Information Item

Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: November 14, 2023

Topic

Water Supply Planning Atlas Update

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.1565

Staff Prepared/Presented: John Clark, Principal Environmental Scientist, 651-602-1452

Henry McCarthy, Environmental Scientist, 651-602-1946

Division/Department: Environmental Services

Background

Water supply sustainability is a critical component of public and ecosystem health and essential for the growth and development of the Twin Cities metropolitan region.

To support sustainable water supply planning, the Metropolitan Council has developed an atlas that compiles water supply data and information for the region.

The atlas is intended to inform planning conversations at the regional and subregional level and serve as a collaboration, outreach and education tool.

Status:

The Twin Cities Region Water Supply Planning Atlas is available for stakeholder use and exploration.

It primarily contains broad water supply information as it pertains to municipal / public water supplies and related planning topics. It uses widely available data from state and federal agencies, Met Council studies, and other expert sources. Planning topics are described with data, graphics, and narratives that are generalized to the region and made specific to subregions, where possible.

The atlas was informed and guided by conversations with MAWSAC and TAC, and through facilitated conversations with communities in each subregion. Moving forward, we hope that communities and others will continue to inform those narratives and the information through planning conversations.

The atlas is intended as an iterative product that evolves and is updated occurring as new data and information become available or as community needs change.

Currently, the atlas presents data through the calendar year 2021. Atlas information can only be updated as the data is made available and as staff have time and resources to process and analyze it.

The atlas may be updated in the spring of 2024 with 2022 appropriation permit data and again in the fall of 2024 with data from 2023. Staff also aim to expand the atlas content to include non-municipal permits and other information, to be more inclusive of the entire water supply picture.

Learn more

The complete atlas is available online: Twin Cities Region Water Supply Planning Atlas