Water Policy Plan and Metro Water Supply Plan

Metro Area Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee | March 12, 2024 | Jen Kostrzewski & Lanya Ross
Water Policy Plan (WPP)

Plan Purpose

- Met Council is developing the 2050 Water Policy Plan, which focuses on ensuring sustainable water resources in the region. It is a part of and informed by the Regional Development Guide.

- The WPP provides a framework for integrative water planning (wastewater, water supply, and water resources) the Metro Area Water Supply Plan, and the Wastewater System Plan.

- It contains water policies, strategies, and actions for both the Met Council and our 180+ local governments within the seven-county region.

- WPP policies will commit the Council to take action in the areas of long-range visioning and planning, regional system investments, facility management, technical assistance, research and assessment, and partnerships.
Regional Planning Cycle

1. Census Results
2. Regional Development Guide
3. Regional System Plans
4. System Statements
5. Comprehensive Plan Guides and Trainings
6. Comprehensive Plan Updates
7. Local Plan Implementation and Plan Amendments
Regional Development Guide Structure

**Values**
Core beliefs that guide how we work toward our vision

**Vision**
What we want to achieve for the region

**Goals**
Desired end states for the region, to successfully achieve the vision

**Objectives**
Achievable results that advance regional goals through areas of Council responsibility

**Policies**
Intent and approach to achieve objectives (expectations for both Council and partners)

**Actions**
Policies are implemented through specific actions by the Council and partners
Draft WPP objectives

CLIMATE: Create climate-resilient water sources, ecosystems, and water infrastructure through mitigation, innovative design, and adaptive planning.

HEALTH: Protect public and ecosystem health to maintain, restore, and enhance a high quality of life, regional waters, and water services across the region.

INFRASTRUCTURE: Optimize regional water protection, planning, and infrastructure investments.

EQUITY: Water benefits and services are accessible and shared amongst all residents and communities.
Policy template

**Topic Area**

Narrative language to set context for policy.

**Regional Water Policy:**
The policies are intended to apply for the whole region, knowing that there are many agencies, and people connected by water.

**Desired Outcomes:**
- Statements that describe specific changes that will be the result of the policy.

**Connected Objectives:**

**Example Actions:**

**PARTNER**
- Actions that require collaboration with other organizations to enact.

**PLAN**
- Actions that plan to create, protect, maintain, enhance, and restore regional waters and water infrastructure.

**PROVIDE**
- Actions that help the Met Council deliver our water planning and treatment services to the region.
Draft policy topics

- Integrated Water Policy
- Equitable Water Outcomes Policy
- Water Monitoring, Data, and Assessment Policy
- Climate Resiliency Policy
- Water-focused, Land Protection, and Development Policy
- Water Stewardship and Sustainability Policy
- Water Reuse Policy
- Water Quality Policy
- Regional Wastewater Operations and Finance Policy
- Regional Wastewater Service Area Policy
- Inflow and Infiltration Policy
- Water Sector Workforce Development Policy
Breakout discussion

Can you fit the regional water supply actions under these policies?

Do you have any comments or edits for the policies?

- What are your first impressions?
- Are we on the right path?
- Should we modify the policies?
- Did we miss an action?
Thank you

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