

Information Item

Metropolitan Council



Meeting Date: November 30, 2022

Topic

2050 Regional Development Guide Values, Vision, and Goals

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minn. Stat. § 473.145
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Michael Larson, Planning Analyst, 651-602-1407
Division/Department:	Community Development / Regional Planning

Background

Staff have conducted numerous engagement activities with the Council and various advisory groups to identify shared regional values, components of a regional vision, and potential goals for the 2050 Regional Development Guide. Based on input to date, staff are developing a working document of regional values and vision statements for Council review, discussion, and use for further engagement.

Based on the following timeline, staff will present a proposed process for developing a draft working document at your meeting on November 30, 2022. Subsequent meetings in December and January will give you the opportunity to provide feedback and finalize this working document.

Council Review:

- Framework presentation: November 30, 2022
- Draft Regional Values and Vision: December 21, 2022
- Revised Regional Values and Vision: January 18, 2023

Staff are not proposing that the Council should adopt this work in January. Rather, we will be asking for Council consensus to use this working document for additional stakeholder engagement and policy alignment. This work, as revised over time, will be incorporated into the final 2050 Regional Development Guide that the Council adopts in its entirety in late 2024.

The development of regional goals based on the regional vision will commence next year and be informed by future stakeholder engagement, including work with the Council. Staff anticipate sharing proposed goals for consideration by June 2023.

Significant Cross-Cutting Regional Issues

In consultation with the Council's policy and technical leads, and in reviewing what we have heard through this first phase of engagement and in other planning work, staff have identified three cross cutting issues of regional significance. They are significant policy and programmatic areas that are not the sole responsibility of any one division. They represent potential areas of policy collaboration and identification of shared regional goals. Consequently, we believe they should be reflected throughout the regional vision and our policy plans.

- Equity
- Climate
- Natural Systems

It should not come as a surprise that equity and climate are two of the cross-cutting regional issues. The third, Natural Systems, reflects the particularly important roles that natural systems play in the health, well-being, and economic vitality of our region’s residents, businesses, and communities. Our region’s parks, lakes, rivers, streams, groundwater, conservation areas, and habitat are valuable assets that, in many cases, may be at risk.

Regional Values

Values are core beliefs or principles that guide our work. The challenge in identifying shared values is that different people value or emphasize different things. However, certain themes have emerged from our engagement that support the cross-cutting issues and the need for effectively working together and with others.

Staff will ask for your feedback if these thematic sets of values best capture our regional values:

1. Equity, justice, cultural competence, respect, and compassion
2. Leadership, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation
3. Transparency, effectiveness, and accountability
4. Stewardship, sustainability, and resilience

Regional Vision

Vision is what we want to achieve for the region. State statute empowers the Council to develop a comprehensive development guide prescribing the orderly and economical development of the metropolitan area. The cross-cutting issues impacts all this work, but the following will be addressed in the proposed language. They include aspects of development and characteristics of development. We will “anchor” the vision in the people, communities, and places we love and call home.

Regional Development Issues

- Growth management
- Housing needs
- Commerce & industry
- Parks and open space
- Water resources
- Other natural resources

Contextual Issues

- Accessibility and affordability
- Shared economic prosperity
- Public health, safety, and wellbeing
- Welcoming

Regional System Considerations

- Transportation
- Wastewater
- Regional Parks

“Anchoring” Principles

- People
- Communities
- Places

Staff will ask for Council Member feedback if this list of considerations is complete, and what specific content is essential to be included.

