



Information Item

Introduction to Metro Area Water Supply Plan Update and first chance for input on Chapters 1 and 2 and concepts for Subregional chapters



Goals for today



Topics

- Ask of Environment Committee
- Metro Area Water Supply Plan purpose
- Draft content: chapters one and two
- Subregional engagement
- Next steps

Ask of Environment Committee



Consider water supply impacts of policy updates

As the committee works to update regional policy, keep in mind:

- What we have and will hear from water supply stakeholders about where regional support is needed
- How updated water policies may impact local water supply implementation

Comments shared in this meeting and through future Water Resource Policy Plan engagement will be shared with the Metro Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC) as the Metro Area Water Supply Plan is updated.

A current rough draft of Metro Area Water Supply Plan is available online with [7/11/2023 Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee meeting agenda](#).



Our work reflects the region's existing conditions and emerging changes

Our shared values reflect **the core beliefs** that guide how we work toward the vision of **what we want to achieve**.

The goals and objectives articulate **desired end states** and **achievable results** that advance toward them, to achieve the vision.

Policies set the **intent and approach to regional issues** that will help achieve goals and objectives – policies clarify expectations for both Council and partners.

Policies are implemented through **specific actions by the Council and partners**.

Proposed Contents: Updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan



Part 1 Desired Outcomes

- Rationale and approach to regional planning
- Regional desired outcomes with 2050 water supplies in mind

Part 2 Context

- Regional summary of information that provides context for water supply planning, describes the current state of sustainable water supply practices, and supports the development of measurable and trackable regional targets

Part 3 Subregional Info

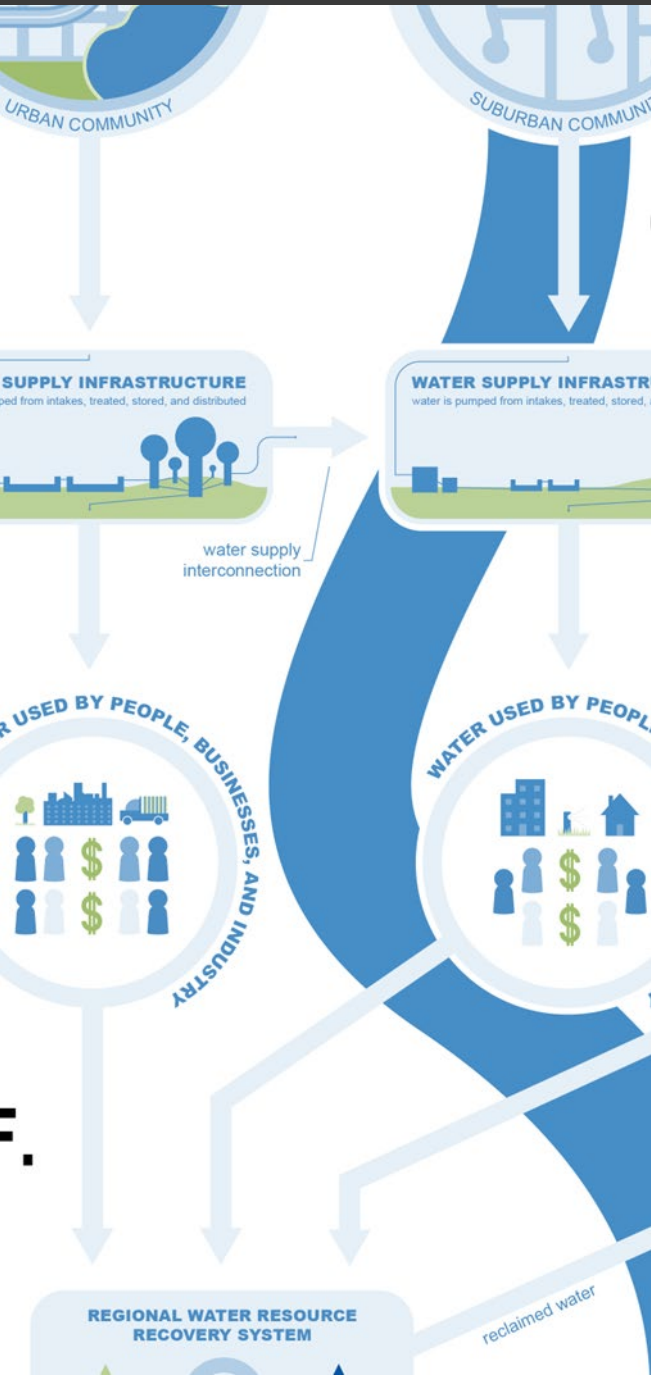
- Subregional information related to water, land use, and other factors
- Key water supply issues, risks and opportunities identified by stakeholders
- Implementation needs (high-level)

Draft chapters one and two

Metro Water Supply Plan update



Current status of chapter one



Minor changes since 12/20/22 draft based on input

- MAWSAC and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) joint meeting in December 2022, subregional water supply group workshop in March 2023.
- Revisions:
 - Shift in terms to be consistent with Met Council Regional Development Guide and Water Resources Policy Plan terminology. Vision/goal/objectives now desired outcomes.
 - Clearer acknowledgement that the Metro Area Water Supply Plan is connected and part of to the Water Resources Policy Plan. **MAWSAC is still the approving body.**
 - Minor text changes.

Introducing first draft of chapter two



Input and considerations

- MAWSAC and TAC: 2022 report and December 2022 joint meeting
- Subregional work group members: March 2023 workshop
- Call for measurable outcomes, metrics for tracking high-level regional progress
- Request to highlight region-wide challenges and strategies
- Benefit of providing concise, high-level context to engage state, regional and local leaders and residents. More detail available through resources such as Water Supply Planning Atlas.
- Connection to and consistency with developing regional policies

Proposed chapter two content

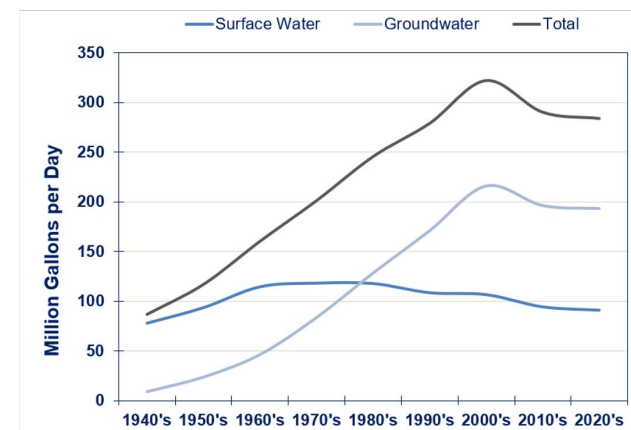
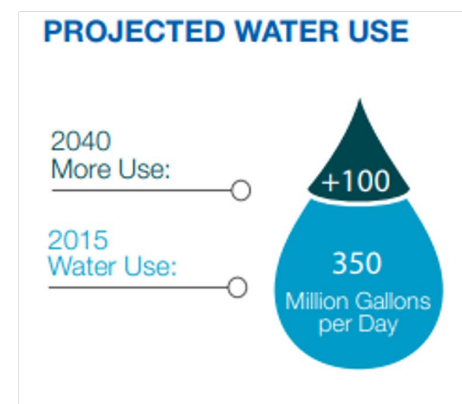
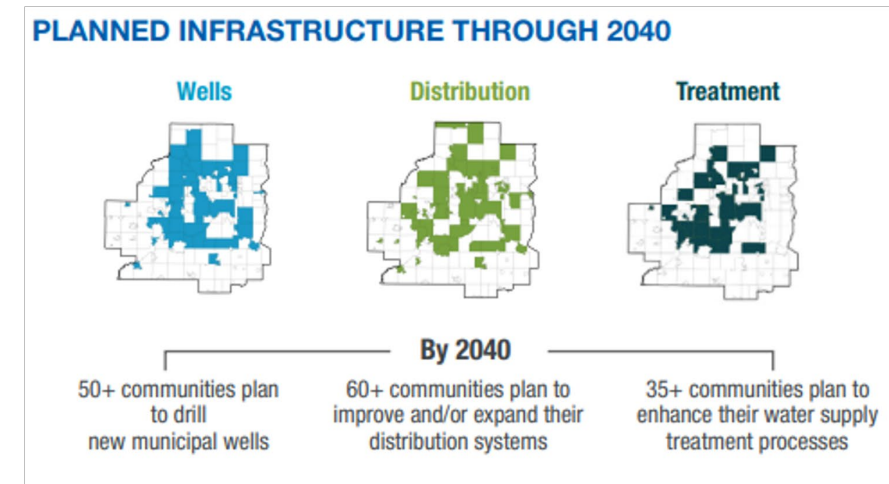
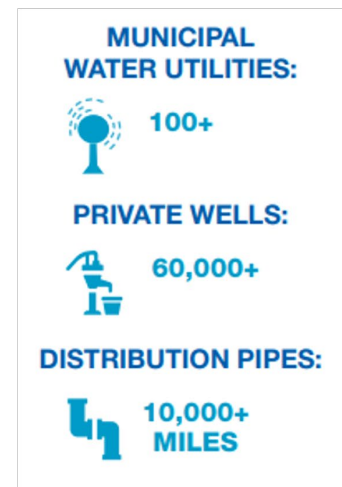
High-level summary providing regional context

- Regional water supply setting
 - What is the impact and scale of water supply management in the region?
 - What do we use water for in the region?
 - How much water do we use for those different purposes?
 - Where does our water come from?
 - What are limits of our water sources?
 - What is the infrastructure that connects sources to users?
- Regional challenges
- Regional strategies
- Regional dashboard measures to frame progress

Chapter two will refer readers to more detailed information in the Water Supply Planning Atlas as appropriate.

Example graphics to support chapter two content (to be updated with input)

What messages are most important to convey to mayors and city councils, legislators, other decision-makers and influencers?



Considering regional dashboard measures to frame progress

A sustainable water supply for the entire region, now and in the future, is possible when:

The Council and its partners focus on improving outcomes in key areas.

This is advanced by:

- Enhanced collaboration and capacity
- System assessment
- Evaluation of mitigation measures
- Planning and implementation

Success in the region might be tracked using:

Available or
new
measures:

Investments

Actions

Outcomes

Examples of draft dashboard measures

Investment

- State funding for regional and subregional water supply planning and implementation
- Council investment in partnerships to reuse reclaimed wastewater
- Organizational collaboration on legislative efforts and funding recommendations

Actions

- Number of partners collaborating on water supply
- Current state of sustainable water supply practices
- Planning and zoning controls for wellhead protection and recharge areas

Outcomes

- Customer confidence and satisfaction
- Available capacity
- Total water use by source
- Water use per person
- Trends in water levels and water quality

Subregional Engagement

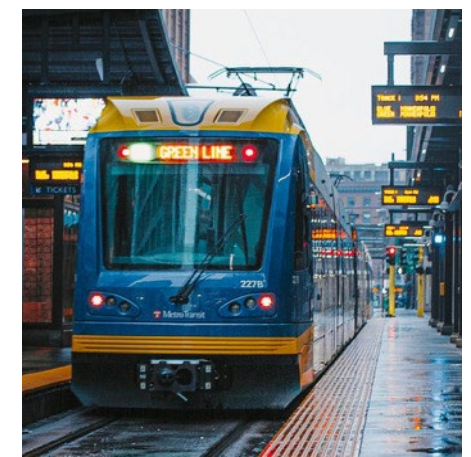
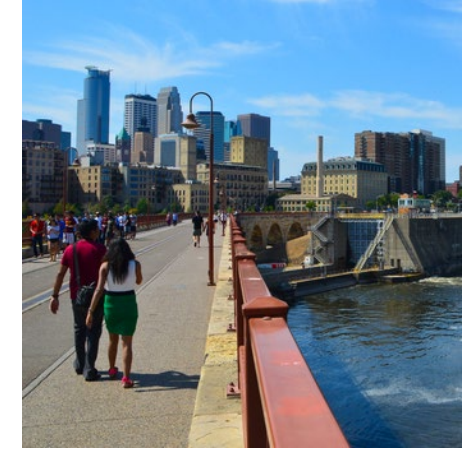
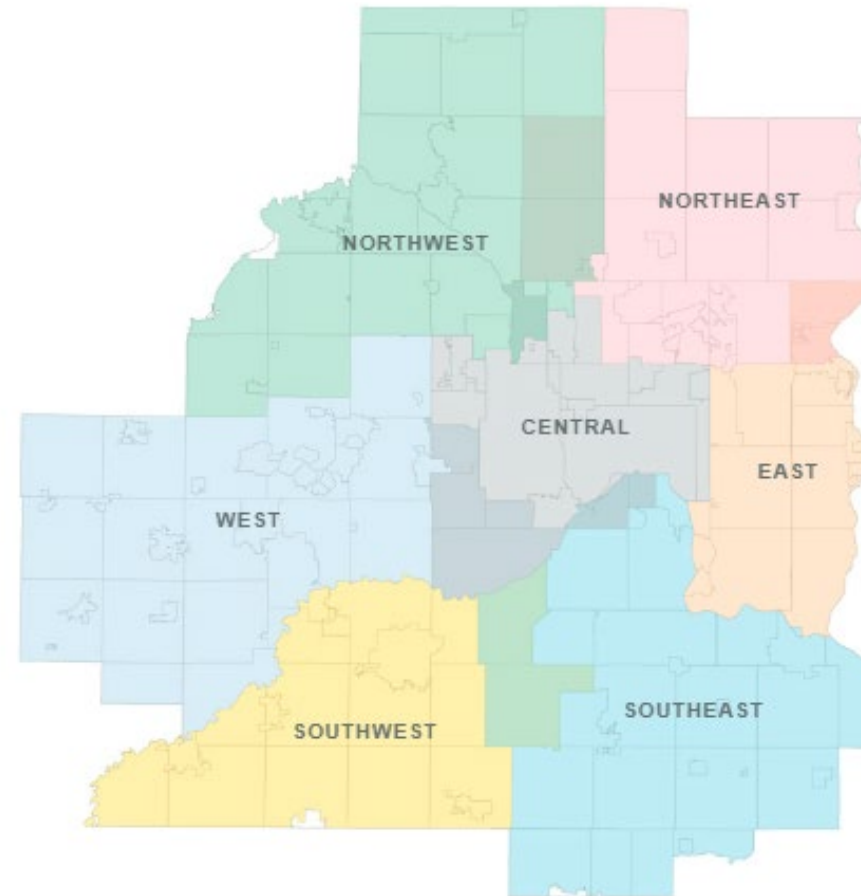
Metro Water Supply Plan update and
implementation



Purpose of this effort

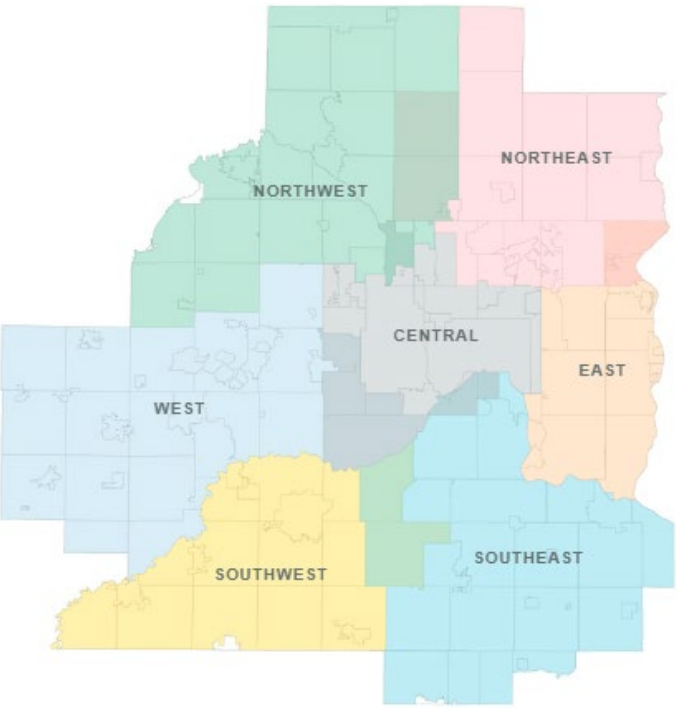
To build shared understanding of the following at a subregional level:

- Context and current conditions
 - Definition of success
 - Issues and barriers
 - Strategies to address them
 - Practices
 - Policies
 - Partnerships
-
- Timeline/sequencing
 - Resources needed to sustain effort towards success over time



Using the input

"Asking a question is a promise to do something with the answer."



- **Subregional** recommendations
- **Regional** recommendations

Metro Area Water Supply Plan



Water Resources Policy Plan



Relationships, trust, and a common path forward, leading to action

Context for this work



This is connected to more than just the Metro Area Water Supply Plan (MWSP)

Avoid duplication, leverage past work, tee up what comes next

- Products and processes—a few of the known connections:
 - Water Resources Policy Plan and Regional Development Guide
 - Water Supply Atlas
 - Research papers
 - Technical tools and information
- Less-tangible efforts
 - Integrated water planning
 - Enhanced trust with and among subregional partners
 - Ongoing and future relationships

General, high-level approach

Gather data and design approach

- Determine subregion boundaries
- Harvest themes and information from completed work
- Identify internal leads for each subregion and collaboration approach
- Establish core teams for each subregion

May-June

Engagement within subregions

- Host core team kick-off
 - Add to participant list
 - Confirm how to host conversations
- Host broader stakeholder conversations (likely 2-3 in each subregion)

July-November

Develop draft MWSP content

- Develop draft content for subregional chapters based on engagement
- Check for completeness and accuracy at MAWSAC/TAC and WAG, with subregional representation
- Articulate continued collaboration approach

December-February

Core Team Makeup



One for each subregion

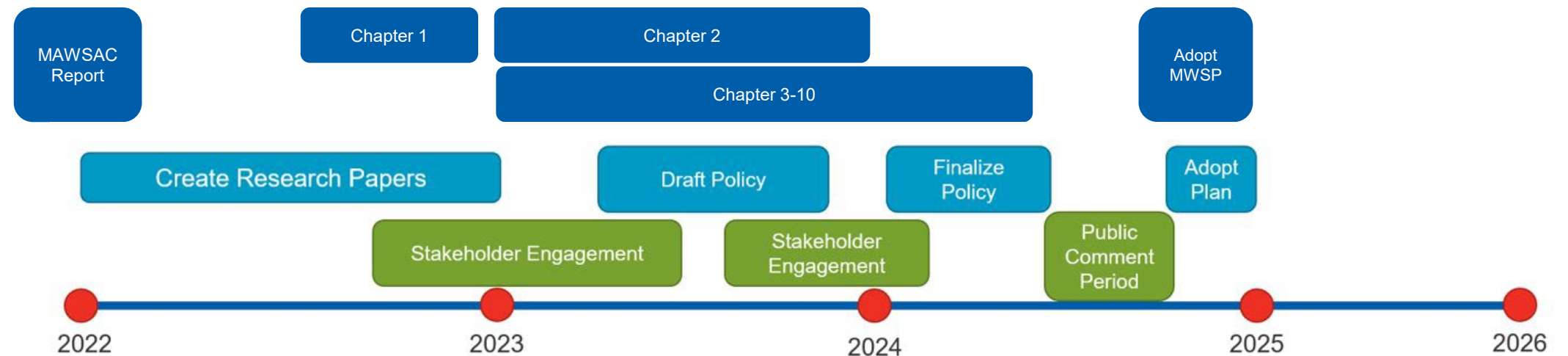
- Participants chosen for invitation based on
 - Recent involvement
 - Subregional workshop
 - MAWSAC/TAC, WAG
 - Water Supply Planning Atlas
 - Ability to promote one water approach
- Aiming for 3-5 core team members in each
- Balance of perspectives
 - Geography
 - Size
 - Relationship to water planning
 - Surface Water
 - Groundwater
 - Land Use

Status

Moving from design to kick-off

- Boundaries set
- Data is still being compiled
- Staff that will manage the effort in each subregion have been identified
 - Lead and support staff from Water Resources
 - Liaison from Local Planning Assistance
- Core Team invitations have gone out, kick offs in July and August

Overall process timeline and next steps



Upcoming work:

- Revise draft content based on committee and staff input
- Summer engagement to support subregional chapters
- TAC and MAWSAC input to water policy development and projects
- Development and approval of Metro Area Water Supply Plan



Thank You

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