



Metro Regional Meeting/Metro Cities Policy Adoption Meeting

Join your colleagues for the LMC Metro Regional Meeting and Policy Adoption Meeting on November 29th, 2018 at Brookview in Golden Valley!

The cities of Minnetonka, Eagan, and Prior Lake will discuss their strategies for community engagement. LMC and LMCIT staff will present on conflict in local government and how to work together for more effective governing and problem-solving. Metro Cities membership will also meet to approve the 2019 Legislative Policies for Metro Cities staff to use going into the 2019 legislative session. A membership quorum is required for policy adoption, so each member city should make sure to send a representative! The event will end with a great networking social hour.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register. We look forward to seeing you there!

Changes Proposed for Industrial SAC (Sewer Availability Charge)

The Metropolitan Council Environment Services (MCES) Committee will consider changes to the Industrial SAC (Sewer Availability Charge) program based on input from industrial use customers at its meeting on Tuesday, October 23. Metro Cities' October 5th newsletter provided information on the details of the proposal. See [here](#) for additional information.

MCES staff also solicited for input from cities with high rates of industrial SAC. If approved, the policy would be adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 14th.

Questions? Please email sacprogram@metc.state.mn.us.

Reminders and Updates for Local Comprehensive Plans

Metro Cities has been asked to share several updates relating to local comprehensive plan submittals.

If your city needs to submit an amendment to your 2030 plan, submittals must be made by December 31st, 2018. The deadline for preliminary review of 2040 plans was September 30th. The Metropolitan Council received 81 preliminary plans for review.

All affected and adjacent jurisdictions must provide comments (or indication of no comments) or the 6-month review time-period must have lapsed. If no comments were received during the review period, this should be indicated. Comments and community responses are both required to be submitted.

Please see the [Local Planning Handbook Review Process](#) "Before Submittal to the Metropolitan Council" and [Adjacent and Affected Jurisdiction Review Process Fact Sheet](#) for details. Elected officials must authorize the plan for submission with an adopted resolution. A model resolution can be found here: [model resolution](#). For more details on the submittal process, please refer to the [Comp Plan Submittal Guide](#) or contact your [Sector Rep.](#)

Additional podcasts and new information are also available as follows:

PlanIt Podcast: [Episode 18: Value and Future of Planning - Lyle Wray](#). In this episode, Lyle Wray, the Executive Director of Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) in Connecticut, discusses the value and future of long range planning.

New information: [Keeping Our Cool: Extreme Heat in the Twin Cities Region](#), as part of the Council's regional [Climate Vulnerability Assessment](#) (CVA) project is available. The CVA project includes tools and resources for local communities as well as analysis of Council systems and assets.

Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee Approves TPP, Budget Amendment

The Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee this week approved adoption of the updated 2040 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP), following approval by the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) last month. The TPP plays a central role in the regional transportation planning process and is updated every four years. The plan now goes to the full Council for adoption. To see the draft and comments report, click [here](#).

The Committee also approved amendments to the 2018 Unified Capital and Operating Budget. There were several changes made, including the removal of temporary authority authorized in 2016 to allow for a cash flow of \$50 million for the Southwest LRT project. The amendment also includes \$27 million for the Minneapolis bus garage. Council staff stated that Metro Mobility has seen higher than budgeted ridership. This amendment authorizes the spending \$4.6 million in budget reserves to meet the increased demand and to fulfil state and federally mandated services.

To view the full amendment, click [here](#).

MCES Developing a Web Portal for Local Communities

The Metropolitan Council Environment Committee heard a presentation by Council staff on their efforts to establish a Metropolitan Council Environment Services (MCES) Community Web Portal. The portal will potentially serve as a single access, web-based point of contact between communities and MCES. The idea emerged from recommendations and feedback by an Inflow and Infiltration (I and I) Task Force as well as an MCES Customer Service Working Group. Inflow/infiltration (I/I) data and work that are now all conducted manually will be available on this system and it is expected that data requests will be able to be processed much more quickly and potentially in 'real time'. Cities will also be able to submit I/I work plans through the system. Rain event alerts and flow meter-specific information will be able to be accessed and work plans will be able to be submitted through the portal.

All 109 communities served by MCES will be given access. The web portal will potentially be expanded to other areas, such as MCES sewer surveys and grants. The Community Web Portal is still under development and no release date is currently available. Stay tuned for further updates.

For more information on the web portal, click [here](#).

Check Out Our New Website Design!

We're excited to announce that our website now has a new look! The web address (www.MetroCitiesMN.org) is still the same, but you'll see a new design and format next time you visit the site. We hope these changes make our site more user-friendly and pleasant to view, and always welcome your feedback on any additional changes that could make the website a more helpful resource for you!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you are experiencing any difficulty locating any items or resources on the new site. Contact Kimberly at 651-215-4000 or kimberly@metrocitiesmn.org.

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.

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