



Information Item: 2027 MAWSAC Report to Legislature and Metropolitan Council



Joint Meeting of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply & Technical Advisory Committees
Lanya Ross | December 10, 2025

Overview

- Committee guidance needed
- Review statutory requirements
- Review MAWSAC and TAC recommendation in Metro Area Water Supply Plan
- Proposed schedule
- Available resources from the Met Council

Input requested

- Guidance for key messages and a general outline
- Guidance on how to approach developing content
- Direction regarding TAC role – what level of involvement?

Report requirements

Minnesota statute 473.1565, subdivision 3(b)

Due date: By February 15, 2017, and at least every five years thereafter

Author: The policy advisory committee (MAWSAC)

Recipients:

1. Metropolitan Council
2. Legislative Water Commission (now the Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy)
3. Chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources with the information required under this section.

TAC role: The policy advisory committee's report and recommendations must include information provided by the technical advisory committee.

Report content - required

Information required under MN statute 473.1565

- Planning activities addressing the water supply needs of the metropolitan area
- MAWSAC assistance to the Met Council
- MAWSAC recommendations
- TAC information

2017 MAWSAC report

MAWSAC's first report set high-level direction

Full report (6 pages)

<https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Publications-And-Resources/WATER-SUPPLY-PLANNING/REPORTS-TO-THE-LEGISLATURE/Water-Supply-Now-and-for-the-Future.aspx>



2022 MAWSAC report

MAWSAC's second report provided specific recommendations

Full report

<https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Publications-And-Resources/WATER-SUPPLY-PLANNING/REPORTS-TO-THE-LEGISLATURE/2022-MAWSAC-Recommendations-for-Water-Supply-Plann.aspx>

Summary (4 pages)

<https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Publications-And-Resources/WATER-SUPPLY-PLANNING/REPORTS-TO-THE-LEGISLATURE/2022-MAWSAC-Recommendations-Summary.aspx>



SEVEN-COUNTY METRO AREA

2020 POPULATION:
3.2 MILLION



2050 POPULATION:
+ 800,000

181 COMMUNITIES



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

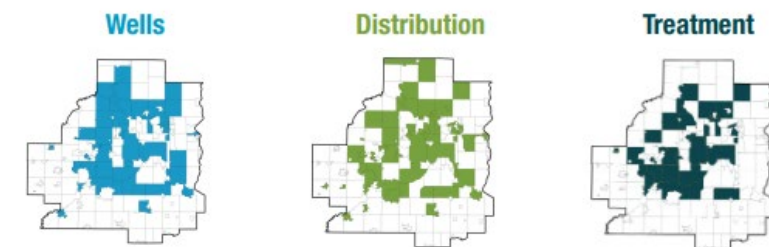
Highlights of a report to the Minnesota Legislature and the Metropolitan Council

The Twin Cities metro area – despite our relatively abundant supply of clean water – faces challenges like water pollution, growth, aging infrastructure, and climate change. Current regional issues like PFAS, chloride pollution, and impacts of the historic summer 2021 drought must be addressed.

Leaders have an opportunity to set in place a critical strategy to ensure the long-term sustainability of the region's water resources. The federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 will award Minnesota \$680 million over five years to improve water infrastructure and ensure clean, safe drinking water for all communities.

The Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee and its Technical Advisory Committee, which assist the Metropolitan Council in carrying out its water supply planning activities, published the 2022 report *Recommendations for Water Supply Planning*. The report is a guide for decision makers on how to approach priority water supply challenges in the coming years.

PLANNED INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH 2040



2026 MAWSAC report – proposed content

2025 Metro Area Water Supply Plan (Table 3.2, Item 16)

Met Council will develop, track, and report on regional and subregional indicators, targets, and performance measures. This information will be used to evaluate mitigation measures and continuously improve water supply planning, guided by the Metro Area Water Supply Advisory Committee, its Technical Advisory Committee, and subregional water supply groups.

This may be regularly reported as a ‘State of the Region’s Water Supply’ summary or factsheet, which would support public review and update of this Metro Water Supply Plan more frequently than every 10 years and would support required updates to the Legislature and Met Council.

Proposed schedule

Dec. 10, 2025:	MAWSAC and TAC begin scoping report, direct the Met Council report team
Feb. 12, 2026:	TAC considers technical aspects of key messaging and draft outline
Mar. 26, 2026:	MAWSAC drafts report outline and key messaging, using TAC input
May 14, 2026:	TAC continues work on draft report
Jun. 25, 2026:	MAWSAC continues work on draft report
Aug. 13, 2026:	TAC reviews draft report to ensure technical accuracy
Sep. 24, 2026:	MAWSAC approves report and recommends finalizing design
October 2026:	Share summary of report content at regional workshop, as schedule allows
Nov. 19, 2026:	Opportunity to address any final issues, if needed
Jan. 13, 2027:	MAWSAC and TAC receive copies to promote with key stakeholders
TBD:	Present report to the Met Council, Subcommittee on Minnesota Water Policy
Feb. 15, 2027:	Deadline to submit report

Potential Met Council resources

- Project management
- Subject matter experts
- Communications experts
- Consulting resources

Group discussion



Discussion 1 – roles and resources

How can we all work together to support the best outcome?

- How should MAWSAC fill its role of developer and approver?
- What should TAC's role be, specifically?
- What should the Met Council's role be?
- How, if at all, should subregional groups be engaged?
- What partners, resources should be tapped?



Group discussion – key messages about the region's water supply

What do the Met Council and Minnesota legislators need to know?

Why do they need to know it?



Group discussion – content that supports regional water supply messages

What information best supports key messages about the region's water supply?

What are trusted sources?

What is available?



Next steps

Preparation for Spring 2026

- The Met Council will summarize MAWSAC and TAC input and secure any needed resources based on today's discussion
- MAWSAC and TAC prepare to develop and review content throughout 2026



Thank you

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