Policies & Actions Chapter

2050 Transportation Policy Plan
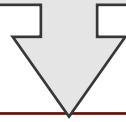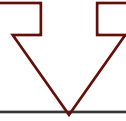
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

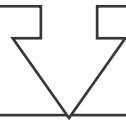**February 2024**

Terms & Definitions

Goals are broad directional statements that more specifically describe the <u>desired end states</u> for the region.

↓

Objectives are the <u>achievable results</u> that advance each regional goal.

↓

Policies are the statement of <u>intent and approach</u> to regional issues or topics, independently and with partners.

↓

Actions are the <u>specific strategies or activities</u> to implement polices and achieve goals.

Goals are overarching and <u>apply to all</u> policy and system plans in the Regional Development Guide:
- Water
- Regional parks and trails
- Land use
- Housing
- Transportation

Objectives, **policies**, and **actions** <u>are specific</u> to policy and system plan.

Draft Regional Goals

Goals

Our Region is Equitable and Inclusive
Racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated; and every person feels welcome, included, and empowered.

Our Communities are Healthy and Safe
All our region's residents live healthy and rewarding lives with a sense of security, dignity, and wellbeing.

Our Region is Dynamic and Resilient
Our region meets the opportunities and challenges faced by our communities and the economy including issues of choice, accessibility, and affordability.
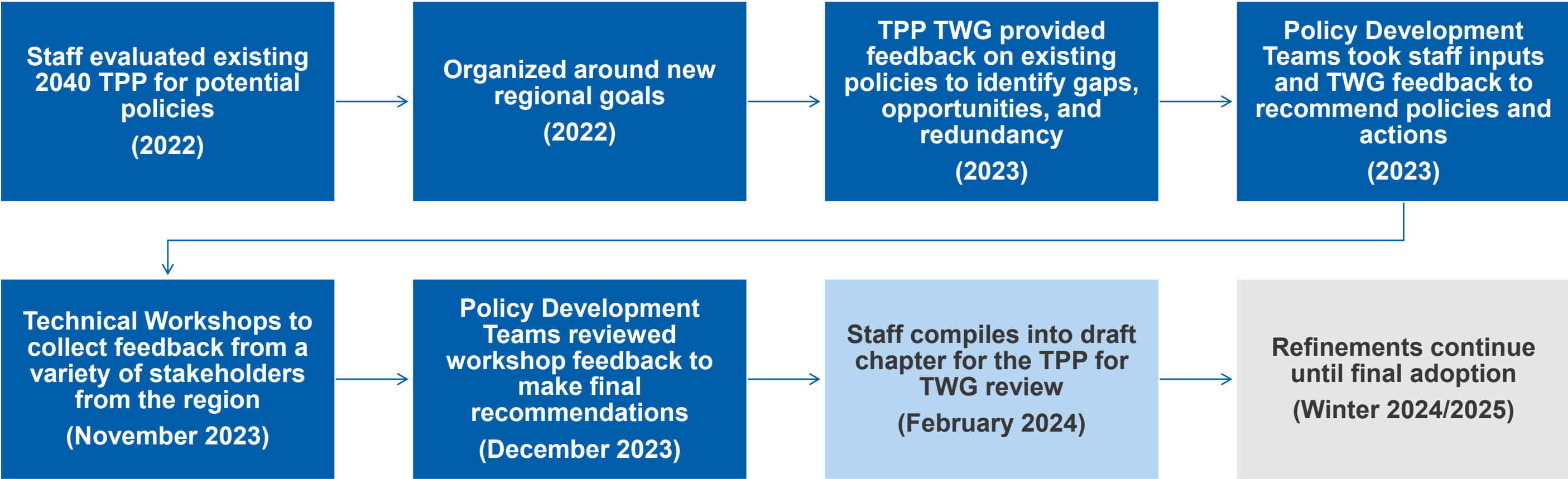
We Lead on Addressing Climate Change
We have mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and have adapted to ensure that our communities and systems are resilient to climate impacts.

We Protect and Restore Natural Systems
We protect, integrate, and restore natural systems to protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for our region.

Policy Development Process

Staff evaluated existing 2040 TPP for potential policies (2022)	**Organized around new regional goals (2022)**	**TPP TWG provided feedback on existing policies to identify gaps, opportunities, and redundancy (2023)**	**Policy Development Teams took staff inputs and TWG feedback to recommend policies and actions (2023)**
Technical Workshops to collect feedback from a variety of stakeholders from the region (November 2023)	**Policy Development Teams reviewed workshop feedback to make final recommendations (December 2023)**	**Staff compiles into draft chapter for the TPP for TWG review (February 2024)**	**Refinements continue until final adoption (Winter 2024/2025)**

Metropolitan Council

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Policy Development Teams

Policy Teams

- Safety
- Public Health & Wellness
- Equity & Ability
- Climate Action
- Natural Systems
- Resilience
- Travel Time & Reliability
- Transportation Options

Agencies Included

- **Transit**
  - Metro Transit
  - MVTA
- **Counties**
  - Hennepin
  - Anoka
  - Dakota
  - Carver
  - Ramsey
  - Washington
- **Cities**
  - Saint Paul
  - Minneapolis
  - Saint Louis Park
  - West Saint Paul
  - Maplewood

- **MnDOT**
  - Freight Office
  - Central Office
  - Metro District
- **Other State Agencies**
  - Department of Health
  - Pollution Control Agency
  - Council on Disabilities
- **Non-Profits**
  - The Alliance
- **UMN**

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Policy Considerations

Policy Considerations

- **Regional funding priorities:** The Council allocates federal and state funding to local agencies – TPP policies set priorities for these funds.

- **Comprehensive planning / Project development:** The Council sets guidelines for review and approves local comprehensive plan updates and amendments.

- **Technical assistance:** The Council can convene partners, engage in studies, and provide assistance to local partners.

- **Work program:** Projects and studies that contribute to the Council's work and require coordination among agencies.

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Document Format

Regional Goals

- Objectives are listed at the beginning of each goal
- Policies and their actions are organized under the regional goal they most support
- Goals are listed in no particular order

Actors

- Each action has actors identified by role; Lead and support roles
- Actors are grouped into 5 categories: Met Council, MnDOT, Counties, Cities, Transit
- "Other" category also exists, and those actors are specified

Tags

- **(RS):** guidance to Regional Solicitation Evaluation process to determine how to apply it to funding programs
- **(CP):** requirements or guidance for agencies during local comprehensive planning
- **(WP):** Work program items that will be developed after the TPP is adopted

Example

Our region is dynamic and resilient.

Objectives

- People and businesses trust that transportation infrastructure and services will withstand and recover quickly from natural and human-caused disruptions.
- People can better meet their daily needs with timely, reliable, direct, and affordable options beyond driving alone.
- People experience more predictable travel times without experiencing excessive delays when traveling on highways.
- People and businesses can rely on predictable and cost-effective movement of freight and goods.

People, businesses, and institutions in our region depend on transportation to meet their daily needs. A transportation system that is resilient and reliable provides affordable access to destinations by any mode of travel people may choose. This plan will support a reliable transportation system with predictable travel times; transportation choices that provide access to jobs, services, and community destinations; a resilient transportation system that withstands natural and human-caused disruptions. Learn more about how transportation relates to this goal here. [Insert link to goal chapter.]

Policies and Actions

15. Plan and implement a complete bicycle system including local networks that connect to the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN) alignments to provide connections between regional destinations and local bicycle networks.

| ✓ = lead agency ◇ = support agency	Met Council	MnDOT	Counties	Cities	Transit	Other
15A. Plan, implement, and prioritize projects that connect to, improve, or complete segments of the RBTN. Update RBTN alignments in coordination with regional partners and in response to local or corridor planning efforts. **(CP) (RS)**	✓	✓	✓	✓		
15B. Plan, implement, and prioritize bikeway connections						

How to focus your review:

- Is anything missing?
- Any major language changes to policies or actions that should be considered?
- Are the action assignments reasonable?
- Should comprehensive plan or regional solicitation tags be added or removed?
- Are work program items needed to better support the policies?

Policies that guide all work.

Major themes

- **Maintaining data, maps, plans, processes, and applications**
  - Update studies
  - Data collection
  - Document a transportation need in a plan

- **Funding**
  - Federal discretionary grant support

- **Prioritize using asset management activities to advance regional goals and objectives**
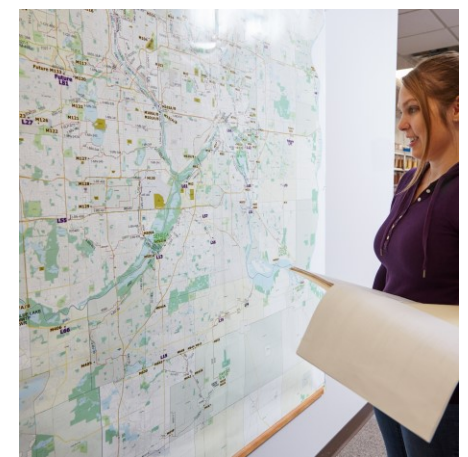
Our region is equitable and inclusive.

Major Themes

NEW

- **Anti-displacement and gentrification**
  - Tools/programs
  - Limit ROW takings

SIMILAR TO 2040 TPP

- **Engagement activities and decision making**
  - Community assessments
- **Community benefits and burdens**
  - Processes, policies, programs, and plans
  - Justice40 and EJ
- **ADA**
  - Make progress
  - Reflect updates
- **Repair harms**
 - Freeway Harms Study

Our communities are healthy and safe.

Major themes

NEW

- **Safety of people outside of vehicles**
  - Systemic safety improvements
  - Regional planning
- **Context sensitive all ages and abilities infrastructure**
  - Alternative design guides
  - Technical assistance
- **Safe System approach to eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes**
  - Incorporate into Comp Plans
  - Technical assistance

- **Reduce negative health impacts**
  - Active transportation in disadvantaged and suburban communities
  - Mitigate noise, air, heat impacts
- **Culturally appropriate places**
  - Incorporate community identity into projects

SIMILAR TO 2040 TPP

- **Transit safety and comfort**
  - Interactions with other modes
  - Public safety agency coordination
  - Investments not tied to ridership
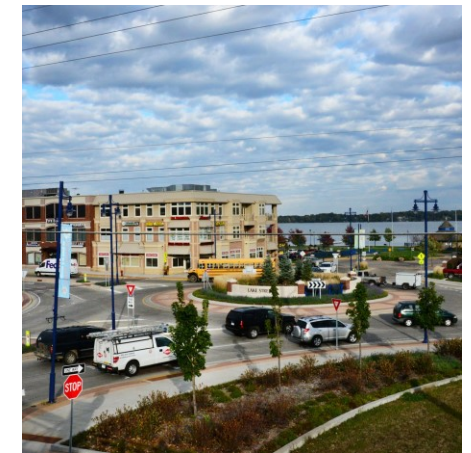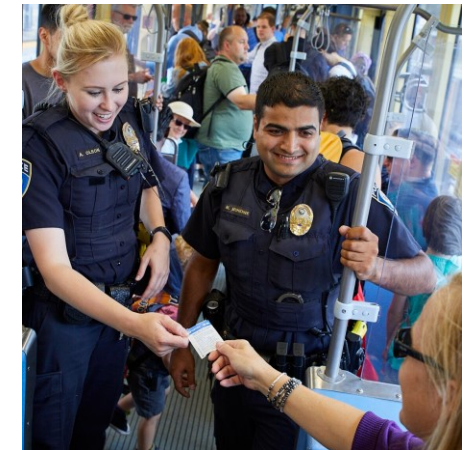
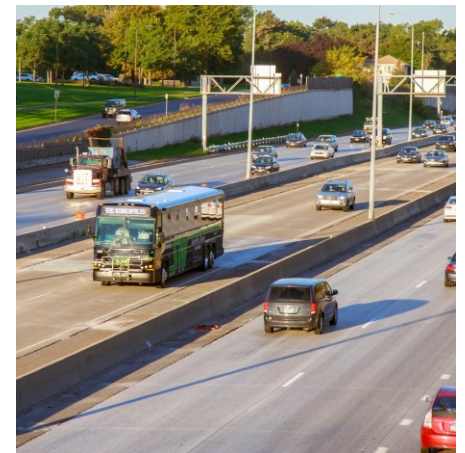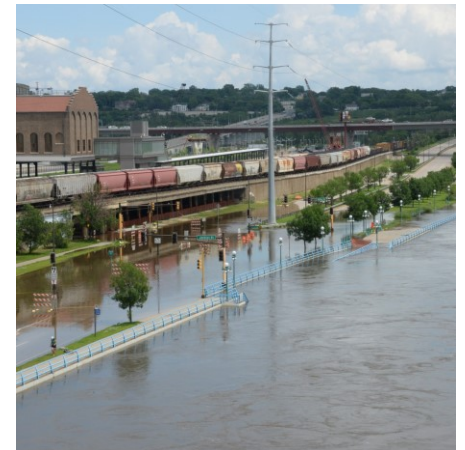# Our region is dynamic and resilient. (1)

Major themes – choice

NEW

- **Planning for pedestrians**
  - Comp Plan guidance
  - Regional Sidewalk Study
- **Complete Streets**
  - Comp Plan guidance
  - Regional Streets Typology Study
  - MnDOT Urban Pavements Study
- **Travel demand management**
  - Programs and incentives
  - Shared mobility/ mobility hubs
- **Transitway advancement policy**

SIMILAR TO 2040

- **Transitway network**

- **Transit service types and delivery**
  - Design Guidelines
  - Adaptive delivery models
- **Transit service coordination**
  - Fare products and service
  - Roadway projects
- **High quality connections**
  - Wayfinding
  - First/last-mile
- **Local and regional bicycle networks**
  - RBTN
  - All ages and abilities
- **Network gaps and barriers**
  - Comp Plan guidance
  - Address grade separated gaps
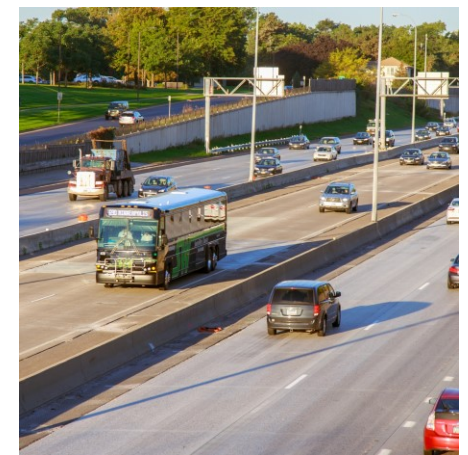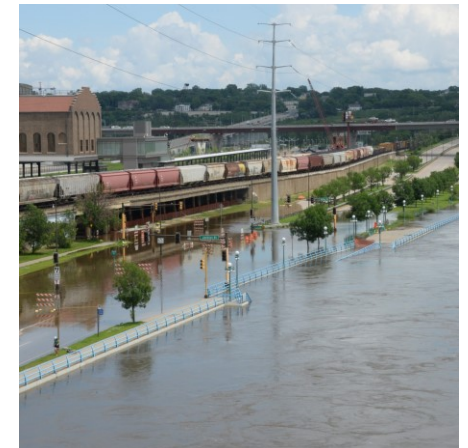
Our region is dynamic and resilient. (2)

Major themes – reliability

NEW

- **Focused mobility investments to existing delay and reliability**
  - Mobility solution hierarchy
  - Travel Time Index > 1.25 for 2 hours
  - Traffic technologies

SIMILAR TO 2040 TPP

- **First/last-mile freight connectors**
  - Real-time safety
  - Truck parking
  - Urban freight/ e-commerce
  - Twin Cities Regional Freight Study
- **Transportation options on congested corridors**
  - CMP handbook for non-expansion solutions
  - Managed lanes
  - Transit advantages

Our region is dynamic and resilient. (3)

Major themes – resilience

NEW

- **Mitigate current and anticipated climate/weather-related impacts**
  - On people (extreme heat, flooding)
  - On infrastructure
  - Impervious surfaces
  - Resilience needs and technical assistance
  - Comp Plan guidance

SIMILAR TO 2040 TPP

- **Non-recurring delay**
  - Traffic technology solutions
  - Build regional understanding

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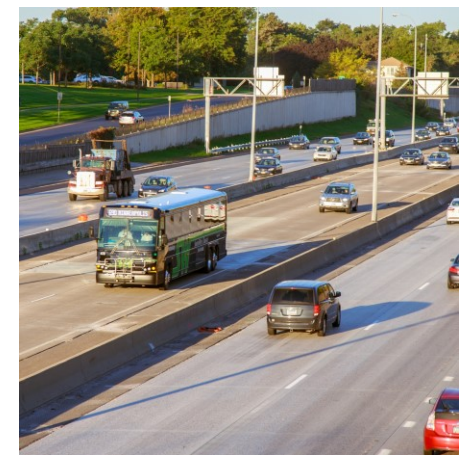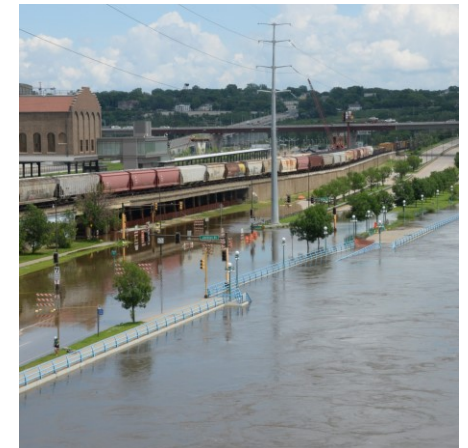
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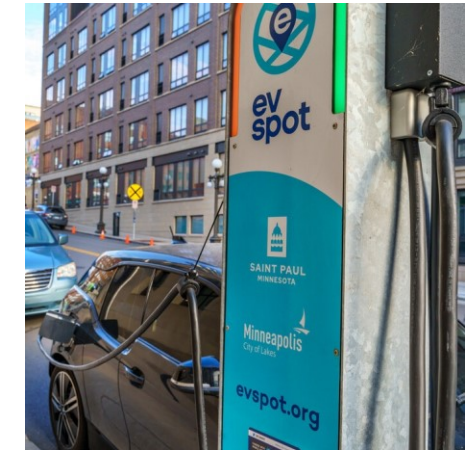
Major themes

NEW

- **EV Charging**
  - Regional needs
  - Multi-family, historically disadvantaged, and rural focus
  - Private and shared charging
  - Resources and technical assistance
  - Fleet transitions

- **Reduce VMT***
  - Technical assistance and information sharing
  - Expand access to bicycles and facilities
  - Land use**

SIMILAR TO 2040 TPP

- **GHG**
  - Inventory
  - Construction methods
  - Other strategies

*Policies and actions that relate to mode shift are covered under the Dynamic and Resilient goal

***Policies and actions discussing land use are included in the RDG*

We protect and restore natural systems.

Major themes

NEW

- **Use ROW and project development to protect and restore**
  - Green stormwater
  - Habitat and natural areas
  - Native plantings
  - Retrofitting as standalone projects
  - Wildlife impacts

- **Impervious surface**
  - Greening, downsizing, or closing parking systems
  - Minimize roadway surface
  - Technical assistance
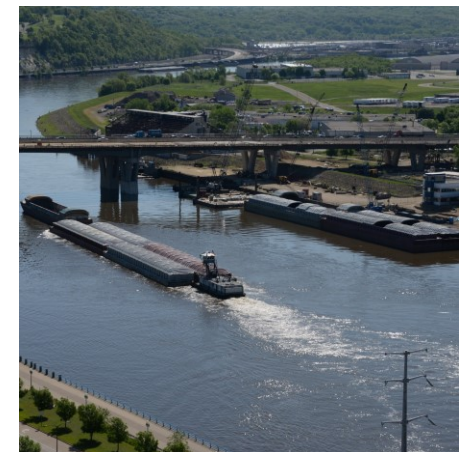
Thank you

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