METROPOLITAN COUNCIL TOUCH POINTS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

November 29, 2023

Key Message

- Thinking of many is that cities are more impacted by Met Council actions and policy-making than counties

- This misperception needs to be addressed if Met Council governance changes in the future, and county representation is left out of the new model

- Counties, depending on responsibilities, have as much - if not more - interaction with Met Council than many cities

Role of Metropolitan Council

Strongest interactions with Counties:

- transportation
- parks and trails
- surface water mgmt.
- GIS
- future WWTP planning
- housing shelter/homeless
- Agricultural/ greenspace preservation
- rural density policies

Strongest interactions with Cities:

- wastewater treatment
- MUSA expansions
- WAC/SAC fees
- drinking water mgmt.
- housing types /needs
- livable communities
- urban density policies
- plat monitoring

County Touch Points

County Touch Points - Transportation

- Council's Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) focuses on:
  - Principal and Minor Arterial System (primarily County or State Highways)
    - Traffic Volumes and Forecasts
    - System Connections
  - Transit System (primarily operated at a regional or county level; rarely at local level)
  - Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (primarily built and maintained at a regional or county level)
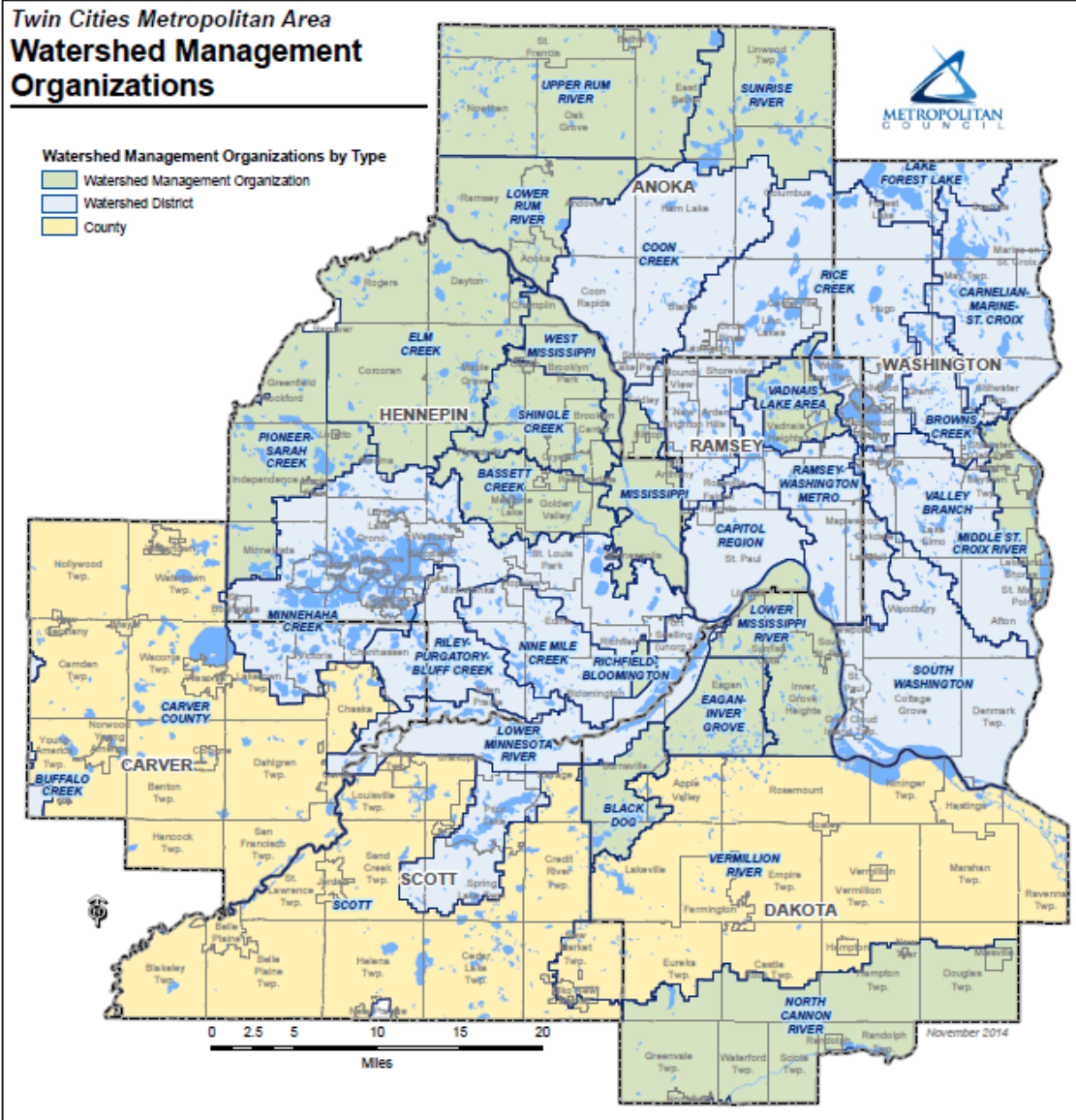 - Freight System
  - Greenhouse Gas Discussions

County Touch Points – TAB/Met Council

- County Representative
  - Technical Committees – all 7 counties serve on all 3 committees (TAC, F&P, Planning)
- Solicitations
  - Principal and A minors – almost all County and State highways
  - Bridges – almost all County and State highways
  - Traffic – almost all County and State highways
- Approval of functional class changes

County Touch Points - Parks and Trails

- Regional Parks Policy Plan
  - Policy framework for 10 regional park operating agencies
    - 6 Counties (Carver, Scott, Dakota, Washington, Anoka, Ramsey)
    - Bloomington, Minneapolis, St Paul
    - Three Rivers Park District – Hen County (+)
- Park and Trail Master Plans – approved by the Met Council
- Funding Allocation/Project Approval – State and Regional Bonds, Legacy, Environmental Trust Fund, State general fund
  - Capital Projects
  - Land Acquisition
  - Operational

County Touch Points - Water Resources

County Touch Points - Water Resources

- SW and South Metro areas are primarily County-based WMOs (Carver, Scott, Vermillion Joint Powers Org)
- Met Council interaction with WMOs
  - Technical studies
  - Technical assistance
  - Surface water monitoring
  - Watershed and local water plan reviews
- Increased Ground Water Discussions

County Touch Points - Metro GIS

- Seven metro counties provide:
    - Parcels
    - Addresses
    - Street center lines
    - Property information
- Policy Board comprised of County Commissioners from 7 counties plus reps from 2 metro cities and 2 regional agencies
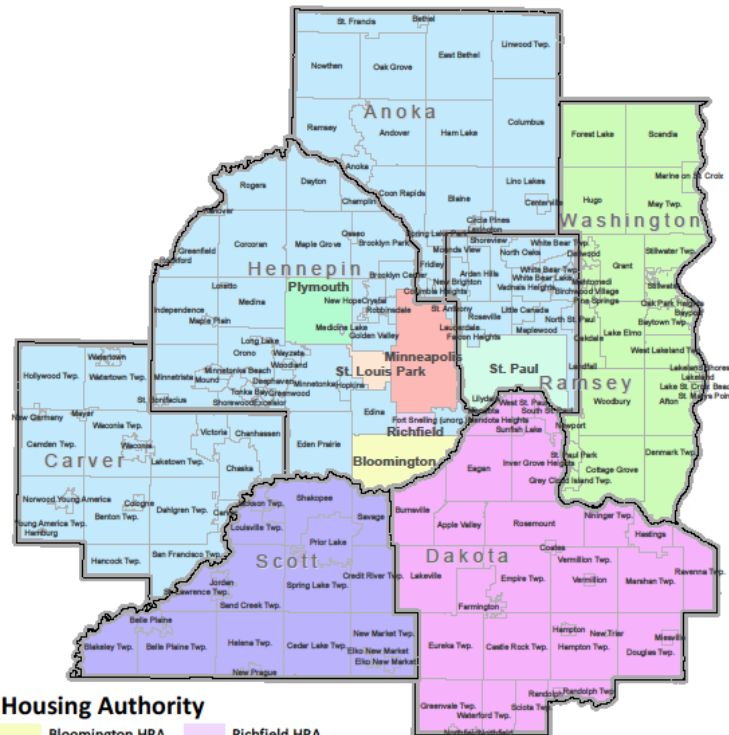
County Touch Points - Land Use

- County Land Use Plan
  - Rural densities consistent with Community Designation
  - Land Use Map changes require Council review
  - Cluster development regulations must be consistent with Council's Flexible Development Guidelines
- Regional Wastewater Planning
  - Future Wastewater Treatment Plants locations
  - Identifying Long Term Sewer Service Areas
- Ag Preserves Program – (primarily Counties)

County Touch Points - Housing

- Homeless /Shelter Work
  - Cities look to Counties and/or County Community Development Agencies for Affordable Housing Supports
  - Regional share of low- to moderate-income housing
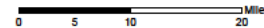 - Emphasis in providing services which is all County

County Touch Points - Housing

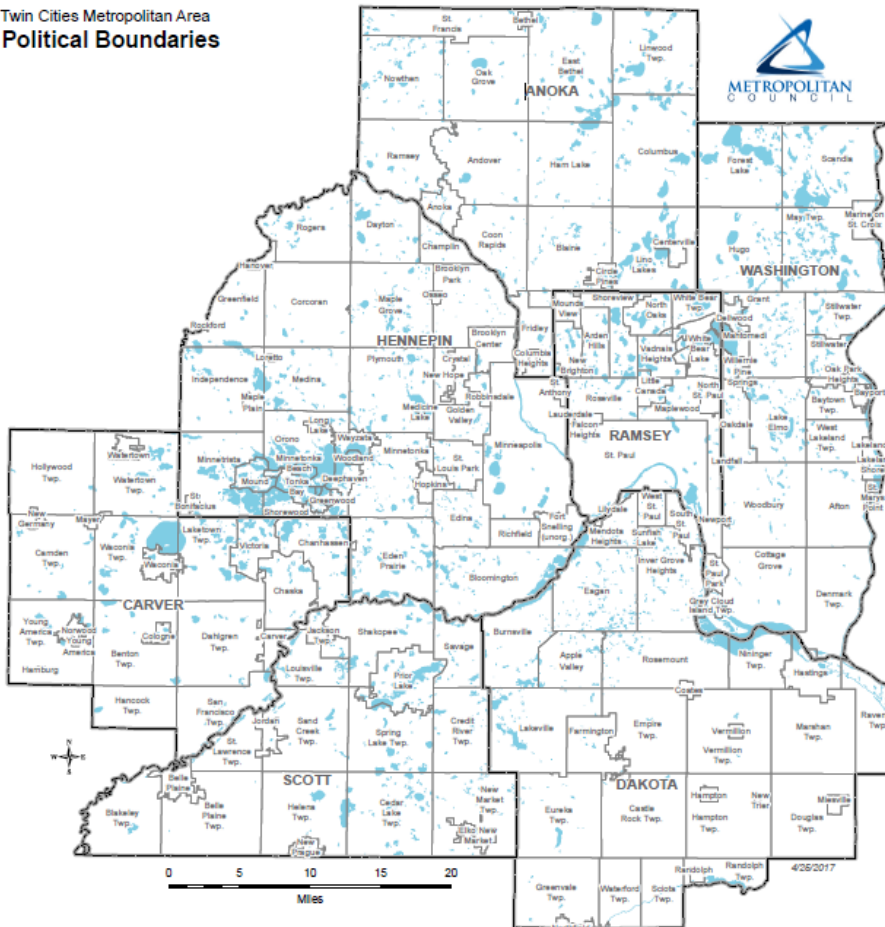Twin Cities Metropolitan Area
Section 8 Programs

Housing Authority

Bloomington HRA — Richfield HRA
Dakota County CDA — Scott County HRA
Metro HRA — St. Louis Park HRA
Minneapolis PHA — St. Paul PHA
Plymouth HRA — Washington County HRA

HousingLink
created 5/30/2018

City Touch Points

Transportation

Sanitary Systems

Land Use

Housing

City Touch Points - Transportation

□ City Transportation Plans:

  ▪ Utilize County Plan to identify principal and minor arterials and traffic modeling

    ▪ Transportation Analysis Zone development coordination

  ▪ Show future extensions of collectors

  ▪ Show pedestrian and local bicycle network

  ▪ Relationship with transit investment plan

  ▪ Freight system planning

  ▪ Airport zone planning

City Touch Points – TAB/Met Council

- Elected City Representation – 10
  - Technical Committees – some cities serve on all 3 committees (TAC, F&P, Planning)
  - Only members of Association of Metro Municipalities (AMM) are represented on committees, plus Minneapolis and St. Paul
- Solicitations – may submit for county or state highway

City Touch Points - Sanitary Systems

- Sanitary System Planning
    - interceptor extensions and capacity
    - wastewater flows tied to MC forecasts
- Inflow/Infiltration
- SAC (Sewer Availability Charge) Determination

City Touch Points - Land Use

- Land Use
  - MUSA/growth management
  - Urban density targets/community designations
  - Transit Oriented Development standards
  - Mix of land use types
  - Staging of land development
  - Comp Plan Amendments tied to land use change

City Touch Points - Housing

- Affordable Housing Scores/Allocations
  - Regional share of low- to moderate-income housing
  - Livable Communities Grants

Township Touch Points

- Townships are unique to the county they reside in
  - Townships that do their own planning/zoning have direct interaction with Met Council
  - Townships where the county does the planning/zoning, there is little direct interaction with Met Council
- Townships with planned or developed Regional Parks

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Summary

- Thinking is that cities are more impacted by Met Council actions and policy-making than counties

- Reality is both cities and counties need to be represented in any future Met Council governance model

- Local elected officials work with all elements of Met Council Comprehensive Plans