

# Information Item

Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: May 9, 2023

## Topic

2023-2024 MAWSAC-TAC Work Plan

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Minnesota Statute 473.1565
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Lanya Ross, Environmental Analyst, 651-602-1803
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Environmental Services, Water Resources

## Background

The Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC) is responsible to assist the Council in its water supply planning work. MAWSAC's work will be supported by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

The Metropolitan Council has started updating various plans and documents and there are several opportunities over the next year for MAWSAC (with TAC input) to contribute to regional plan and policy formation including the Regional Development Guide (RDG), Water Resources Policy Plan (WRPP) and Metro Area Water Supply Plan (MWSP).

The Council plans to hold meetings in person in 2023. Proposed committee meeting schedule and outcomes for 2023 and 2024:

- **March 15, 2023:** Workshop with subregional work groups to support collaboration, so that planning is grounded in local perspectives.
- **Spring 2023:** Begin regional policy exploration, draft MWSP content, and share input on water supply-related projects.
- **Summer 2023:** Continue regional policy exploration, draft MWSP content, and share input on water supply-related projects.
- **Fall 2023:** Start to prepare draft MWSP for public engagement in 2024, consider RDG milestones and WRPP policies drafted with committee input, and share input on projects.
- **Winter 2024:** Joint MAWSAC-TAC meeting for year-end evaluation and 2024 work plan.
- **Spring 2024:** Workshop with subregional work groups to get input on MWSP and WRPP; committee meetings to review and revise the draft MWSP based on stakeholder input.
- **Summer 2024:** Approve the release of the draft MWSP with the WRPP for public review.
- **Fall 2024:** Approve MWSP (revised based on public comments) and support Council adoption of WRPP.
- **Winter 2024:** Joint MAWSAC-TAC meeting for year-end evaluation and 2025 work plan.

## Work Plan Goals

At the end of 2023, the committees will produce:

1. Draft of the updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan, to support 2024 public engagement.
  - o Will also include a summary document of how subregional water supply work groups were engaged to help local water supply plans better reflect subregional concerns and goals and to identify opportunities/projects that benefit multiple communities and advance the regional vision for water supply.
2. Recommendations for water policies that advance regional water supply goals.
3. Recommendations for subregional projects that advance regional water supply goals.
4. A summary document of how MAWSAC and TAC have influenced the Metropolitan Council's RDG, WRPP, and plans and projects.

Committee work will be shaped by input from subregional water supply work groups and build on the recommendations and information in their February 2022 report to the Metropolitan Council and MN Legislature: (<https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Publications-And-Resources/WATER-SUPPLY-PLANNING/REPORTS-TO-THE-LEGISLATURE/2022-MAWSAC-Recommendations-for-Water-Supply-Plann.aspx>).

## Roles and Expectations

- **Committee chairs** support committee goals and outcomes by guiding work plan development, leading meetings to achieve outcomes, and encouraging member participation.
- **Committee members**
  - o Review materials that are sent out beforehand. *Council staff will strive to send materials a week in advance.*
  - o Participate in the meetings – based on experience and knowledge, they share guidance and information with fellow members and Council staff to incorporate into draft reports, support letters to legislators or agencies, and/or project scoping, as appropriate. *Council staff will try to design meetings in ways to allow contribution in multiple ways for different communication/learning styles.*
- **Council staff** draft meeting materials based on work plan and committee chair guidance, provide administrative support and facilitation during meetings, help to implement relevant committee recommendations, and share information as requested.

## 2023 Meeting Schedule & Topics

*The timing and topics may shift as needed. Committee chairs may modify the work plan when approving agendas.* As opportunities for meetings on emerging water supply issues arise, staff may reach out and invite interested committee members to advise on issues as appropriate.

The proposed 2023 meeting schedule is based on committee member input in February 2023. Most prefer to meet on Tuesdays during the second week of the month, over the lunch hour and into early afternoon (12:00-3:00). One joint meeting of MAWSAC and TAC is preferred.

To keep momentum going, the same schedule for 2023 will tentatively be extended through 2024. A joint meeting in Fall 2024 has been included to accommodate the formal public review process and adoption schedule for the Regional Development Guide and related Water Resources Policy Plan. The 2024 work plan may be revised based on direction from committee chairs and from committee member input in 2023.



2023 Meeting Dates	Meeting Purpose and Objectives (Topics)
<p><b>March 15, 2023</b>  <i>Workshop:</i>  MAWSAC &amp; TAC  with subregional  water supply work  groups</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Support subregional collaboration and information development as part of the update of the Metro Area Water Supply Plan (MWSP) and Water Resources Policy Plan (WRPP)</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participate in a workshop for subregional water supply planning groups</li> <li>2. Listen to local input for a more collaborative update of the metro area water supply plan</li> </ol>
<p><b>SPRING</b>  <b>April 11, 2023</b>  TAC  <b>May 9, 2023</b>  MAWSAC    12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Draft MWSP content, begin regional water supply policy exploration, and consider how current projects support this work</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand 2023 committee work plan and opportunities to influence regional policies, plans, and projects.</li> <li>2. Review and suggest updates to bylaws (includes changes to appointment process).</li> <li>3. Work on MWSP - proposed approach and content for subregional chapters, outline for chapter two, revisions to chapter one.</li> <li>4. Review water policies proposed in water issue white papers and get input on the proposed policies. Promote those that advance regional and subregional water supply goals.</li> </ol>
<p><b>SUMMER</b>  <b>July 11, 2023</b>  TAC  <b>August 8, 2023</b>  MAWSAC    12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Continue to draft MWSP content and explore regional water supply policy, and guide how new resources and proposed projects support this work</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to work on MWSP - input on draft chapter two and subregional chapters.</li> <li>2. Continue to review water policies proposed in water issue white papers and get input on the proposed policies. Promote those that advance regional and subregional water supply goals.</li> <li>3. Share input on water supply-related projects, including update on FY24-25 Clean Water Fund appropriation. Example projects: Proposed project BCEs for work recommended in 2022 MAWSAC report, Regionally Significant Ecological Areas, Mapping Infrastructure Climate Risk and Resiliency Opportunities (if funded), update on West Metro Multi-Community WHPP Modeling, Forecasts.</li> </ol>



2023 Meeting Dates	Meeting Purpose and Objectives (Topics)
<p><b>FALL</b>  <b>October 10, 2023</b>  TAC  <b>November 14, 2023</b>  MAWSAC    12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Continue to draft MWSP content and guide how new resources and proposed projects support this work</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to work on MWSP –input on draft chapter two, subregional chapters.</li> <li>2. Hear updates about regional planning process, including Regional Development Guide milestones, WRPP draft policies, and updates on related projects such as community designations or other topics.</li> <li>3. Continue to share input on water supply-related projects. Example projects: Proposed project BCEs for work recommended in 2022 MAWSAC report; Climate Action Work Plan (implementation update and draft regional climate policy); collaboration with local and state partners to better coordinate water supply plan review processes.</li> </ol>
2024 Meeting Dates	Meeting Purpose and Objectives (Topics)
<p><b>WINTER</b>  <b>January 9, 2024</b>  MAWSAC &amp; TAC    12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Year-end evaluation (joint meeting) to recap what has been done so far and identify next steps</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have documentation summarizing how MAWSAC and TAC influenced RDG, WRPP, MWSP, and other regional plans and projects in 2023</li> <li>2. Have documentation summarizing engagement of subregional water supply work groups in 2023</li> <li>3. Provide input to committee work plan for 2024</li> </ol>
<p><b>February 2024</b>  <i>Workshop:</i>  MAWSAC &amp; TAC  with subregional  water supply work  groups</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Check in with subregional water supply groups to provide updates on Council planning work and projects and get input on the Metro Area Water Supply Plan (MWSP) and Water Resources Policy Plan (WRPP)</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participate in the workshop for subregional water supply planning groups</li> <li>2. Listen to local input on the draft MWSP and WRPP and advice for stakeholder engagement through the public review process</li> </ol>





2024 Meeting Dates	Meeting Purpose and Objectives (Topics)
<p><b>SPRING</b></p> <p><b>March 12, 2024</b></p> <p>TAC</p> <p><b>April 9, 2024</b></p> <p>MAWSAC</p> <p>12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Review and revise the draft MWSP</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support the formal public comment process by engaging their own organizations and communities and by providing input on effectively engaging other water supply stakeholders. Key plan approval-related milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal public comment period (planned for 8/15 – 10/7)</li> <li>• Public hearing (planned for 9/25)</li> <li>• Public comment report (planned to post 11/8)</li> <li>• Met Council adoption of complete plan (11/14)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Review draft water supply-related policies in the 2050 WRPP</li> <li>3. Review draft MWSP and input from subregional workshop, and identify any changes before release for public review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAC focus on technical content and feasibility of strategies</li> <li>• MAWSAC focus on aligning state and local priorities, clarifying roles and strengthening inter-organizational collaboration</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><b>SUMMER</b></p> <p><b>June 18, 2024</b></p> <p>TAC</p> <p><b>July 9, 2024</b></p> <p>MAWSAC</p> <p>12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Approve release of the MWSP for public review</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommend Council release draft MWSP with the WRPP and the rest of the RDG for public review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAC recommends that MAWSAC release the draft</li> <li>• MAWSAC recommends the Council release the draft</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Commit to support public engagement process such as informational meetings and direct updates/requests for input to their organizations/stakeholders.</li> <li>3. Provide input on DNR-MDH-MC approach to coordinate local water supply plan review processes</li> </ol>
<p><b>FALL</b></p> <p><b>October 22, 2024</b></p> <p>MAWSAC &amp; TAC</p> <p>12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Approve revised MWSP and support adoption of WRPP</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review and advise on the Council’s proposed responses to water supply-related review comments, to support public comment report</li> <li>2. MAWSAC will approve the revised MWSP (with any committee-identified changes) and recommend Council adoption</li> </ol>
<p><b>WINTER</b></p> <p><b>December 10, 2024</b></p> <p>MAWSAC &amp; TAC</p> <p>12-3 pm</p>	<p><b>Purpose: Year-end evaluation (joint meeting)</b></p> <p>Committee members will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have documentation about their influence on RDG, WRPP, MWSP, and other regional plans and projects in 2024</li> <li>2. Provide input to committee work plan for 2025, to support the implementation of the MWSP</li> </ol>

