Subregional Engagement
Metro Area Water Supply Plan update and implementation

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Purpose of this effort

To build **shared understanding** of the following at a subregional level:

- Context and current conditions
- Definition of success
- Issues and barriers
- Strategies to address them
  - Practices
  - Policies
  - Partnerships
- Timeline/sequencing
- Resources needed to sustain effort towards success over time
General, high-level approach

Gather data and design approach
- Determine subregion boundaries
- Harvest themes and information from completed work
- Identify internal leads for each subregion and collaboration approach
- Establish core teams for each subregion
  
  **May-June**

Engagement within subregions
- Host core team kick-off
  - Add to participant list
  - Confirm how to host conversations
- Host broader stakeholder conversations (likely 2-3 in each subregion)
  
  **July-December**

Develop draft MWSP content
- Develop draft content for subregional chapters based on engagement
- Check for completeness and accuracy at MAWSAC/TAC and WAG, with subregional representation
- Articulate continued collaboration approach
  
  **December-February**
What is the need for this work? (1 of 2)

What we shared with them

- The region as a whole is expected to grow by more than 600,000 people by 2050
- Everything that happens on land impacts water, and all water connected
- The climate is changing—warmer, wetter, drier, and more extreme storms
- Communities rely on sufficient, reliable, and safe water supply for health, prosperity, and the function of local ecosystems
What is the need for this work? (2 of 2)

What they shared with us

- General agreement with the four statements, AND
  - Emphasis on the need for a sustainable water future—"ensure there is enough water for future growth"
  - "Water is life"
  - "Water is a human right"
  - Importance of managing for **humans and ecosystems** alike
  - The value in calling out human impact
What does success look like for the plan itself?

What we've heard so far

- Shared vision or “line of sight” within subregions
- Actionable, implementable plan – something useful that makes a difference and can attract funding
- Collaboratively developed, with buy-in from all
- Enhanced relationships and trust between communities and with Met Council
- Reflects an integrated water management approach
- Prioritized actions, while still reflecting nuance within subregions
- Adaptive
- Connected to other subregions—not siloed
- Supporting informed decisions from a variety of actors, resulting in system and individual behavior changes
Next steps

Host the broader engagements

- All subregions have had their kickoffs
- Co-designed approaches being proposed
- Engagements getting scheduled
- Invitations beginning to roll out
  - Please come!
  - Please encourage others!

- Hold the date: February 29, 2024
Thank You

Questions?

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