Boundary Adjustments and MPO Expansion
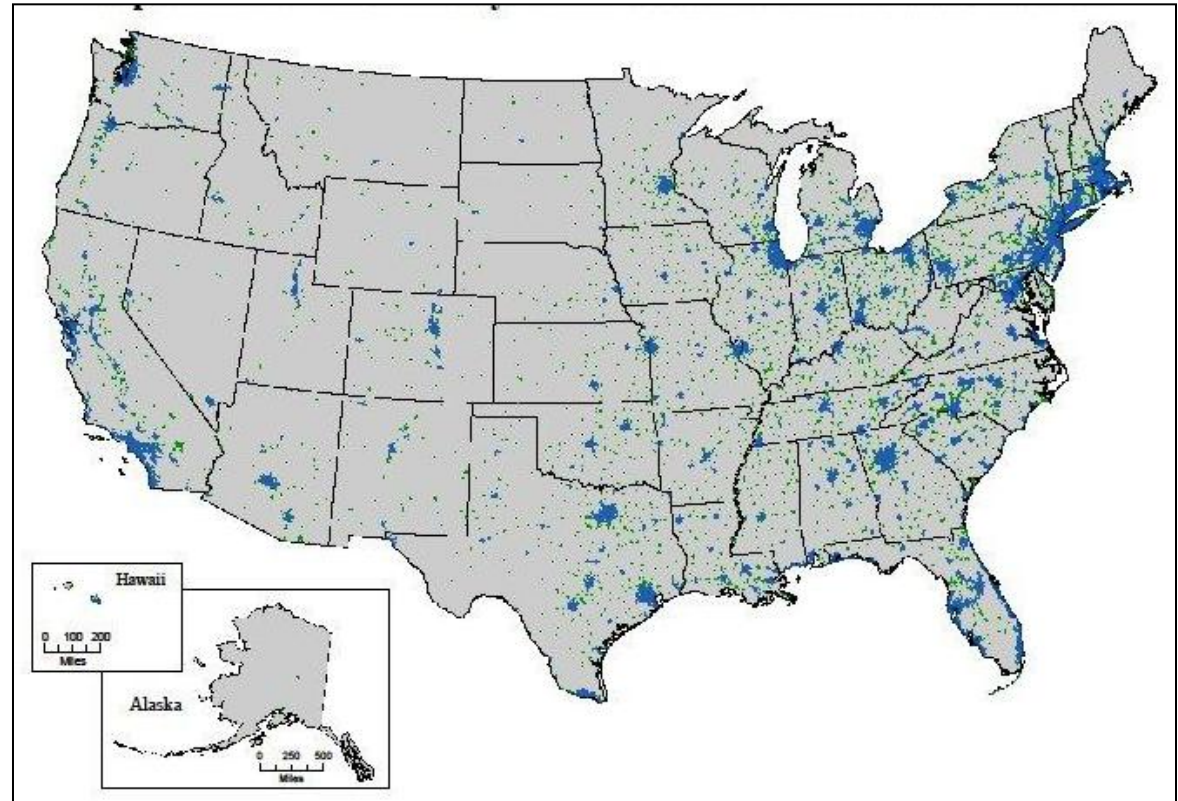
2010 Urbanized Area

Transportation Committee – Jan 2014

Census Urban Area Geography

- Urbanized Areas (50,000+)

- Urban Clusters (2,500 to 49,999)

http://www.census.gov/geo/www/2010census/GTC_10.pdf

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Census Urban Area: Determining Factors

- Core Blocks- 1000 people/Sq Mile
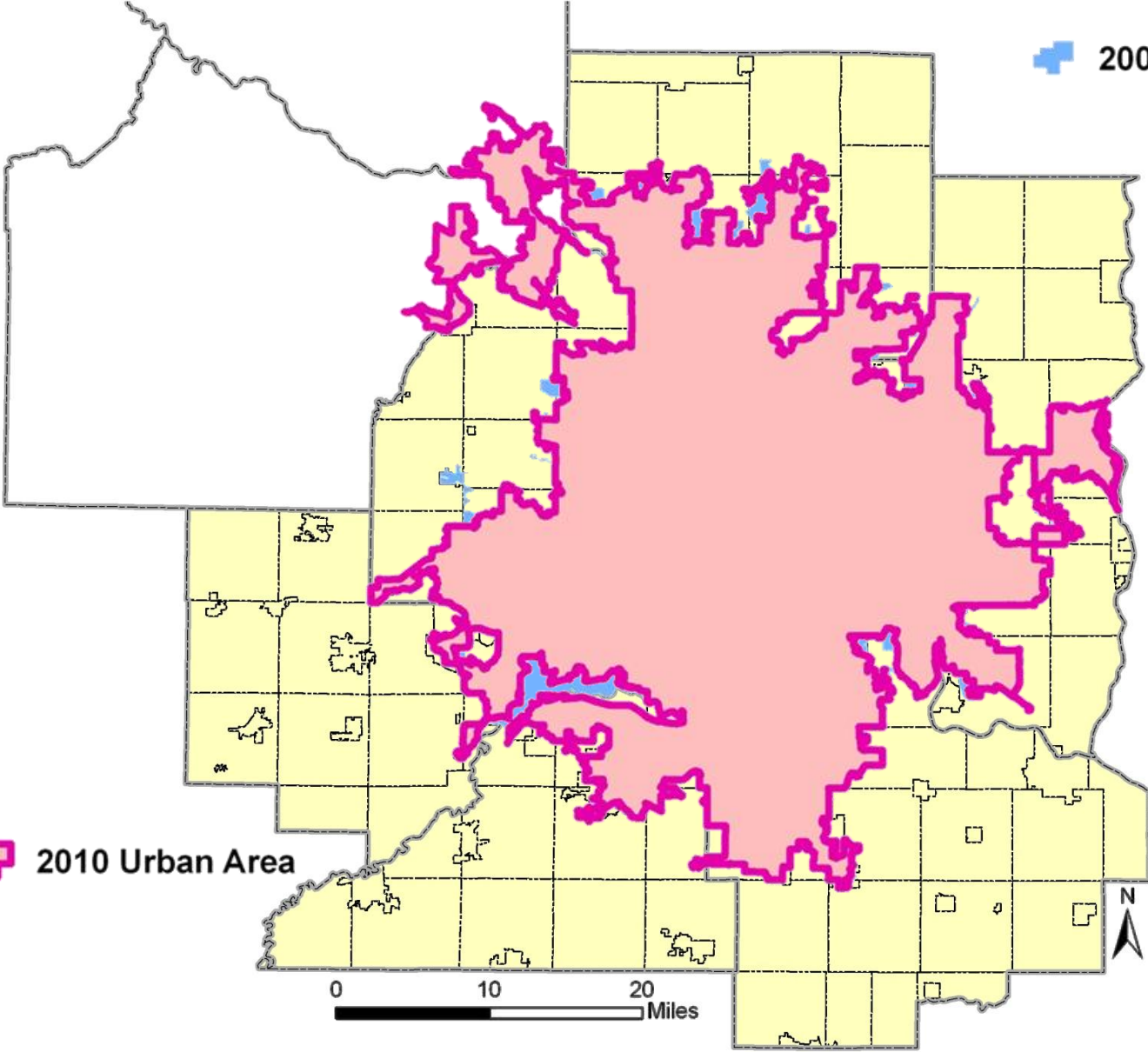- Surrounding Blocks- 500 people/Sq Mile

Why is the UZA Important?

- **Sets Population Count for Federal Money**

- **Used to Identify Minimum Boundary of MPO**

- **Sets Boundaries for US DOT Data Reporting**

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Today's Action

- Adjust Urbanized Boundaries

- Approve MOU with Wright/Sherburne for MPO Responsibilities
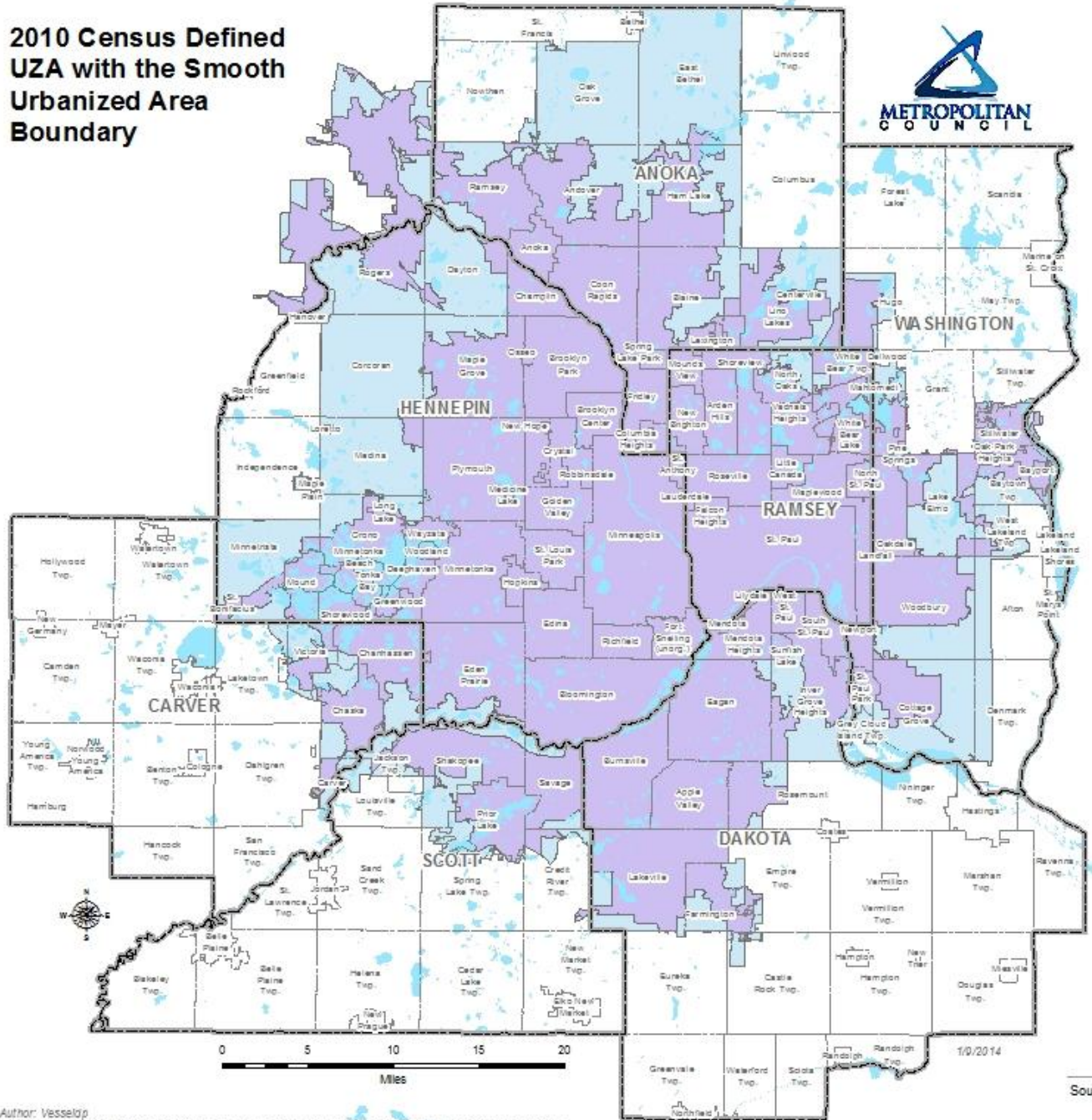
2000 Urban Area

2010 Urban Area

0   10   20
Miles

N

"Adjusted" Urban Areas

- Federal Transportation Law (23 USC)
- Allows the States in cooperation with the locals to adjust (smooth) the urban areas
  - **Criteria for Adjusting**
    1. **Must encompass entire UZA**
    2. **Be one, single contiguous area**
    3. **Include areas with urban characteristics**
    4. **Include all large traffic generators**

- Adjustments due by June 2014

- Primary Impact
  Functional Classification
  Data Reporting

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2010 Census Defined UZA with the Smooth Urbanized Area Boundary

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Legend:
- County Boundaries
- City and Township Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Census Defined UZA
- Smooth Urbanized Boundary

ANOKA

WASHINGTON

HENNEPIN

RAMSEY

CARVER

SCOTT

DAKOTA

N
W   E
S

0   5   10   15   20
Miles

1/0/2014

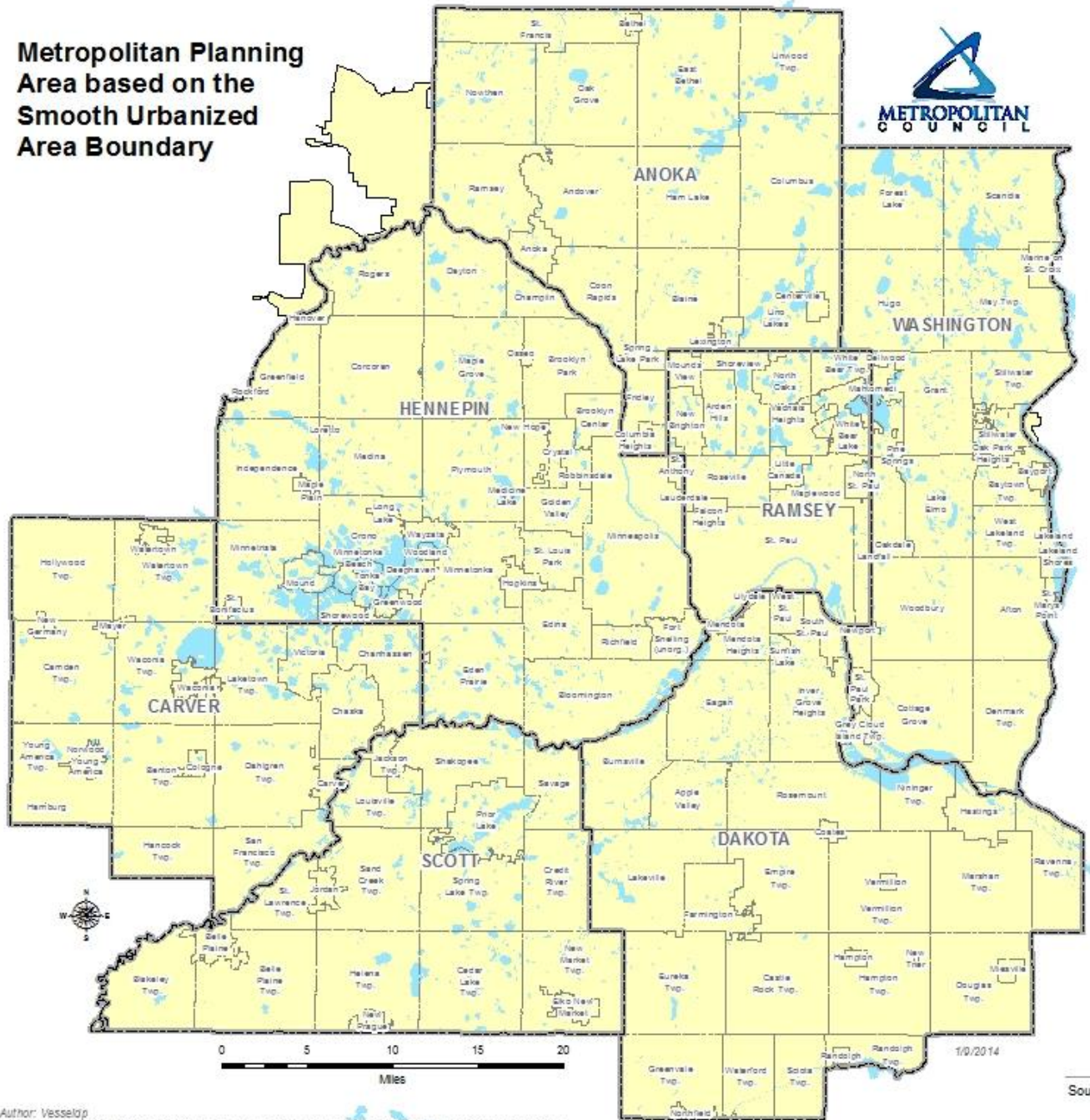Source: US Census and the Metropolitan Council

Setting the MPA Boundary

- Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) is area of MPO Jurisdiction

- MPO Area of Responsibility
    - for Transportation Planning
    - for Transportation Programming

- Must encompass the UZA and the contiguous geographic area(s) likely to become urbanized within the next 20 years

Implications for Twin Cities MPA

- 2010 Census - expands urbanized area beyond seven county Metro Council area
  - St Joseph Twp, Wisconsin (0.5 sq mi sliver)
  - Portions of Wright and Sherburne Counties
    - St Michael
    - Otsego
    - Albertville
    - Elk River
    - Hanover

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Metropolitan Planning Area based on the Smooth Urbanized Area Boundary

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Legend:
- County Boundaries
- City and Township Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Metropolitan Planning Area (Transportation)

Counties: ANOKA, HENNEPIN, RAMSEY, WASHINGTON, CARVER, SCOTT, DAKOTA

0 5 10 15 20 Miles

1/0/2014

Planning Timeline

- **March 27, 2012**
  - Census Notice in Federal Register
- **June 2014**
  - If no Adjusted UZA, FHWA considers Census UZA boundary official
- **Fall 2016** *or sooner*
  - Existing MPOs expand their MPA
  - For Twin Cities- TPP update- late 2014

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NEXT STEPS

- MOU with Wisconsin
- Include full MPA area in TPP update