

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



For the Metropolitan Council: May 25, 2022

Business Item: 2022-129

2050 Water Resources Policy Plan Advisory Group: Updated Membership Replacement Process

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan, which includes the Wastewater System Plan

Staff Prepared/Presented: Judy Sventek, Manager Water Resources, 651-602-1156

Division/Department: Chair's office, c/o Charles Zelle, 651-602-1453

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Zelle's recommendation that the 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan Advisory Group members consist of: (1) individuals holding these listed positions (and their successors in office) or their designees; and (2) a staff-designated representative from a Rural Center.

Community/Organization	Title/Position
Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization	WMO Administrator
Coon Creek Watershed District	District Administrator
Rice Creek Watershed District	District Administrator
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District	District Administrator
Scott County Watershed Management Organization	WMO Administrator
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Organization	WMO Administrator
Carver County Watershed Management Organization	WMO Administrator
Chanhassen	Public Works Director
Cottage Grove	City Administrator
Hugo	City Administrator
Prior Lake	Public Works Director
Shoreview	Public Works Director
Eagan	Public Works Director
Robbinsdale	Public Works Director
Ramsey	City Engineer

St. Paul	Sewer Utility Manager, Assistant City Engineer
Bloomington	Utilities Superintendent
St. Paul Regional Water System	General Manager
Minneapolis	Director, Surface Water and Sewers
A representative from a Rural Center identified by Environmental Services staff	

Background

At its September 8, 2021 meeting, the Council established a 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan Advisory Group with a membership consisting of individuals with certain titles or positions. The list of members was intended to ensure various communities and organizations are appropriately represented on the Advisory Group which advises MCES staff on the process for developing the 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan. The work of the Advisory Group and the development of the Policy Plan will continue for approximately 3 more years, during which time some individuals listed in the September 2021 action may no longer hold their current positions.

To ensure the membership of the Advisory Group is current, the Chair is recommending that the membership of the Advisory Group should be identified by title or position rather than by individual. In addition, the proposed action has two notable changes from the membership approved in 2021. First, the action would allow Council staff to identify an appropriate representative from a Rural Center to participate as an Advisory Group member. This replaces St. Francis from the previous list. The St. Francis representative left the city. We are having a hard time getting a new designee for this city and feel it is important to have a representative from a Rural Center on the Group. The second change is that the city of Shakopee was on the approved list and the representative from Shakopee has indicated that while he is very supportive of this work, neither he nor any of his staff have the capacity at this time to serve on this Group. We propose to add a representative from the City of Prior Lake to replace Shakopee.

Rationale

By designating Advisory Group membership by titles or positions rather than by specific individuals the Council can avoid recurring actions over the next 3 years to appoint new members to replace listed individuals who may leave their current positions.

If the proposed action is approved, individuals currently serving as Advisory Group members (or their designees) will continue to serve as long as they hold their current positions. Except for the Rural Center (currently St. Francis) which may change over time and the substitution of Prior Lake for Shakopee, the proposed action does not change the list of communities or organizations identified in the September 2021 action.

This proposed action would supersede the Council's September 8, 2021, action (Business Item No. 2021-233).

Thrive Lens Analysis

The 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan supports the Thrive outcomes of Stewardship, Sustainability, Equity, Prosperity, and Livability through wise use of water, protection and restoration of water resources in the region, and efficient operation of the Council's wastewater systems. The *2050 Water Resources Policy Plan* is the update to the *2040 Water Resources Policy Plan*.

Funding

The work group's administrative costs will be small and will be managed within MCES' adopted operating budgets.

Small Business Inclusion

No small business inclusion requirement at this time.

