



Update on Required County Solid Waste Plan Revision

Dakota County Planning Commission

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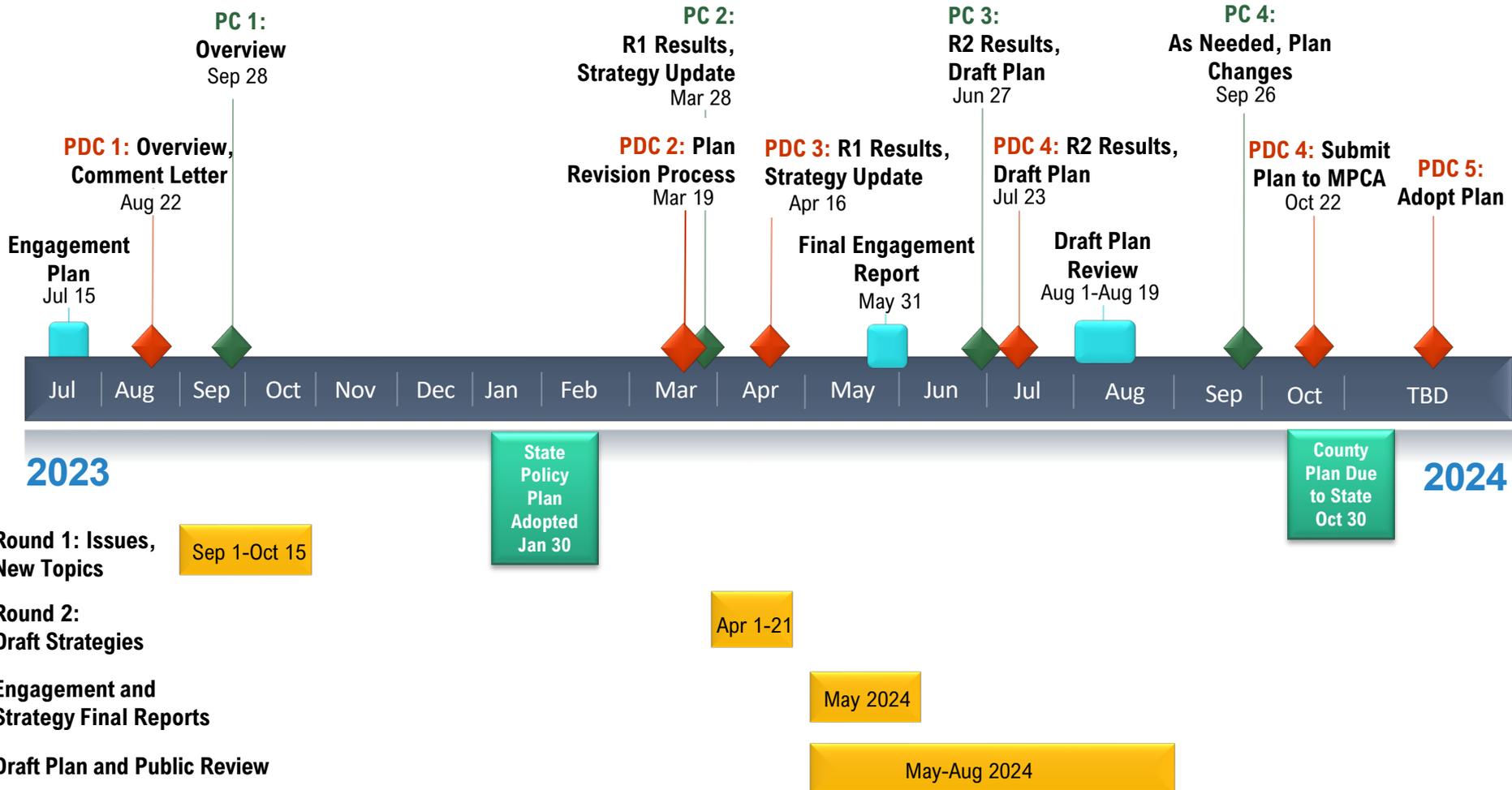
March 28, 2024

Tonight's Presentation



1. Project Recap
2. Findings from the Fall 2023 of Public Engagement
3. Adopted State 2022-2024 Policy Plan Strategies
4. Proposed Draft Plan Policy Framework and Strategies based on State Plan and Public Engagement
5. Next Steps

Recap: County Revision Timeline

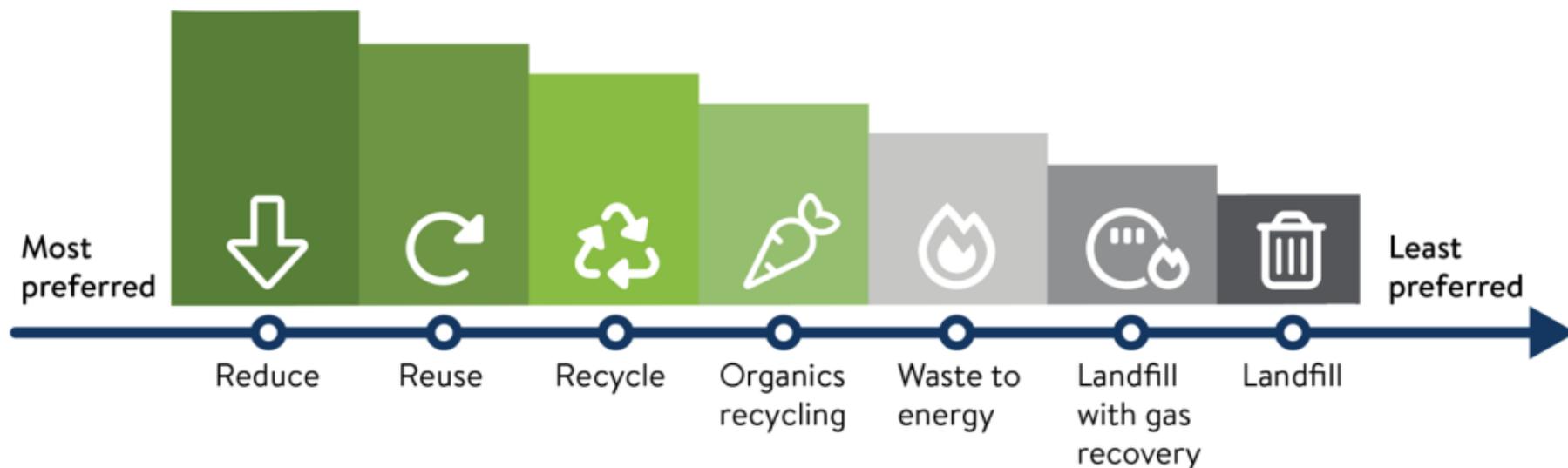


Round 1 and Round 2 will engage the waste industry, residents, business, schools, public entities, and specialty groups (tree/wood waste managers, reuse organizations, food rescue groups, and construction and demolition businesses). A revised draft Policy Plan was released for public comment on June 5, 2023. The MPCA adopted a final Policy Plan on January 30, 2024. The new County Plan must be completed nine months after the MPCA Commissioner adopts the Policy Plan, by October 30, 2024.

Recap: Solid Waste Management

- Minnesota Waste Management Act protects natural resources and public health (Minn. Stat. §115A.02)
- Waste hierarchy establishes preference for waste management
- Counties responsible for managing waste to meet state goals

Minnesota's waste hierarchy



Fall 2023 Public Engagement: Methods

Online Surveys:

- Residential, commercial, specialty, public entities, waste industry

Meetings:

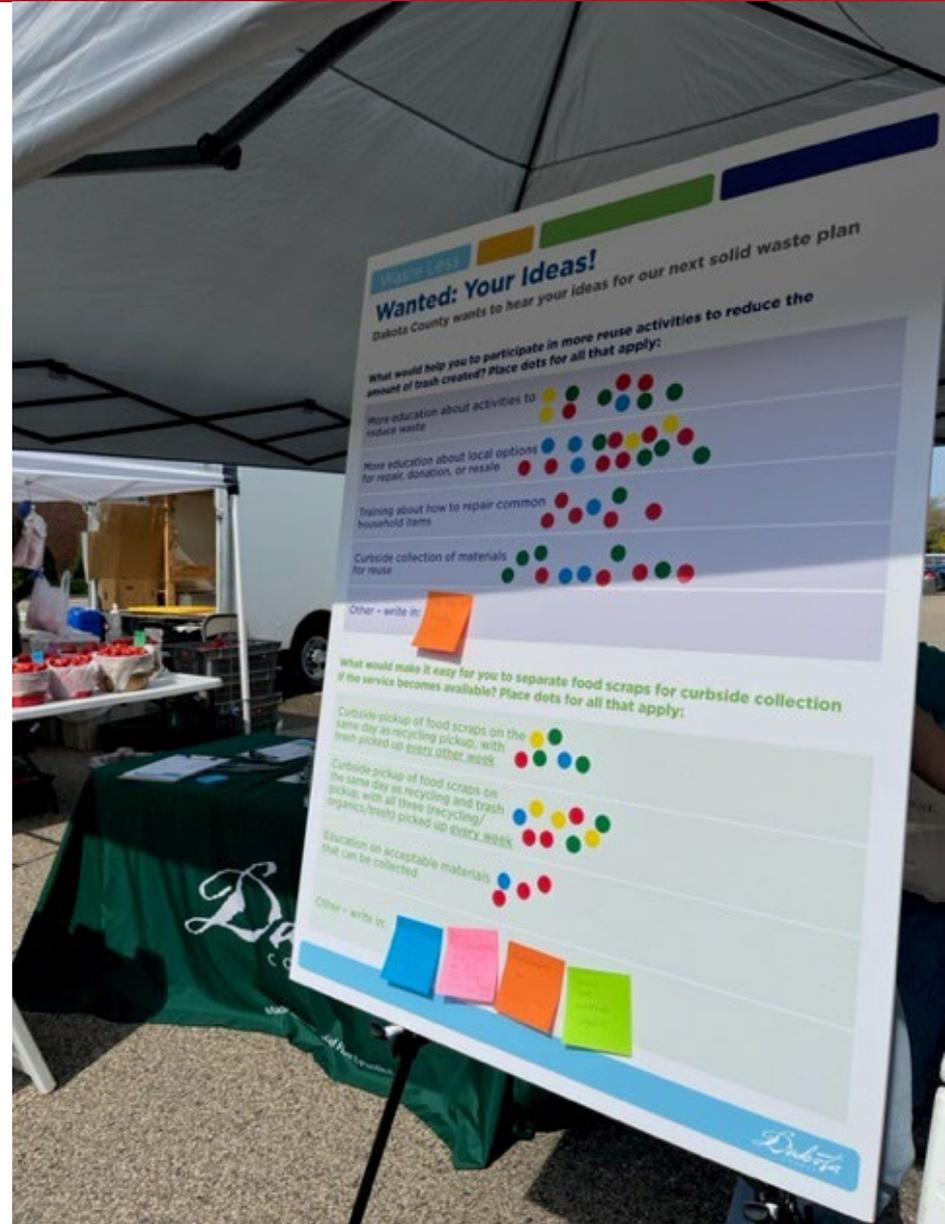
- Waste Industry Meeting: in-person
- Public Entities meeting: virtual

In-Person Intercepts:

- Burnsville Farmers Market
- Dakota County Parks Outdoor Gear Swap

Unstaffed Intercepts (dot boards):

- Burnhaven Library
- Inver Glen Library
- Wentworth Library



Fall 2023 Public Engagement: Audiences



Waste Plan Topics	Residents	Businesses and Schools	Public Entities	Waste Industry	Food Rescue Organizations	Deconstruction Businesses	Reuse Organizations	Tree Waste Companies
Recycling	X	X	X	X				
Household Hazardous Waste	X							
Waste Reduction and Reuse	X	X	X	X			X	
Organics (Food Scrap) Management	X	X	X	X	X			
Tree Waste Management	X	X	X	X				X
Building Material Management	X	X	X	X		X		
Sustainable Purchasing		X	X					

Fall 2023 Public Engagement: Participation

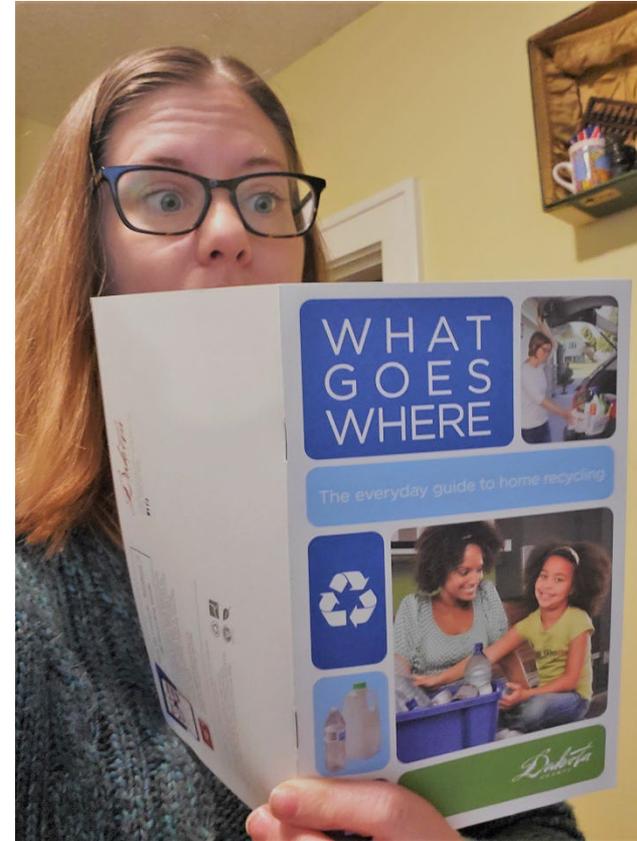


Audience	Participants	Online Survey	Intercepts	Meetings
Residents	897	◆	◆	
Businesses and Schools	15	◆		
Public Entities	23	◆		◆
Waste Industry	11	◆		◆
Specialty Groups	9	◆		Offered

Public Engagement: Findings

Recycling

- More education is desired, especially on challenging/confusing materials
- More convenient recycling options are desired for materials that can't go in curbside recycling bins
- Greater manufacturer responsibility is desired for products and packaging



Public Engagement: Findings



Household Hazardous Waste

Top opportunities for improving proper disposal include:

- Extended operating hours at the Recycling Zone
- Facilities that are closer to residents
- Enhanced education on materials accepted for drop-off



Public Engagement: Findings

Waste Reduction and Reuse

Top solutions include:

- Information for repair, local resale and donation, sustainable purchasing, curbside collection, and drop off locations
- Convenient options for donating or selling furniture, electronics, and household goods
- Activities to support reuse such as swaps, rentals, training on repair
- Other: model language, funding



Public Engagement: Findings

Organics Management (Food Scraps)

Findings include:

- Weekly trash preferred with weekly recycling and organics collection
- Information about which food scraps to separate
- Information needed for cities about using finished compost in projects
- Residents: pests/odors concerns
- Waste industry: labor/cost concerns



Public Engagement: Findings

Tree Waste Management

- More education needed
- Cost-effective options needed
- Storage capacity needed

Building Material Management

- Information needed on what, where, and how to reuse building materials

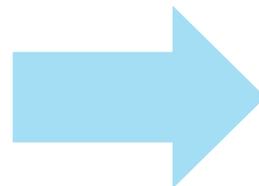
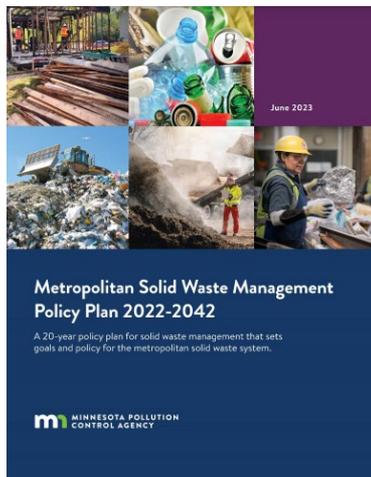


Does the Commission have comments
or questions on public engagement?

What stands out from the first round?

Metro Policy Plan: County Plan Requirements

- **MN Stat. §473.149** – Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan adopted January 30, 2024
 - Prepared by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 - Sets framework all metropolitan counties must follow
- **MN Stat. §473.803** – County Plan revision, submittal by October 30, 2024



Metro Policy Plan Waste Objectives



Regional Waste Management System Objectives

Management Method	Metro Counties (2022)	Dakota County (2022)	2025 Goal	2030 Goal	2036 Goal	2042 Goal
Waste Reduction	-	-	2.9%	6.4%	10.7%	15%
Recycling	28.6%	24%	36.9%	47.6%	47.4%	47.4%
Organics	16.6%	30%	21.5%	27.6%	27.6%	27.6%
Waste to Energy	21.4%	2%	24%	20%	20%	20%
Landfill	33.4%	43%	17.6%	5%	5%	5%

Metro Policy Plan Framework



Key Themes

Sustainable Materials Management

Greenhouse Gas Emission reductions

Equal benefit and burden

Product stewardship

Goals

Protect and Conserve

Accountability

Regional Approach

Policies

Grow reuse & recycling markets

Reduce waste and toxicity

Properly manage all waste

Encourage organized collection

Pursue product stewardship

Hold all waste generators accountable

Streamline ordinances

Promote sustainable materials management

Strategies

State-led

County required

County optional

1. Expanded/new focus areas

- Waste reduction
- Organics and wood waste management
- Building material management

2. Plan structure, point system

- Required strategies
- Optional strategies – *must reach 75 points*
 - Support for waste hierarchy
 - Difficulty to implement

Required Strategies (32): County Plans **must** include

Examples:

- Residential curbside organics in cities greater than 5,000 by 2030
- Pre-processing at disposal facilities by 2030 (remove metals)
- Develop plan to prevent and manage wood waste
- Implement a building materials management plan in county operations

Optional Strategies (28): counties **must select 75 points of 194** to include in their Plans:

Examples:

- Educate restaurants on opportunities to donate food (7)
- Establish a Repair Program (7)
- Host a building material swap (8)
- Establish additional organics drop-off sites (7)

County Status on Policy Plan Strategies



Policy Plan Strategy Type	# Strategies or Points to Pick From	Minimum Required in County Plan	Current County Status (Complete or Partially Implemented)
Required Strategies	32	32	21 24
Optional Strategies	194	75	38



Draft County Plan

Proposed Policy Framework
and Initial Set of Strategies

County Solid Waste Vision

Defines the desired solid waste management system to be implemented by the public and private sectors:

“A comprehensive waste management system that protects, preserves, and enhances the environment and public health.”

Proposed Changes to Policies



County Plan Policies: Suggested Revisions

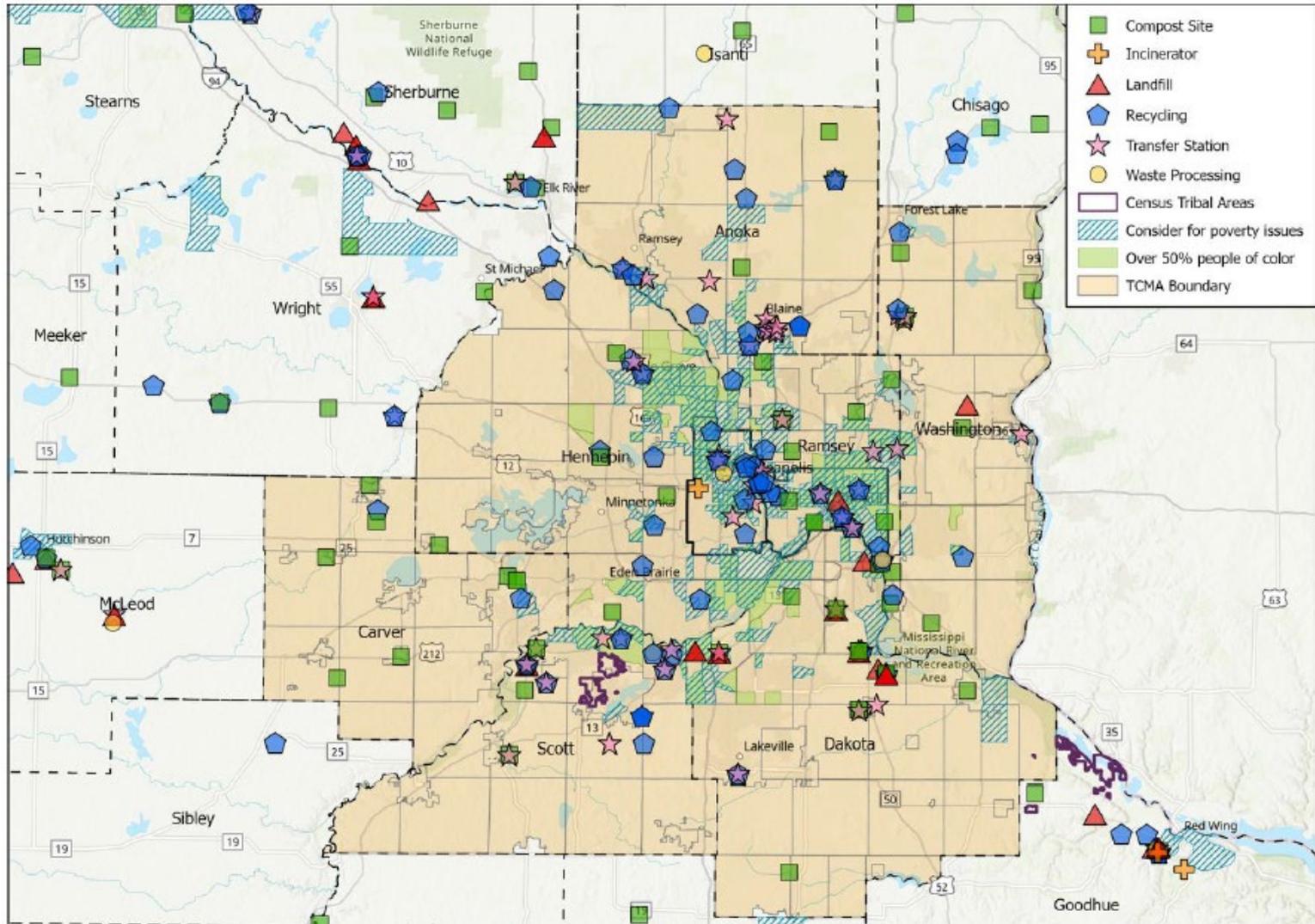
The following policies define the County's position on specific issues and roles or actions that the County generally will take:

- 7) Advocate for practical state and federal product stewardship laws that create effective, producer-led toxicity and source reduction, reuse, and recycling. ~~with and emphasis on products that pose a public health or safety risk.~~

- 9) Engage the public in decisions that impact their communities with special emphasis on state-identified Environmental Justice Areas of Concern.

Proposed Policy: Public Participation

Figure 14. Map of solid waste facilities and EJ boundaries located within the TCMA



Proposed Initial Set of Strategies



- Required Strategies – propose:
 - Include all 32 strategies
- Optional Strategies – propose:
 - Include strategies currently working on
 - Include strategies align with Fall 2023 public engagement findings
 - Total: 46 points (29 below 75 points needed)

Proposed Optional Strategies



Proposed Optional Strategies: working on, public support

Optional Strategy	Point Value
Improve recycling data collection at businesses within the county.	7
Participate in a reuse network, like Reuse Minnesota, for county and city staff to broaden their reuse expertise.	6
Collect recycling weekly by 2030.	7
Establish additional organics recycling drop off sites.	7
Implement fees to better account for the externalities of land disposal.	4
Provide deconstruction training.	8
Establish a reuse location for residential drop-off and pick-up.	7
Total Points (of 75 needed)	46

Additional Optional Strategies



Seeking Input on in Future Public Engagement

Optional Strategy	Points
Pair the option of bi-weekly trash collection with weekly recycling and organics collection.	7
Establish a Repair Ambassador program, like the Recycler/Composters (RCAs) Ambassador programs.	7
Host a building material collection event or swap.	8
Provide financial assistance to offset the additional cost of building deconstruction, used building material installation, and/or structural moving.	8
Annually host or aid with home and building repair and refurbishment trainings.	8
Work with health inspectors to educate restaurants and other establishments that have excess prepared food to donate.	7
Develop and distribute EAB tree care education programs for privately owned land.	8
Expand composting and mulching capacity beyond existing markets.	5
Total	58

Additional Optional Strategies



Not Seeking Input on in Future Public Engagement

Optional Strategy	Point Value
Implement county policy encouraging all county and city-led events and food providers use reusable food and beverage service ware.	6
Adopt an ordinance with a mandatory consumer charge for take-out single-use items.	9
Establish a curbside set-out day to allow residents to set out used items for reuse.	7
Contract for residential recycling and organics by 2030.	7
Contract for residential MMSW collection by 2030.	7
Update ordinances that address wood burning.	4
Incentivize tree treatment as a cost-effective strategy to extend the life of ash trees and to reduce the volume of wood waste generated over the next 20 years.	8
Allow assessments on property taxes to spread the cost of tree care over a multi-year timeframe.	9
Support development of systems that use wood fuel.	4
Find new outlets to increase food to animal operations.	7
Prior to a demolition of county-owned buildings, require that sustainable material management strategies are considered.	7
Use purchasing guidelines to require environmental product declaration (EPD) for concrete.	7

Does the Commission have comments, questions on the proposed policy framework or strategies?

Next Steps



- April 1-21 Round two of public engagement on strategies
 - Feedback on optional strategies (58 points)
- May-June Complete draft plan
- June 27 Present draft plan for Commission recommendation on public release

Thank you