Topic

2050 Regional Development Guide Values, Vision, and Goals

Policy/Legal Reference:	Minn. Stat. § 473.145
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Background

Staff have conducted numerous engagement activities with the Metropolitan Council and various advisory groups to identify shared regional values, components of a regional vision, and potential goals for the 2050 Regional Development Guide. On several occasions, this has included structured engagement with the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) Technical Working Group and TPP Advisory Work Group.

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. A working draft for discussion will be presented to the Council at their January 4 meeting. The development of more specific shared regional goals based on the regional vision will commence this year and be informed by future stakeholder engagement.

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, the following themes have emerged as core sets of shared values that emphasize the need for effectively working together.

- Equity, justice, cultural competence, respect, and compassion
- Leadership, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation
- Accountability, transparency, and effectiveness
- Stewardship, sustainability, and resilience

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, we have identified four cross cutting issues of regional significance. They are significant policy and programmatic areas that are not the sole responsibility of any one division or agency/organization. They represent potential areas of policy collaboration and identification of shared regional goals. Consequently, they will be reflected throughout the regional vision and our policy plans.

- Equity
- Climate
- Natural Systems
- Public Health, Safety, and Wellbeing

Regional Vision

<u>Vision is what we want to achieve for the region</u>. State statue empowers the Metropolitan Council to develop a comprehensive development guide prescribing the orderly and economical development of the metropolitan area. The following have been and will be considered as we articulate a regional vision. One area of recent emphasis is the importance of "anchoring" the vision with references to the people, communities, and places that we serve.

Regional Development Issues

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

Regional System Considerations

- Transportation
- Wastewater
- Regional Parks

Contextual Issues

- Accessibility and affordability
- Shared economic prosperity
- Welcoming and inclusive

Anchoring Principles

- People
- Communities
- Places

TPP Advisory Work Group Feedback

On December 16, we updated the TPP Advisory Work Group and asked for feedback and reflection on a compilation of input that we summarized (attached) based on previous engagement with them on June 29 and August 26. We organized their previous input into the framework we are now using. The conversation was robust, and we did not have enough time to review and discuss everything. We asked the members to continue to review the synopsis and provide their additional thoughts and ideas. We are awaiting that feedback.

The input from the TPP Advisory Work Group is like the input we receive from other advisory groups we have (e.g., Land Use Advisory Committee, Metropolitan Water Supply Advisory Committee, Regional Planning Advisory Group). It is often very detailed with policy area insights and inspiring ideas. It many cases, the input may function better as goals, policies, or implementation strategies that will be articulated later. In other cases, we have examples of success stories or specific problems that highlight our challenges. All of this input is valuable.

At the February 1 Metropolitan Council meeting, we will share a report that documents the engagement to date, and how it will serve us going forward. Consistent with our proposed regional core value of accountability, we will document how this input can and should inform future work.

Attachment

Value Areas

Equity, justice, cultural competence, respect, and compassion

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- The regional transportation planning process should include leadership roles for BIPOC communities, tribal nations, communities with disabilities, seniors, and those with economic disadvantages.
- Planning for the transportation system should prioritize the removal of barriers to accessibility.
- Transportation programming should prioritize the repair of past harms.
- Transportation planning should mitigate risks of displacement due to market forces.

Leadership, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and innovation

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- Transportation planning and design should foster a sense of ownership, stewardship, and community.
- The transportation planning process should reflect the needs of different types of users including those involved in economic supply chains.
- Research and technology should drive innovations in ways that reduce GHG, enhance the efficiency of systems, and increase both accessibility and reliability.
- The transportation planning process should be informed by ongoing community engagement, relationship building, and shared decision making.
- The transportation planning process should be informed by ongoing research into evolving travel behavior and needs.

Transparency, effectiveness, and accountability

This is an area where additional input from the TPP Advisory Work Group is welcome.

Stewardship, sustainably, and resilience

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- The transportation system should be high quality, low-maintenance, and consider future needs related to our region's communities and economy.
- Transportation planning should be integrated with natural resource planning.

Cross-Cutting Issues

Equity

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- The transportation system will provide affordable, reliable, and convenient access to destinations throughout the region for those who rely on transit, paratransit, walking, and rolling.
- The regional transportation planning process will include leadership roles for BIPOC communities, tribal nations, communities with disabilities, seniors, and those with economic disadvantages.

Climate

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- High quality transit and non-motorized investments will support shifts from SOV travel.
- The region will invest in technologies and services that reduce GHG and VMT.

Natural Systems

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- Transportation planning and implementation will protect, enhance, and restore natural systems impacted by rights-of-way.
- Winter maintenance of transportation surfaces will minimize the use of salts or other practices that impair water quality.

Public Health, Safety, and Wellbeing

These are related ideas that we heard from the TPP Advisory Work Group:
- The transportation system will support the orderly and economical development of the region, including the needs of freight and industry.
- The transportation system will support access to housing, services, recreation, and other community needs throughout the region.
- Transportation rights-of-way and investments will create opportunities to support multiple modes, increase accessibility, and improve "last mile" connections for communities.
- The transportation system will be safe for its users and patrons.