



## Proposed Definitions

**Principles** express the Council's values and guide our work across and beyond any specific goals. Forming the foundation for *Thrive MSP 2040*, principles influence both our decisions and our interactions with our partners, stakeholders and residents.

**Goals** are the broad outcomes that we want to result from *Thrive MSP 2040*. Goals are ends rather than means and describe the desired end-state. Their achievement will result from the collective contributions of many actors and partners beyond the Council.

**Strategies** describe the broad approaches that the Council will adopt to achieve the goal. Strategies are means rather than ends and actions that the Council will pursue. Multiple strategies will advance each goal.



## Mission and Principles

### Metropolitan Council Mission:

- To foster efficient and economic growth for a prosperous metropolitan region.

### *Thrive MSP 2040 Principles:*\*

- **Acting Regionally:** Accomplishing the big things that no one community can do alone.
- **Collaboration and Partnership:** Engaging all levels of government, the private sector, regional institutions and the public to implement a shared vision, using effective, scalable, integrated solutions and approaches to respond to dynamic conditions.
- **Economic Prosperity:** Leveraging the region's infrastructure investments and human resources in order to foster a resilient, adaptable and innovative economy that creates opportunities for all.
- **Equity:** Connecting all residents to opportunities such as good jobs, transportation choices, safe and stable housing, a range of parks and natural areas, and vibrant public spaces.
- **Stewardship:** Using our resources prudently to ensure the region's financial, social and environmental sustainability, now and for future generations.
- **Livability:** Developing a region recognized for safe, healthy and welcoming communities where people want to thrive/grow.

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\* Discussed and preliminarily agreed to at the September 19, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting.



## Initial Ideas for Goals

The Thrive Working Group offers the following suggestions for goals for Thrive MSP 2040 as a *starting point* for conversation at the November 7, 2012 Committee of the Whole. These are loosely categorized by the four cornerstones presented in September:

### *Growth and Opportunity:*

- Strategic investment in regional assets supports the region's economic prosperity: land is developed at the density complementary with the physical public infrastructure, including transportation, transit, sewers, water supply and stormwater, with particular attention to transit and transportation corridors.
- Designated employment centers attract and retain employers and enhance transit efficiency.
- Entrepreneurs choose to stay in and relocate to the region, growing firms and employment and reinforcing a reputation as the innovative commercial center of the Midwest.
- Sewered household growth to 2040 occurs in areas where jurisdictions have planned sewered development in their 2030 Comprehensive Plans.
- Efficient growth patterns preserve groundwater recharge capacity.
- The Metropolitan Council is valued as the preferred convener for regionally significant matters/accomplishing the big things in the region.
- Economic opportunity is accessible across the region and to residents across the region.
- The Council routinely engages all residents, including those historically left out, in policy decisions.
- The region's economy thrives from collaboration among all stakeholders in the region, including, the private sector, local, state and federal units of government, advocacy organizations, and the Metropolitan Council through policies, practices, tools and structures that are innovative, adaptable/flexible/scalable/resilient, cost-effective and market-sensitive.
- Public investment is aligned with private investment and focused on those corridors effectively linking housing, employment and commercial development.
- The region is home to new, livable wage jobs by attracting and retaining employers who take advantage of "one-stop shopping" for government authorizations.
- *What else???*
- ...

### *Access and Mobility:*

- The region's transit system is easily navigable, efficient and popular.
- Multimodal transportation choices reduce household transportation costs.
- The region's transit system is adequately funded by a stable mechanism that enhances predictability for fares.
- "Complete streets" (walkable, bikable) are available throughout the region.

- The multimodal freight system effectively links our region to the global marketplace.
- *What else???*

#### *Environment and Energy:*

- Water is valued as a critical, regional asset, and land use integrates water sustainability. Land use is sensitive to the value of local ecological services, such as wetlands and groundwater recharge area.
- High-value natural resources are preserved, protected and restored.
- Previously environmentally impaired land is transformed into productive/valued assets for local communities and the region.
- Leveraging innovative technology and pricing provides for more sustainable regional energy and water consumption.
- Local units of government have implemented climate adaptation and resilience plans for their communities.
- Communities, public spaces, educational institutions and employment centers are connected /integrated as destinations by the strategic location and development of the region's parks.
- *What else???*
- ...

#### *Housing and Healthy Communities:*

- Residents of the region are easily connected with employment centers and community amenities, including education, public services and regional parks and improve the region's air quality.
- Residents of the region have access to a range of housing options, both in price and residential type.
- An adequate supply of agricultural land in the region supports local food production.
- The physical health/well being of residents in the region is enhanced by land use decisions implemented by local units of government and regional projects.
- Local communities in the region have access to sufficient resources to promote preservation, redevelopment, re-investment in developed areas.
- The region preserves and builds upon its affordable housing stock.
- The mix of parks reflects the region's natural resource and/or social, recreational, and educational values.
- Regional parks have expanded to accommodate population growth.
- *What else???*
- ...