

## TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

GLOBAL WELLNESS CONSORTIUM (GWC), MICHAEL WRIGHT

INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN; XCEL ENERGY

ITASCA PROJECT, HOUSING AFFORDABILITY NEXT STEPS; JULIA SILVIS

Mayor Doug Anderson welcomed everyone to the February 8, 2021 RCM meeting.

Welcome New Mayors: Deb McMillian, Victoria

Welcome back to new mayors that were with us last month.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Next Month: March 15, 2021 – not our usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month.
- [LINK TO RCM OVERVIEW](#) – Let us know if you have updates to the document. Also please feel free to share it!
- [Development Proforma Workshop](#) – intended for public sector staff. 2/24/21 2-4PM & 3/3/21 2-4PM

## GLOBAL WELLNESS CONSORTIUM (GWC); MICHAEL WRIGHT

Mayor Jim Hovland welcomed Michael Wright

[LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

[LINK TO LETTER OF INTEREST](#)

If you have any questions please contact [Mayor Hovland](#) or [Michael Wright](#)

From Bill Goins: As you can see by this attached LOI, I have pre-signed on behalf of the Chair of the Global Wellness Consortium, so that an individual City or Mayor can sign, keep a completed copy and just mail one to the GWC address on the letter.

Global Wellness Consortium – positioning the Upper Midwest Region as The Human Wellness Corridor – “Feeding the World and Making Us Healthier”

- Created by Jim Hovland, Bill Goins, Mark Ritchie, Curtis Johnson, Jeffry Wosje, and Michael W. Wright
- *The purpose of this consortium is to establish an organization engaging the public, private, and academic sectors in forming a resilient and sustainable global leadership position in healthcare, food nutrition, and human wellbeing, through international and domestic non-partisan research, education, and informational activities.*
- How can we improve the economic performance of the entire upper Midwest?
  - Think. Do. Brand
    - Silicon Valley as an example of the benefit from being in this branded region.
  - What does our region have and what can we do with it?
    - The Upper Midwest has uniquely positioned assets in healthcare, food growing, nutrition, physical and virtual logistics.
    - Increased connectivity between regions with similar and complimentary infrastructures.

- Intellectual collisions between many universities, foundations, companies, and policy makers to create innovative possibility networks and dynamic learning libraries.
- We have an opportunity to be the first commercial Hyperloop in the US between MSP and Rochester... coined "Terminal 3".
- Underlying Magic: Collaborative Leverage at Scale
- Progress to date:
  - MOU Wallonia
  - MOU Hyperlopp TT

## INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN; XCEL ENERGY

Mayor Doug Anderson welcomes John Marshall and Bria Shea from Xcel Energy

John Marshall – Director, Community Relations & Foundation, MN, ND, SD

Bria Shea – Director, Regulatory and Strategic Analysis

### [LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

- Xcel Energy serves 8 states: 3.6 million electricity customers and 2 million natural gas customers.
  - In Minnesota: 1.3 million Electric Customers, 460,000 Natural Gas Customers, 99.9% Electric Reliability
- Nationally recognized leader in the transition to clean energy.

Xcel Energy Priorities:

1. Lead the Clean Energy Transition
    - 44% reduction by 2019, 80% reduction by 2030, 100% carbon free by 2050
      - Need advancement in technologies to close that 20%
  2. Enhance the Customer Experience – being more local
  3. Keep Bills Low
- Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Overview
    - It is a 15-year plan (2020-2034) for full Upper Midwest service area
    - Capacity expansion modeling to assess **size, type, timing of least-cost resource sets** that can serve future load
    - Balances four core planning objectives
    - Integrated Plan
      - Close coal plants
      - Add renewables
      - Continue carbon-free nuclear
        - Reliable energy comes into play at this phase
        - Extend Monticello nuclear plant until at least 2040
      - Enable a carbon-free future
        - Natural gas in the plan
        - Expand energy efficiency
  - Upper Midwest IRP Process Thus Far
    - 2018 – began stakeholder workshops
    - 2019 – system modeling; filed initial proposal with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

- 2020 – Filed supplemental Preferred Plan (June 2020)
- 2021 – expect as Commission decision on 2021 or early 2022.
- Resource Diversity is Key to Ensuring Reliability and to Mitigate Risk
  - Our plan **adds significant variable renewables** over the next 15 years
  - “Firm” low-carbon resources remain **necessary components** of the electric system for reliability and flexibility
- Resource Diversity Helps Ensure We Maintain Reliability Through Periods of Low Renewables
  - We want to **maximize carbon-free generation** on our system, but must appropriately consider risks associated with **higher shares of variable renewables**
  - **8760 hourly analysis** helps us examine these and other issues
- Q&A:
  - Q: How much agriculture land will be sacrificed to obtain space for renewables?
    - A: Focus on optimizing land we already own – or buffer land near where we already own.
    - Rule of thumb is 1 megawatt is 7 acres of land.
  - Q: Job and community impact of closing coal plants?
    - A: Xcel Energy has a track record of working proactively with our communities
    - None of this is done in a vacuum. We are working in collaboration with these communities.
  - Q: Can you speak to community solar gardens?
    - A: Xcel Energy is happy to work with a community and do a deeper dive on this topic.

## ITASCA PROJECT – HOUSING AFFORDABILITY; JULIA SILVIS

Mayor Mike McGuire welcomes Julia Silvis, representing the Itasca Project

[LINK TO PRESENTATION](#)

[LINK TO AFFORABILITY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY](#)

- About the Itasca Project’s purpose and how we work:
  - WHY - Vibrant communities require cross sector collaboration to create new opportunities and solve persistent problems.
  - WHAT - The Itasca Project seeks to increase regional economic competitiveness, improve quality of life and expand prosperity for all.
  - HOW - We are employer led and fact driven leaders who identify near term actions our participants can take to address long term challenges. Timely CEO engagement and impact is critical to our effectiveness. Our core functions include:
    - Convening, Thought leadership, and Catalytic action.
- Itasca’s housing affordability task force grew out of the 2018 Minnesota housing task force and its report “More Places to Call Home”
- While the Minneapolis-St Paul (MSP) region is home to many assets, housing affordability is a key driver to our growth. However, housing affordability is at risk due to a lack of supply.
  - Lack of housing has impacted affordability across all incomes –however, households making less than \$75,000 are particularly challenged with both a high and rapidly increasing cost burden..
  - To meet projected future growth and make up for a decade of underbuilding, the MSP region needs to produce 18,000 units annually –a 30% increase over our recent average.
- Itasca will lead on housing affordability in 3 areas:
  1. Develop a housing affordability dashboard.
  2. Design and pilot an innovative, housing-forward benefits package.

3. Test and learn.
- Where we want to be by the end of 2021:
    - Regional housing affordability dashboard launched. (Focus right now)
      - Will be collecting a broad set of feedback in next 2-3 months.
        - What insights are most valuable to our intended audience?
        - What do you want to know?
        - What do you want to be more widely known?
    - At least three employers commit to pilot emergency savings accounts.
    - At least two other employers have conducted analysis of employees' housing cost burden.
    - Innovation working group launched, identified innovations to stack; has plan to move forward.
  - **Regional housing affordability dashboard:**
    - What insights will be most useful to the intended dashboard audience?
      - NOAH – educate and share data, how much NOAH housing are we losing?
        - Not only preserving NOAH, but also improving conditions.
        - Are there innovative programs for seniors who own NOAH?
          - The City of Lakes Community Land Trust
          - There was a program that was available a few years ago called the Senior Housing Regeneration Program. It is no longer funded but a regional effort could bring that program back.
          -
      - The pipeline – where projects are not getting through because the funding is competitive.
      - A geomap of current affordable housing, movement of population, job growth, school enrollment
      - It would be helpful to show gap where cities are and where they should be in terms of number of affordable units.
  - Additional Resources Mentioned:
    - [LINK TO METROPOLITAN COUNCIL COMMUNITY PORTAL](#)  
“ Welcome to your Community Page portal! We have developed an individual page for each jurisdiction that is required to complete a comprehensive plan update. This page is all about YOUR community. The tools and resources available on your Community Page reflect the requirements and information relevant to your comprehensive plan update.”

## ATTENDANCE

### MAYORS

James Hovland	City of Edina (co-chair)
Doug Anderson	City of Lakeville (co-chair)
Marylee Abrams	City of Maplewood
Tracy Bertram	City of Becker
Kirt Briggs	City of Prior Lake
Anne Burt	City of Woodbury
Tim Busse	City of Bloomington
William Droste	City of Rosemount
Mike Elliott	City of Brooklyn Center
Mike Franklin	City of Jordan
Mary Gaasch	City of Lauderdale
Courtney Johnson	City of Carver
Marvin Johnson	City of Independence
Elizabeth Kautz	City of Burnsville
John Keis	City of Little Canada
Stephanie Lavine	City of Mendota Heights
Chris Lund	City of Hamburg
Mike Maguire	City of Eagan
Johanna McCarthy	City of Wayzata
Deb McMillian	City of Victoria
Johannah Mouton	City of Wayzata
Kim Norton	City of Rochester
Rhonda Pownell	City of Northfield
Maria Regan Gonzalez	City of Richfield
Jake Spano	City of St. Louis Park
Randy Stille	City of St. Anthony Village
Brad Wiersum	City of Minnetonka
Janet Williams	City of Savage
Jeff Wosje	City of Plymouth

### GUESTS

Michael Wright, Global Wellness Consortium

John Marshall, Xcel Energy - Director, Community Relations & Foundation, MN, ND, SD;

Bria Shea, Xcel Energy – Director, Regulatory and Strategic Analysis;

Farah Mandich, Xcel Energy – Strategy & Planning Specialist;

Nick Martin, Xcel Energy – Policy & Outreach Manager;

Michelle Swanson, Xcel Energy – Manager, Community and Economic Development SW Metro;

Mark Osendorf, Xcel Energy - Manager, Community Relations;

Julia Silvis, Itasca Project Director, McKinsey & Company

Rita Albrecht, Bemidji; Sara Barrow, Xcel Energy – Community Relations Manager; Bob Butterbrodt, Local Government Relations, Wells Fargo; Bridget Dockter, Xcel Energy – Manager of Policy & Outreach; William Goins, Global Wellness Consortium; Andrea Inouye, City of Minneapolis, Office of Mayor Jacob Frey; Jessie Houlihan; ULI Minnesota Management Committee and Stahl Construction; Curtis Johnson, Global Wellness Consortium; Andrea Kajer, Comcast; Jay Lindgren, Dorsey & Whitney; Dave Unmacht, LMC

### ULI MINNESOTA

Stephanie Brown, Caren Dewar, Rachel Keenan, Cathy Bennett

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Monday, March 15, 2021:** Mental Health  
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Zoom meeting, by invitation.