

Regional Policy Conference
Structure for Stakeholder Meetings

Workshop Goal: to create a new consensus about the understanding of what a “region” is and to activate leaders throughout the region to work on a set of common dilemmas.

The Citizens League conference will be designed as an active, results-oriented event. Toward that end, we will ask all participants to:

- Contribute to problem definitions and solutions;
- Take part in highly interactive activities (which will also give participants ownership in conference results);
- Share and learn from one another and be open to exploring the implications of various courses of action;
- Identify actionable next steps; and
- Strive to make progress on the action items.

Themes: Themes that cut across and integrate policy “silos” to clarify and reframe common dilemmas. Possible themes are:

- ✓ Human Development
- ✓ Community Development
- ✓ Economic Development

Policy Areas: Probably three more specific policy areas to relate to discuss how we want our region to progress in light of the three themes.

- Water
- Aging
- Cost of Growth

Workshops that use the themes to assess each policy area and outcomes that we want to achieve.

Objective

- To “name” through consensus a specific outcome under each theme where participants can define their role and potential resources.
 - Redesign of systems cannot happen if we cannot specifically name what “product” or outcome we are redesigning
 - Tables of 6-10 people, engaging in well prepared, well-facilitated exercises and discussion designed to use the diversity of the group’s experience to reach consensus
 - Through voting, identify top two priorities

Outcomes:

- To test and improve the process for implementing a “civic policy agenda”
- Spur emergence of top issues from across sectors
- Build a common sense framing of those issues

- Build areas of consensus
 - Build relationships and define roles that can support a policy “workplan” for the next year
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Next Step in Event Workplan:

Intensive set of meetings with all available stakeholders over the next four weeks. The purpose of the meetings with stakeholders will be to help us define and complete the agenda. It will also help us populate the panels with those who are suggested to us from the various organizations as most appropriate for helping with the agenda that we are building. Agenda will be finalized by June 20.

Current list for meetings (this will be expanded).

- Met Council
- University Metropolitan Consortium
- ULI/Regional Mayors Conference
- Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging
- Association of Metropolitan Municipalities (AMM)
- Association of Metropolitan School Districts (AMSD)
- United Way
- Metropolitan Community Centers
- Wilder
- Metro are chambers of commerce
- Target
- Best Buy
- Blue Cross Blue Shield (Active Living)
- Health Partners (10,000 Steps)
- MN Council of Churches
- St. Cloud and Rochester area organizations
- Other higher education institutions
- Xcel Energy
- Friends of the Mississippi
- St. Croix Community Funds
- Community councils, neighborhood redevelopment organizations
- Builders Association of the Twin Cities (BATC)
- MN Realtors Association