

Water Resources Policy Plan Advisory Group Meeting #1

WRPP Advisory Group Meeting October 4, 2021



Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Water Resources Policy Plan/Wastewater System Plan Update Process and Background Information**
- **Draft Work Plan**
- **Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Introduction to New Issues to Consider- Discussion for Meeting #2**
- **Next Steps**

Welcome and Housekeeping Information



Use Both Video and Microphones: When speaking turn on both; turn off when not.
* We know there might be internet problems and we can adjust *

Try to Limit External Distractions: Turn off email & phones. Be here now.
* We know there are always exceptions, please let us know by chat if you step away *



Problems May Occur: It happens... we'll get through this.
* Please email Tessa Wegenke if you can't get back to us *



Introductions

When it's your time to introduce yourself, please say your:

- Name
- Title
- Organization
- Name one or two specific areas of interest or concerns related to regional water policies that you want us to know about?



2040 Water Resources Policy Plan/Wastewater System Plan Update Process and Background Information Update

Judy Sventek, Water Resources Manager

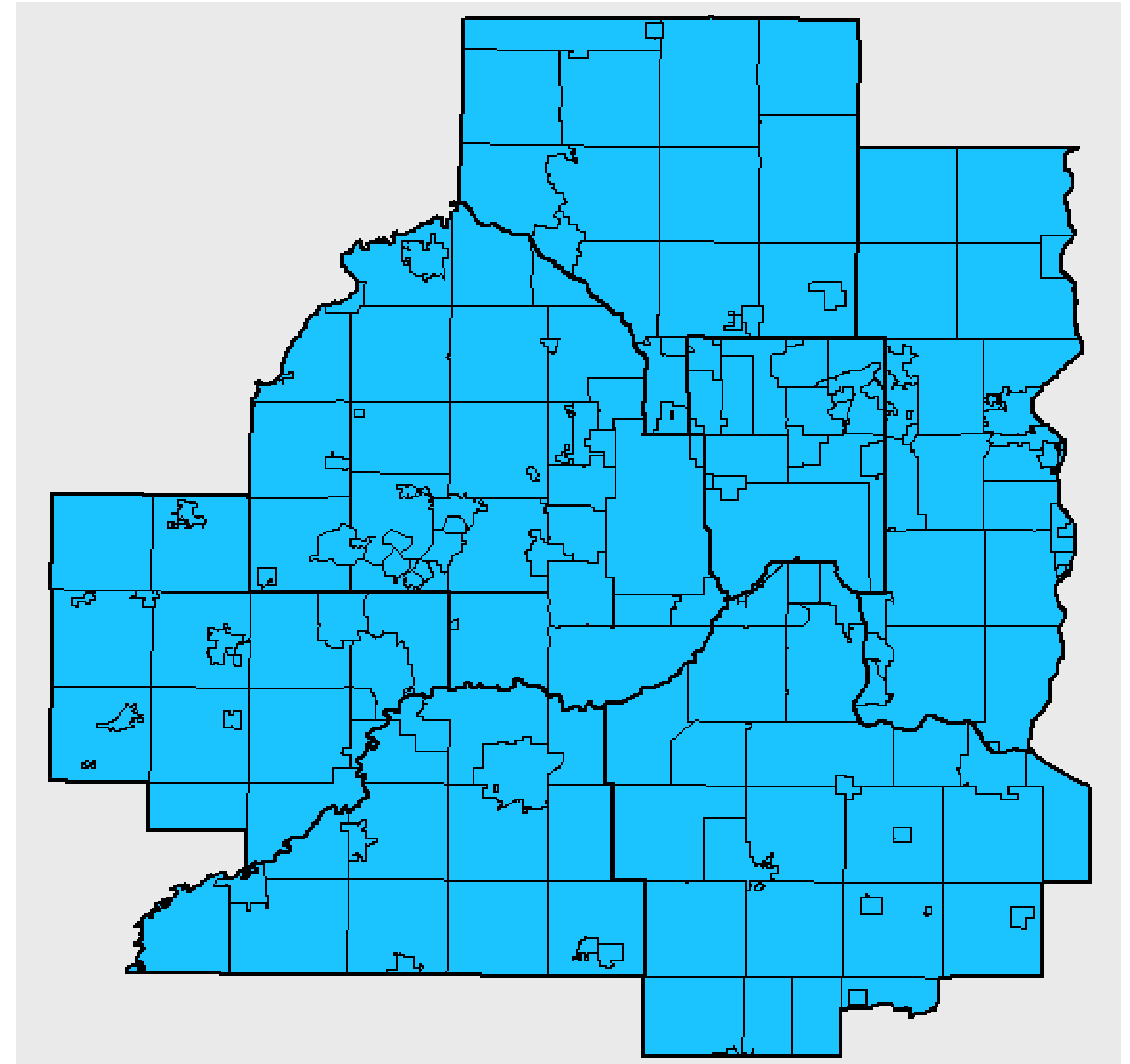
Kyle Colvin, Wastewater Planning and Community Programs Manager



Regional Planning Authority

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 473

Requires the Council to prepare a comprehensive development guide for the Metropolitan Area that includes system plans for transportation, aviation, regional recreation open space, and wastewater treatment.



Regional Planning Authority: Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 473

Regional Development Guide

Land
Use

Housing

Parks

Transportation

Water

473.146; 473.157; 473.1565

Policy &
Technical
Assistance

Policies

HRA &
Housing
Development
Funding

Policies

Regional
Park Master
Planning

Policies

Transit
System

Policies for
surface
water, water
supply, and
wastewater

Wastewater
System

Regional 10-Year Planning Cycle



Thrive MSP 2040

Land Use



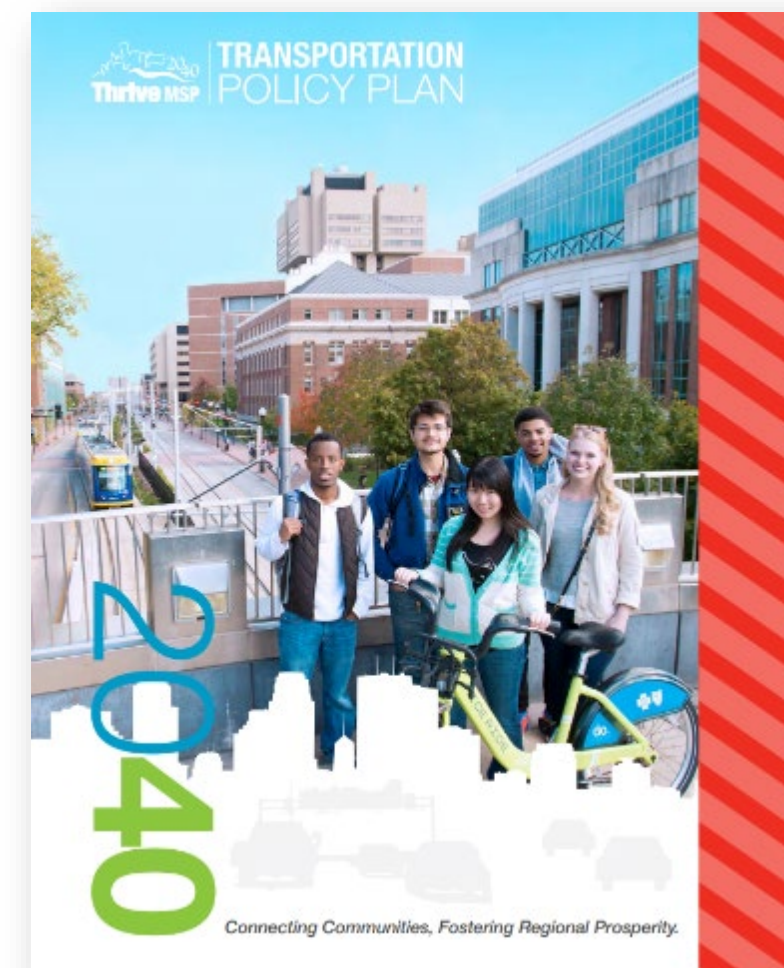
Housing



Water Resources

Wastewater System Plan

Master Water Supply Plan

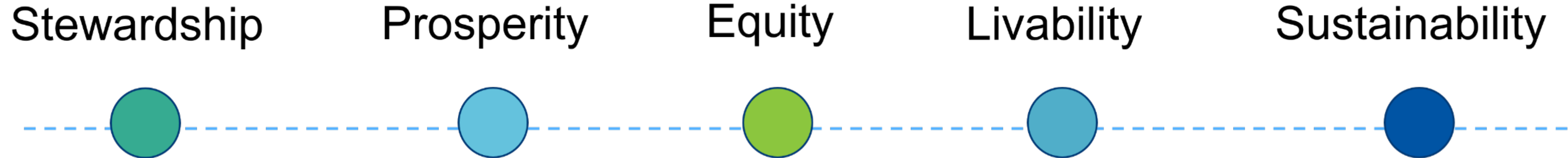


Transportation



Parks

Thrive MSP 2040 Regional Outcomes



1. Working toward sustainability of water resources and water supplies
2. Assessing and protecting regional water sources
3. Promoting water conservation and reuse
4. Investment

Thrive Sustainability Direction

“The region’s water resources are **sustainable**, supported by a regional strategy that balances growth and protection to improve and maintain the **quality** and **quantity** of our water in our lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater”



Water Resources Policy Plan (WRPP)



A chapter of the Metropolitan Development Guide



The Council's high-level policy plan for:

- Wastewater
- Water supply
- Surface water



The Wastewater System Plan

Layout of 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan

- Introduction
- The Role of the Council in Water Resources
- Thrive MSP 2040
 - Thrive Outcomes
 - Thrive Principles
 - Response of the 2040 WRPP to Thrive's Policy Direction
 - Regional Growth Forecasts
 - Community Designations
 - Local Comprehensive Plans

Layout of 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan

- An Integrated Strategy for Water Resources
 - Working Toward Sustainability Using the Watershed Management Approach
 - Working Toward Sustainability of Our Water Supplies
 - Assessment of Regional Water Resources
 - Water Conservation and Reuse
 - Planning for Regional Growth
 - Investment
 - Wastewater Services

Layout of 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan

- Wastewater System Plan
 - Existing Facilities
 - Non-Council Wastewater Treatment Plants
 - Long-Term Wastewater Service Area
 - Concept plan
 - Long-term service of existing treatment plants
 - Potential future wastewater treatment plants
 - Capital Improvement Program
 - Wastewater flow projections
 - CIP
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Wastewater Reuse
 - Regulatory Scenarios for Wastewater Treatment
 - Substantial Impacts and Substantial Departures from the Metropolitan Wastewater System Plan

Layout of 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan

- Appendices
 - Wastewater (forecasts and flows by community as well as I/I calc info)
 - Priority lakes list
 - System plan requirements
 - Local surface water management plan requirements
 - Local water supply plan elements
 - Summary of all policies and implementation strategies
 - System map

2040 Water Resources Policy Plan Policy Areas

- Provide adequate and high-quality ground and surface water supplies
- Maintain and improve water quality of region's rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands
- Monitor and assess regional water resources



Promote operational sustainability by:



REDUCING ENERGY USE



REDUCING AIR POLLUTANT EMISSIONS



REDUCING, REUSING, AND RECYCLING

2040 Water Resources Policy Plan Policy Areas

Surface water planning and management

- **Work through current water management structure (watershed approach)**
- **Assess and protect resources**

Maximizing regional costs and benefits

- **Balance costs and benefits to protect and restore region's water resources**

Wastewater Services

- **Planning for regional growth**
- **Focus on water conservation and reuse**
- **Local I/I Mitigation Plans**

2040 Water Resources Policy Plan Policy Areas

Water supply policy and tie to Master Water Supply Plan



Planning for and supporting sustainable use of water sources



Supporting technical assessments and planning



Supporting cost-effective investments in multi-community water supply infrastructure

Expanded efforts in all areas
(need to work together to solve the problems of today)



GREATER COLLABORATION



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

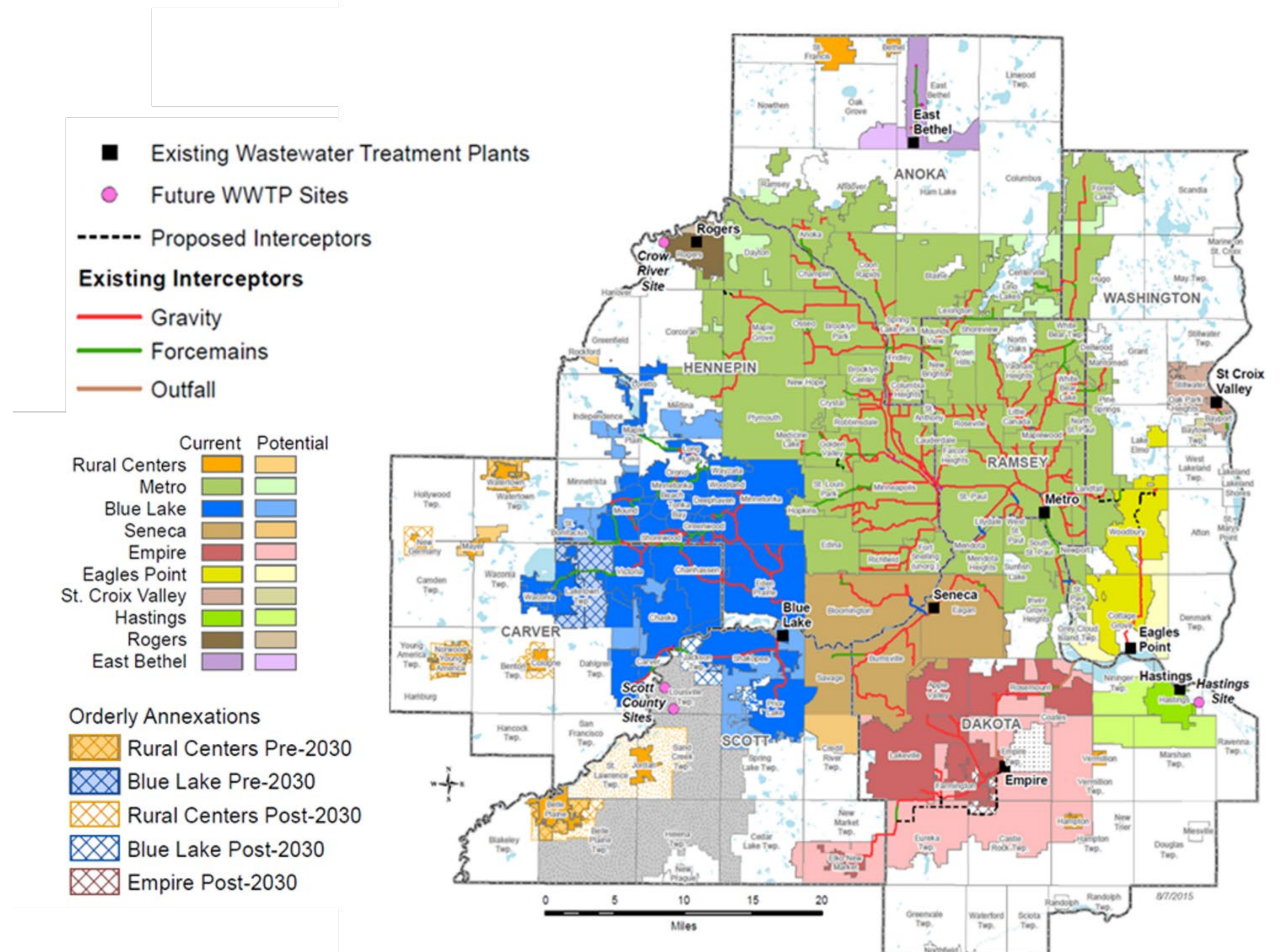


TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Current Long-Term Service Areas

WASTEWATER SYSTEM PLAN

- Long-Term Service Area
- System assets overview
- Pre/post 2050 planned capacities
- WWTP acquisitions and regional service extensions
- WWTP & Interceptor reinvestments
- Forecasts and flow projections (Thrive vs. sewer)
- High level regulatory strategies



Regional 10-Year Planning Cycle



Preliminary 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan Process and Schedule

2020 – 2021	Upfront input on key issues to add to 2050 plan (Council Members, stakeholders, customers, and partners)
2021 – 2022	White paper development on issue areas
2022 – 2023	Revisit key issues with stakeholders
2023 – 2024	Draft WRPP
2024	Public and stakeholder input on draft WRPP
2025	Public hearing
2025	Adopt final plan
2025	System statements prepared and sent
2028	Comprehensive plan updates due from communities and counties

Questions?

Draft Work Plan

Jen Kostrzewski, Water Resources Environmental Analyst



Background

- The purpose of the *2050 Water Resources Policy Plan Update Advisory Group* (Advisory Group) is to advise and guide Council staff throughout the entire process of developing the new 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan.
- The work plan will be shaped by the Advisory Group Sponsors, Leaders, Members and Council Staff, will guide the Advisory Group's business and meeting agendas throughout 2021-2025.
- **We will be flexible to accommodate uncertainties if they arise.*

Goal

- This work plan outlines the Advisory Group's work in assisting and advising the 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan content development from various water sector perspectives.
- Advisory meetings are intended to share information between policymakers and subject matter experts with the ultimate goal of developing informed, implementable policies.

Roles & Responsibilities

Sponsors – *Jeannine Clancy and Sam Paske*

- Guide and support the Advisory Group Leaders & Council Staff
- Ensure the strategic alignment of the Advisory Group efforts with MCES and the Council's mission, vision, values.
- Provide approval authorizations as needed.

Roles & Responsibilities

Group Leaders – *Judy Sventek, Kyle Colvin, Ali Elhassan*

- Facilitate discussion on policy goals/outcomes,
- Approve work plan and lead meetings to achieve outcomes.
- Encourage member participation.

Roles & Responsibilities

Council Staff – *Jen Kostrzewski, Tessa Wegenke, others as needed*

- Design, support, and facilitate meetings.
- Implement relevant Advisory Group recommendations and share information as requested.
- Send materials a week in advance.
- Design meetings in ways to allow contribution in multiple ways in order to accommodate different communication/learning styles.

Roles & Responsibilities

Advisory Members

- Review materials that are sent out beforehand.
- Participate in the meeting – share ideas, experience, and knowledge with intended audience.
- Share guidance and information with fellow members and Council staff. Guidance and direction will be incorporated into draft white papers, policy and implementation strategies and reports as appropriate.

Meeting Schedules & Topics

October 4, 2021 – Kickoff Meeting

November 2021 – Draft New Water Resources Policy Plan Issues

January 2022 – Data & Outreach Supporting Planning Efforts

May 2022 – Water Resources Policy Plan Issue Outreach Results



August 2022

October 2022

January 2023

September 2023

May 2024

October 2024

February 2025

Group Guidelines: We Need Your Input

Setting Meeting Frequency

- 2-3 meetings per year
- Open to having more meetings if necessary (no more than 5/yr)
- Other options?

Group Guidelines: We Need Your Input

Setting Meeting Dates – which would you prefer

- Doodle Poll for each meeting
- Set reoccurring meeting interval – Ex. 3rd Tuesday, every 3 months
- Other option?

Group Guidelines: We Need Your Input

Allowing Alternate Meeting Attendees

- Yes, I will designate an alternate attendee if I can't make the meeting
- No, I will review the minutes and slides and reach out if I missed anything
- Other option?

Group Guidelines: We Need Your Input

Meeting Minutes

- A comprehensive summary of what happened at the meeting
- A high-level summary and action items of each agenda item, without specifics
- A list of the action items that came out of the agenda items
- Other options?

Group Guidelines: We Need Your Input

Virtual vs. In Person Meetings

The Council has committed to virtual meetings through October 2021 (depending on Covid 19 response)

- All virtual meetings
- Switch to in person as soon as we can
- Decide before each meeting
- Hybrid meetings
- Other options?

Group Guidelines: We Need Your Input

Communications and Sharing Documents

- Use the WRPP Water Advisory Group Teams Interface
- Use Teams and emails
- Use emails only
- Other options?

Next Meeting Topic Preview & Next Steps

Kyle Colvin, Wastewater Planning and Community Programs Manager



Potential New Policy Areas



Rural Concerns

- Cost of service for wastewater in rural areas
- Wastewater treatment in rural areas
- Sub-surface sewage treatment system (SSTS)
- Implications for private wells in rural areas
- Land use policies in rural area

Wastewater System issues

- Reconveyance Policy
- Private inflow and infiltration (I/I)
- Vector waste and liquid waste receiving

Potential New Policy Areas

- Contaminants of Concern
 - Chloride
 - PFAS
 - Nitrates
 - Others
- Source Water Protection and Vulnerable Areas



- Water Quality
 - Drinking water
 - Aquatic life
 - Water use for recreation
 - Others
- Water Availability / Water Use / Water Access



Next Steps

Council Staff

- Will write up the Advisory Group Guidance and add it to the work plan
- Will send out a meeting poll and/or meeting invite for next meeting
- Will send out materials before next meeting for Members to review

Members

- Try to access the Microsoft Teams site to access documents
- Review materials before next meeting
- Think about the “new” Water Issues that should be investigated for the 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan

Contacts

Judy Sventek

Water Resources Manager

Judy.Sventek@metc.state.mn.us

651-602-1156

Kyle Colvin

Wastewater Planning and Community Programs Manager

Kyle.Colvin@metc.state.mn.us

651-602-1151

Jen Kostrzewski

Environmental Planning Analyst

Jen.Kostrzewski@metc.state.mn.us

651-602-1078

