



Business Item: 2024-05

Approval of the Updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan



Metro Area Water Supply Policy and Technical Advisory Committees (MAWSAC & TAC) | December 11, 2024

Lanya Ross

Purpose



Approve Updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan

Approve the content of the 2025 Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Water Supply Plan content, which updates the plan adopted in March 2015; and recommend that the Metropolitan Council Environment Committee and full Metropolitan Council adopt as part of the 2050 Water Policy Plan and the rest of Imagine 2050.

Final plan was revised based on public comments



- Public comment period from August 15 to October 7, 2024
- Over 50 detailed comments related to water supply and the Metro Area Water Supply Plan
- MAWSAC and TAC reviewed and recommended responses to Metro Area Water Supply Plan-related comments on October 23, 2024
- Public comments on the Metro Area Water Supply Plan and the rest of the Water Policy Plan are on the Met Council [Environment Committee December 10, 2024 meeting website](#)

Revision to the Metro Area Water Supply Plan, based on public comments (1/2)

1. Climate and weather content in the 'Challenges' and 'Opportunities' sections was revised to address disaster preparedness and emergency response.
2. The regional action plan was revised to incorporate more description of potential system assessment projects such as exploring technology to optimize water management and prevent cyber-attacks.
3. The regional water supply action plan was revised so that the mitigation measure evaluation actions include evaluation of the feasibility and effectiveness of a range of upstream mitigation options for PFAS and/or other emerging contaminants in water supply sources.
4. The introduction to the subregional action plans was revised to clarify how the subregional boundaries were developed and will be expected to change.
5. Subregional water supply content was revised to make sure it is clear that statements in this section are statements received from stakeholders as part of the subregional group discussions that provided the content for this section.
6. Subregional chapters were revised to include an early task to clarify roles for all prioritized actions as part of subregional engagement and plan implementation.
7. East and Northeast subregional action plans were revised to acknowledge Washington County's role in groundwater management as well as to identify a role for Washington County on tasks related to the county's Groundwater Plan.

Revision to the Metro Area Water Supply Plan, based on public comments (2/2)

7. Discussion of stormwater reuse in the definition of success was revised to acknowledge public health (safety).
8. Summary of different community water supply types was revised for clarity and to ensure that all DWSMAs are accurately described.
9. Description of sustainable water supply was revised to include that planned land use and related water demand protects source waters and is consistent with long-term design capacity for water supply infrastructure, when that design capacity is based on sustainable sources.
10. Revision to highlight the importance of the Upper Mississippi River as an important water supply for Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and the communities they serve. A table of communities that Priority A DWSMAs encompass was included in the 'Locations of different water sources' section.
11. Performance measures were revised to include "In collaboration with organizations such as the Clean Water Council, Minnesota Groundwater Association, American Water Works Minnesota Section and others, consistent and region-wide development and use of outreach and engagement materials to increase awareness of sustainable water use, especially as the compounding effects of climate change contribute to fluctuating water availability."
12. Discussion of source water protection in general was reviewed for consistency with Minnesota Department of Health definitions and revised if needed.

Revisions to update and clarify content and format

- Information about estimated 2050 population was updated to reflect revised local forecasts
- Community water supply types and related map were revised to better reflect water supply planning and plan review expectations – this will support better alignment between the Metro Area Water Supply Plan and guidance for local plan updates to be developed
- Map of community designations was updated to reflect revised content
- Format of tables updated to be more consistent with the rest of the regional policy and system plans

Action requested



MAWSAC approval of the updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan

Approve the content of the 2025 Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Water Supply Plan content, which updates the plan adopted in March 2015; and recommend that the Metropolitan Council Environment Committee and full Metropolitan Council adopt as part of the 2050 Water Policy Plan and the rest of Imagine 2050.

Tentative upcoming committee actions

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|--------------------------|---|
| January 28, 2025 | Environment Committee recommend Metropolitan Council adoption of 2050 Water Policy Plan with the rest of Imagine 2050 (tentative) |
| February 12, 2025 | Metropolitan Council adoption of Imagine 2050 (tentative) |



Thank You

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