

**C** Community Development Committee  
**Meeting date: March 19, 2012**  
**For the Council Meeting of March 28, 2012**

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

<b>Date:</b>	March 14, 2012
<b>Subject:</b>	City of Golden Valley, Comprehensive Plan Amendment, <i>General Land Use Plan Map Amendment</i> , Review File No. 20585-2
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	District 5, James Brimeyer
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Minnesota Statutes Section 473.175
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Denise Engen, Principal Reviewer (651-602-1513) Phyllis Hanson, Manager, Local Planning Assistance (651-602-1566)
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Community Development/Planning & Growth Management

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopts the attached review record and allows the City of Golden Valley to put *The General Land Use Plan Amendment* comprehensive plan amendment (CPA) into effect.
2. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments for Transportation, Forecasts, Land Use and Housing

**Background**

The Metropolitan Council reviewed the City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan (Update), Review No. 20413-1, on May 26, 2010. This is the City's first CPA since this review.

The *2030 Regional Development Framework* identifies the City as a Developed Community. The CPA proposes to re-guide two areas located at near the intersection of Hwy 55 and Winnetka Avenue. The City proposes to re-guide *Area A*, (8 acres) from "Medium-High Density Residential" to "Low Density Residential." *Area B* (9.75 acres) is also proposed to be re-guided to "Low Density Residential" from "Medium Low Density Residential." The sites currently have 30 existing housing units.

**Rationale**

The proposed CPA conforms to regional system plans, is consistent with Council policies, and is compatible with the plans of other local communities and school districts.

**Funding**

None.

**Known Support / Opposition**

None known.

## REVIEW RECORD

### City of Golden Valley, Comprehensive Plan Amendment General Land Use Plan Map Amendment

Review File No. 20585-2, Council Business Item No. 2012-92

#### BACKGROUND

- The City of Golden Valley (City) is a first-ring suburban community of approximately 7,040 acres, or 11 square miles, located in Hennepin County. It bordered by the cities of New Hope, Crystal and Robbinsdale on the north, Minneapolis on the east, Saint Louis Park on the south and Plymouth on the west, (Figure 1).
- The *2030 Regional Development Framework* (RDF), as adopted by the Metropolitan Council (Council) in January 2004, identified Golden Valley as within the "Developed Community" geographic planning area.
- The Metropolitan Council reviewed the City's Update, Review No. 20585-2, on May 26, 2010. This is the City's first CPA since this review.

#### REQUEST SUMMARY

The CPA proposes to re-guide two areas located at near the intersection of Hwy 55 and Winnetka Avenue. Area A, (8 acres) is proposed to be re-guided from "Medium-High Density Residential" to "Low Density Residential." Area B (9.75 acres), is also proposed to be re-guided to "Low Density Residential" from "Medium Low Density Residential" (Figure 2). The sites currently have 30 existing housing units.

#### OVERVIEW

##### Conformity with Regional Systems

The CPA conforms to the Regional System Plans for Parks, Transportation (including Aviation), and Wastewater, with no substantial impact on, or departure from these plans.

##### Consistency with Council Policy

The CPA is consistent with the Council's *2030 RDF*, with water resources management, and is consistent with Council forecasts.

##### Compatibility with Plans of Adjacent Communities

The CPA will not have an impact on adjacent communities, school districts, or watersheds.

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTIONS

- The Council acted on the City's 2030 Update on May 26, 2010.

## ISSUES

- I. Does the amendment conform to the regional system plans?
- II. Is the amendment consistent with the *2030 RDF* and other Council policies?
- III. Does the amendment change the city's forecasts?
- IV. Is the amendment compatible with adjacent local governmental units?

## ISSUE ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

### CONFORMANCE WITH REGIONAL SYSTEMS

#### REGIONAL PARKS

*Reviewer: Jan Youngquist, CD – Regional Parks System Planning, (651-602-1029)*

The CPA conforms to the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. The CPA area is within .5 mile of the Luce Line Regional Trail, although the amendment is not anticipated to affect the regional trail corridor.

#### TRANSPORTATION

##### ***Roads and Transit***

*Reviewers: Ann Braden – MTS (651-602-1705), Steve Mahowald – Metro Transit (612-349-7775)*

The CPA conforms to the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP)*. Please note the following comment for transit.

- *Advisory Comment*

Area A is within ¼-mile walk of transit service for Routes 705 and 755. The re-guiding of Area A from Medium-High Density Residential to Low Density Residential is could reduce potential future transit use.

#### WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

##### ***Wastewater Service***

*Reviewer: Roger Janzig, ES – Engineering Services, (651-602-1119)*

The CPA is in conformance with the *Water Resources Management Policy Plan (WRMPP)* for Wastewater. The Metropolitan Disposal System has adequate capacity to serve the project at this location.

##### ***Surface Water Management***

*Reviewer: James Larsen, CD, (651-602-1159)*

The CPA is in conformance with the *WRMPP* for local surface water management.

## CONSISTENCY WITH COUNCIL POLICY

### FORECASTS

Reviewer: Todd Graham, CD – Research, (651-602-1322)

The CPA is consistent with regional policy for forecasts. Please note the following.

- *Advisory Comment*

The CPA Submittal Form indicates that the City expects “no change in community-level forecasts.” Council Research staff finds that the change in land guidance could lower Golden Valley’s build-out capacity by -300 households, potentially affecting Golden Valley’s ability to reach the 2030 forecast of 9,600 households. Council Research staff agrees to leave the forecasts unchanged. Staff advises the City that in 2014 the Council expects to revise forecasts for all cities and towns.

### 2030 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AND LAND USE

Reviewer: Denise Engen, CD – Local Planning Assistance, (651-602-1513)

The City’s 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU) as reviewed in May 2010 is consistent with the *Regional Development Framework* (RDF) policies for developed communities.

The review record for the CPU noted that, “The RDF states that developed communities need to ‘accommodate growth forecasts through reinvestment at appropriate densities (5 units plus in developed areas and target higher density in locations with convenient access to transportation corridors and with adequate sewer capacity).’ Therefore, the City will be expected to meet densities of at least five units an acre through reinvestment, redevelopment, planning and zoning.”

The CPA re-guides parcels A and B to “Low-Density Residential”, which only allows development less than five units per acre (u/ac). The previous designation of “Medium-High Density Residential” in Parcel A allowed 12-19.99 u/ac; Parcel B was designated “Medium-Low Density Residential”, which allowed 5 to 11.9 u/ac. The CPA areas are located on Highway 55, a principal arterial.

The parcels reflect the current land use and the proposed Low-Density Residential land use designation is consistent with the City’s previous 2020 comprehensive plan (Figure 3).

- *Advisory Comment*

Where appropriate and when redevelopment opportunities occur, the City is encouraged and expected to meet densities of at least five units an acre through reinvestment, redevelopment, planning and zoning.

### HOUSING

Reviewer: Linda Milashius, CD – Livable Communities, (651-602-1541)

The CPA is consistent with regional policy for housing. CPA proposes a land use designation change on two parcels (17.5 acres) from Medium-High Density Residential and Medium Density Residential to Low Density Residential. While this is a reduction in the amount of higher density residential land that may be available for the development of affordable housing, this change does not pose any major impact to the City’s ability to address its 2011-2020 share of the region’s affordable housing need of 104

units. The City's CPU guides 60 acres of land at higher densities, at 12-20+ units per acre, which provides sufficient opportunities through the designation of higher density residential land to address this need. Please not the following comment.

- *Advisory Comment*

The City is advised that future reductions in the supply of medium-high and high-density residential land could adversely affect the City's ability to address its affordable and life-cycle housing goals.

### **WATER SUPPLY**

*Reviewer: Lanya Ross, ES – Water Supply Planning, (651-602-1803)*

The CPA is consistent with the *WRMPP* for water supply. The City of Golden Valley has an updated water supply plan, which covers all cities served by the Joint Water Commission (Golden Valley, Crystal, and New Hope); the MN Department of Natural Resources approved this plan in 2009. The amendment will not change projected water use from the Joint Water Commission's current water supply plan.

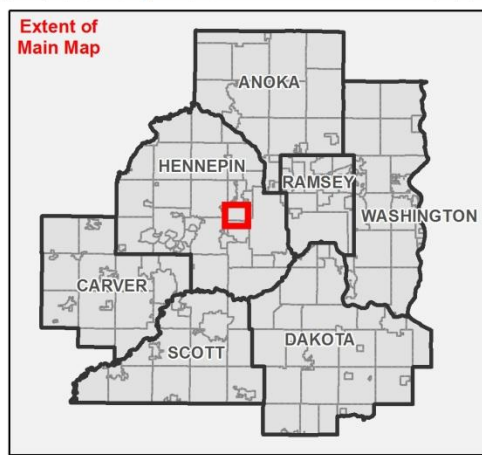
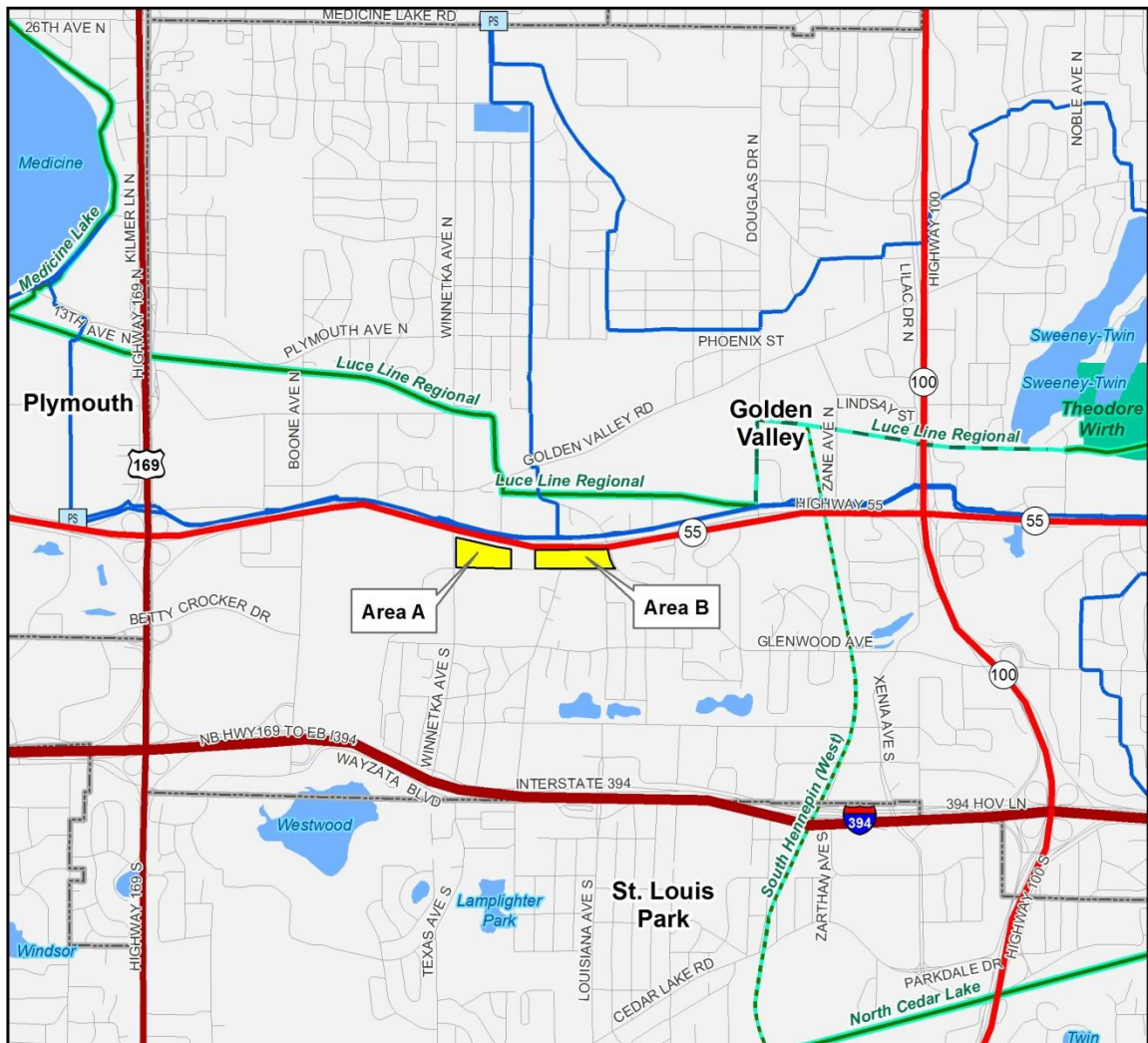
Both areas being reviewed are entirely within the City of Golden Valley's Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA), which has been delineated as low to moderately vulnerable by the City and the Minnesota Department of Health. Planners and developers working in these areas should be aware of the City's Wellhead Protection Plan.

The Council encourages the City to continue to implement water conservation programs and measures in an effort to promote the efficient use of water. Re-development always presents opportunities to implement new water conservation as part of construction and site landscaping.

### **COMPATIBILITY WITH PLANS OF ADJACENT GOVERNMENTAL UNITS AND PLANS OF AFFECTED SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

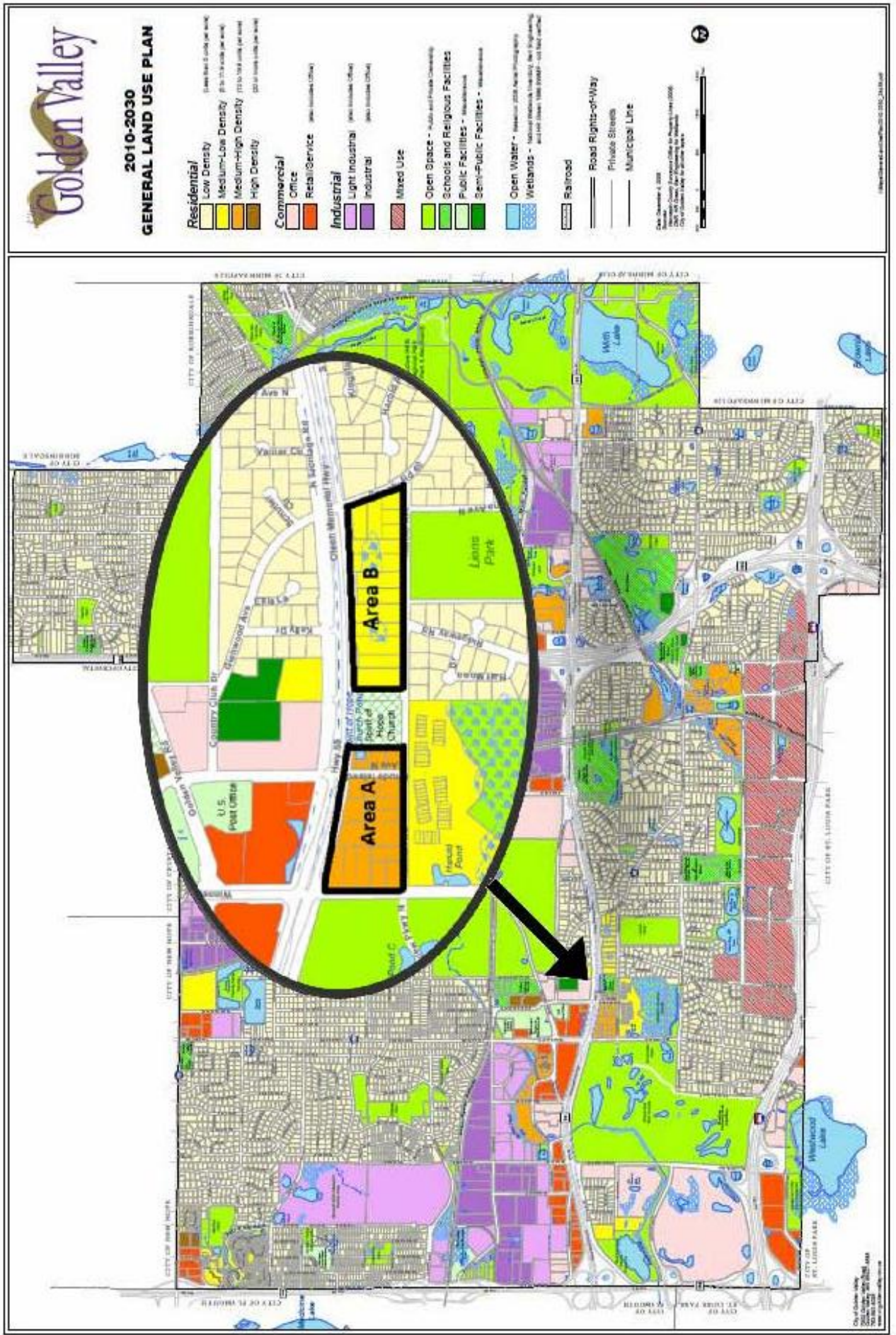
The CPA is compatible with plans of adjacent jurisdictions. The City sent the proposed amendment to adjacent local governments, school districts, and other jurisdictions on November 17, 2011. No compatibility issues with plans of adjacent governmental units and plans of affected special districts and school districts were identified.

<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	
Figure 1:	Location Map Showing Regional Systems
Figure 2:	Future Land Use Map: Location Map and Existing Guiding
Figure 3:	2020 General Land Use Plan



- Regional Systems**
- Transportation**
    - Interstates
    - US Highways
    - State Highways
    - County Roads
  - Wastewater Services**
    - Meters
    - Lift Stations
    - Interceptors
    - Treatment Plants
  - Recreation Open Space**
    - Park Reserve
    - Regional Park
    - Special Recreation Feature
  - Regional and State Trails**
    - Regional Existing
    - Regional Planned
    - Regional Proposed
    - State Existing
    - Ncompass Street Centerlines, 2012

**Figure 2: Future Land Use Map, Location Map and Existing Guiding City of Golden Valley CPA: General Land Use Map Amendment**



**Figure 3: 2020 General Land Use Plan  
City of Golden Valley CPA: General Land Use Map Amendment**

