

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL TOUCH POINTS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

November 29, 2023

Key Message

- Thinking of many is that cities are more impacted by Met Council actions and policy-making than counties
- This misperception needs to be addressed if Met Council governance changes in the future, and county representation is left out of the new model
- Counties, depending on responsibilities, have as much - if not more - interaction with Met Council than many cities

Role of Metropolitan Council

Strongest interactions with Counties:

- ▣ transportation
- ▣ parks and trails
- ▣ surface water mgmt.
- ▣ GIS
- ▣ future WWTP planning
- ▣ housing shelter/homeless
- ▣ Agricultural/ greenspace preservation
- ▣ rural density policies

Strongest interactions with Cities:

- ▣ wastewater treatment
- ▣ MUSA expansions
- ▣ WAC/SAC fees
- ▣ drinking water mgmt.
- ▣ housing types /needs
- ▣ livable communities
- ▣ urban density policies
- ▣ plat monitoring

County Touch Points



County Touch Points - Transportation

- Council's Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) focuses on:
 - ▣ Principal and Minor Arterial System (primarily County or State Highways)
 - Traffic Volumes and Forecasts
 - System Connections
 - ▣ Transit System (primarily operated at a regional or county level; rarely at local level)
 - ▣ Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (primarily built and maintained at a regional or county level)
 - ▣ Freight System
 - ▣ Greenhouse Gas Discussions

County Touch Points – TAB/Met Council

- County Representative
 - ▣ Technical Committees – all 7 counties serve on all 3 committees (TAC, F&P, Planning)
- Solicitations
 - ▣ Principal and A minors – almost all County and State highways
 - ▣ Bridges – almost all County and State highways
 - ▣ Traffic – almost all County and State highways
- Approval of functional class changes

County Touch Points - Parks and Trails

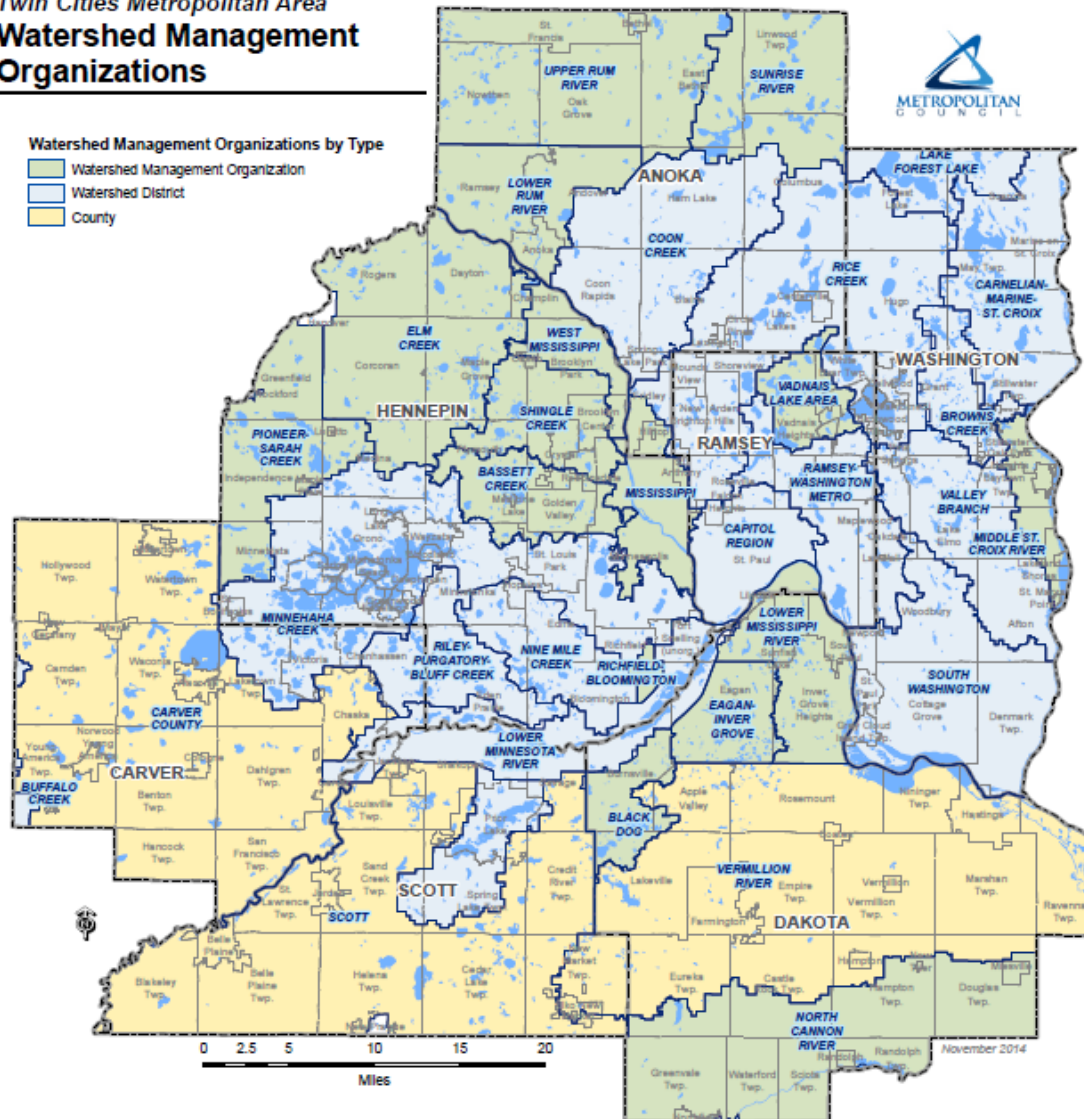
- Regional Parks Policy Plan
 - ▣ Policy framework for 10 regional park operating agencies
 - 6 Counties (Carver, Scott, Dakota, Washington, Anoka, Ramsey)
 - Bloomington, Minneapolis, St Paul
 - Three Rivers Park District – Hennepin County (+)
- Park and Trail Master Plans – approved by the Met Council
- Funding Allocation/Project Approval – State and Regional Bonds, Legacy, Environmental Trust Fund, State general fund
 - ▣ Capital Projects
 - ▣ Land Acquisition
 - ▣ Operational

County Touch Points - Water Resources

Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Watershed Management Organizations

Watershed Management Organizations by Type

- Watershed Management Organization
- Watershed District
- County



County Touch Points - Water Resources

- SW and South Metro areas are primarily County-based WMOs (Carver, Scott, Vermillion Joint Powers Org)
- Met Council interaction with WMOs
 - ▣ Technical studies
 - ▣ Technical assistance
 - ▣ Surface water monitoring
 - ▣ Watershed and local water plan reviews
- Increased Ground Water Discussions

County Touch Points - Metro GIS

- Seven metro counties provide:
 - ▣ Parcels
 - ▣ Addresses
 - ▣ Street center lines
 - ▣ Property information
- Policy Board comprised of County Commissioners from 7 counties plus reps from 2 metro cities and 2 regional agencies

County Touch Points - Land Use

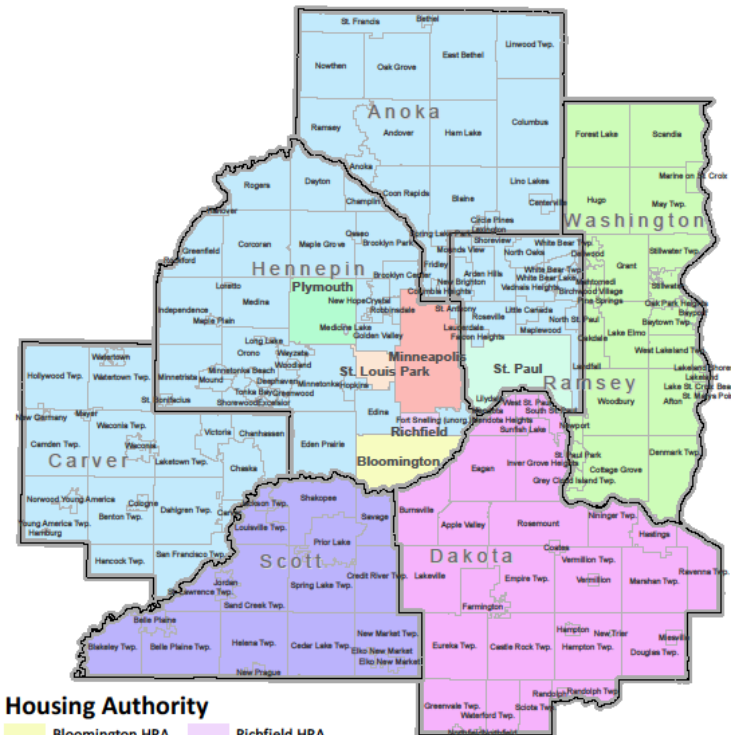
- County Land Use Plan
 - ▣ Rural densities consistent with Community Designation
 - ▣ Land Use Map changes require Council review
 - ▣ Cluster development regulations must be consistent with Council's Flexible Development Guidelines
- Regional Wastewater Planning
 - ▣ Future Wastewater Treatment Plants locations
 - ▣ Identifying Long Term Sewer Service Areas
- Ag Preserves Program – (primarily Counties)

County Touch Points - Housing

- ▣ Homeless /Shelter Work
 - Cities look to Counties and/or County Community Development Agencies for Affordable Housing Supports
 - Regional share of low- to moderate-income housing
 - Emphasis in providing services which is all County

County Touch Points - Housing

Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Section 8 Programs



City Touch Points - Transportation

- City Transportation Plans:
 - ▣ Utilize County Plan to identify principal and minor arterials and traffic modeling
 - Transportation Analysis Zone development coordination
 - ▣ Show future extensions of collectors
 - ▣ Show pedestrian and local bicycle network
 - ▣ Relationship with transit investment plan
 - ▣ Freight system planning
 - ▣ Airport zone planning

City Touch Points – TAB/Met Council

- Elected City Representation – 10
 - ▣ Technical Committees – some cities serve on all 3 committees (TAC, F&P, Planning)
 - ▣ Only members of Association of Metro Municipalities (AMM) are represented on committees, plus Minneapolis and St. Paul
- Solicitations – may submit for county or state highway

City Touch Points - Sanitary Systems

- Sanitary System Planning
 - ▣ interceptor extensions and capacity
 - ▣ wastewater flows tied to MC forecasts
- Inflow/Infiltration
- SAC (Sewer Availability Charge) Determination

City Touch Points - Land Use

- Land Use
 - MUSA/growth management
 - Urban density targets/community designations
 - Transit Oriented Development standards
 - Mix of land use types
 - Staging of land development
 - Comp Plan Amendments tied to land use change

City Touch Points - Housing

- Affordable Housing Scores/Allocations
 - ▣ Regional share of low- to moderate-income housing
 - ▣ Livable Communities Grants

Township Touch Points

- Townships are unique to the county they reside in
 - ▣ Townships that do their own planning/zoning have direct interaction with Met Council
 - ▣ Townships where the county does the planning/zoning, there is little direct interaction with Met Council
- Townships with planned or developed Regional Parks

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Summary



- Thinking is that cities are more impacted by Met Council actions and policy-making than counties
- Reality is both cities and counties need to be represented in any future Met Council governance model
- Local elected officials work with all elements of Met Council Comprehensive Plans