

# Business Item 2024-06

Joint Meeting of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee and the Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: December 11, 2024

## Topic

Proposed 2025-2027 MAWSAC-TAC Work Plan (Draft for committee discussion)

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

## Background

The Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC) is responsible for assisting Met Council in its water supply planning work. MAWSAC's work is supported by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). With the adoption of Imagine 2050, the Met Council begins implementing the Metro Area Water Supply Plan (MWSP) and supporting local updates of comprehensive plans. Starting in 2025, MAWSAC and TAC have an important role in assisting Met Council by providing important guidance about local planning assistance for water supply planning. In early 2027, MAWSAC must report on regional water supply planning work to the Legislature and Met Council.

## Roles and expectations

**Committee chairs** support committee goals and outcomes by guiding work plan development, leading meetings, and encouraging member participation.

### Committee members

- Review materials. *Council staff will strive to send materials a week in advance.*
- Participate in the meetings. Based on experience and knowledge, 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. *Council staff will try to design meetings in ways to allow contribution in multiple ways for different communication/learning styles.*
- Advise on agenda topics related to emerging water supply issues, as appropriate

### Council staff

- Provide MAWSAC and TAC support including drafting meeting materials, providing administrative support and facilitation during meetings, helping to implement relevant committee recommendations, and sharing information as requested.
- Coordinate with subregional engagement efforts to support alignment and relationship building.

## 2025-2026 Work Plan Goals

The MAWSAC-TAC work plan supports Met Council's long-range water supply planning function. In general, the decadal planning cycle focuses more heavily on certain activities in different phases, although all activities will take place in each year. MAWSAC and TAC work will shift to assist the Met Council on different efforts as this cycle goes forward.

MAWSAC has a larger role in work on regional policy and planning and in finding resources for regional implementation. TAC has a larger role to play supporting local plan implementation and evaluating impacts.

Figure 1. Key phases of the Met Council decadal planning process.



## 2025-2027 Meeting schedule and topics (Version 1 – for December 11, 2024 meeting)

Committee work is set by the committees, led by committee chairs. The work plan is framed by statutory requirements (M.S. 473.1565) and the updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan and informed by input from subregional work groups.

The proposed meeting schedule is based on committee member input in 2024. At that time, most preferred to meet on Wednesdays during the third week of the month, over the lunch hour and into early afternoon (12:00-3:00). One joint meeting of MAWSAC and TAC per year was preferred. This schedule will be re-evaluated periodically, such as when membership changes.

*The timing and topics of committee meetings may shift as needed. Committee chairs may modify the work plan when approving detailed agendas.*

Table 1 includes the proposed committee meeting schedule and high-level topics for 2025, 2026, and 2027.



**Table 1. MAWSAC and TAC committee meetings at a glance**

<b>Meeting dates</b>	<b>Agenda topics</b>
<b>2025 Meetings</b>	<b>Goal:</b> At the end of 2025, the committees will have provided input on Clean Water Fund supported studies and engagement and on other Met Council technical assistance resources to support local water supply plan expectations, advancing regional and subregional actions in the updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan and Water Policy Plan.
<b>Wed., Feb 26</b> <i>MAWSAC &amp; TAC</i>	Committees prioritize technical studies, planning assistance, and subregional engagement work to support the implementation of the adopted MWSP. Studies eligible for Clean Water Fund support will be highlighted and tracked specifically.
<b>Wed., May 28</b> <i>TAC</i>	TAC input on the scopes and draft deliverables of prioritized technical studies, to enhance technical resources for local and regional water supply planning. Hear updates on System Statement & Local Planning Handbook.
<b>Wed., Jun 25</b> <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC input on the scopes and draft deliverables for studies to enhance planning and policy resources for water supply planning. Hear update on Local Planning Handbook content.
<b>Late Sep./Early Oct.</b> <i>Subregional workshop</i>	Committees join subregional groups to promote region-wide understanding about newly released technical assistance resources, and to support subregional work on the priorities they identified in the adopted MWSP.
<b>Wed, Dec 17</b> <i>MAWSAC &amp; TAC</i>	Committees hear notable study updates, review 2025 accomplishments, and discuss updates to the 2025-2027 workplan, based on input from subregions. Begin scoping MAWSAC report to the Legislature and Met Council.
<b>2026 Meetings</b>	<b>Goal:</b> At the end of 2026, the committees will have shaped technical assistance resources and finalized a report to the Met Council and the Legislature.
<b>Wed, Feb. 19</b> <i>TAC</i>	TAC continues to provide input on technical studies that enhance technical resources for local and regional water supply planning. Input from subregional groups will be incorporated.
<b>Wed, Mar. 19</b> <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC drafts the outline for a report to the Met Council and the Legislature, to support implementation and track progress of the MWSP. The report must be submitted by February 15, 2027.
<b>Wed., May 21</b> <i>TAC</i>	TAC continues to provide input on technical studies that enhance technical resources for local and regional water supply planning.
<b>Wed., Jun. 18</b> <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC drafts report to the Met Council and the Legislature, including MWSP progress tracking and recommendations around resource needs. A process to incorporate subregional input will be discussed.
<b>Wed., Aug. 20</b> <i>TAC</i>	TAC reviews the draft MAWSAC report and continues to provide input on technical studies.



<b>Meeting dates</b>	<b>Agenda topics</b>
<b>Wed., Sep. 17</b> <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC approves their report content and recommends finalizing its design for submittal to the Met Council and the Legislature.
<b>Oct.</b> <i>Subregional workshop</i>	Committees join subregional groups to promote region-wide understanding of technical assistance resources for local comprehensive plan updates, to share MAWSAC report content, and to support subregional work priorities.
<b>Wed, Nov 19</b> <i>MAWSAC &amp; TAC</i>	Committees review 2026 accomplishments and discuss updates to the 2027-2028 workplan, based on input from subregions. Committees also identify opportunities to promote the MAWSAC report.
<b>2027 Meetings</b>	<b>Goal:</b> At the end of 2027, the committees will have continued to shape technical assistance resources and begun to evaluate the effectiveness of technical and planning assistance to guide local and regional water supply plan implementation. This will support recommendations to refine continued work.
<b>Jan. 20</b> <i>MAWSAC &amp; TAC</i>	Committees will receive copies of the final MAWSAC report to promote with key stakeholders, and the recommendations will inform the updated 2027-2028 committee work plan.
<b>Feb. 17</b> <i>TAC</i>	TAC works to advance implementation of the MWSP through technical work and support for local comprehensive plan updates.
<b>Mar. 17</b> <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC works to advance implementation of the Metro Area Water Supply Plan through guidance and support for local comprehensive plan updates.
<b>May 19</b> <i>TAC</i>	TAC works to advance implementation of the MWSP through technical work and support for local comprehensive plan updates.
<b>Jun. 18</b> <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC to advance implementation of the MWSP through guidance and support for local comprehensive plan updates.
<b>Oct.</b> <i>Subregional workshop</i>	Committees join subregional groups to promote region-wide understanding about technical assistance resources for local comprehensive plan updates, support collaborative planning; to update everyone on the progress of local plan updates; and to listen for lessons learned.

