Council conveyance and treatment facilities, and the appropriate charges for use of capacity beyond the goal(s), if the community has not been implementing an effective inflow and infiltration reduction program as determined by the Council.

Limit expansion of service within those communities where excessive inflow and infiltration jeopardizes the Council's ability to provide the quality service currently desired by the public.

Operational Action

Operational Action

Sustainability

MCES

Operational Action

Wastewater Operational Action Sustainability MCES

Regional Airport System Policy Action

Livability MT, MTS

Carbon Mitigation Policy Action Sustainability MT, MTS

Regional Freight System Policy Action

Prosperity MT, MTS

Regional Highway System Operational Action Livability MT, MTS

Regional Highway System Policy Action Livability MT, MTS

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Transit Service Policy Action
Operational Action

Provide technical assistance and toolkit resources to communities in integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation actions into their land use, transportation, and infrastructure planning.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Support the management of access points to state and county road systems and emphasize the construction of an interconnected local public street system.

Operational Action

Support cost-effective subregional infrastructure investments in efforts to promote sustainable water use and protect the region's water supplies.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Collaborate with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to provide technical assistance to local governments in implementing the Mississippi River Critical Area Program, and coordinate with the DNR in review of those plans and ordinances.

Operational Action

Identify and address potential vulnerabilities in regional systems as a result of increased frequency and severity of storms and heat waves. Maintain dikes, emergency generators, and response plans for Council facilities facing extreme weather.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Support the cleanup of contaminated land for new industry, including manufacturing and other sectors that are export oriented.

Operational Action

Provide technical references and resources for communities seeking to mitigate and adapt to climate change, in their own facilities and in their communities, including but not limited to, stormwater, wastewater, and water supply management practices, and transit, and land-use planning.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Support the development of a regional park system that emphasizes the access to regional parks, and the region’s shared wilderness areas. Encourage communities to plan and develop regional trails, and regional bicycle corridors.

Operational Action

Connect communities with regional parks and to provide recreational opportunities. Encourage communities to plan and develop connected and safe transportation options. Collaborate with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to coordinate other regional transit services to ensure a consistent and convenient strategic capacity improvements.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Support inverstments to safely operate, preserve and improve the regional highway system, which includes principal and A-Defined State Highway System, that serves regional commerce, and is an integral part of the regional transportation system. Coordinate other regional transit services to ensure a consistent and convenient strategic capacity improvements.

Operational Action

Work with local, regional, and state partners to coordinate transportation, pedestrian, bicycle, and trail connections across jurisdictional boundaries. Develop, collect, and disseminate information about climate change, including energy and climate data, GreenStep Cities best practices, and other regional sustainability initiatives.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Substantially reduce energy consumption at Council facilities, improve the efficiency of the Council’s vehicle fleets including light and medium duty vehicles, and reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and carbon per unit of fuel. Provide, or collaborate with partners to provide, technical references, and resources for communities seeking to mitigate and adapt to climate chagne in their own facilities and in their communities, including but not limited to, stormwater, wastewater, and water supply management practices, and transit, and land-use planning.

Operational Action

Provide technical references and resources for communities seeking to mitigate and adapt to climate change issues of local significance such as water conservation, stormwater infrastructure, adaptation, greenhouse gas reduction, use of alternative energy sources, infrastructure planning, and hazard mitigation planning.

Regional Leadership Policy Action

Encourage communities to participate in regional progams which support efforts to inform, plan for, mitgate, adapt, and respond to climate change issues of local significance such as water conservation, stormwater infrastructure, adaptation, greenhouse gas reduction, use of alternative energy sources, infrastructure planning, and hazard mitigation planning.

Operational Action

Adapt to climate change, in their own facilities and in their communities, including but not limited to, stormwater, wastewater, and water supply management practices, and transit, and land-use planning.

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