



Update on Planning Process

Equity Advisory Committee

May 15, 2024



Today's Conversation



Regional Planning Background

Updates on Each of the Policy Areas

- Land Use
- Housing
- Water
- Parks
- Transportation

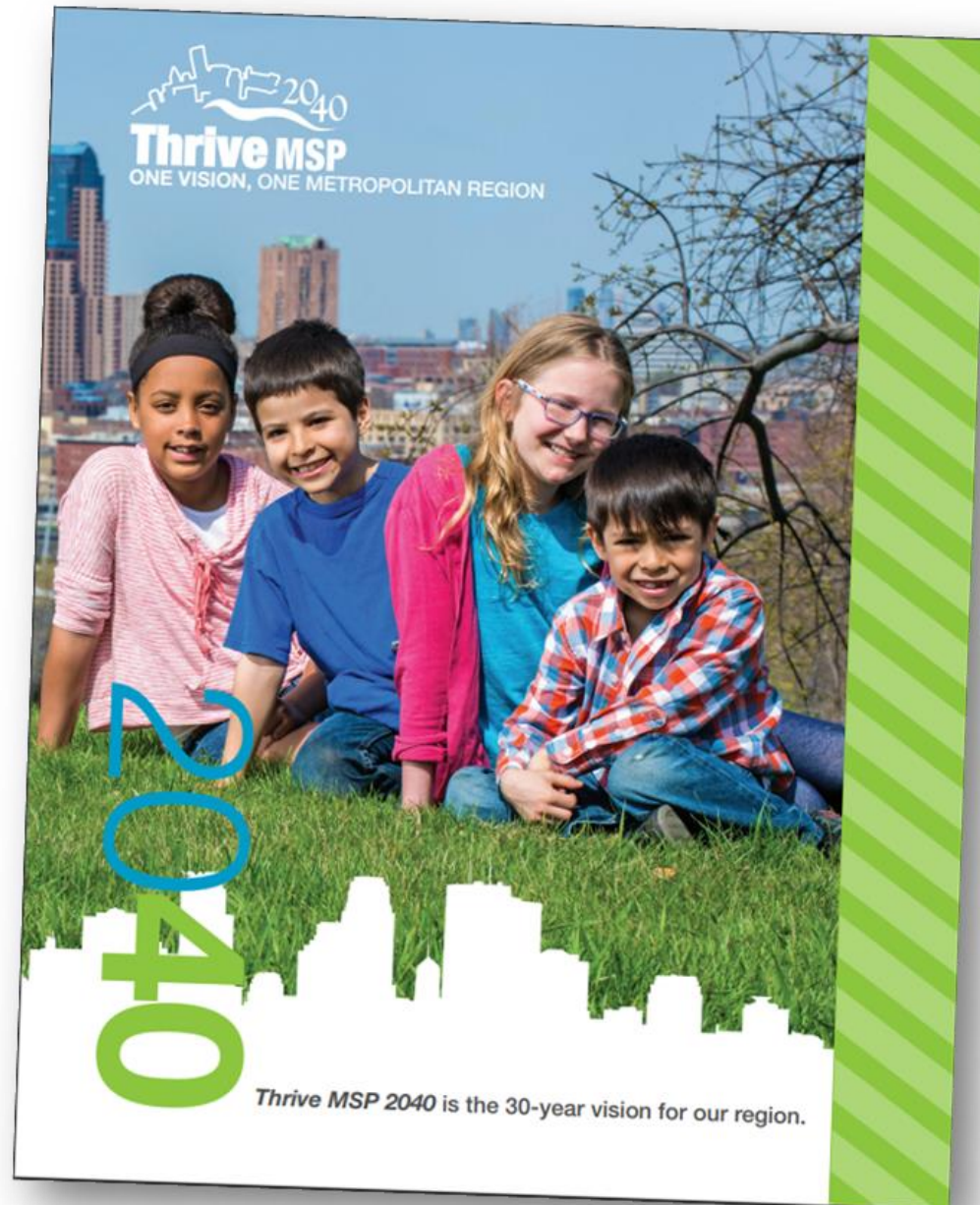
Consolidated Timeline to Adoption

Discussion

Why Regional Planning?



Statute Requires Development Guide



The Metropolitan Council must prepare and adopt ... a comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area...prescribing guides for the orderly and economical development, public and private, of the metropolitan area. The comprehensive development guide must recognize and encompass physical, social, or economic needs of the metropolitan area and those future developments which will have an impact on the entire area including but not limited to such matters as land use, climate mitigation and adaptation, parks and open space land needs, the necessity for and location of airports, highways, transit facilities, public hospitals, libraries, schools, and other public buildings. (Minn. Stat. 473.145)

Regional Vision

A prosperous, equitable, and resilient region with abundant opportunities for all to live, work, play, and thrive.



Regional 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, access, and affordability.

We lead on addressing climate change.

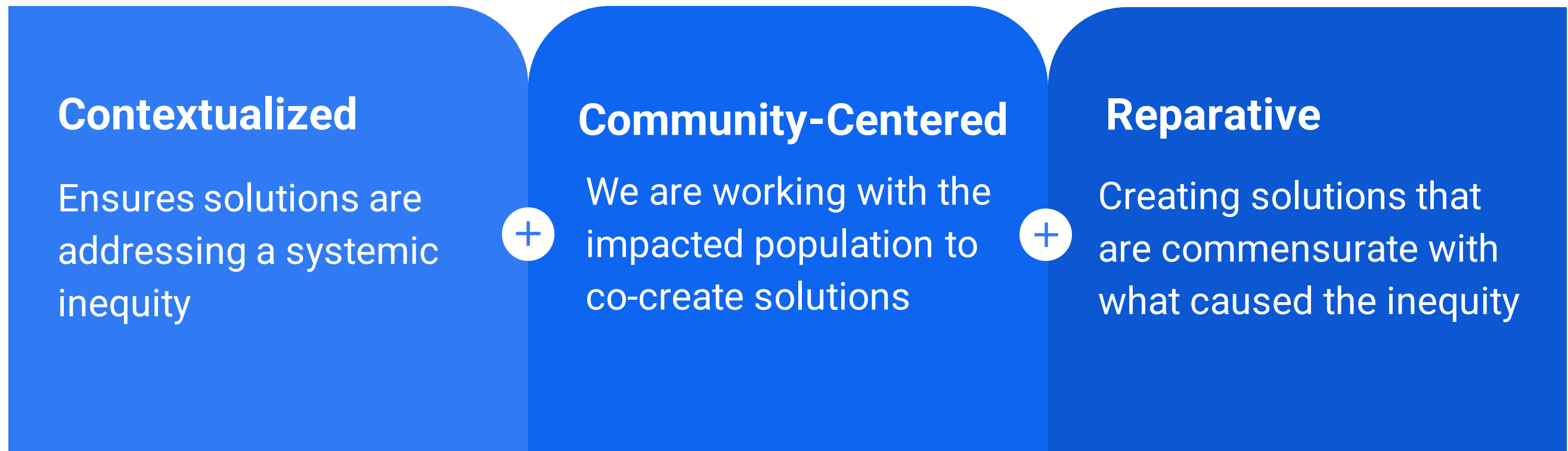
We have mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and have adapted to ensure that our communities and systems are resilient to climate impacts.

We protect and restore natural systems.

We protect, integrate, and restore natural systems to protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for the people of our region.

Equity Framework

Grounding Concepts



~ Endorsed September 2023

Land Use Policy



Focus for 2050



A people-centered approach - Elevate the voices of underrepresented communities; value their feedback in equal measure; consider the individual experience within the built form.

Manage growth responsibly and respectfully - Balance competing interests and perspectives of many stakeholders and partners

Aligning need with opportunity - People have what they need within a proximity they choose, with travel and housing options that meet their needs

Community connections - Support communities of all types and re-establish social connections

Natural systems - Value the environment more holistically, including all living beings; more than just for extractive value.

Climate resilience - Through an EJ lens, focus adaptation and mitigation measures to build local climate resilience through development practices

Equitable development - Remedy discriminatory land use practices

Economic wellbeing – Support the economic health of people, address economic inequities, and foster a green economy

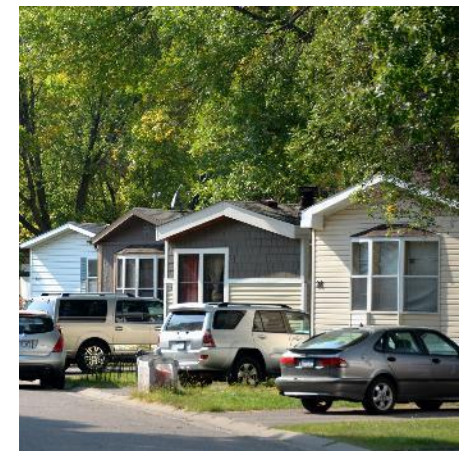
Land Use Policy

Key takeaways

- Need for clear identification of Council and/or Community Roles
- Need for all community types to be able to “see” themselves in the plans
- Uncertainty about what requirements will result from new policies
- Support for connections between land use and other policy areas
- Support for technical assistance and planning resources
- Need for ongoing discussions as policy plans continue to develop

Broad changes

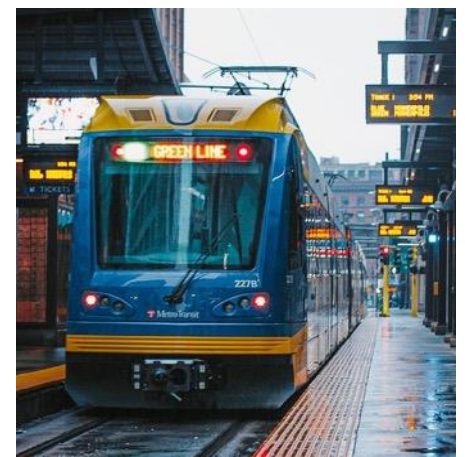
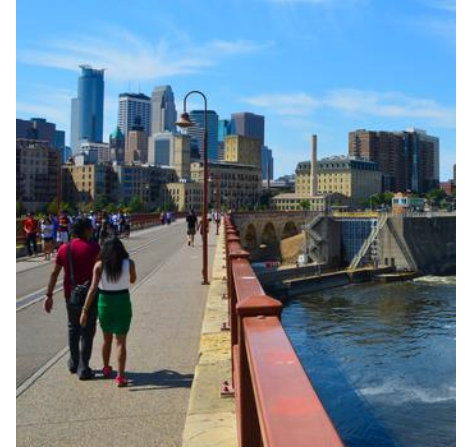
- Added contextual language throughout for better understanding of purpose and intended outcomes
- Clarified and reorganized where needed
- Consolidated and streamlined; reduced repetition
- Used more concise language
- Used terminology consistently



More Engagement Planned

Internal and external coordination and engagement

- Summer engagement opportunities with partners:
 - Forecasts engagement through June
 - Land use and density summer workshops with Metro Cities
 - Regional Planning Advisory Group (Metro Cities) special meeting
 - American Indian Advisory Council
 - Rural communities
- Council members
 - RDG Council member Work Group
 - Council standing committees and advisory committees
- Ongoing cross-divisional team coordination
 - Integration Team & Policy Leads Team
 - Equity Task Force and Environmental Justice Task Force



Up Next for Land Use Policy



Towards the public comment draft

- Integrate upcoming and ongoing engagement feedback
- Review draft language against:
 - Equity Framework
 - Environmental Justice Framework
 - Community-Centered Engagement Framework
 - Anti-Displacement Framework
- Balance revisions; weigh feedback of underrepresented communities to ensure voices are heard equitably.
- Follow Council direction to be bold, address regional racial disparities, and center community voices in policy development.

Housing Policy



Progress So Far

Initiation

2022 Quarter 4 –
2023 Quarter 2

- Scoping Projects
- Staffing
- Key Data Points
- Identify necessities
- Draft engagement plan

Engagement

2023 Quarter 3 –
2023 Quarter 4

- Community Exchange Sessions
- Technical Advisory Group
- Policy development

Execution

2023 Quarter 4 –
2024 Quarter 2

- Plan development
- Present to and incorporate feedback from the RDG Work Group, Housing Work Group, Housing Integration Team
- 60% Draft Complete in May

Close

2024 Quarter 3 –
2025 Quarter 1

- Final draft (~90%) plan complete
- Public comment period
- Plan refinement
- Council approval

Ongoing Engagement: Regional housing meetings, Regional Planning Advisory Group, city staff, participating in ongoing RDG Engagement

Housing Policy Plan



Key Takeaways

- Clear on how this will affect local government work
- Clarity on concepts and terms
- Housing at 60-80% AMI is still needed
- Safety and services for affordable housing development
- Supplying 30% AMI is a great priority -- continues to be expensive
- The focus of the HPP will make a “better end product for cities”

Focus for 2050



- **Resident Perspectives** - Grounding our objectives in resident engagement themes
- **Choice** - Affordable housing is needed across the region
- **Ownership** - There is a gap in affordable ownership properties, how can we help fill that gap
- **Quality** - Maintenance of affordable housing is key to safe stable housing
- **Stability** - Housing insecurity is a growing issue
- **Preservation** - Preservation of affordable housing
- **Community connection** – Ensuring people can stay where they live and have the amenities and services they need
- **Environmental Justice** - Climate change resilient homes for those in need

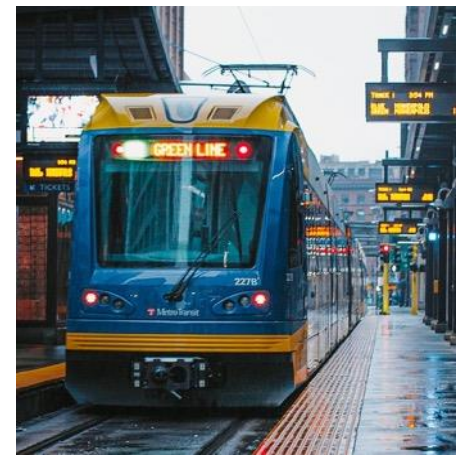
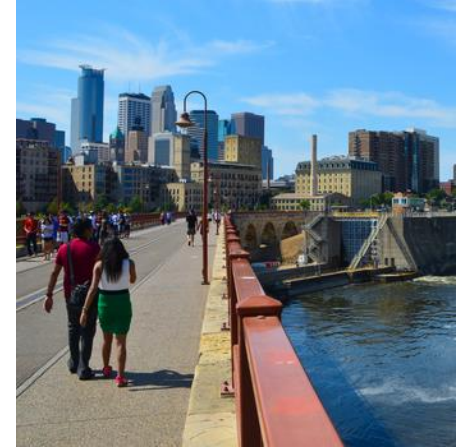
Up Next for Housing

Recent past

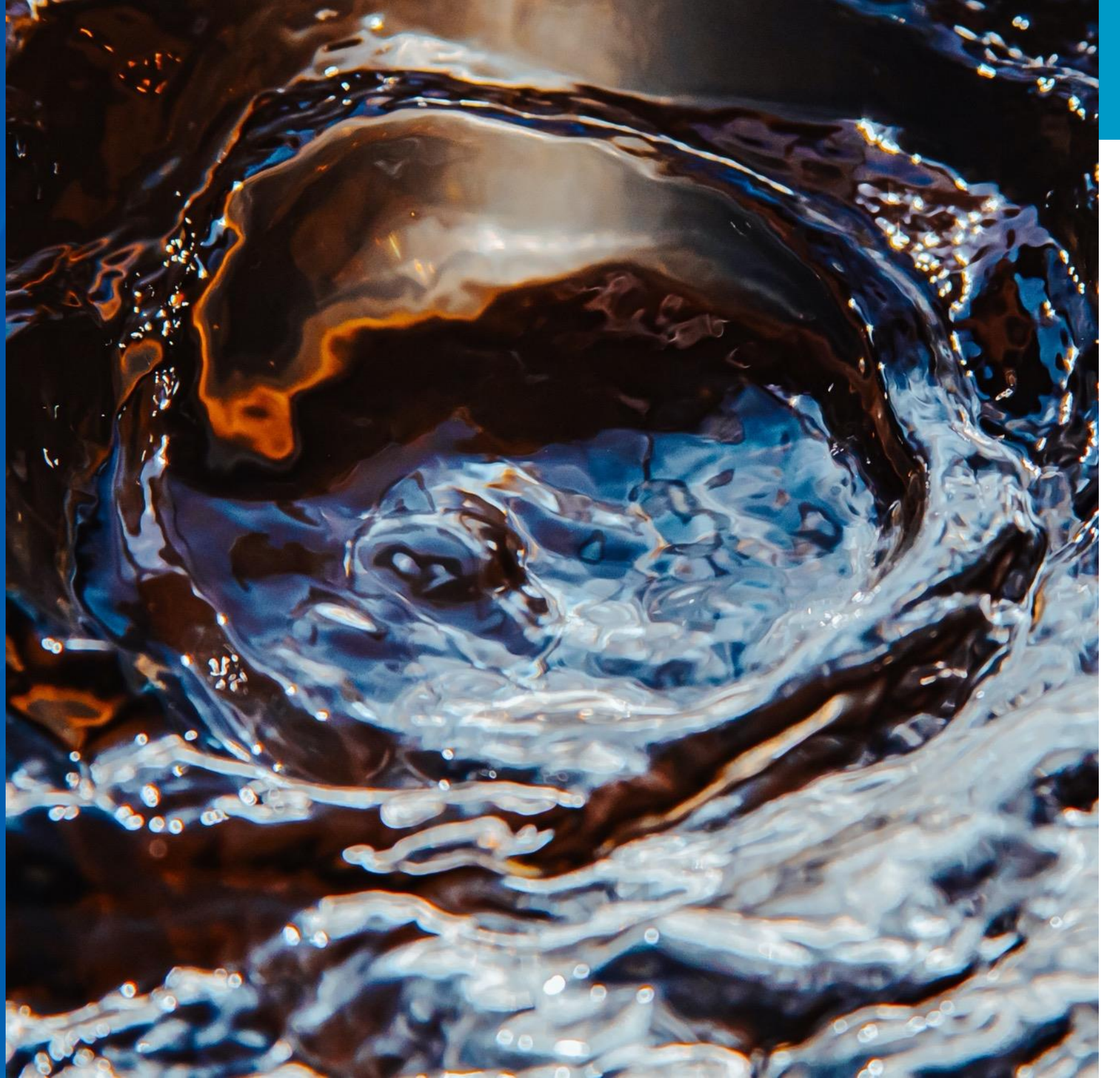
- Draft policies & actions circulated in April and May:
 - Housing Work Group
 - RDG Work Group
 - Local Government Focus Group
- 60% Draft posted for CDC, May 6

Near future

- 60% Draft presentation to CDC, May 20
- Art + Policy visual artist collaboration (with Land Use)
- Regional Planning Advisory Group presentation, June
- Did we hear you right? Circulate back to:
 - Community engagement
 - Technical Advisory Group



Water Policy



Water Policy



Plan Status

- Staff updated the Committee of the Whole on April 17, 2024.
- Plan authors are continuing to integrate stakeholder and editing comments into draft plan document.
- Draft Metro Area Water Supply Plan has been sent out to MAWSAC and TAC for their review and comments.
- Staff will be presenting to the Environment Committee on June 11th to discuss plan narrative and content.

Draft WPP objectives



CLIMATE: Create climate-resilient water sources, ecosystems, and water infrastructure through mitigation, innovative design, and adaptive planning.



INVESTMENTS: Optimize regional water protection, planning, and infrastructure investments.



HEALTH: Protect public and ecosystem health to maintain, restore, and enhance a high quality of life, regional waters, and water services across the region .



EQUITY: Water benefits and services are accessible and shared amongst all residents and communities.

Draft Policy Topics



1. Integrated Water
2. Water Equity
3. Water Monitoring, Data, and Assessment
4. Climate Change Resilience
5. Water-Centered Growth and Development
6. Regional Wastewater Service Area
7. Conservation and Sustainability
8. Water Reuse
9. Pollution Prevention and Contaminant Management
10. Regional Wastewater Operation and Finance
11. Inflow and Infiltration
12. Water Sector Workforce Development

Engagement Take Aways



I can see my previous comment in the plan!

We love that there's a workforce development policy.

We need more opportunities like this.

This plan is very clear and straight-forward.

Environmental Services' staff are proving that they want to engage with us in new ways.

I learned a lot in every conversation.

Future WPP engagements

There's more to come...

- Thursday, May 16th from 1-3pm at Shoreview Community Center
- Thursday, May 30th from 1:00-2:30pm virtual information session
- Wednesday, June 26th from 6-8pm at Celts Pub in Farmington



Regional Parks and Trails Policy



Parks and Trails Engagement



Recent Stakeholder and Partner Engagement

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission
March, April, May

Community Development Committee
April, May

Regional Park Implementing Agency Directors
March

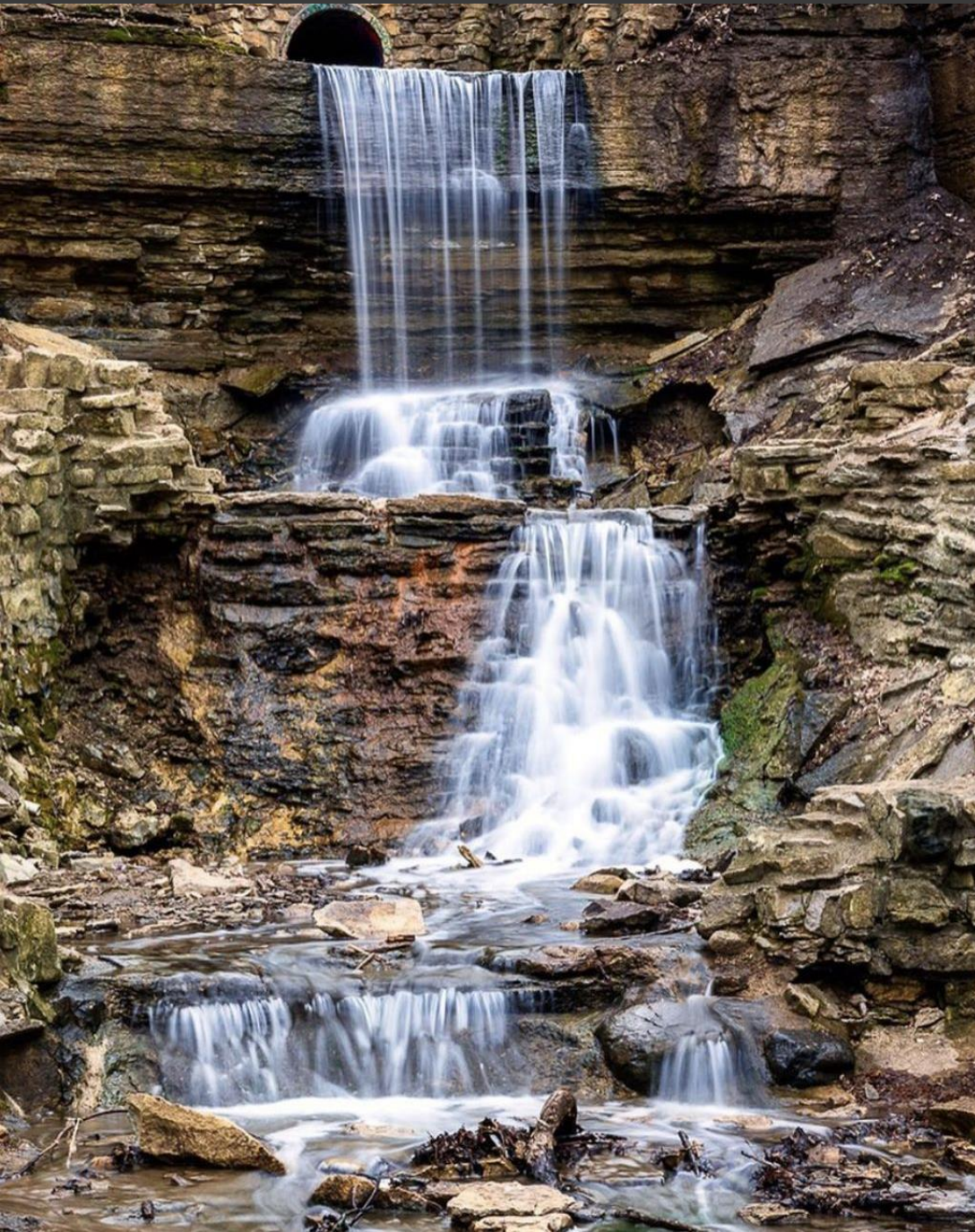
American Indian Advisory Council
April

Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee
April

Implementing Agency-Council Workgroups
March, April, May



Key Changes Proposed for 2050



Themes

- **Introduction** - Add Objectives, Existing Conditions, and Research and Engagement Summary.
- **System Plan** - Add two new classifications: Cultural Landscapes and Open Space/ Natural Areas.
- **Natural Systems** - Reframe existing “Siting and Acquisition” policy and actions as an action.
- **Climate Resilience** - Add new policy and six actions focused on Council research, agency coordination of operations, and public awareness and education.
- **Planning and System Protection** - Move select content to Planning Handbook.
- **Recreation, Facilities, and Programming** - Add, modify actions on fostering equity, cross-sector coordination, and raising awareness of Regional Parks and Trails System.
- **Finance** - Split section into two parts: Actions and Statutory Requirements.

Up Next for Parks and Trails Policy



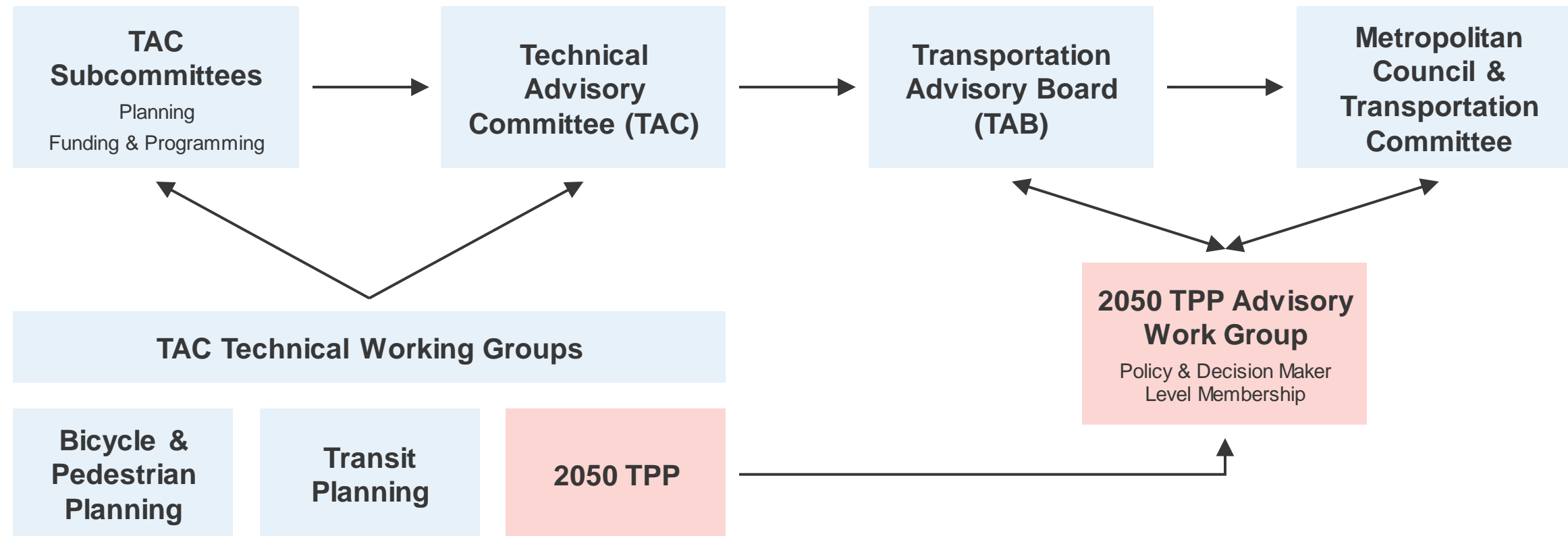
The Path to the 90% Draft Plan

- Continue discussion of proposed **Cultural Landscape classification** with American Indian Advisory Council, City of Saint Paul, Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi, and others.
- Launch Agency-Council workgroup focused on enhancing coordination of **Regional Trails** and the **Regional Bicycle Transportation Network**, and other aspects of a growing Regional Trail System.
- **Continue engagement** of Regional Park Implementing Agencies, Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission, Community Development Committee, and others.
- **Continue to refine and update** draft policies, actions, and development of the Parks and Trails **Planning Handbook** based on feedback and advice of all stakeholders and partners.

Transportation Policy



2050 TPP Working Groups



Past 2050 TPP Work



May 2022 – May 2024 Work

- [Transportation System Performance Evaluation](#)
- 10+ contributing studies and plans, for example:
 - Regional Travel Demand Management Study
 - Transportation Attitudes and Needs Assessment
 - Twin Cities Highway Mobility Needs Analysis
- [50+ listening sessions or interviews with government and community stakeholders](#)
- Draft objectives, policies, actions, and chapters
 - 8 policy development teams with external partners
 - 3 policy development workshops with external stakeholders
 - 2,000+ technical comments on draft content
- Developed funding assumptions, incorporating 2023 legislative changes
- Work Group discussions
 - [23 Technical Advisory Working Group meetings](#)
 - [14 Advisory Work Group meetings](#)

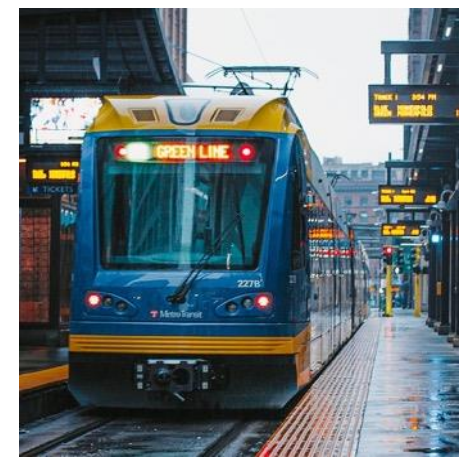
Plan Structure

Investment Direction

- Regional Transportation Finance
- Policies and Actions
- Highway Plan
- Transit Plan
- Freight Plan
- Pedestrian Plan
- Bicycle Plan
- Travel Demand Management Plan
- Aviation Plan

Supporting Documents

- Work Program
- Performance Outcomes
- Appendices
 - TIP
 - Project list
 - Federal Requirements
 - Functional Classification
 - Interchange Approval Process
 - Transit Design Guidelines
 - Environmental Justice
 - Congestion Management Process
 - Aviation (4-5 documents)



Draft Document Update (cont.)



Regional Development Guide Transportation Content

- Any necessary plan context (e.g., MPO planning area, plan development process)
- Goals and Policies Content Summary – to align with Regional Development Guide content
 - Equitable and Inclusive
 - Healthy and Safe
 - Dynamic and Resilient
 - Climate Change
 - Natural Systems
- Investment Summary
- Performance Outcomes Summary

Transportation Objectives



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 have better travel options beyond driving alone to meet their daily needs, with a focus on improving travel times, reliability, directness, and affordability.
- People have more predictable travel times when traveling on highways, with a focus on reducing.
- People and businesses can rely on predictable and cost-effective movement of freight and goods.

Climate Change Objectives

- The region's transportation system minimizes greenhouse gas emissions.
- People have more reliable access to zero emissions vehicle infrastructure.
- By 2050, the region reduces vehicle miles traveled by 20% per capita below 2019 levels.

Natural Systems Objectives

- The region's transportation system protects, restores, and enhances natural systems (e.g., air, water, vegetation, and habitat quality)

Wrap-up



Consolidated Timeline

Water, Transportation, Community Development, Metropolitan Council

- **May 15, 2024:** Present draft Metro Area Water Supply Plan to MAWSAC/TAC advisory committee for review
- **May 20, 2024:** Housing and Land Use draft review at Community Development Committee
- **May 28, 2024:** Present draft Water Policy chapter to Environment Committee for their review
- **June 4, 2024:** Present draft Water Policy chapter to Water Advisory Group (WAG) for their review
- **June 13, 2024:** TAC Planning action
- **June 18, 2024:** TAC recommends release Water Policy chapter for public comment
- **Early July (TBD):** WAG recommends release Water Policy chapter plan for public comment
- **July 3, 2024:** TAC action
- **July 10, 2024:** MAWSAC recommends release plan for public comment
- **July 17, 2024:** TAB action
- **July 22, 2024:** Transportation Committee action
- **July 23, 2024:** Environment Committee recommends release of plan for public comment
- **August 1, 2024:** MPOSC recommends Regional Parks and Trails chapter release for public comment
- **August 5, 2024:** Community Development Committee action
- **August 14, 2024:** Council action – Release Imagine 2050 for public comment
- **August 15, 2024:** Public comment draft posted

- **September 25, 2024** – Tentative formal public hearing
- **October 7, 2024** – Close of formal public comment period

Discussion



For today or future meetings

- Any topics you want to dive deeper into at a future meeting?
- As the policy plans move through their final development and review phase ahead of public comment, are there things staff should consider or look for?



Imagine 2050 Executive Co-sponsors

LisaBeth Barajas

Executive Director, Community Development

Charles Carlson

Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Services

Leisa Thompson

General Manager, Environmental Services

Find out more at
metro council.org/ imagine2050

