

July Meeting Summary:

West Metro Water Supply Planning Workshop

Date and time: July 15, 2026, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: Chanhassen City Adm
7700 Market Blvd, Chanhassen, MN 55317

Workgroup Purpose

To share and align our different organizations' work, to achieve the goals stated in the West Metro action plan (in the Metro Water Supply Plan chapter of the region's 2050 Water Policy Plan).

2050 Water Policy Plan West Metro subregion goals:

- The quality and quantity of water is protected.
- Water is conserved and used efficiently.
- Water resources support public health and safety for everyone.
- Responsible growth is supported by reliable and adequate water resources.

The Metro Area Water Supply Plan chapter of the 2050 Water Policy Plan was developed with a focus on drinking water supply, driven by strong input from representatives of Public Water Suppliers (PWS). Since then, the scope of subregional engagement has broadened to include all water resources, not just drinking water. This reflects general understanding that all water is connected and is affected by land use planning. To plan effectively, a one water approach is needed. The subregional workgroup now includes representatives from PWS, watersheds, soil and water conservation districts, land use planners, and experts in climate and environmental resources. Bringing all these experts together allows us to work on projects with shared priorities.

Workshop Objectives

- Better understanding of growth, economic development, and water resource trends across the subregion.
- A chance to learn from neighbors – sharing different practices across the subregion.
- Better understanding of our different questions, goals, and high-level plans and challenges – for both land use and water.

Workshop Agenda

- Welcome, purpose, and agenda
- Introductions
- Panel: Local collaboration to address community development and water challenges
- Thought exercise: What if water came first – would communities look the same?
- Presentation: Forecasts
- Group activity: Shared map of plans and timelines
- Group activity: Continuing to advance shared projects
- Close out

* all presentation slides are attached to the email.

Notes

22 people from 18 local organizations signed in, and staff from the Met Council's land use and water planning units also attended.



The workshop started with a welcome by core team member Charles Howley, centering on the work group purpose and meeting objectives.

Panel: Local collaboration to address community development and water challenges

Waconia Reuse

- Jon and Doug shared about reuse program in Waconia.

Multi-Community Wellhead Protection Planning

- Charles and Anneka shared about wellhead protection plan pilot.

Thought exercise: What if water came first – would communities look the same?

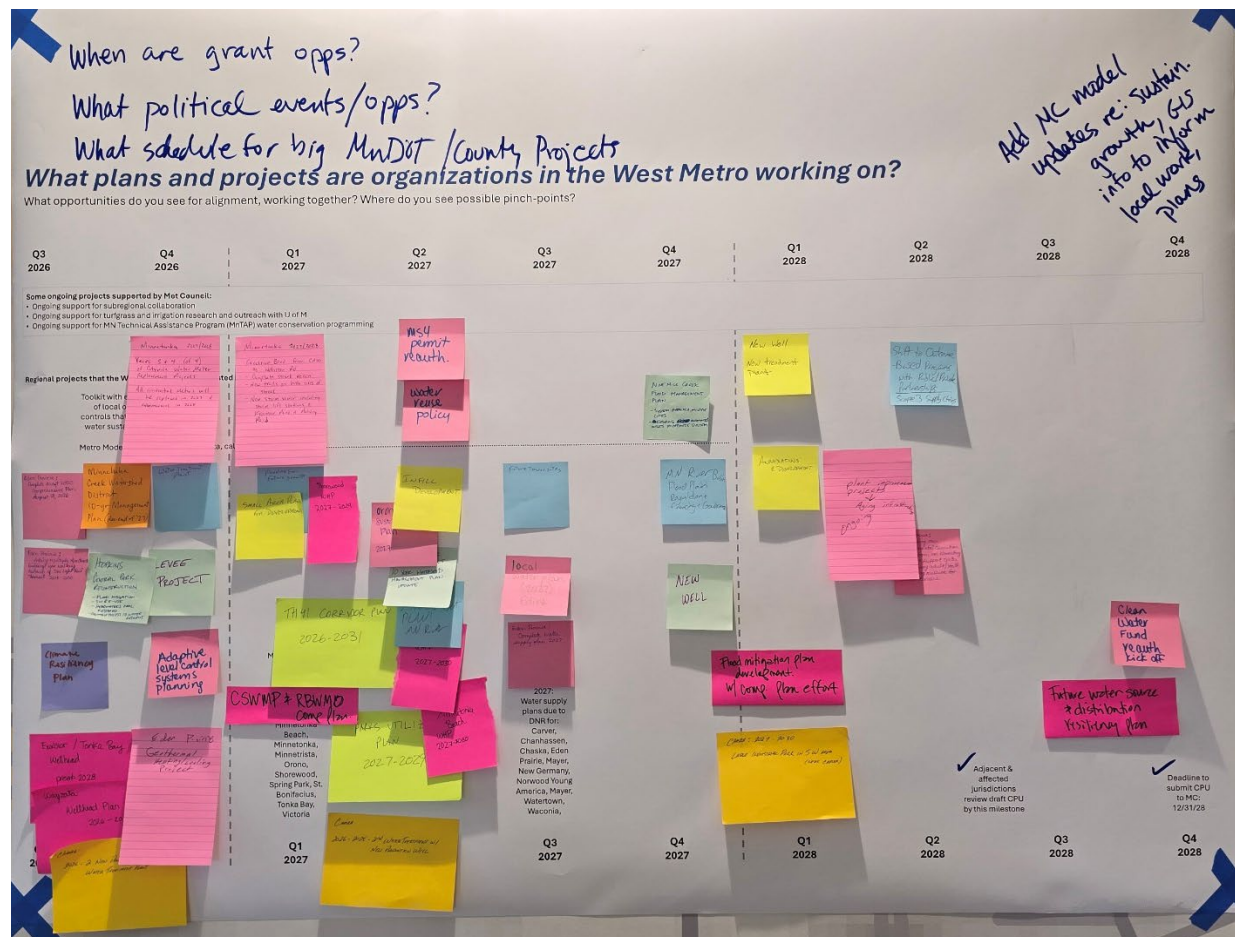
- Regional treatment and setbacks
- Massive setbacks for structures, greater than 50 feet
- More pipes to move water around
- More preserved wetlands
- Design around infiltration areas
- Different roads
- Private ownership and property management around storm ponds in backyards
- More regional communal systems

Presentation: Forecasts for the west metro – What they are and how they were developed

Todd Graham, Metropolitan Council Principal Researcher, described the method to forecast population, households, and employment to 2050 and shared some results.

Group activity: Shared map of plans and timeline

A timeline from Quarter 3 2026 through Quarter 4 2028 was shared, and participants were invited to add their own plans, projects and schedule to a poster with key milestones: development plans, annexation plans, transportation, water, and others.



Group discussion: Continuing to advance shared projects

- Add Minnesota Department of Transportation (MDNOT) and counties to this because big projects impact the group and water and impact growth, for example the highway 212 project
- When discussing stormwater, we shouldn't forget MNDOT
- Bring natural systems requirements and tools to future meetings to spark more planners to attend this group
- Conservation topic, what do we know, what gaps exist and how to address
 - Environmental Quality Board report
 - Clean Water Council policy on large users
 - Agricultural Certification audit, how to be accountable
- Collaboration topic: where are we at now and where do we need to do more work on collaboration? (example bringing in MNDOT)

Appendix 1: Attendance List

Name	Organization
Andrew Simmons	City of Carver
Charlie Howley	City of Chanhassen
Matt Haefner	City of Chaska
Rick Wahlen	City of Eden Prairie
Jessica Wilson	City of Edina
Zach Hurlebaus	City of Edina
Nick Johnson	City of Mayer
Mike Kuno	City of Minnetonka
Ryan Prich	City of Mound
Laura Oakden	City of Orono
Kristin Asher	City of Richfield
Doug Bode	City of Waconia
Jon Haukaas	City of Waconia
Hailey Hedblom	City of Wayzata
Joe Dusek	City of Eden Prairie
Will Lytle	Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
Becky Christopher	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Corrina Marshall	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Anneka Munsell	Minnesota Department of Health
Brett Eidem	Nine Mile Creek Watershed District

Met Council Staff

Jess Collin-Pilarski (co-facilitator)

Lanya Ross (co-facilitator)

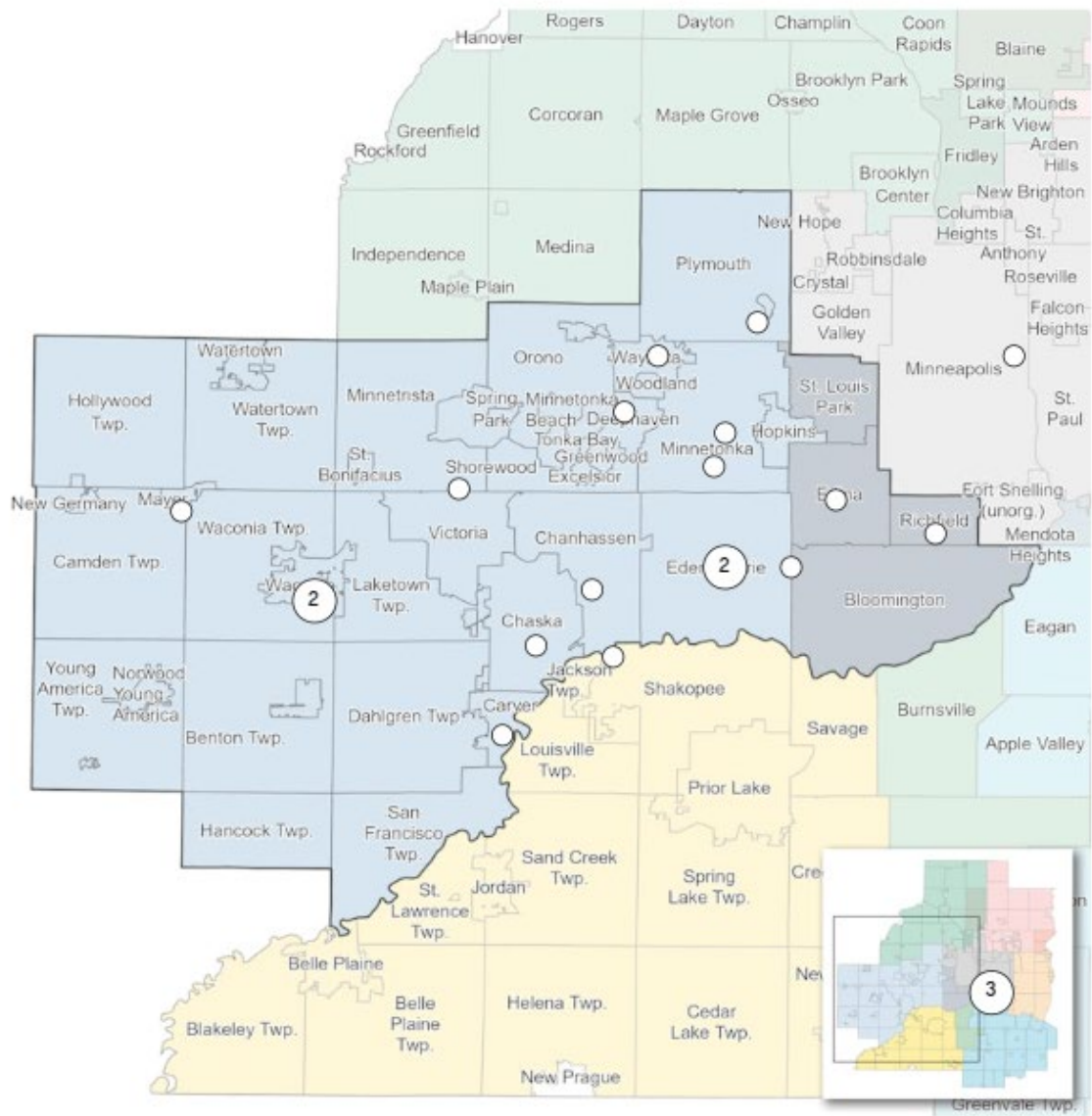
Amber Turnquest

Shawn James

MacKenzie Young-Walters

Jen Kostrzewski

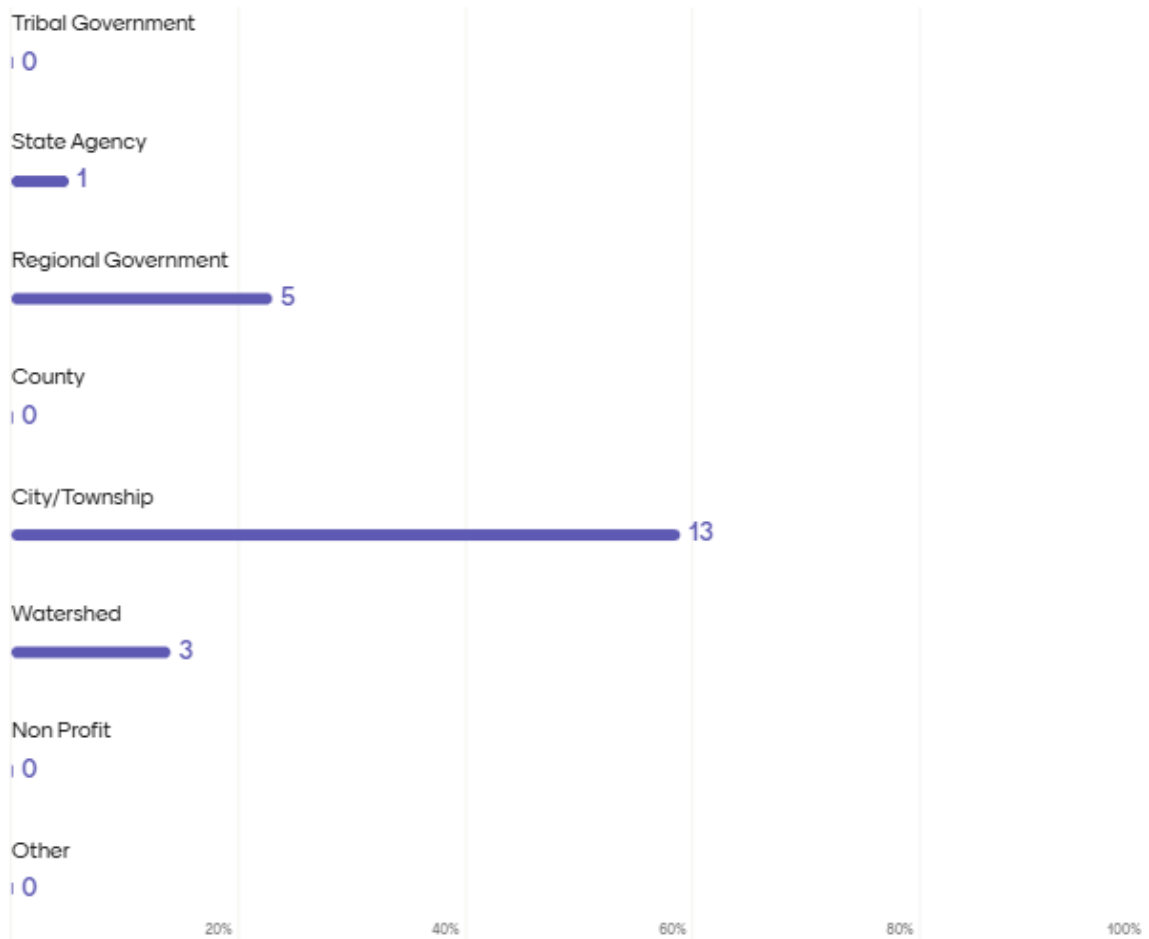
Steve Christopher



What type of organization do you represent?

What type of organization do you represent?

22 / 22



What is your role?

What is your role?

22 / 22

35

Most popular

planner

4

Also prominent

public works director

3

city administrator

2

utilities

2

Other responses

administrator

1

collaboration

1

custodian of drinking wat

1

dept director

1

deputy pwd

1

dpw

1

instigator

1

pain to city planner

1

policy planning coord

1

public services director

1

public works

1

pwd-city eng

1

scientist

1

source water

1

subject matter contributo

1

superintendent

1

supervisor

1

technician

1

water planning

1

water plant supervisor

1

water policy

1

water resources manager

1

water supply planner

1

whp manager utility mgr

1