



Thrive MSP 2040 Overview

What is *Thrive MSP 2040*?

Thrive MSP 2040 is the long-range plan that creates a vision for the seven-county metro region for the next 30 years.

In technical terms, it serves as the foundation of Metropolitan Council's development guide (previously referred to as the Regional Development Framework) and sets the policy for the Council's primary systems plans – transportation (including aviation), water resources, and parks – and the housing policy and water supply plans.

The goal of Thrive MSP 2040 is to help our region maximize opportunities for growth and prosperity for the coming decades.

What does that really mean? In a nutshell – it's the plan to help our region thrive over the next 30 years. *Thrive MSP 2040* is the opportunity to define and achieve goals too big for any one community to take on, but possible to accomplish as a region. We want to make the Twin Cities a great home for our diverse and growing population and a region that attracts and retains talent, jobs and economic prosperity.

Thrive MSP 2040 will only work if everyone has a chance to participate. To see what tomorrow's workplaces will look like, just spend a few minutes in an elementary school classroom today. To create and implement a truly representative vision for the region of the future, we know this plan will be better if it reflects the involvement and ideas of the region's residents, businesses, local governments, and other stakeholders.

We have to ask ourselves:

- What does our region need to thrive?
- What kind of region do we want for our children? For our children's children?
- What decisions can we make today that will set us on a path toward achieving that vision?

How to get involved in *Thrive MSP 2040*

Everyone is encouraged to get involved in the variety of Outreach and Engagement efforts planned for *Thrive MSP 2040* including:

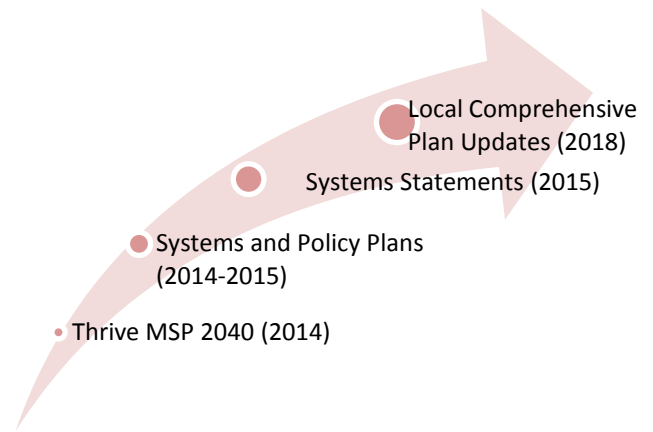
- Attend a listening session hosted by Council members across the region in August and September 2012
- Register for Your Ideas, an online civic engagement platform
- Tweet about #thriveMSP, follow the Council on Twitter or visit the Council on Facebook to share your ideas
- Sign up for periodic email updates about Thrive MSP 2040 at metro council.org
- Email the Council at thriveMSP@metc.state.mn.us
- Learn more at thrivemsp.org

The Council wants to hear from the residents, business and institutions of the region:

- What do you see as the major issues and challenges facing the region over the next 30 years and how should the Metropolitan Council address these challenges through *Thrive MSP 2040*?
- What policies in the previous regional plans should we keep or adjust? What policies should we discontinue? What policies would you add to *Thrive MSP 2040*?
- What criteria should the Council use in resolving tensions between regional goals and policies?
- What advice do you have as the Council moves ahead on developing *Thrive MSP 2040*?

Timeline and Goals for *Thrive MSP 2040*

Thrive MSP 2040 will fulfill the Metropolitan Council's statutory responsibility for a comprehensive development guide "... for the orderly and economical development, public and private, of the metropolitan area.... " The Thrive MSP 2040 planning process will also include systems plans for the statutorily-mandated systems – the Transportation Policy Plan (including the aviation system), the Water Resources Management Plan, and the Parks and Open Space Plan – as well as a Water Supply Master Plan and a Housing Policy Plan (last produced in 1985). The systems plans provide the structure for the Council's review of local comprehensive plans, due to the Council in 2018. The *Thrive MSP 2040* plan will integrate planning both across and beyond these policy areas to achieve a vision of a prosperous, livable metropolitan region.



Thrive MSP 2040 will also serve as the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development that the Corridors of Opportunity consortium is responsible for submitting to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to meet the terms of the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant.

While the Council won't move forward on specific policies until the Council has heard from more of its stakeholders in summer 2012, the broad priorities and areas of interest for Thrive MSP 2040 are:

- Maintaining a strong quality of life
- Fostering a vibrant, prosperous regional economy
- Planning for essential infrastructure and regional services
- Encouraging housing options to accommodate our changing population
- Mitigating economic and social disparities through regional investments
- Supporting a 21st century transit and transportation system in the 7-county region
- Creating policies that address equity
- Mitigating pressures on the region's natural resources
- Improving the efficiency of regional services

High-level timeline (as of August 2012)

July – September 2012:	Phase I Outreach and Engagement: What policies does the region need to thrive?
July – December 2012:	Analyze the existing Regional Development Framework; develop alternative policy scenarios
January – February 2013:	Phase II Outreach and Engagement: Feedback on principles and alternative policy scenarios
March – June 2013:	Develop preferred policy framework and release preliminary local forecasts
June – August 2013:	Phase III Outreach and Engagement: Feedback on preferred policy framework
September 2013:	Finalize Thrive MSP 2040 strategic vision guide draft
October – November 2013:	Phase IV Outreach and Engagement: Public meetings and a public hearing
December 2013:	Submit Thrive MSP 2040 strategic vision guide to HUD
February 2014:	Met Council adopts Thrive MSP 2040 strategic vision guide
May 2014:	Met Council adopts Thrive MSP 2040 Water Resources Management Plan
September 2014:	Met Council adopts Thrive MSP 2040 Transportation Policy Plan
TBD 2014:	Met Council adopts Thrive MSP 2040 Housing Policy Plan
TBD 2014-2015:	Met Council adopts Thrive MSP 2040 Parks and Open Space Policy Plan
September 2015:	Met Council distributes Systems Statements to local governments