

# WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT POLICY PLAN – UPDATE

Environment Committee – September 11, 2012



#### **Council Authority**

#### Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 473

Requires the Council to prepare a comprehensive development guide for the Metropolitan Area that includes system plans for transportation, aviation, regional recreation open space, and wastewater treatment.



#### **Current Regional Policy Framework**





## Current Regional Development Framework Policy Directives

Policy 1: Work with local communities to accommodate growth in a flexible, connected and efficient manner

Policy 4: Work with local and regional partners to reclaim, conserve, protect and enhance the region's vital natural resources.





### **Current Water Resources Management Policy Plan**

- Water Supply
- Surface Water Management
- Wastewater
- Wastewater System Plan



## **Current Wastewater Policy**

- Supply wastewater service to support orderly and economic development consistent with 2030 Regional Development Framework
- Provide cost effective and efficient use of infrastructure
- Not provide additional capacity to serve excessive I/I



## **Current Wastewater Policy**

- Council will accept septage, biosolids and other hauled liquid waste at designated sites. All hauled liquid wastes from within the region will be accepted at the full cost of service.
- Council will use our review authorities to ensure systems are installed, managed, maintained and regulated.
- Communities are responsible for permitting of all private systems
- Council will allow connection to failing system where available capacity



## **Current Surface Water Management Plan Policies**

- Provide technical assistance and resource assessment information to assist others in their efforts to protect water resources
- Review plans and environmental documents to ensure locals fulfilling their nonpoint source reduction requirements and not impacting the Metropolitan Disposal System



## **Current Water Supply Policies**

- Support the efficient use of water to ensure that supplies are adequate for the region's projected growth
- Work with regional partners to protect the water supply system

#### **Proposed Regional Policy Framework**





Water is sustainable when the use does not harm ecosystems, degrade water quality or compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs



Work with local and regional partners to provide for sustainable regional water resources through effective wastewater, storm water, and water supply management



## Provide cost effective, efficient, and high quality regional wastewater infrastructure and services



Work to ensure adequate and high quality ground and surface water supplies to protect public health and support economic development by promoting the wise use of water through conjunctive use, conservation, reuse, aquifer recharge, and other practices



Work to preserve the quality and quantity of the region's water resources (rivers, streams, lakes, and wetlands) to support habitat and ecosystem health while providing for recreational opportunities, all of which are critical elements of our region's quality of life



# Wastewater system is essentially built



Metropolitan Council





# New MS4 permit requirements and implications for growth







# Water supply will be a limiting factor to growth







Metropolitan Council



Metropolitan Council

	Travel Time from Land Surface to Uppermost Aquifer				
Recharge Rate	Immediate	Years	Decades	Centuries	None
Very High (Sand Plain)	2 - High	3 - High	4 - Moderate	5 - Moderate	6 - Moderate
Above Average	3 - High	4 - Moderate	5 - Moderate	6 - Moderate	7 - Low
Average Recharge	4 - Moderate	5 - Moderate	6 - Moderate	7 - Low	8 - Low
Below Average	5 - Moderate	6 - Moderate	7 - Low	8 - Low	9 - Low
None (Discharge Zone)	6 - Moderate	7 - Low	8 – Low	9 - Low	10 - Low

High

Moderate

Low

Regional discharge, or not enough data to evaluate







#### OTHER LAKES





## **Next Steps**

- Policy development for Thrive MSP 2040
- Issue identification for Water Resources Management Policy Plan
- Policy development for Water Resources Management Policy Plan
- Adopted Thrive MSP 2040 February 2014
- Adopted Water Resources Management Policy Plan
  May 2014