

Business Item

Joint Meeting of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee
and the Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: December 10, 2025

Business Item: 2025-05

2026-2027 Work Plan for the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC) and Water Supply Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.1565

Staff Prepared/Presented: Lanya Ross, Environmental Analyst, 651-602-1803

Division/Department: Environmental Services

Proposed action

The Metro Area MAWSAC approves the 2026-2027 MAWSAC-TAC Work Plan, after policy and technical advisory committee members identify any changes needed.

Background

The Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC) is responsible for assisting the Met Council in its water supply planning work. MAWSAC's work is supported by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). With the adoption of Imagine 2050, the Met Council begins implementing the Metro Area Water Supply Plan (MWSP) and supporting local updates of comprehensive plans. In 2026, MAWSAC and TAC continue their role assisting Met Council by providing important guidance about local planning assistance for water supply planning. In early 2027, MAWSAC must report on regional water supply planning work to the Legislature and Met Council.

Roles and expectations

Committee chairs support committee goals and outcomes by guiding work plan development, leading meetings, and encouraging member participation.

Committee members

- Review materials. *Council staff will strive to send materials a week in advance.*
- Participate in the meetings. Based on experience and knowledge, share guidance and information with fellow members and Council staff to incorporate into draft reports, support letters to legislators or agencies, and/or project scoping.
- Advise on agenda topics related to emerging water supply issues, as appropriate

Council staff

- Provide MAWSAC and TAC support: draft meeting materials, provide administrative support and facilitation during meetings, help to implement relevant committee recommendations, and share information as requested.
- Coordinate subregional engagement efforts to support alignment and relationships.

2026-2027 Work Plan Goals

The MAWSAC-TAC work plan supports the Met Council's long-range water supply planning function. In general, the decadal planning cycle focuses more heavily on certain activities in different phases, although all activities will take place in each year. MAWSAC and TAC work will shift to assist the Met Council on different efforts as this cycle goes forward.

In general, MAWSAC has a larger role in work on regional policy and planning and in finding resources for regional implementation. TAC has a larger role to play supporting local plan implementation and evaluating impacts.

Figure 1. Key phases of the Met Council decadal planning process.



2026-2027 Meeting schedule and topics

Committee work is set by the committees, led by committee chairs. The work plan is framed by statutory requirements (M.S. 473.1565) and the updated Metro Area Water Supply Plan and informed by input from subregional work groups.

The proposed meeting schedule is based on committee member input in 2025. At that time, most preferred to meet roughly quarterly for 2-3 hours. MAWSAC members preferred Thursdays during the fourth week of the month; TAC members preferred Thursdays during the second week of the month. Generally, committee members prefer to meet in the afternoon. This could push into the lunch hour if that allows the meeting to end before heavy rush hour traffic. One or more joint meetings of MAWSAC and TAC per year were preferred. This schedule will be re-evaluated periodically.

Additional meetings may be scheduled, such as joint meetings with other Met Council committees (ex: Land Use, Parks and Open Space), if there is interest among MAWSAC and TAC members.

The timing and topics of committee meetings may shift as needed. Committee chairs may modify the work plan when approving detailed agendas.

The following pages include the proposed committee meeting schedule and high-level topics for 2026 and 2027.

2026 MAWSAC and TAC committee meetings at a glance

Meeting dates	Agenda topics
2026 Meetings	Goal: At the end of 2026, the committees will have shaped technical assistance resources and finalized a report to the Met Council and the Legislature.
Wed. Jan. 7, 2026 <i>Subregional workshop</i>	Committees join subregional groups to promote region-wide understanding about newly released technical assistance resources, and to support subregional work on the priorities they identified in the adopted MWSP.
Thurs, Feb. 12, 2026 <i>TAC</i>	TAC provides context for MAWSAC to consider as they draft the outline for a report to the Met Council and the Legislature. TAC also continues to provide input on technical studies that enhance technical resources for local and regional water supply planning. Input from subregional groups will be incorporated. Member 'round robin' to share updates.
Thurs, Mar. 26, 2026 <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC drafts the outline for a report to the Met Council and the Legislature, to support implementation and track progress of the MWSP. The report must be submitted by February 15, 2027.
Thurs., May 14, 2026 <i>TAC</i>	TAC provides supporting technical information to help build out the draft MAWSAC report. TAC also continues to provide input on technical studies that enhance technical resources for local and regional water supply planning. Member 'round robin' to share updates.
Thurs., Jun. 25, 2026 <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC drafts report to the Met Council and the Legislature, including MWSP progress tracking and recommendations around resource needs. A process to incorporate subregional input will be discussed.
Thurs., Aug. 13, 2026 <i>TAC</i>	TAC reviews the draft MAWSAC report and continues to provide input on technical studies. Member 'round robin' to share updates.
Thurs., Sep. 24, 2026 <i>MAWSAC</i>	MAWSAC approves their report content and recommends finalizing its design for submittal to the Met Council and the Legislature.
Oct. <i>Subregional workshop</i>	Committees join subregional groups to promote region-wide understanding of technical assistance resources for local comprehensive plan updates, to share MAWSAC report content, and to support subregional work priorities.
Thurs, Nov 19, 2026 <i>MAWSAC & TAC</i>	Committees review 2026 accomplishments and discuss updates to the 2027-2028 workplan, based on input from subregions. Committees are updated about the White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan. Committees also identify opportunities to promote the MAWSAC report.

2027 MAWSAC and TAC committee meetings at a glance

Goal: By the end of 2027, the committees will have helped improve technical assistance resources and started evaluating how well these resources support local and regional water supply planning. The results will guide recommendations for future work.

Notable milestones in 2027:

- The final MAWSAC report will be available at the beginning of the year, to promote with key stakeholders.
- The White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan will be completed in the summer. This report includes MAWSAC representation.
- A workshop of all the subregional groups is planned for the fall, and MAWSAC and TAC are encouraged to attend.

Meetings and workshops:

Nine (9) committee events are planned for 2027. MAWSAC will meet 6 times, including 2 joint meetings with TAC and a subregional workshop. TAC will meet 6 times, including 2 joint meetings with TAC and a subregional workshop.

Thurs, Jan. 28, 2027 - MAWSAC & TAC joint meeting

Thurs, Mar. 11, 2027 - TAC

Thurs, Mar. 25, 2027 - MAWSAC

Thurs, May 13, 2027 - TAC

Thurs, Jun. 24, 2027 - MAWSAC

Thurs, Aug. 12, 2027 - TAC

Thurs, Sep. 9, 2027 - MAWSAC

Oct. 2027 - Subregional workshop

Thurs, Nov 18, 2027 - MAWSAC & TAC joint meeting