

THE INTERACTIVE MAPPING TOOL


LOCAL PLANNING HANDBOOK



The new Local Planning Handbook Interactive Mapping Tool offers explicit capabilities and layers in accordance with the comprehensive planning process. Local planners are able to use this tool throughout the planning process, public engagement, and also preparing maps for the comprehensive plan updates.


Similar to Community Pages, this tool provides community-level information to assist with completing comprehensive plan requirements. Each community has their own mapping page that is accessible from their Community Page or from the Mapping Tool page under each Plan Element. This fact sheet discusses the main features of the new Interactive Mapping Tool.



TOOL FEATURES

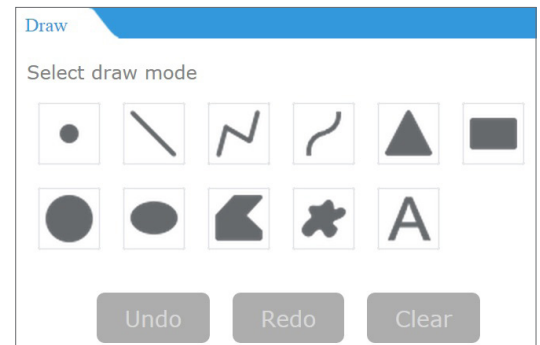
 **Default Extent**
Clicking on this button brings you back to the default map extent which is a zoomed out view of your community.


 **Zoom**
The zoom-in/zoom-out buttons provide the larger/smaller view of the map based on the center point of the page.
 **TIP:** You can also use your mouse scroll wheel (if applicable) for the same purpose.

 **Draw**
Using the draw tool you can modify a map to meet your needs, adding new or proposed features, icons and text. When you select the drawing mode, you can scroll down to select a color, style, transparency and width. These options can be varied based on the drawing mode you have chosen.

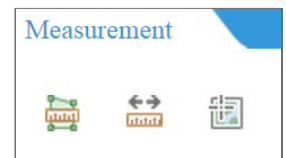
TIP: These drawings cannot be modified after they have been created; they can only be undone and redone in the order that they were created.


TIP: When adding text to the map, “A” needs to be highlighted before the placement of text. The text will be justified based on the point you click on the map.




 **Measurement**
This tool helps you measure area and distance. Use the “area” button to draw a polygon around the area you need to have the measurement for. The default measuring unit is square feet. To finalize the shape, double click on the last point.

The “distance” button prompts you to start drawing a line for the distance you wish to measure. The default measuring unit is feet. You can create multi-segment lines and the tool will measure the distance of all segments. Double click on the last point to finalize your desired distance.



 **Find Address**
You can use this function to find a specific location on the map using street address, intersection or landmark.

 **Layer List**
Layer list includes a list of the layers for your selected community. These layers are categorized by groups of Administrative, Transportation, Wastewater, Surface Water, Water Supply, Parks, Land Use, and Regional Land Use. Most of the layers in all categories except for Regional Land Use have been clipped to the boundary of your selected community. The only layer under Regional Land Use is Planned Land Use, that shows the future land use of the entire region.

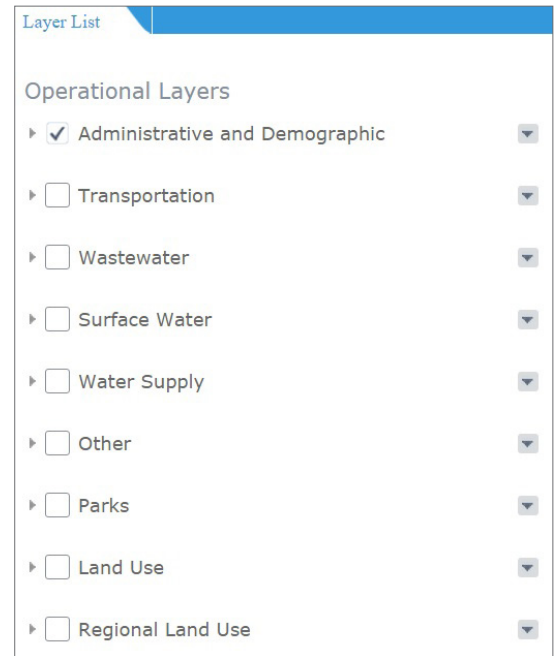
You can choose the layers you need from any of the categories. Each layer has an attribute table and meta data that you can select by clicking on the arrow to the right of the layer's name. The attribute table will appear in a table with tabs on the top per any layers that are on. Clicking on a feature in the table selects that feature on the map, and you can select multiple features by holding the ctrl key on the keyboard. Selections can be cleared using "clear selection" on the attribute table. You can also export the attribute table in a CSV format by clicking on "options" on the attribute table.

Similarly, the layer categories have their own description, accessible by clicking on the arrow to the right of the category's name. You can also change the transparency of a category or reorder the layer groupings by clicking move up or move down under the right arrow. Reordering the groupings will allow you to display the layers you desire on the map in a fashion that makes the most sense for your purpose.

TIP: Operational layers only include layers that have features to show in the selected community. For example, some communities will see Mississippi River Critical Area Districts in the list of their layers, when it will not show for others without any of such districts in their community. A full list of all the layers examined for the interactive mapping tool is included at the end of this fact sheet. If any of these listed layers do not appear for your community, it is because there are no features in that layer in your community.

TIP: Clicking anywhere on the map opens the information box that shows the attributes of the feature that was clicked on for a quick review. If more than one layer is on, you can switch between their attributes by clicking on a right pointing arrow on the top of the information box.

TIP: Some layers are labeled when turned on, but if features in a layer are not labeled, labeling is not available.



Legend

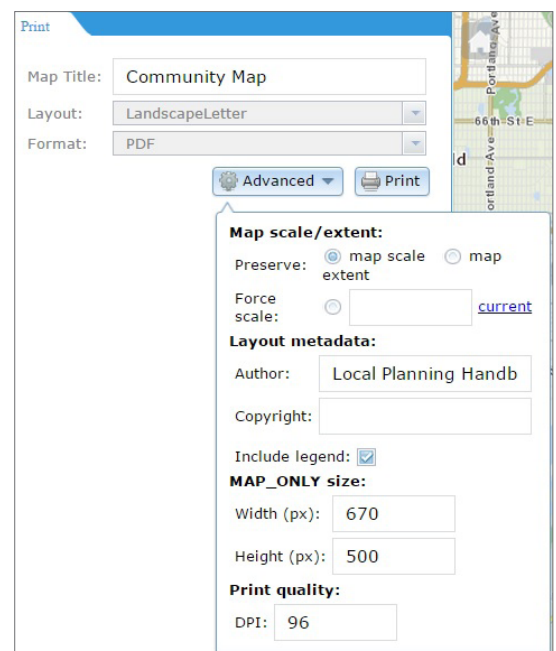
Layers chosen from the layer list will show in the legend. Reordering the layers automatically reorders the legend.

Print

Choosing print from the top right corner allows you to give your prepared map a title. There are five different printing layouts available. You can just print the map by choosing "map_only", or a map with legend using any of the other four layouts in landscape/portrait format on letter/legal size paper. You then have the option of choosing the format of the print in PDF, JPG, etc.

Advanced settings allow you to set the scale of the map, include an author, further set the size of the map if you chose the "map_only" option and also determine the print's quality. Click on "print" to create your desired map. The print shows up as a list under the settings. You can create multiple maps in different layouts and formats with different names. Clicking on the print result opens the document to save on your computer.

TIP: If you want the whole map on your printout, make sure to set the map on its full extent; otherwise, the print only includes the extent of the view.



LIST OF ALL THE LAYERS

THEME	LAYER NAME	DESCRIPTION
Administrative	School Districts	Public school districts boundaries
Administrative	Metro Area Counties	County boundaries
Administrative	Metro Area Cities & Townships	Cities, townships, and unorganized territories boundaries
Administrative	Parcels	Parcel boundaries
Administrative	Watershed Management Organizations (BWSR)	Watershed districts and watershed management organizations boundaries
Administrative	2010 Census Tract Total Population	Decennial Census 2010 for tracts
Transportation	Active Park & Rides	Existing park and ride lots
Transportation	Transit Centers	Active or inactive transit stops or stations at the meeting point of several routes or lines or of different modes of transportation.
Transportation	Active Transit Stops	Transit stops in the 7 counties.
Transportation	Existing Transitway Stations	Location of existing transitway stations.
Transportation	Planned Transitway Stations	Location of planned transitway stations.
Transportation	Highways	Interstate, US Highway, or State Highway.
Transportation	Functional Class Roads - Existing	Existing major roads and highways.
Transportation	Functional Class Roads - Planned	Approximate locations of planned major roads and highways.
Transportation	High Frequency Transit Routes	All or part of Hi-Frequency transit route segments
Transportation	Existing Transitway Alignments	Alignment of all existing transitways, including light rail, commuter rail, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
Transportation	Planned Transitway Alignments	Planned transit corridors
Transportation	Bikeways by Class - Existing	Existing bicycle routes classified as GAP, Paved Trail, Road, Trail, or blank
Transportation	Bikeways by Class - Proposed	Future bicycle routes classified as GAP, Paved Trail, Road, Trail, or blank
Transportation	Railroads	Railroad alignments within the region
Transportation	Regional Transit Authority Service Areas	Service areas of the five regional transit authorities/providers
Transportation	Airports in the Regional System	Approximate airport ownership boundaries
Transportation	Transportation Analysis Zones Legacy	TAZ system utilized prior to the 2010 Travel Behavior Inventory
Transportation	Transportation Analysis Zones Current	TAZ system developed as part of the 2010 Travel Behavior Inventory
Transportation	Transit Market Areas	Approximation of the level of transit service an area can support
Transportation	Transit Taxing District	Area in which all taxable property was assessed a tax to be used for payment of transit and paratransit services
Wastewater	MCES Treatment Plants	Point location for each of the waste water treatment plants
Wastewater	Existing Interceptors (Limited Attributes)	Data for the sewer interceptor system
Wastewater	Sewersheds	Rough boundaries of the sewersheds
Wastewater	MUSA 2020	Metropolitan Urban Service Area boundary by 2020
Wastewater	MUSA 2030	Metropolitan Urban Service Area boundary by 2030
Wastewater	MUSA 2040	Metropolitan Urban Service Area boundary by 2040
Wastewater	Undesignated MUSA	Areas within a municipal boundary where an agreed upon acreage of urban sewer service can be added to the current MUSA by 2030
Wastewater	MUSA - Undesignated Reserve	Areas beyond the current municipal boundary where an agreed upon acreage of urban sewer service can be added to the current MUSA by 2030
Wastewater	Long Term Service Area Current	Sanitary sewer service areas
Surface Water	DNR River and Stream Centerlines	Centerlines of rivers and streams
Surface Water	Trout Streams	Legally designated trout streams and trout stream tributaries
Surface Water	Impaired Streams 2014 Draft	Draft of impaired streams derived by MPCA's surface water quality assessment
Surface Water	Impaired Streams 2012	Impaired streams derived by MPCA's surface water quality assessment in 2012
Surface Water	Lakes and Rivers	Open water features for lakes and rivers
SurfaceWater	Impaired Lakes 2014 Draft	Draft of impaired lakes derived by MPCA's surface water quality assessment
SurfaceWater	Impaired Lakes 2012	Impaired lakes derived by MPCA's surface water quality assessment in 2012
Surface Water	National Wetlands Inventory	Wetland area features mapped as part of NWI (Palustrine System)
Surface Water	Impaired Wetlands 2014 Draft	Draft of impaired wetlands derived by MPCA's surface water quality assessment

THEME	LAYER NAME	DESCRIPTION
Surface Water	Impaired Wetlands 2012	Impaired lakes derived by MPCA's surface water quality assessment in 2012
Surface Water	Watersheds (DNR Level 4)	Major watershed delineations
Surface Water	Minor Watersheds (DNR Level 7)	Minor watershed delineations
Surface Water	Floodways (FEMA)	Derived from the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)
Water Supply	Calcareous Fens	Points that represent calcareous fens derived from the Natural Heritage "Biotics" Database
Water Supply	Special Well & Boring Construction Areas	Info about Minnesota Department of Health designated Special Well Construction Areas
Water Supply	Wellhead Protection Areas	MDH approved surface and subsurface area surrounding a public water supply well or well field that supplies a public water system
Water Supply	Drinking Water Supply Management Areas	MDH approved surface and subsurface area surrounding a public water supply well that completely contains the scientifically calculated wellhead protection area and is managed by the entity identified in a wellhead protection plan
Water Supply	Drinking Water Supply Management Area Vulnerability	An assessment of the likelihood for a potential contaminant source within the drinking water supply management area
Other	Steep Slopes General Area with 12% to 18% Slope	Slopes from 12 to 18 percent (not suitable for determining the precise location or actual size of undevelopable areas)
Other	Steep Slopes General Area with greater than 18% Slope	Slopes greater than 18 percent (not suitable for determining the precise location or actual size of undevelopable areas)
Other	Prime Agricultural Soils	Prime farmland is defined as areas of land that possess the ideal combination of physical and chemical properties for producing food, feed, forage, fiber and oilseed crops (This should NOT be used for site specific purposes)
Other	Regionally Significant Ecological Areas MLCC derived 2008	An analysis of regionally significant Terrestrial and Wetland Ecological Areas
Other	Aggregate Resources 1997	Sand, gravel and limestone and dolomite
Other	Land Cover - MLCCS	This layer's data is incomplete from the source (DNR)
Parks	Regional Trails	Alignments for existing and planned regional trails
Parks	Minnesota State Trails (DNR)	State Trails that have been legislatively authorized, physically constructed and maintained by DNR
Parks	Regional Parks by Status	This layer shows the regional parks in "existing" and "planned" categories.
Parks	Regional Parks by Type	This layer shows the regional parks in "regional parks", "park reserves", and "special recreation features" categories.
Parks	State Parks and Recreation Areas	Boundaries of State Parks, and State Recreation Areas
Parks	State Forests (DNR)	Boundary of State Forests
Parks	Mississippi River Critical Area Districts	Boundaries of the state designated Mississippi River Critical Area and MNRRA
Parks	DNR Scientific and Natural Areas	Established to protect and perpetuate lands and waters embracing natural features of exceptional scientific and educational value
Parks	DNR Wildlife Management Areas	Part of the Minnesota state recreation system created to protect wildlife habitat
Land Use	ThriveMSP 2040 Community Designations	Adopted on May 28, 2014
Land Use	2010 Generalized Land Use	Aligned to the NCompass Technologies street centerlines and landmarks files
Land Use	Planned Land Use	Planned land use data including amendments, clipped to community's boundary
Land Use	Areas Of Concentrated Poverty	Census tracts where 40% or more of the households earn incomes that are less than 185% of the federal poverty level
Land Use	Areas Of Concentrated Poverty ACP50	Areas of Concentrated Poverty where 50% or more of the residents are people of color
Regional Land Use	Planned Land Use	The extent of planned land use for the Twin Cities 7-county metro area

September 2015