

# Tribal Relations Policy

6/26/2019

Metropolitan Council



# Background

- Why we're developing a policy
- Engaging tribal communities
- Executive orders
- What the policy is and what comes next
- Engagement and practical experience

# Laying the Groundwork: Community Engagement

- Staff met with about 30 community members to introduce ourselves and ask, “What would you like us to know before we write a Government-to-Government Tribal Relations policy?”
- Current and former Equity Advisory Committee members with connections to tribal communities were among the first consulted.

# What we heard

- Community members worked in nonprofits, government, Pre-K to college education, arts, business
  - Talk to us first
  - Diverse
  - Consultation
  - Engage everyone regularly
  - Be patient
  - Build organizational capacity
- “What is the benefit to my people?”

# Additional practical experience

- Executive Orders
- Transportation Policy Plan work
- Land use planning – system statements
- Riverview Corridor – long-term



# Riverview corridor TPP amendment

Four staff-to-staff meetings and one tribal consultation

Insights from tribal communities outreach through public comment period

- Include all 11 federally recognized tribes in project communications when historically and culturally significant places will be impacted
- Continue reaching out until you get a response
- Each tribal community has different needs and expectations
- Use one point of contact to communicate, schedule meetings, share information

# Riverview corridor TPP amendment cont.

- Ask how the tribal community wants to be engaged in a project
- Have the appropriate level of contact with the equivalent tribal staff, council member or chair/president
- Tribal members living in the region are not all members of the federally recognized tribes
  - Metro Urban Indian community
  - Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community
- There are members of federally recognized tribes living outside of Minnesota

# What's next

- Finalize policy
- Procedures and staff guidance
  - Coordinate with key staff involved
- Access to training
  - MnDOT tribal relations
  - Other: experiential, sacred sites, etc.