

# 2025 RBTN Update Process

TAC Planning



March 13, 2025



# Background



## RBTN updates history

- New process was applied in 2021 to consider major updates to the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network, prior to 2022 Regional Solicitation
- Earlier updates considered mainly minor changes; some new corridors and alignments were allowed but were evaluated qualitatively.
- Needed set of quantitative measures to facilitate reviews of proposed RBTN additions and extensions
- RBTN Guidelines and Measures Study (2020)
  - Evaluation measures created to allow flexibility to consider broader changes
  - Set of measures was developed for corridor spacing, route directness, system connectivity, equity, and proximity to development or activity nodes

# RBTN Change Request Process

## Agency Review Process

1. Agencies will be asked to review RBTN corridors and alignments within or near their communities on interactive online map
2. Agencies will be given option to propose the following change types:
  - **Addition** of a new RBTN corridor or alignment
  - **Re-alignment (shift)** of an existing RBTN corridor or alignment
  - **Extension** of an existing RBTN corridor or alignment



# RBTN Change Request Process

## Steps for Application, Review and Approval

1. Notification of the open period to propose RBTN changes will be posted on Met Council web site and distributed via e-mail.
2. Council staff review submitted RBTN change proposals & evaluate based on established RBTN evaluation measures.
3. Consult with Bicycle-Pedestrian Planning Work Group to review staff recommendations on the proposed updates.
4. Present recommended changes through TAC/TAB process to be accepted with the approval to release draft 2026 Regional Solicitation packet for public comment.
5. Final updated RBTN map presented for approval by TAB and Met Council for inclusion in 2050 TPP as an administrative modification.



# RBTN Change Request Process

## General Timeline (tentative)

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • Publish notification to propose RBTN changes                 | Target: May 1st   |
| • Deadline to submit change requests                           | Target: June 30th |
| • Council staff review applications                            | July              |
| • Review staff recommendations with BPPWG                      | TBD               |
| • TAC/TAB approval process for updated maps                    | TBD               |
| • Public Comment period for Reg. Solicitation/TPP modification | TBD               |
| • Final maps approved by TAB & Met Council                     | TBD               |



# 2025 Regional Bicycle Barriers Update Process

TAC Planning



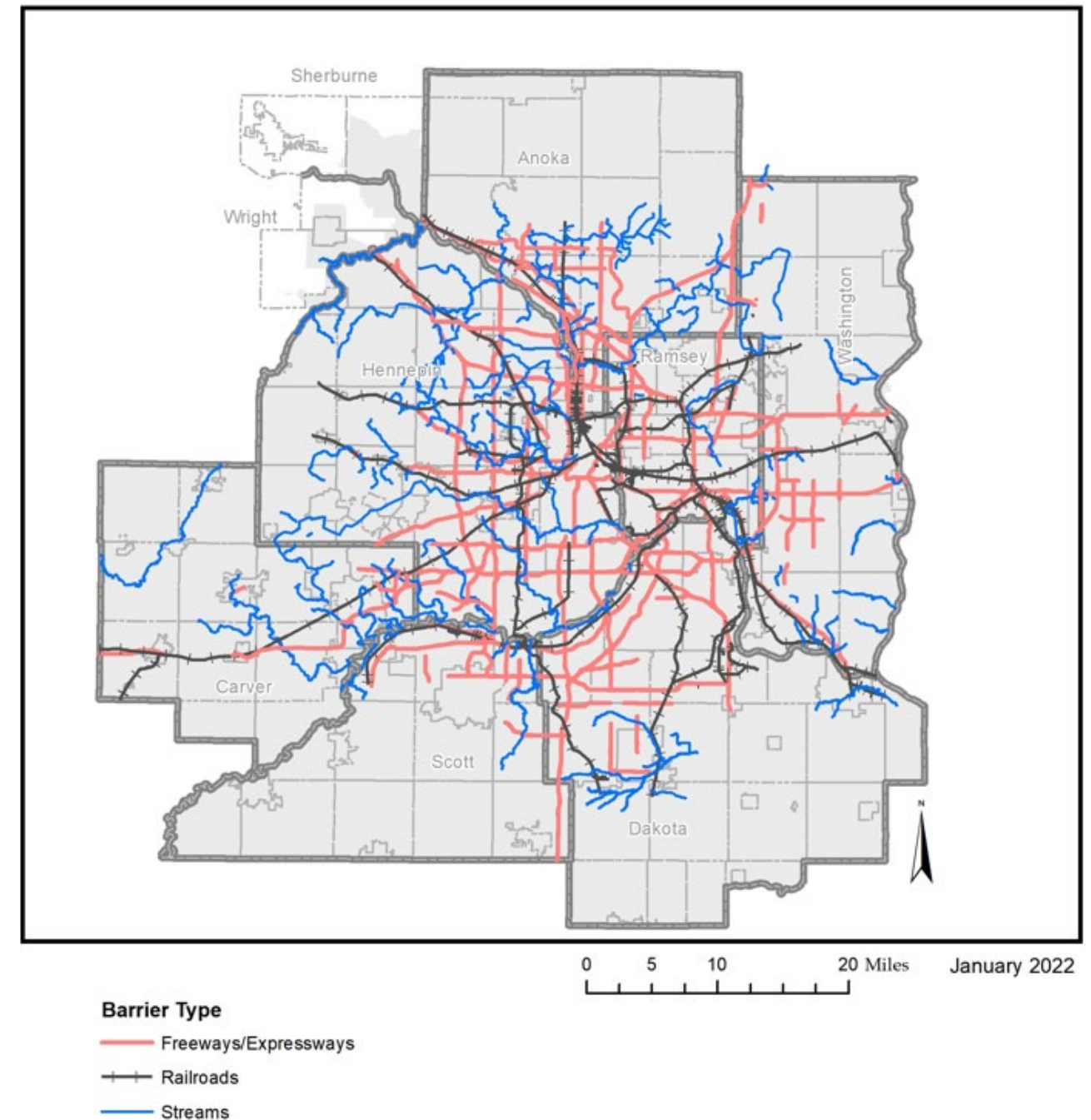
March 13, 2025



# Background

## Regional Bicycle Barriers history

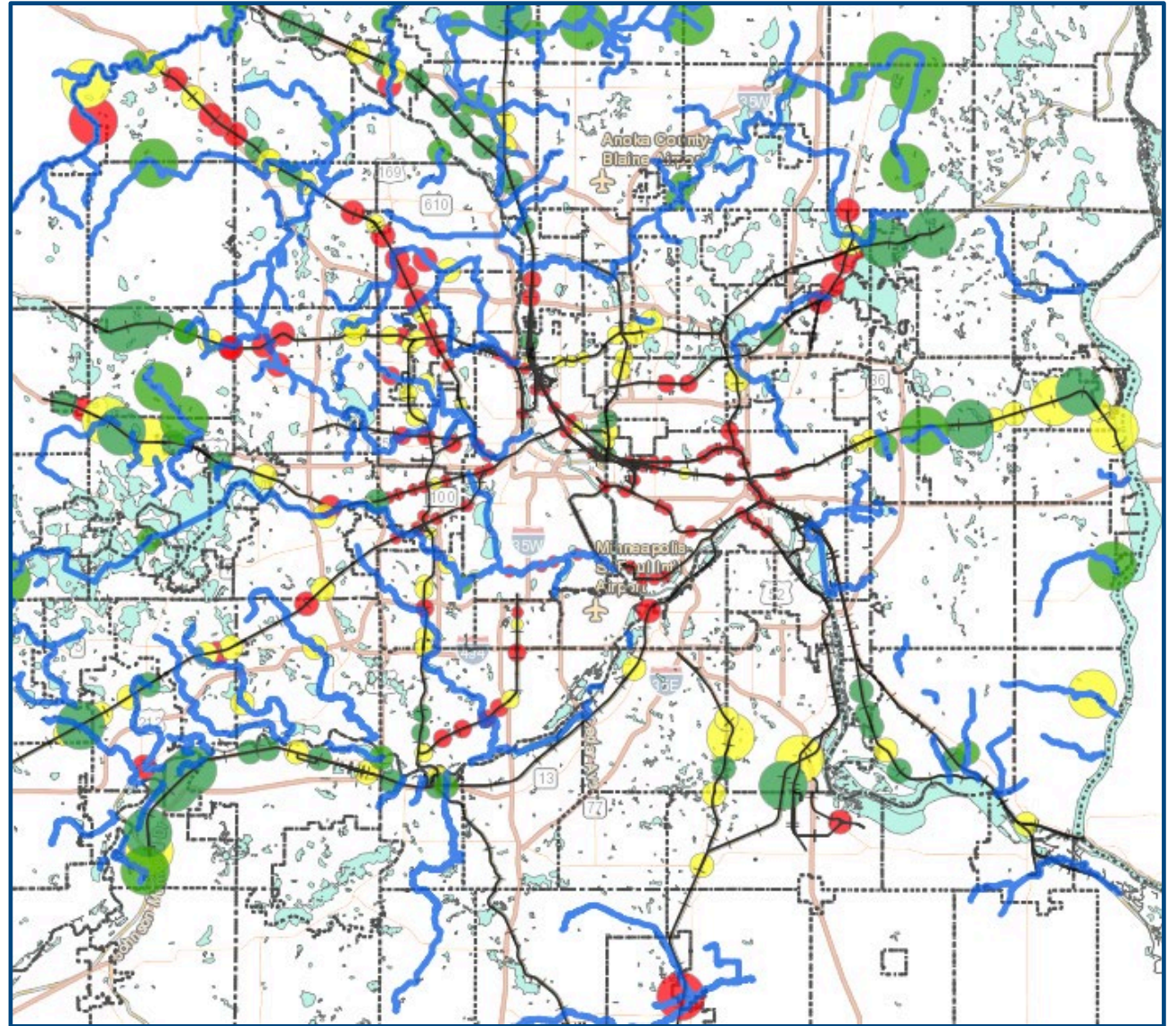
- Developed through Regional Bicycle Barriers Study (2017, updated in 2019)
- Introduced in 2018 Update to Transportation Policy Plan as region's most significant physical barriers to daily bicycle travel
- Defined to include:
  - Freeways and expressways
  - Railroad corridors
  - Secondary and third-order streams



# Background

## Barrier Crossing Improvement Areas

- Included in Regional Bicycle Barriers Study
- Also introduced in 2018 Update to Transportation Policy Plan and updated in 2020 TPP
- Added as an alternative scoring criterion (as included with regional barriers) for 2020 Regional Solicitation for 'Multiuse Trails and Bike Facilities' funding category
- Barrier crossing areas define prioritized segments along each barrier type indicating where future improvements may be most needed



Rail Corridor and Stream Crossing Areas



# Regional Bicycle Barriers Update Process

## Agency Review Process

1. Agencies will be asked to review regional bicycle barriers and barrier crossing improvement areas within their communities on interactive online map
2. Agencies will be given option to propose the following:
  - Addition of a *new regional bicycle barrier* consistent with the definitions provided
  - Addition of a *planned bicycle facility improvement location\** that crosses a regional bicycle barrier and is not currently included within a prioritized *regional bicycle barrier crossing area*

\* Planned regional bicycle barrier crossing improvement locations must be “described or mapped in an adopted local bicycle or transportation plan or an adopted study, or a funded improvement project in a capital improvement plan.”



# Regional Bicycle Barriers Update Process

## Steps for Application, Review and Approval

1. Notification of the open period to request Regional Bicycle Barrier changes (or add a planned barrier crossing location) will be posted on Met Council web site and distributed via e-mail.
2. Council staff review submitted update requests for consistency with stated barrier definitions; determine priority tier for new planned barrier crossing locations
3. Consult with Bicycle-Pedestrian Planning Work Group to review staff recommendations on the proposed updates.
4. Present recommended changes through TAC/TAB process to be accepted with the approval to release draft 2026 Regional Solicitation packet for public comment.
5. Final updated Regional Bicycle Barriers map presented for approval by TAB and Met Council for inclusion in 2050 TPP as an administrative modification.



# Regional Bicycle Barriers Update Process

## General Timeline (tentative)

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| • Publish notification to propose regional bike barrier changes | Target: May 1st   |
| • Deadline to submit change requests                            | Target: June 30th |
| • Council staff review applications                             | July              |
| • Review staff recommendations with BPPWG                       | TBD               |
| • TAC/TAB approval process for updated maps                     | TBD               |
| • Public Comment period for Reg. Solicitation/TPP modification  | TBD               |
| • Final maps approved by TAB & Met Council                      | TBD               |





**Steve Elmer**

Metropolitan Transportation Services

[steven.elmer@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:steven.elmer@metc.state.mn.us)

