

Thrive MSP 2040: Status Report



Thrive MSP 2040 is the long-range plan that creates a vision for the seven-county metro region for the next 30 years. In technical terms, it serves as the foundation of Metropolitan Council's development guide (previously referred to as the Regional Development Framework) and sets the policy for the Council's primary systems plans – transportation (including aviation), water resources, and parks – and the housing policy and water supply plans.

In the summer and fall of 2012, the Council conducted extensive outreach and engagement, holding over 50 in-person and online conversations with over 1,100 participants. Based on this input, the Council is proposing the following mission, outcomes, principles and goals for *Thrive MSP 2040*:

- Mission** Working together towards a prosperous, livable and sustainable region where all will thrive.
- Outcomes** Prosperity ∞ Livability ∞ Sustainability
- Principles** Collaboration ∞ Equity ∞ Stewardship ∞ Integration ∞ Accountability
- Goals**
- Preservation protects natural areas and resources for enjoyment today and into the future.
 - A vibrant and globally competitive economy creates opportunities for residents and employers.
 - Land use, development patterns and infrastructure align to make the best use of public and private investment.
 - Housing options give people in all life stages and of all economic means viable choices for safe, stable and affordable homes.
 - A multi-modal transportation system safely and reliably connects people, freight and destinations in the region and beyond.
 - The region minimizes its contribution to and develops resilience and opportunity in light of climate change.

At the end of March, the Council will embark on its second phase of outreach and engagement on Thrive in order to advance the following outcomes:

- Communicate how the Council is using its outreach and engagement to create *Thrive MSP 2040*;
- Update partners and stakeholders on the current timeline for *Thrive MSP 2040*;
- Introduce the Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (FHEA) and its relationship to *Thrive MSP 2040*;
- Illustrate the tensions and trade-offs between and within four open issue areas (see below);
- Gather feedback on issue areas to inform *Thrive MSP 2040* decision-making; and
- Test-drive the *Thrive MSP 2040* outcomes, principles, and goals.

The Council has identified four issues that are currently unresolved, within the Council's influence, and of significant stakeholder and community concern; these issues will be the substantive focus of the second phase of outreach and engagement:

- Affordable housing allocation, location and preservation;
- Water supply;
- Regionally-significant economic places; and
- The relationship of transit and land use.

The Council will hold four large-scale planning sessions across the region in late April and early May to examine these specific issue areas, balanced with the proposed Thrive outcomes, principles and goals. In addition, the Council will conduct parallel discussions with other organizations of key partners and stakeholders interested in providing additional feedback to the Council – including the March and April meetings of the Land Use Advisory Committee. As always, the Council invites comments and questions about *Thrive MSP 2040* via e-mail to thriveMSP@metc.state.mn.us and online at www.thrivemsp.org.