

Metropolitan Council

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 26, 2014

Subject: Release the draft version of Thrive MSP 2040 for public comment

District(s), Member(s): ALL

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.145

Staff Prepared/Presented: Libby Starling, Manager of Regional Policy and Research (651-602-1135)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Policy and Research

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Release the draft version of *Thrive MSP 2040* for public comment;
- Conduct public hearings on April 10, 2014 and April 16, 2014 regarding the draft version of *Thrive MSP 2040* for public comment;
- Keep the hearing record open until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2014; and
- Direct staff to publish public hearing notices and distribute copies of the draft Thrive MSP 2040 for public comment under the Council's administrative procedure for public hearings.

Background

The Metropolitan Council has been working on *Thrive MSP 2040*, formerly known as the update to the *2030 Regional Development Framework*, since late 2011. Since that time, the Council has engaged partners, stakeholders and the public in policy discussions to inform the plan. Through much of 2013, the Council delved deeply into policy issues to develop the language that is now in *Thrive MSP 2040*.

Rationale

The public comment period and public hearings will offer partners, stakeholders and the public the opportunity to formally comment on *Thrive MSP 2040*, including both land use policy and draft local forecasts.

Funding

The development of Thrive MSP 2040 is a regular part of the Metropolitan Council workplan.

Known Support / Opposition

In general, Council staff have heard positive comments about the content of *Thrive MSP 2040*.

Metropolitan Council

Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing for Metropolitan Development Guide, *Thrive MSP 2040*

The Metropolitan Council has released the comprehensive development guide for the Twin Cities metropolitan area, *Thrive MSP 2040*, for public comment.

The public is encouraged to view the plan and provide public comment, through **Monday, April 28**, as follows (comments must be received by **5 p.m.**):

- Written comments: Metropolitan Council
390 N. Robert St., St. Paul, 55101
- Fax comments to: 651-602-1464
- Send TTY comments to: 651-291-0904
- Email: public.info@metc.state.mn.us
- Record comments on Council's Public Comment Line at 651-602-1500
- Submit comments through the Council's online Your Ideas site, at <http://yourideas.metrocouncil.org/>.

The Metropolitan Council will hold two public hearings on the *Thrive MSP 2040* plan:

- **Thursday, April 10, 5 p.m.**
F.T Heywood Office Building, Chambers
560 Sixth Avenue North, Minneapolis
Served by regional transit routes 5, 19, 22, and METRO Blue Line
- **Wednesday, April 16, 5 p.m.**
Metropolitan Council Chambers
390 Robert Street North, St. Paul
Served by many regional transit routes

All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearings and offer comments. Those attending may register in advance to speak by calling the Council at 651-602-1140. Upon request, the Metropolitan Council will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. Advance notice, indicating the specific accommodation needed, is appreciated.

Staff will review public comment and evaluate changes to the proposed policies to address the comments submitted by the public. A recommendation for final adoption of the *Thrive MSP 2040* plan will be considered by the Metropolitan Council in May.