Scenario Planning

What is scenario planning?

Why and how are we using it?

- Prepare for contingencies in an unknown future
- Identify future opportunities and challenges
- Inform future regional growth policies
Regional Growth Scenarios

How much?
Where?

- Higher growth, More compact
- Higher growth, More dispersed
- Lower growth, More compact
- Lower growth, More dispersed

Metropolitan Council
Scenario Assumptions

A range of significant yet plausible futures

- Based on planned land use in adopted 2040 comprehensive plans, 2040 transportation network, and 2040 MUSA boundaries.
- Simulate additional growth between now and 2050, not a wholesale transformation of the region.
- High growth: 50% more than business-as-usual
  Low growth: 25% less than business as usual
Disclaimer: What this project is not

We are not picking a future.
• Instead, we are exploring our preparedness for a variety of futures.

This is not our official 2050 regional forecast.
• We are using the same forecast tools, but in a hypothetical planning exercise.
Population Per Acre Change, 2020-2050

Business as usual

Higher growth, more compact

Higher growth, more dispersed

Lower growth, more compact

Lower growth, more dispersed
Employment per Acre Change, 2020-2050

- Business as usual
- Higher growth, more compact
- Higher growth, more dispersed
- Lower growth, more compact
- Lower growth, more dispersed
## Transportation Measures of Scenarios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Equitable Inclusive Welcoming</th>
<th>Healthy Safe Vibrant</th>
<th>Climate Mitigation Adaptation Resilience</th>
<th>Natural Systems Protected Restored</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>VMT per Capita</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job Accessibility by Car</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Job Accessibility by Transit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transit Market Areas</td>
<td></td>
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Climate concerns are better addressed by compact growth, which produces lower GHG emissions than dispersed growth, no matter how much the region grows.
Climate concerns are better addressed by compact growth, which produces lower VMT per capita than dispersed growth, regardless of how much the region grows.
Access to Jobs Increases with Compact Growth (especially with transit)

Percent Change in Number of Jobs Accessible by Car (30 minutes) Compared to Business as Usual

- High/Compact: 2%
- High/Dispersed: -14%
- Low/Compact: -11%
- Low/Dispersed: -22%

Percent Change in Number of Jobs Accessible by Transit (30 minutes) Compared to Business as Usual

- High/Compact: 8%
- High/Dispersed: -34%
- Low/Compact: -10%
- Low/Dispersed: -37%
Compact growth is more conducive to transit.

Compact growth scenarios have more people living in areas that could support all-purpose transit (TMA 1&2).

Dispersed growth scenarios leave more people with minimal transit service (TMA 4&5).

Compact scenarios have slightly more people living in areas that could support intermittent transit (TMA 3).
Thank you

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