

# HASTINGS 2040



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



# Acknowledgments



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# INTRODUCTION

Why Plan?	1-3
A Plan for the Community of Hastings	1-3
Plan Organization	1-4
Metropolitan Council Oversight	1-6
Previous Visioning & Planning	1-7
2040 Engagement Topics & Consensus	1-9



  
Levee Park ←  
Rotary Pavilion ←  
Depot Park ↑  
Lake Isabel ↑  
*Since 1857*



  
Parks & Trails  
  
PARKS  
FACILITIES  
POINTS OF INTEREST

ARTSPACE

ARTSPACE

## Why Plan?

It is difficult to know what the future may bring for Hastings, or for any community. As residents and businesses come and go, and economic trends rise and fall, changes will occur. The purpose of this plan is to establish a shared vision for Hastings to guide future actions and decisions. This guidance provides predictability and consistency over time, which encourages continued growth and investment. We plan so that we can act and react in a changing world with a confident understanding of our common values and goals.

## A Plan for the Community of Hastings

This planning document is a “living” guide for growth and change in the City of Hastings. The plan represents the City’s best effort to address current issues and anticipate future needs; however, it can and should be amended from time to time if conditions warrant reconsideration of policies in this plan. If decisions are being made that are not consistent with this plan, then the plan has lost some relevance and may need to be amended. The process of amending the comprehensive plan should not be onerous, but it should trigger a brief pause to consider again the long term vision for the community. This plan’s value is dependent upon frequent use and occasional updates.

# Plan Organization

The organization of the plan is based on the planning process and is divided into fifteen chapters and Appendix A.

## **Chapter 1: Introduction**

Discusses the role of the plan, Thrive MSP 2040 requirements and provides an outline of the plan for reference.

## **Chapter 2: Planning Process and Public Engagement**

This chapter outlines the planning process, public participation methods and a summary of all feedback.

## **Chapter 3: Population and Growth**

This chapter focuses on describing recent and forecasted changes to the community from 2010 to 2040 including population trends, population projections and other growth indicators.

## **Chapter 4: Land Use**

This chapter covers Hastings' land use planning history, natural resources, current land use, recent development, annexation, land use regulations, redevelopment potential, adjacent community land use, resiliency concerns, and future land use planning based on projected growth.

## **Chapter 5: Transportation**

This chapter provides an analysis of the transportation system and outlines the transportation system plan for the community.

## **Chapter 6: Community Design**

This chapter examines community form, visual character, community design elements and provides a design plan for the future.

## **Chapter 7: Economic Competitiveness**

This chapter provides an overview of economic development activity in the community and a plan for continued economic growth.

## **Chapter 8: Housing**

This chapter outlines current housing conditions and a plan for the continued improvement of housing across the community.

## **Chapter 9: Heritage Preservation**

This chapter provides an overview of preservation planning in Hastings as well as a plan for continued preservation alongside growth.

## **Chapter 10: Parks, Open Space, and Trails**

This chapter outlines the existing conditions, values, vision, and policy for recreation in the community as well as future plans for parks, greenways, trails, and natural resources.

## **Chapter 11: Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area**

This chapter provides an overview of the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area and related policies for growth and development.



## **Chapter 12: Water Supply**

Details the existing conditions and future needs for the City's water supply system.

## **Chapter 13: Wastewater**

Details the existing conditions and future needs for the City's wastewater system.

## **Chapter 14: Surface Water**

Details the existing conditions and future needs for the City's surface water system.

## **Chapter 15: Implementation**

Identifies the common tools and procedures by which the plan will be implemented and provides steps for successful implementation of the plan.

## **Appendix A: Survey Results**

Appendix A contains the results of the community-wide survey and youth survey.



# Metropolitan Council Oversight

Thrive MSP 2040 is the vision for the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Region over the next 30 years. It reflects the region's joint concerns and aspirations, anticipates future needs in the region, and addresses our responsibility to future generations. Under state law, the Council prepares a long-range plan for the Twin Cities region every 10 years. Thrive MSP 2040 sets the policy foundations for systems and policy plans developed by the Council:

- **Transportation Policy Plan**
- **Water Resources Policy Plan**
- **Regional Parks Policy Plan**
- **Housing Policy Plan**

Thrive MSP 2040 addresses issues that transcend any one neighborhood, city, or county, as we build and maintain a thriving metropolitan region. The Twin Cities region's investments provide an important economic foundation so all residents of the region can prosper. Transportation, jobs, community development, affordable housing – these are the bricks-and-mortar basics that make other things possible, create healthy outcomes, and safeguard the region's exceptional quality of life.

Choice, Place and Opportunity examines where opportunities in the region are, which residents have access to those opportunities, and how future public investments - made the by the Council and other agencies - can assure equitable access to opportunity for all residents of the region.

Recommendations outlined in the assessment influences Thrive MSP 2040, which identified "equity" as one of five outcomes of the regional planning process over the next decade.

While Hastings will establish a unique local vision, the City's plan must also reflect the adopted regional policies outlined in the system and policy plans. Local plans contain much greater detail than regional plans by identifying local street connections, neighborhood parks, residential development standards, and phasing of utility extensions and improvements necessary for the individual community. But these local planning efforts tie into the larger regional infrastructure of parks and trail systems, arterial road networks, and wastewater infrastructure. It is the efforts of the 188 cities, townships, and counties together that implement a shared regional vision.

Minnesota Statute requires certain topic areas to be included in local comprehensive plans. The Local Planning Handbook is organized around these plan elements and provides guidance on how to meet requirements within these planning areas. These plan elements in the Local Planning Handbook are:

- **Land Use**
- **Transportation**
- **Water Resources**
- **Parks & Trails**
- **Housing**
- **Plan Implementation**
- **Resilience**
- **Economic Competitiveness**

## Previous Visioning & Planning

An understanding of the overall vision for the community is an important step in drafting a plan that is reflective of the long-term goals of the community. Over the past 15 years, the City of Hastings has taken many steps to identify goals and develop a vision for the community including this update of their Comprehensive Plan for 2040.

### Downtown - Heart of Hastings Plan

Adopted in 2003, this plan was meant to serve as a guide for the future development of the original Hastings area, or what is commonly referred to as downtown Hastings. The plan is meant to span 20 years, so the end of the plan and the goals and policies that coincide is fast approaching. This plan was created to provide future standards for development that would encompass original and traditional values of the town and protect the character of Hastings while improving its environment.



### Vermillion Street Corridor Study

Adopted in April 2018, this study seeks to improve the economic vitality and market position of the corridor by developing a long-term vision based on a unified approach to improve business viability, visual image, transportation and pedestrian safety. The plan provides a working plan for economic growth and redevelopment along the corridor and includes the identification of properties and/or sites that can be targeted for development or redevelopment. The plan provides recommendations as to what the city's role should be in development, redevelopment and increased utilization and function of properties along the corridor.

## 2030 Comprehensive Plan

The 2030 Comprehensive Plan for Hastings will serve as an important base for this 2040 update. The plan encompasses all aspects that are covered in this plan, including land use, housing, and parks. Using the Metropolitan Council requirements, this plan was adopted in 2010. The plan needs to be updated to include a more cohesive vision for Hastings, as well as include more of the community's current wants and needs. The 2030 plan lacked the future consideration of housing sustainability, and this has been expressed by the community. The plan also lacked the affinity to for expanded Twin Cities metro area transit opportunities. The 2040 plan will accommodate these new directives and many more.

## 2040 Engagement Topics & Consensus

Along with the goals, policies and visions detailed in the community's past planning efforts there are a number of topics of focus that were uncovered through the extensive public engagement activities included as part of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan update. Below is a consensus of ideas that are central to the 2040 vision for Hastings.

### Connected Growth

Plan to accommodate anticipated growth in a flexible, connected, and efficient manner.

### Transportation

Plan and invest in multi-modal transportation to better serve the people living and working in Hastings.

### Housing

Encourage expanded choices in housing location and types, that provide improved access to jobs and opportunities in the community.

### Natural Resources

Continue to protect and enhance the region's vital natural resources.

### Community Character

Promote the traditional small town character of Hastings by protecting the look and feel of older neighborhoods and seek to extend traditional neighborhood design principles into new areas.

### Future Land Use Planning

Regulate land use consistently by utilizing the Future Land Use Map along with the goals, objectives and policies of this plan.

### Sustainable Growth

Enhance the sustainable nature of Hastings by investing in established areas, carefully planning new neighborhoods, providing attractive public amenities and protecting environmental resources

### Riverfront and Downtown Revitalization

Continue to restore underutilized downtown and riverfront properties to viable commercial, residential or recreational opportunities.

### Fringe Growth

Adopt and follow a plan for growth and protect perimeter locations for efficient, compact neighborhood expansion that includes commercial and employment opportunities.

### Neighborhood Protection and Improvement

Keep older neighborhoods attractive and vital through improved streets, parks and services, code enforcement, design standards, and selective reinvestment.