

**Met Council Work Group
Staff Direction:**

Per the recommendation of IGR staff and the Met Council work group, IGR Staff will lead implementation of the following recommendations on process for communicating policy and city positions on regional and Met Council Issues

The often used cliché “timing is everything” best describes the opportunity to develop a process to have the “municipal voice” heard at the Met Council. In 2011 a new Met Council will be appointed, the release of census information will signal the start of the regional planning process and federal urban policy is focusing on regions. In addition construction on the central corridor and planning for a third line will continue. The new Met Council will also be challenged to address slower growth as it relates to wastewater collection and disposal and determine if additional policy areas should be regional systems.

Being aware of the challenges and opportunities facing the region, the City of Minneapolis should take an active role in the region’s policy development process. Specifically the work group recommends the following:

- **The City Council meet early in the year with the Met Council Chair and council members from Minneapolis to discuss the Met Council’s major plans and policies for the year and if appropriate present the city’s position on the plans and proposals.**
- **The city continues the multi-department review of the Met Council’s policy plans and amendments to them. The review should include a presentation before the relevant city council committee and formal city council action that conveys the city’s position to the Met Council.**
- **The city review the Met Council’s annual operating and capital budget. The review would be accomplished by a multi-department team lead by Finance/IGR. The review should assess the proposal in not only fiscal terms but also in relation to the operating and policy principles.**
- **The IGR chair and staff will be responsible for working with the Met Council in general and the city members in particular.**
- **The IGR Chair and Director develop with the City’s Met Council members a method to communicate information on city positions regarding policies and programs of the Met Council.**
- **The Met Council periodically schedule committee or Council meetings in Minneapolis and other cities throughout the region.**

- **The IGR staff be directed to present in writing to the City Council during the last quarter of each year, a listing of Met Council actions scheduled for the forthcoming year that could impact the city and proposed actions and also a written summary of the city's current year's interaction with the Met Council including proposals that have not yet been resolved.**