



The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth

Prepared for: City of Minneapolis

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The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth is the framework for the future growth in Minneapolis and fulfills the city's regional responsibilities for housing, transportation and regional parks and open space. The plan also demonstrates how the city of Minneapolis will meet the population growth projections allocated by the Metropolitan Council. In addition to an introduction, chapters cover the topics listed below.

The **Land Use Chapter** describes land uses designations with policies related to protecting, maintaining, revitalizing or developing the city's residential, commercial, industrial, transit station areas, and employment centers. Policies surround supporting a vital mix of uses; developing and maintaining strong commercial and mixed use areas with a wide range of character and functions; directing new growth to designated districts and corridors; limiting automobile oriented uses; and preserving the stability and diversity of the City's neighborhoods while allowing for increased density to attract and retain long term residents and businesses.

Land Use is organized around a framework of land use features: Community Corridors, Commercial Corridors; Neighborhood Nodes; Activity Centers; Transit Station Areas; Industrial Employment Areas; Growth Centers; and Major Retail Centers.

- **Minnehaha Avenue** is designated as a *Community Corridor*. This is defined by a corridor with high traffic volumes with mixed uses including commercial, medium-high density residential uses and retail-service uses.
- The intersections of **Hiawatha and Lake, 38th Street and 46th Street** are all identified as *Activity Centers* as well as *Transit Station Areas*. Activity Centers have a diversity of uses with city-wide and regional draw, including medium to high density residential, have a traditional urban form in relation to building siting and massing and have pedestrian and transit orientation. Transit Station Areas include the land within ½ mile of the LRT station areas.
- **Hiawatha and Lake** is identified as a *Major Retail Center*, characterized by a large concentration of retail space with at least one major grocery or household store, significant parking, and connections to the regional road network.
- The **Seward-Hiawatha area** is identified as an *Industrial Employment Area*. These areas are protected areas intended for industrial growth without residential uses in their plans. The Industrial Land Use and Employment Policy Plan guides these areas.

The **Transportation Chapter** describes the city's multi-modal transportation system. The system includes balanced access for pedestrians and bicycles, transit and rail service and automobiles. Freight movement will meet needs while remaining sensitive to impacts on

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surrounding land uses. Parking strategies include creating district parking areas in activity and growth centers to balance demand while meeting objectives for improving transit, walking and biking.

The ***Housing Chapter*** incorporates policies about the amount, mix and diversity of housing types ranging from duplexes and high rise condominiums to supportive housing and life-cycle housing, as well as post-war single-family ramblers and stately mansions. Policies include also include locating high density housing close to transit, commercial, cultural and natural amenities.

The ***Economic Development*** chapter encourages land use designations and infrastructure investments to support commercial and industrial development, the hospitality industry, workforce readiness, and renewal by directing growth to targeted areas. Policies include focusing economic development in strategic locations and protecting industrial uses in Industrial Employment Districts.

The ***Public Services and Facilities Chapter*** addresses infrastructure needed to serve planned land uses, essential government services, the relationship to other institutions like the public library system, and promoting community health.

The ***Environment Chapter*** addresses sustainable development practices that project public health and maintain environmental quality. Policies include: enhancing indoor and outdoor air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions; encouraging sustainable design practices; expanded use of renewable energy; supporting the efficient use of land; protecting land from pollution and encouraging the clean-up of contaminated sites; increasing the urban tree canopy and other desirable vegetation; enhancing surface and groundwater systems; reducing, reusing and recycling solid waste; and reducing noise pollution.

The ***Open Space and Parks Chapter*** summarizes the recently adopted Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board comprehensive plan and describes how various other types of open space enhance the city. Specific policies include: providing a park within 6 blocks of every resident; support multi modal transportation corridors between parks with a preference for non-motorized linkages between parks; and acquiring and building amenities in growth areas including LRT corridors; and to protect historically significant landscapes.

The ***Urban Design Chapter*** considers the aesthetics, design and quality of the built environment, including the compatibility between different types of densities and land uses.

The ***Heritage Preservation Chapter*** considers the protection, conservation and enhancements to the traditional urban character of the city.

The ***Arts and Culture Chapter*** discusses cultural events and public art that enhance land use, public spaces and overall community livability.

The ***Implementation Chapter*** discusses plan implementation primarily through the city's zoning code along with other city ordinances and policy documents and adopted plans.