



REMINDER: Regional Solicitation Application Deadline is Today!

The deadline for applications for Regional Solicitation project funding is today Friday, July 13th at 4:00 pm. Project evaluation will occur from August-December 2018, with project selection taking place in January 2019. For more information, click [here](#).

TAC/TAB Review Geographic Balance in Regional Solicitation Awards

The TAC Planning Committee discussed the topic of regional balance and distribution of federal transportation funds across the metropolitan region this week. The planning committee analyzed [three alternative approaches](#) (with maps) to review awards from the 2003-2016 Regional Solicitation funding cycles.

The first approach looked at awards by county and compared the amount of awarded funds by county, the population percentage of that county in the seven-county metro, the percent of the metro's jobs in that county and percentage of vehicle miles traveled by county.

The second analysis looked at awards by Thrive MSP 2040 community designation. The analysis reviewed the percentage of dollars, percentage of the region's population and percentage of jobs in four community designation bands: urban center/urban, suburban, suburban edge/emerging suburban edge, and rural/rural center.

The third analysis reviewed projects via which quadrant of the region the project was located. Highways used for the designations included Highways 65 and I-35W for East-West and I-94/I-394 and Highway 12 for North-South. Interchanges that were built on the borders were split 50-50 and regional investments such as the Heywood bus facility were removed from the analysis.

A final analysis showed the regional use of two recently funded projects, Snelling Avenue in Roseville and the Kellogg Boulevard Bridge in downtown St. Paul. Staff shared maps showing trip origins from across the region. Both projects drew travelers from all seven counties.

This week's presentation was for information purposes. TAB and TAC will continue to discuss what data to use to review geographic considerations and how to use the findings. Metro Cities will continue to monitor these conversations and any policy implications on cities in the metro region.

Contact Charlie Vander Aarde at 651-215-4001 or charlie@metrocitiesmn.org with any questions.

New PlanIt Information for Local Comp Plans

Metro Cities has been asked to share new information from the Metropolitan Council's PlanIt series, which provides new resources and technical assistance for local comprehensive plan reviews and amendments. New this month is a **Podcast**, [Episode 16: Green Zones – Kelly Muellman](#). Kelly is the Sustainability Program Coordinator at the City of Minneapolis and explains the city's work in establishing this policy. Also new is a new Local *Surface* Water Management Plan or [LWMP Fact Sheet](#).

Questions? Contact Angela Torres at angela.torres@metc.state.mn.us

Greater MSP Business Investment Summit

Metro Cities has been asked to share an invitation for local officials to a business investment summit hosted by Greater MSP on Thursday, August 2nd, from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at Mystic Lake Casino. The topic of the summit is the business site selection process and navigating business deals across public and private sectors. There is no cost to attend but attendees are asked to RSVP. The summit will feature author Richard Florida discussing the “Amazon HQ effect” with Greater MSP CEO Michael Langley. For more information click [here](#).

Metropolitan Council to Offer August Wastewater Plant Tours

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) staff will conduct two wastewater plant tours in August. Tours are open to city staff and elected officials:

Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant – 2400 Childs Road, Saint Paul

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 – 9:00AM to 11:00AM

Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plant – 3750 Plant Road, Eagan

Wednesday, August 15, 2018 – 2:30PM to 4:00PM

Attendance is limited and registration will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please respond to Kristin.Hess@metc.state.mn.us by July 27.

Policy Committees Begin Next Week

Metro Cities’ policy development process begins next week with first meetings of all four policy committees. Packets have been emailed to committee members. If you have not registered but are interested, please see our website at www.metrocitiesmn.org or contact Kim Ciarrocchi at 651-215-4000.

Metro Cities News is emailed periodically to all Metro Cities member mayors, councilmembers, city managers and administrators to keep officials abreast of important metro city issues. This information is also intended to be shared with city staff.

If you’d like to sign up to receive Metro Cities News, please email newsletter@metrocitiesmn.org and provide the following: Name, Title, Employer and Email address. Thank you.

Metro Cities 145 University Ave W., St. Paul, MN 55103-2044 Phone 651-215-4000 Fax 651-281-1299
www.MetroCitiesMN.org *...click for full article*