

# **E** Environment Committee

Meeting date: March 9, 2010

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of March 24, 2010

## **ADVISORY INFORMATION**

<b>Date:</b>	March 1, 2010
<b>Subject:</b>	Approval of the Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Minnesota Statute 473.1565
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Chris Elvrum 651-602-1066; Keith Buttleman, 651-602-1015
<b>Division/Department:</b>	MCES C/O William G. Moore, 651-602-1162

### **Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council approve the Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan.

### **Background**

Minnesota Statute 473.1565 directs the Metropolitan Council to "carry out planning activities addressing the water supply needs of the metropolitan area" including the development of a master water supply plan (plan) for the metro area. Through a robust technical analysis, the plan identifies areas, typically associated with high projected growth, where future withdrawals could impact sensitive ecosystems or where the productivity of local aquifers appears insufficient or is unknown. It provides tools and guidance to cities and regulators for addressing these issues and for developing sustainable water sources capable of meeting future demand without adverse impacts to natural resources.

The plan was completed and provisionally approved by the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (Committee) in March 2009.

Following a trial period, the final plan was developed with the participation of stakeholders across the region, including relevant state agencies, local governments, technical experts and others, and was recommended for approval by the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee on February 25, 2010.

A copy of the plan can be found at:

<http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment/WaterSupply/masterplan.htm>

### **Rationale**

The development of a metropolitan area master water supply plan is required by State Statute.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

The plan has the endorsement of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee. There is no known opposition to the plan.