



# PlanIt

Webinar Series for  
Comprehensive Plan Updates

## Population Estimates

Presented by Matt Schroeder  
April 20, 2017





# Today's topics

- Background
- The estimates model: three steps
  - Housing units
  - Households
  - Population
- Timeline and process for commenting
- Looking ahead to the 2020 Census





# Background: What estimates are (and are not)

**Forecasts** look ahead to 2040

**Estimates** look back in time to the previous year



# Background: What estimates are (and are not)

## Decennial Census

- Complete count of people
- Every 10 years
- Limited characteristics

## American Community Survey (ACS)

- Sample of people
- Every year
- Detailed characteristics

## Population Estimates

- Best approximation of population
- Every year
- No characteristics





# Background

- Each year, the Metropolitan Council estimates population for April 1 of the *previous* year
  - Most recent set: Estimates for April 1, 2015, calculated in 2016
  - In progress: Estimates for April 1, 2016, to be released in 2017
- Performed since the formation of the Council
- Governed by *Minnesota Statutes 473.24*





# Background: Roles

- Population estimates for seven-county region

Metropolitan Council



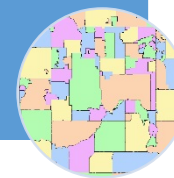
- Population estimates for Greater Minnesota (outside 7-county region)

State Demographic Center



- Review preliminary population estimates
- Comment if desired

Local governments



# Background: Why the Council estimates population

Official estimates for state government purposes

- Local Government Aid
- Local street aid

Local purposes

- Determining the number of liquor licenses
- Ordering road signs





# Background: Why the Council estimates population

## Council purposes

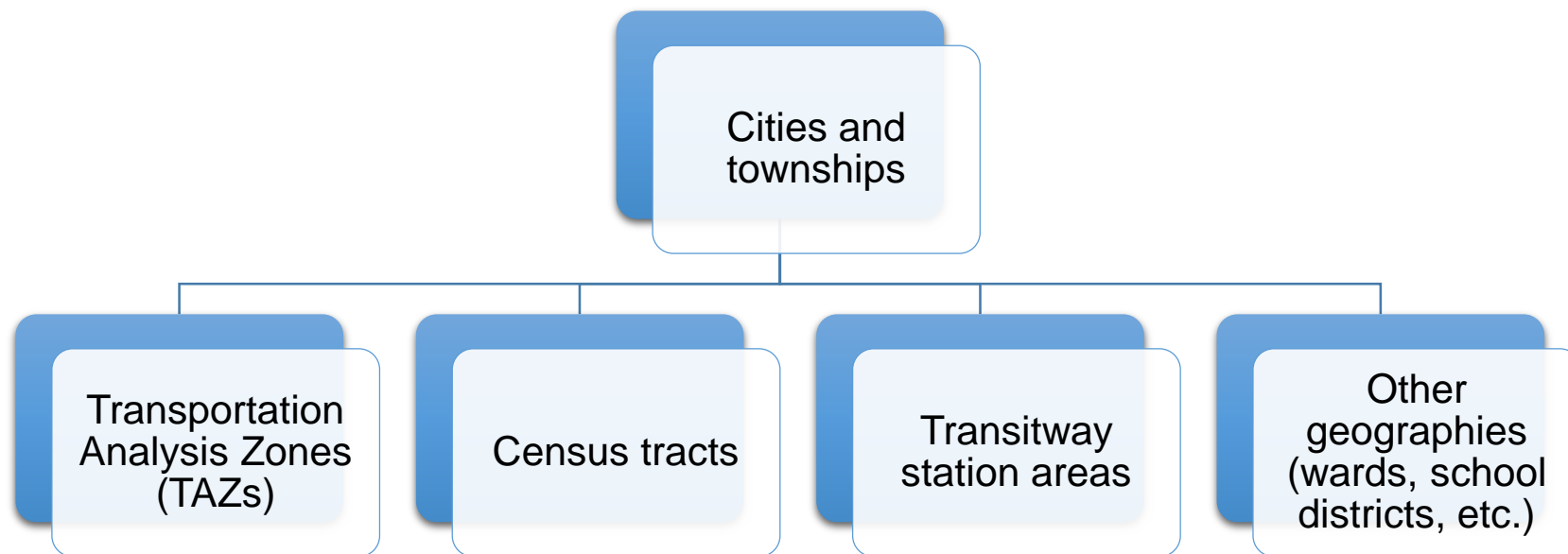
- Intuitively understandable way to think about growth and development
- Where might more regional investments be needed?
- “Reality check” on demographic forecasts







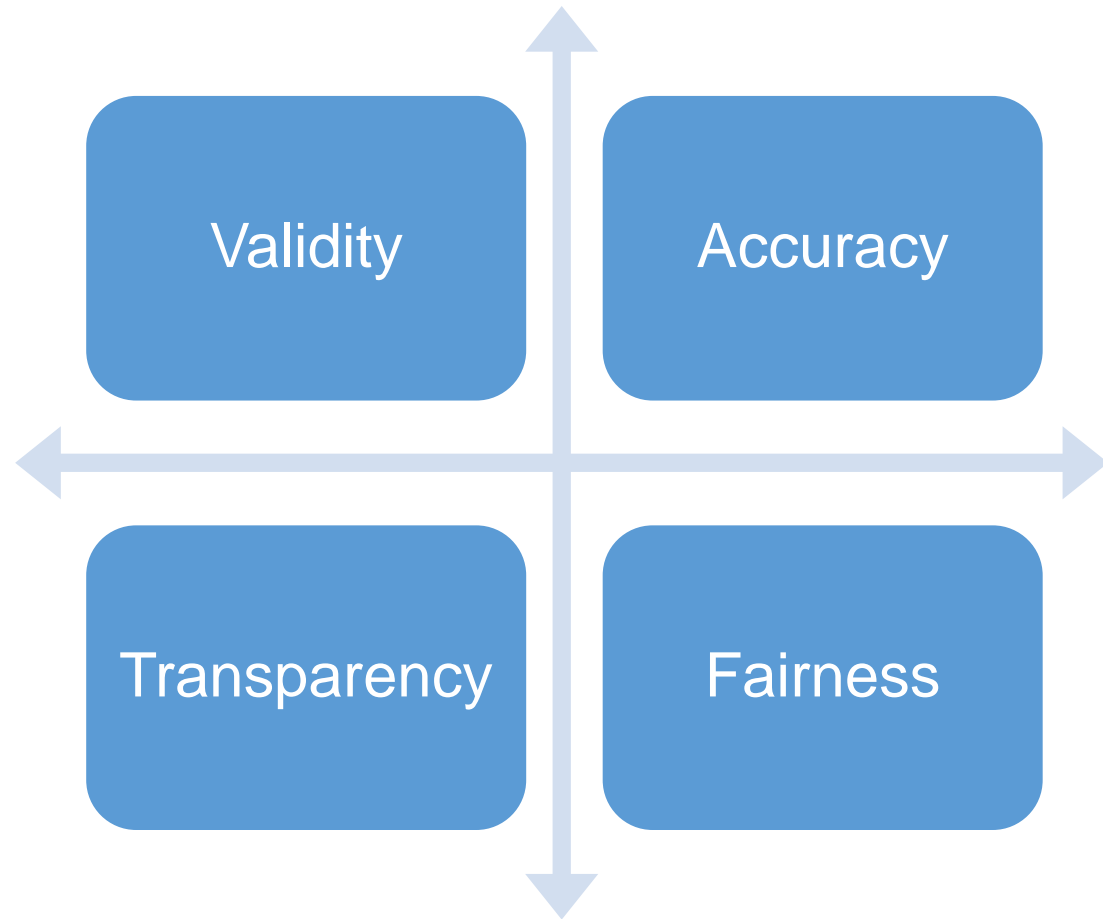
# Background: Small areas





# The estimates model

Balancing  
four  
priorities:



# The estimates model:

## Key terms

- **Housing unit:** a unit where one or more people can live
  - Can be occupied or vacant
- **Household:** A person or a group of people living in a housing unit
  - Household = occupied housing unit





# The estimates model: Key terms

- **Population:** Two components
  - In households
  - In group quarters





# The estimates model: Key questions

1. How many ***housing units*** does each community have?
2. How many ***households*** live in these housing units? (= How many housing units are occupied?)
3. How many ***people*** live in these households?



# The estimates model: Overview of calculations

How many housing units?



How many households?



How many people?

Housing units  
in 2010



Changes to  
housing  
stock since  
2010



Occupancy  
rate



Average  
household  
size  
  
(Persons  
per  
household)



# The estimates model: Overview of calculations



Single-family  
detached



Townhomes



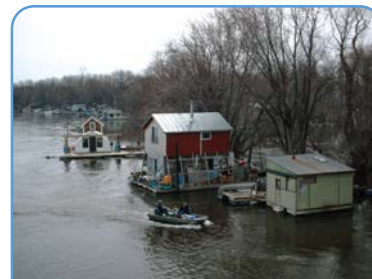
Duplex/3-  
plex/4-plex



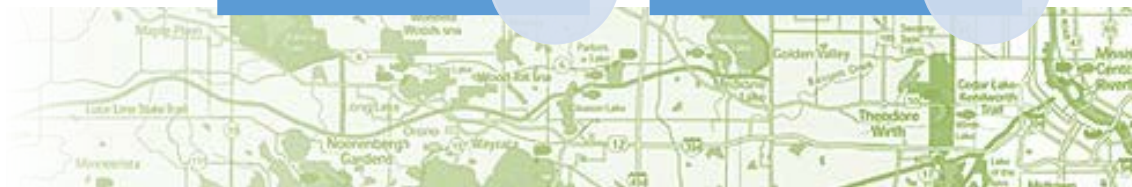
Multifamily

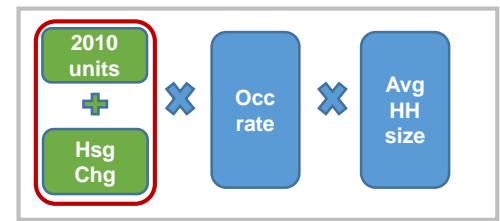


Manufactured  
homes



Other



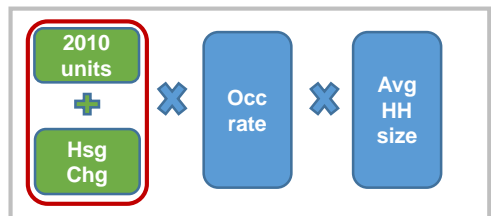


# Model: Housing units

- Start with 2010 housing units
- Incorporate changes since 2010
  - Residential construction permit data submitted by communities
    - New construction
    - Conversions
    - Demolitions
  - Annexations
  - Council's annual manufactured housing parks survey

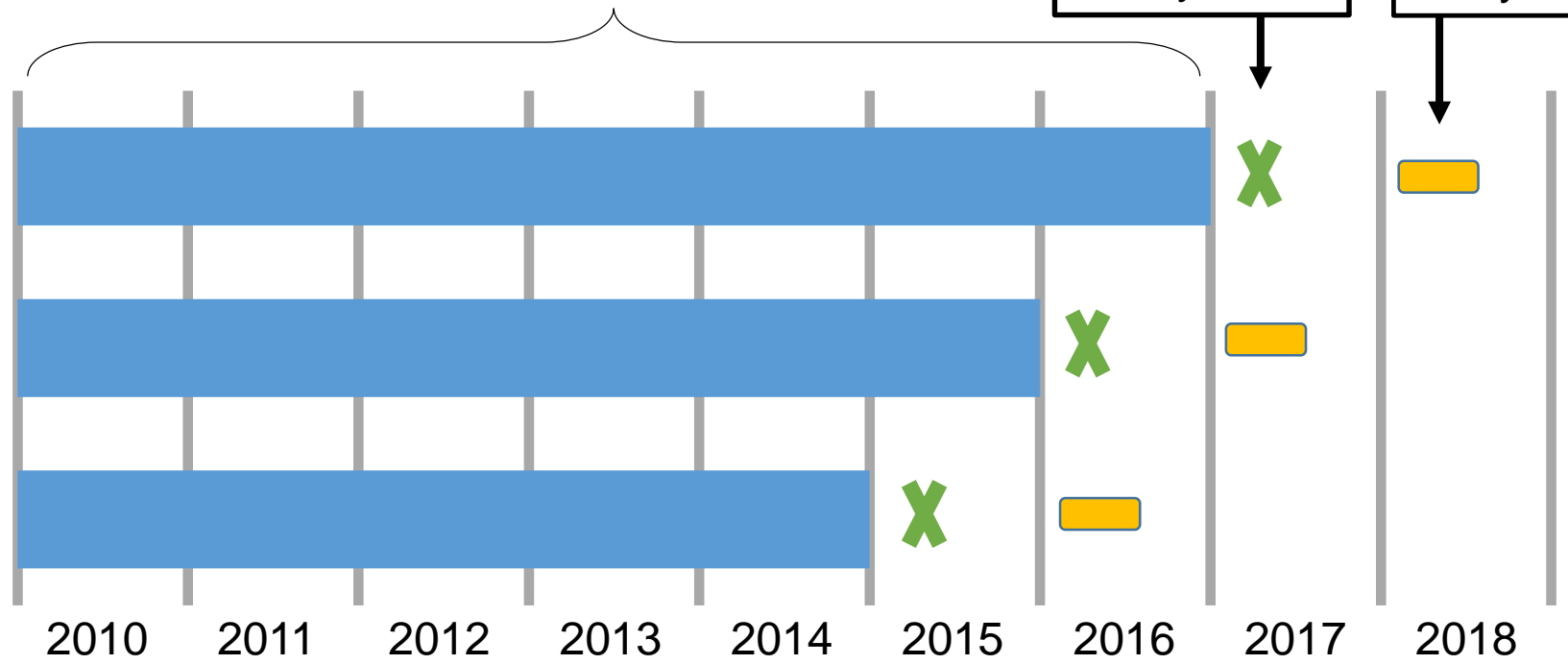


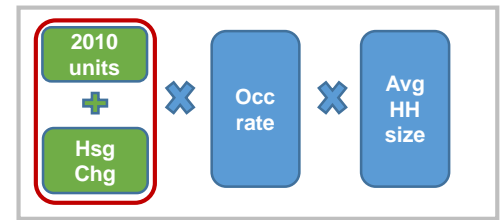




# Model: Housing units

Units permitted in these years...

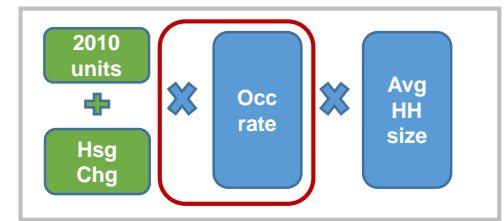




# Model: Housing units

	(A) Census, 2010	(B) Permitted and built, 2010-2015	(C) Other changes, 2010-2015	(D) Estimate, 4/1/2016 (A+B+C)
Single-family detached	2,700	350	-50	3,000
Single-family attached	475	25	0	500
Duplex/triplex/quadplex	200	0	0	200
Multifamily	500	500	0	1,000
Manufactured homes	325		-25	300
Other units	0			0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,200</b>			<b>5,000</b>

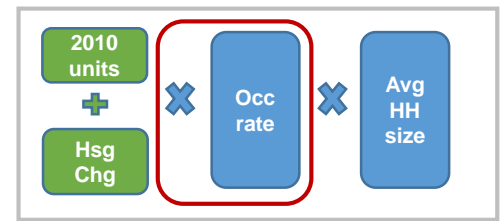




# Model: Households

- Households = Housing units × Occupancy rates
- Occupancy rates come from two sources
  - Council's annual manufactured housing park survey (manufactured homes)
  - American Community Survey (all other housing types)





# Model: Households

**Problem:**  
ACS represents a five-year period

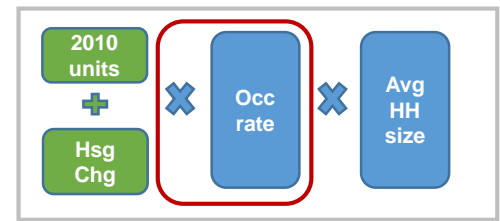
**Solution:**  
Economic cycle adjustments to make sure occupancy rates reflect current market conditions



**Problem:**  
ACS is a sample and subject to error

**Solution:**  
Adjustments to reconcile occupancy rates with 2010 Census and U.S. Postal Service data





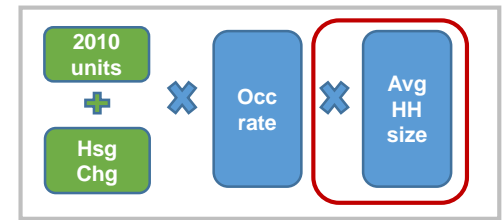
# Model: Households

	(D) Housing units, 4/1/2016	(E) Estimated Occupancy Rates	(F) Households, 4/1/2016 (D × E)
Single-family detached	3,000	98.0%	2,940
Single-family attached	500	97.0%	485
Duplex/triplex/quadplex	200	96.0%	192
Multifamily	1,000	95.0%	950
Manufactured homes	300	94.3%	283
Other units	0		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>		<b>4,850</b>

4,850 ÷ 5,000 = 97.0% overall occupancy



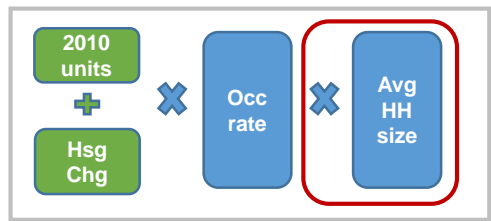
# Model: People in households



- Population in households = Households × Average household size
- Two sources for average household sizes:
  - Council's annual manufactured housing park survey (manufactured homes only)
  - American Community Survey (all other housing types)



# Model: People in households



**Problem:**  
ACS is a sample and subject to error

**Solution:**  
Adjustments to reconcile average household sizes with 2010 Census

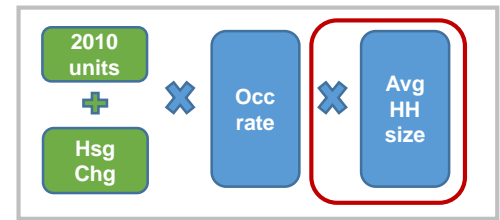


**Problem:**  
Housing stock-based estimates do not incorporate other data on births/deaths/migration

**Solution:**  
Adjustments to reconcile resulting population estimates with Census Bureau's county-level estimates



# Model: People in households



	(F) Households, 4/1/2016	(G) Estimated Average HH Size	(H) People in HHs, 4/1/16 (F × G)
Single-family detached	2,940	3.00	8,820
Single-family attached	485	3.00	1,455
Duplex/triplex/quadplex	192	2.50	480
Multifamily	950	2.00	1,900
Manufactured homes	283	3.00	849
Other units	0		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,850</b>		<b>13,504</b>

$13,504 \div 4,850 = 2.78$  overall average HH size





# The estimates model: Overview of calculations

How many housing units?



How many households?



How many people?

Housing units  
in 2010



Changes to  
housing  
stock since  
2010



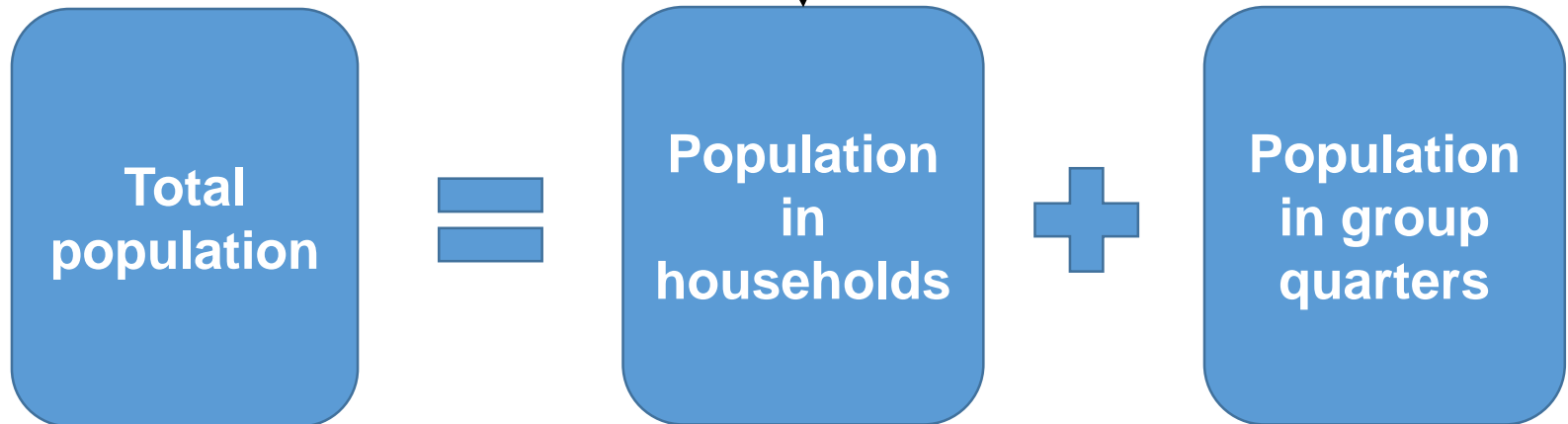
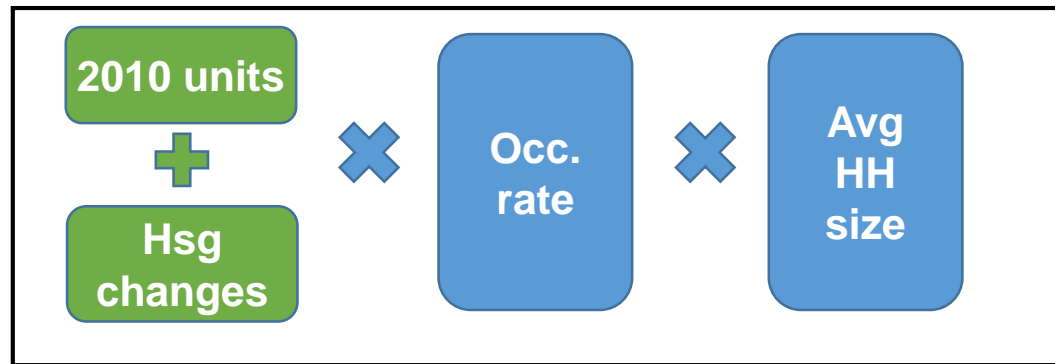
Occupancy  
rate



Average  
household  
size  
  
(Persons  
per  
household)



# The estimates model: Key terms



# Model: Group quarters population

- Total population also includes people in **group quarters**
  - Correctional facilities
  - Nursing homes
  - Group homes
  - College dormitories
- Data sources
  - Annual surveys of facilities with 10+ residents
  - Department of Human Services lists of licensed facilities





# Model: Group quarters population

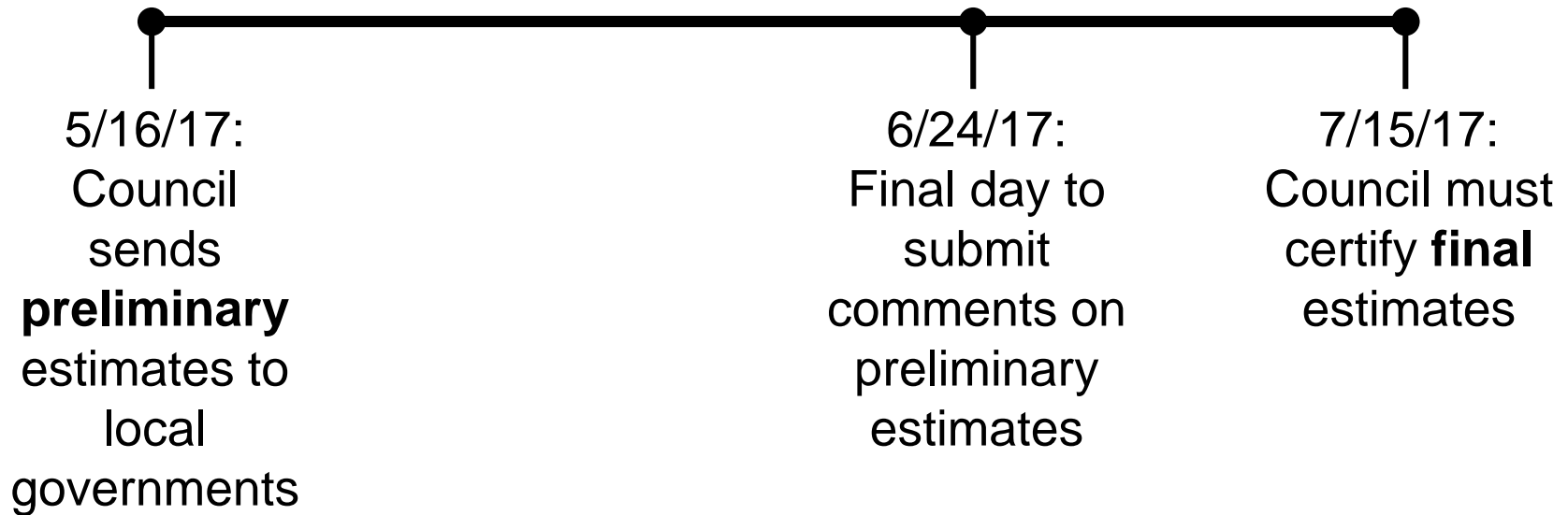
Type of facility	Group quarters or housing unit?
Nursing home	Group quarters
Memory care	Group quarters
Independent living	Housing unit (multifamily)
Assisted living	Housing unit (multifamily)





# Timeline and process

Estimates for April 1, 2016:





# Considerations for review

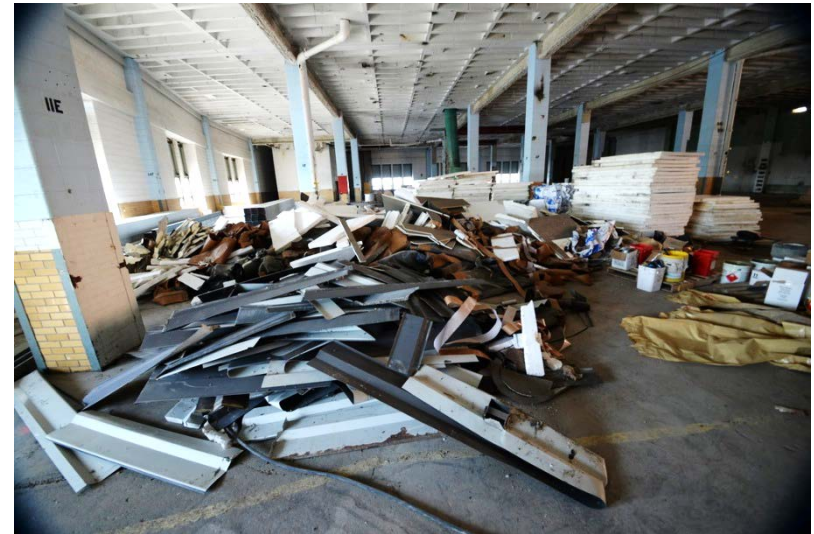
- Each year, we refine the data and methods used to calculate our estimates
  - Estimates from two different years not comparable
  - Final estimates not comparable to preliminary estimates
- In the past year:
  - Overhaul of group quarters data
  - Additions to post-2010 building permit data
  - Addition of more units permitted before 2010 and not included in 2010 Census count





# How to write helpful comments

Do our estimates accurately reflect the building permits and housing stock changes you know about?





# How to write helpful comments

Do you have utilities data that can be a proxy for occupancy?







# How to write helpful comments

Do the occupancy rates and average household sizes look reasonable for each housing type?





# What happens next

- If you submit a comment, we commit to...
  - Answering all of your questions
  - Explaining our reasoning
  - Consulting other available data sources
  - Applying the same standard for all communities
- We cannot commit to...
  - Making any certain adjustments
  - Incorporating adjustments from past estimates cycles





# What happens next

- If no agreement, your community can contract with the Census Bureau for a special census
  - For details, see *Minnesota Statutes*, 473.24
  - Process described on the Census Bureau's website: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/specialcensus.html>
- This year, the Census Bureau must receive your request by June 15, 2017
  - After that, superseded by 2020 Census preparation





# Why our estimates vary from Census Bureau estimates

	Metropolitan Council	Census Bureau
Estimate date	April 1	July 1
Post-2010 housing stock changes	Comprehensive list of changes to housing stock	Conversions not captured; many other permitted units missing
Occupancy rate and average household size multipliers	Differentiated by housing type; reflects most recent data	Not differentiated by housing type; from 2010 Census
Group quarters population	Surveyed every year	Trended from 2010 with a small list of facilities





# Looking ahead to the 2020 Census

- The foundation of 2011-2019 estimates is the 2010 housing unit count
- Accurate 2020 count → More accurate 2021-2029 estimates
- Other benefits:
  - Influences federal and state funding
  - Influences congressional apportionment and legislative redistricting





# Looking ahead to the 2020 Census

- Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
  - Ensure that Census Bureau's address list includes all housing units



May 2017:  
Census Bureau  
informational  
webinars

July 2017:  
Invitation to  
participate

Fall 2017:  
Census Bureau  
training  
workshops

Winter/spring  
2018: Review  
and update  
Census Bureau  
address file

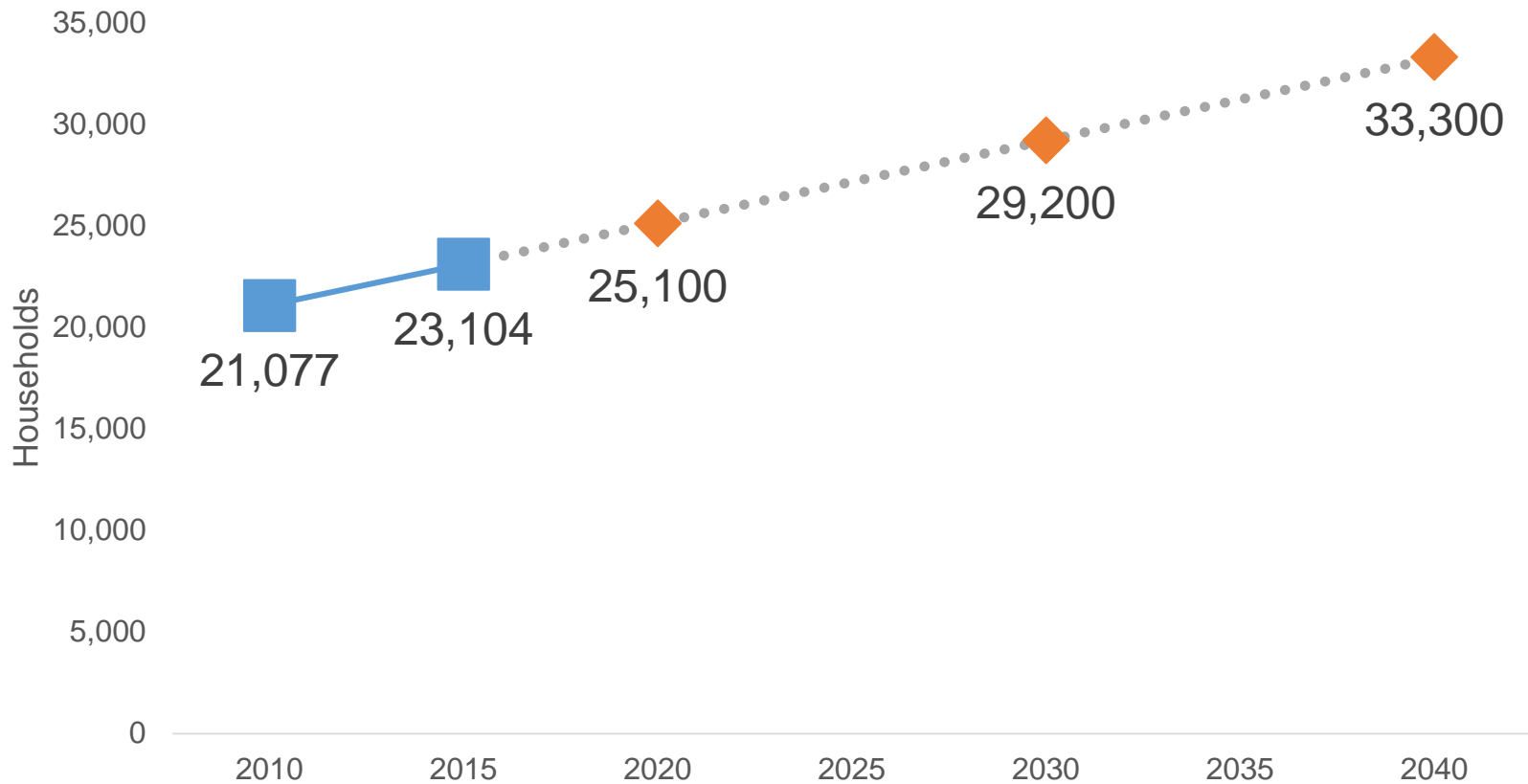


E-mail [Matt.Schroeder@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:Matt.Schroeder@metc.state.mn.us) for webinar schedule



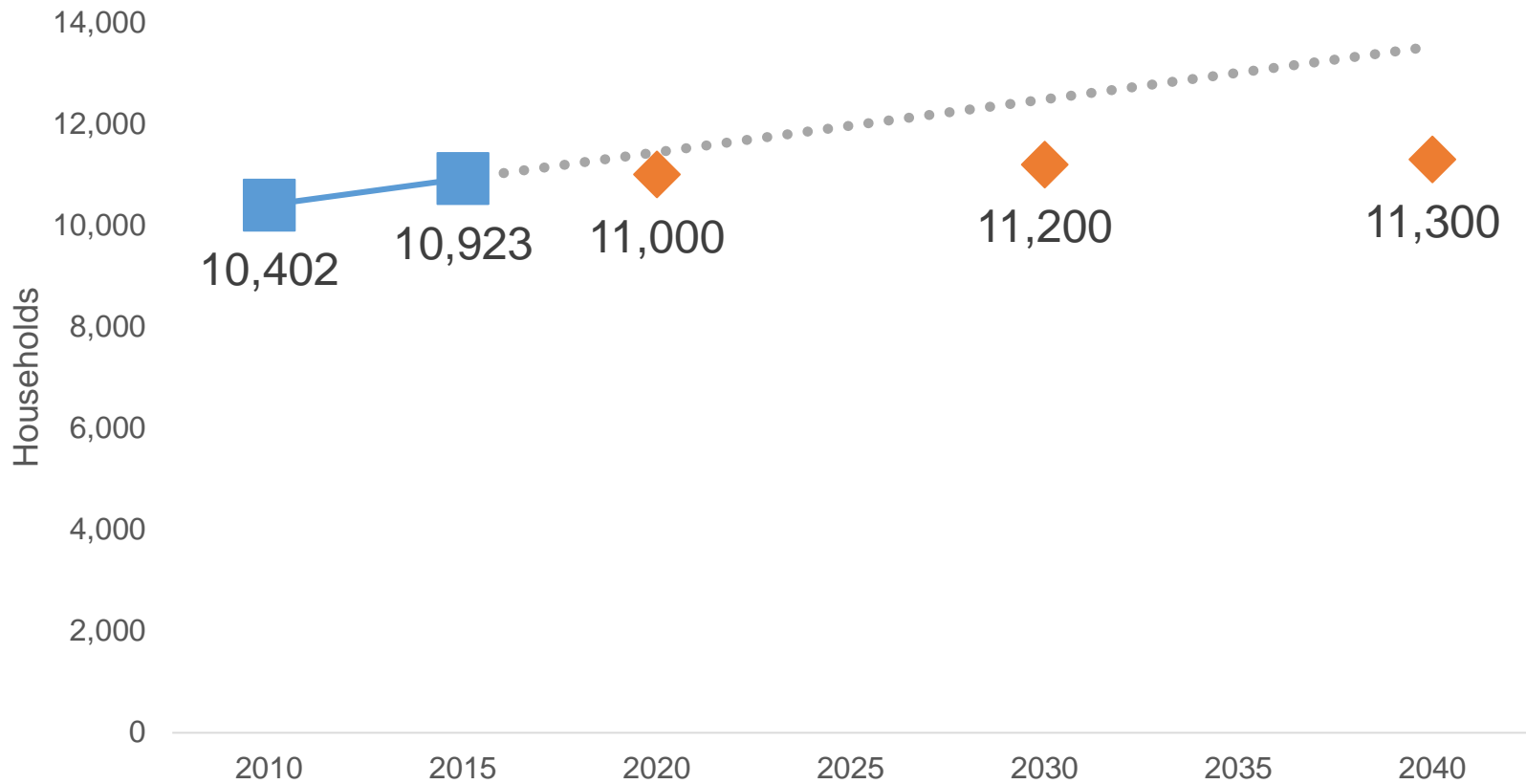


# Using estimates to inform comprehensive plan forecasts





# Using estimates to inform comprehensive plan forecasts



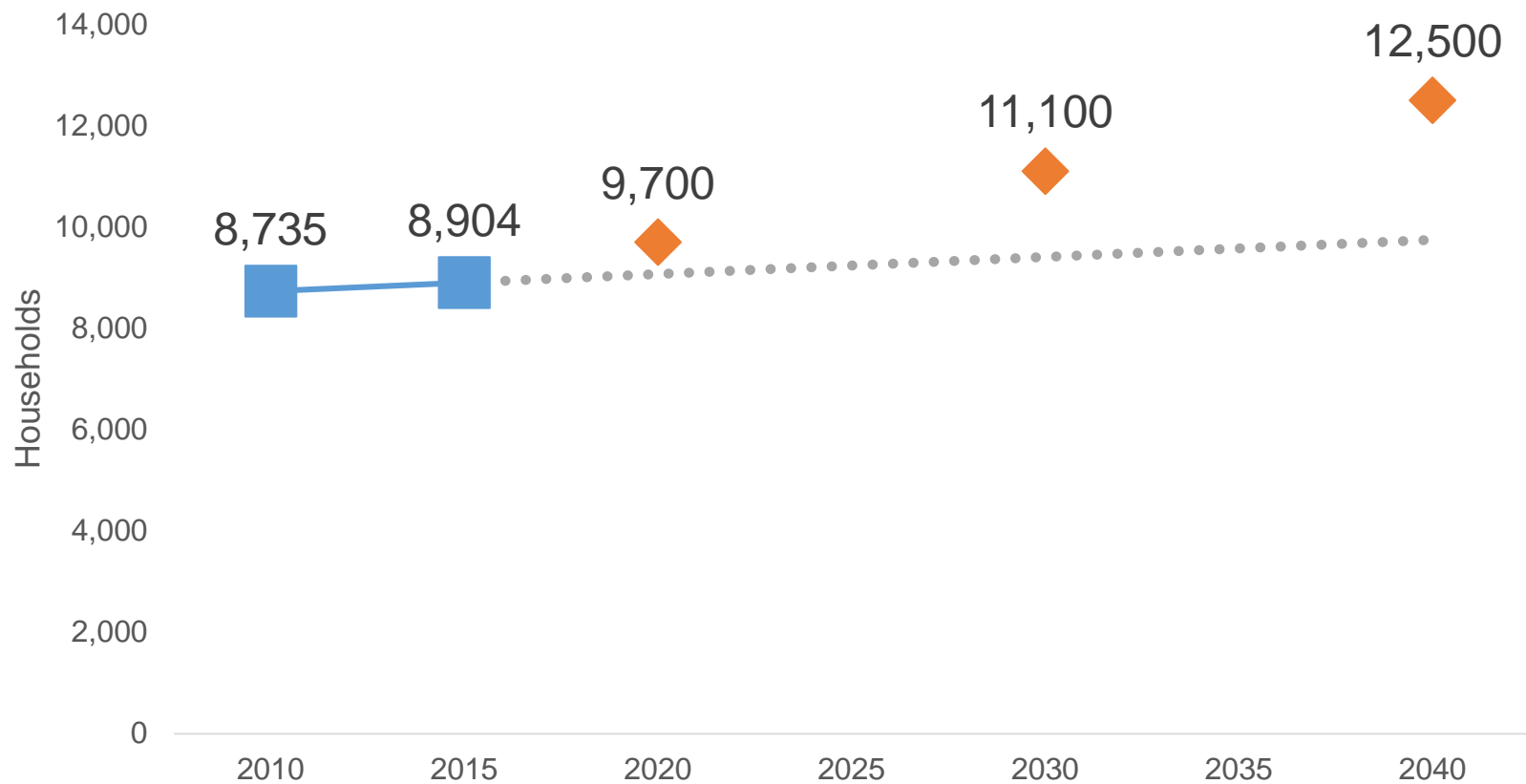
**PlanIt**







# Using estimates to inform comprehensive plan forecasts

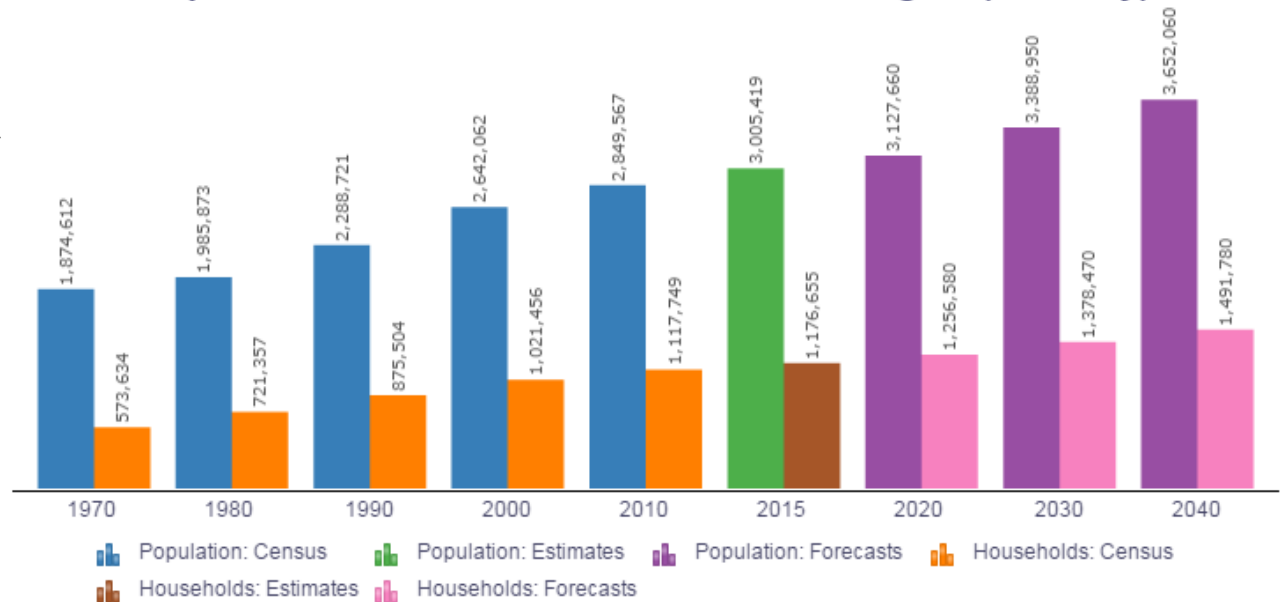




# Using estimates to inform comprehensive plan forecasts

### Population and Households in Twin Cities Region (7-county)

1. Go to [metro council.org/data](http://metro council.org/data)
2. Click “Community Profiles”
3. Select your community
4. Go to the “People” tab



Click a population column for the mix of population in households and population in group quarters (not available for forecast years).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census, Metropolitan Council Annual Estimates, and Metropolitan Council Forecasts.



# Resources

**PlanIt**

<https://www.metrocouncil.org/PlanIt>



<https://metrocouncil.org/populationestimates>

United States™  
**Census**  
**2020**

<https://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/luca.html>





# Questions?

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# Upcoming Events

## **Workshop: Interactive Community Engagement**

Presented by James Rojas

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

## **Workshop: Redevelopment**

Thursday, June 22, 2017

## **Webinar: Integrating Economic Development Strategies into Everyday Planning**

Presented by Corrin Wendell

Thursday, July 13, 2017

\*Look for the 2017 PlanIt Schedule of Events on the website