Shaping our Future

The role of the Metropolitan Council
Created in 1967 to:

- Plan for the orderly growth of the seven-county area
- Coordinate the delivery of services that couldn’t be provided efficiently by any one city or county
2010 budget expenditures: $738.6M

- Transportation 51%
- Environmental Services 16%
- Debt service 19%
- Passthrough 11%
- Planning and admin 3%
2010 budget revenue: $715.5M

- State funds: 31%
- Wastewater fees and SAC: 29%
- Transit fares: 14%
- Property taxes: 10%
- Federal funds: 12%
- Other: 4%
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Shaping our growth
Regional planning cycle

- 2030 Development Framework 2003-2004
- System Plans 2004-2005
- System Statements 2005
- Local Comp Plan Updates 2008
- Census 2000
- Local Planning Handbook

Metropolitan Council
Metro HRA

- Serves nearly 100 suburban and rural communities that don’t have their own HRA
- Provides federal housing assistance to 6,000 low-income families
Regional parks plan

- New parks needed by 2030
- Acquire land for parks needed after 2030
Regional Parks Foundation

• Help accelerate acquisition of needed park lands

• Leave legacy for future generations

Regional Parks Foundation
of the Twin Cities
Be A Friend To Our Parks

Our regional park system

The regional park system is an important part of Minnesotans' recreational and aesthetic. The system includes 52,000 acres with 49 regional parks and more than 150 miles of regional trails and special recreation areas. The system, including connecting trails from Elk River and Big Marine Parks, reaches into the heart of the Twin Cities area, including Lake and Cross Park in St. Paul. The regional park system serves an area greater than 2.5 million people.

The Metropolitan Council's 2020 Regional Parks Policy Plan calls for expanding the regional park system from today's 52,000 acres to nearly 70,000 acres and increasing the network of regional trails from 157 miles to 277 miles.

Many of the park system's valuable assets, including parks and natural areas, were created and maintained through a combination of public and private investment. Some and local governmental responsibilities for our natural resources, but regional organizations, foundations and individuals have helped shape the landscape by providing funding when it was needed to support conservation.

The Regional Parks Foundation provides those who value regional parks and trails in the Twin Cities region the opportunity to do more to support our park system. We can now see parks, trails and other resources for our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

The Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities will earn money:
• Buy key pieces of land for specific parks, trails or natural areas
• Support regional efforts for regional parks and trails
• Demonstrate support for our parks system by in-kind support

Join us now
Visit our website at: www.regionalparksfoundationtc.org
Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities
P.O. Box 75765, St. Paul, MN 55176
Wastewater system
2030 water resources plan

- Invest $3.7 billion to maintain, replace and expand wastewater treatment system
- Support local efforts to ensure sufficient water supply
- Promote efforts to reduce pollution from storm water runoff
Central Corridor
Bus Rapid Transit
Lessons learned

1. The Council sits at a busy intersection
2. How a community chooses to grow has significant impacts
3. Transparency and accountability are important
4. Invite all stakeholders to the table
5. Individuals and groups tend to conflate local concerns as regional goals

6. The Council must remain focused, but also be open to new ideas

7. The Council should be the lead agency for transit investments and operations

8. We need a dialogue on how to involve the collar counties
Lessons learned

9. The Council can’t and shouldn’t become the region’s economic development arm

10. The Council should be cautious in its “social agenda”

11. The Council continues to be a government reform model

12. Have gained great respect for local officials
Shaping our Future

The role of the Metropolitan Council

www.metrocouncil.org