

Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership

April 22, 2021 -- 7:30-9:00 am, Sherburne County Government Center, County Board Room <under COVID-19, meetings are either in-person or virtual; see [Agenda](#) for dial-in information>



Routine Business

Welcome, Introductions

- **Welcome Partners, alternates, staff, consultants, guests**
- **Introductions**

Agenda

Action: Approve Agenda

Routine Business

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Agenda: Review, revise, approve
3. Previous meeting notes: Review, approve
4. Treasurer's report: Review, receive

Action Items

5. Framework 2030: Review and take action on final draft vision and key strategies
 - a. Brief CMRP history, Framework 2030 process and background
 - b. Vision: Original vision and summary feedback, recommended changes, vote
 - c. Strategies (one group at a time, repeat for all three groups): Original strategies, recommended refinements, feedback, vote

Discussion or Information Items

6. Setup for Special May Workshop
7. Next steps/close

5: Treasurer's report

- Treasurer's Report
 - Review and discuss
 - Formally receive



Framework 2030



FRAMEWORK ²⁰³⁰
partnering for the future

Vision and Strategies

[Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership](#)

5a: Framework 2030 Background, Process

Background, process: Approve Agenda

- Spring 2020: Background research, analysis
- Summer: Round 1 input on
- Fall-early spring: Round 2 feedback on draft vision and strategies
- Spring (April 22): Finalize vision and strategies
- Spring (April 29) into early summer: Develop actions to advance the strategies, final implementation planning, and final Framework 2030 Plan



Draft Vision

5b: Vision

Draft Vision

We -- the communities of the Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership -- are a confident and dynamic region.

We are made prosperous through our network of assets and proactive leadership, made vibrant through our vital and connected places, and made home by our caring people and communities.

Questions

- Rate the vision from 1 to 5, with 1 = not supportive and 5 = highly supportive
- What about this vision statement inspires or resonates with you?
- What different or additional words / phrases might better describe a regional vision?

5b: Vision

Key Findings



- **Average Rating: 3.6** (with 1 = not supportive and 5 = highly supportive)

What about this vision statement inspires or resonates with you?

- Respondents affirmed the emphasis on collaboration, teamwork, partnership, and unity.
- The phrase “made home by our caring people and communities” was strongly supported.
- Respondents agreed that the strength of the region comes from the network of communities.
- The vision statement paints a positive picture for prospective residents and businesses.

What different or additional words / phrases might better describe a regional vision?

- The vision statement is best understood in the context of the plan.
- The language could be more specific and concise.
- Community members would like to include words related to diversity and inclusion.
- Preserving natural resources and a rural lifestyle is a priority.
- The words “vibrant” and “confident” were somewhat polarizing; while many respondents liked them, many others did not.
- It is important to define “region” when discussing this statement.

5b: Vision

Draft Vision

We -- the communities of the Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership -- are a confident and dynamic region.

We are made prosperous through our network of assets and proactive leadership, made vibrant through our vital and connected places, and made home by our caring people and communities.

Proposed revisions

*We -- the communities of the Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership -- are a **STRONG** and dynamic region.*

*We are made prosperous through our network of assets and proactive leadership, made **UNIQUE** through our vital and connected places, and made home by our **WELCOMING** people and communities.*

Proposed Vision Revisions

We -- the communities of the Central Mississippi River Regional Planning Partnership -- are a strong and dynamic region.

We are made prosperous through our network of assets and proactive leadership, made unique through our vital and connected places, and made home by our welcoming people and communities.

Reflection questions:

- What did you find intriguing, surprising, or raised questions?
- What are your additional comments, thoughts, or questions?
- <Aim is to reach consensus -- that the vision statement reasonably reflects the principles and priorities of CMRP and doesn't violate core beliefs, values>

Further discussion, revisions; vote

Draft Strategies



land use



economic growth



interconnections



Draft Strategies - Two questions:

1. How might this strategy benefit your community?
2. What ideas do you have to successfully implement this strategy?

5c: Strategies

L1: Leverage the region's unique parks and natural resources

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include positive impacts on community health and wellness, local businesses, and the natural environment.
- Capitalizing on opportunities afforded by the river, preserving agricultural land, and connecting trails were common themes.

Original	Proposed Revision
L1: Leverage the region's unique parks and natural resources	No change recommended

5c: Strategies

L2: Promote a wider array of housing

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include allowing current residents to age in place, attracting new residents, and decreasing commuting.
- Some community members expressed concerns about population increase, sprawl, and the potential negative impacts to existing small town / rural community character.

Original	Proposed Revision
L2: Promote a wider array of housing	<i>No text change, but the description of the strategy should include a clear reference to the “where” and the “diversity of type,” and expand on the reasons why the strategy is important / needed</i>

5c: Strategies

L3: Invest in placemaking

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include encouraging residents to spend time and money locally, creating a stronger sense of community, and attracting businesses and residents.

Original	Proposed Revision
L3: Invest in placemaking	<i>No change recommended</i>

5c: Strategies

L4: Pursue a coordinated approach to land planning and management

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include preserving and protecting natural amenities and agricultural land, maintaining community character, and improving collaboration between communities.
- Some community were concerned that the language suggests regional governance (which was not the intention).

Original	Proposed Revision
L4: Pursue a coordinated approach to land planning and management	<i>Improve regional communication to better support local land planning and management</i>

Land use strategies: Proposed revisions, **discussion**

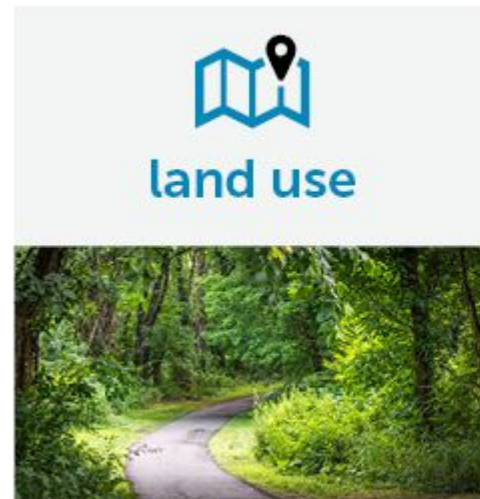
Original	Proposed Revision
L1: Leverage the region's unique parks and natural resources	<i>No change recommended</i>
L2: Promote a wider array of housing	<i>No text change, but the description of the strategy should include a clear reference to the “where” and the “diversity of type,” and expand on the reasons why the strategy is important / needed</i>
L3: Invest in placemaking	<i>No change recommended</i>
L4: Pursue a coordinated approach to land planning and management	<i>Improve regional communication to better support local land planning and management</i>

Reflection questions:

- What did you find intriguing, surprising, or raised questions?
- What are your additional comments, thoughts, or questions?

Further discussion, revisions -- consensus

Draft Strategies



Draft Strategies - Two questions:

1. How might this strategy benefit your community?
2. What ideas do you have to successfully implement this strategy?

5c: Strategies

E1: Expand quality and diversity of employment opportunities

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include retaining young people, reducing commuting times, and supporting local investment.

Original	Proposed Revision
E1: Expand quality and diversity of employment opportunities	<i>No text change, but the description of the strategy should include references to fiscal outcomes and the role of lifelong education</i>

5c: Strategies

E2: Increase the pool of skilled labor in the region

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include keeping money in the community, attracting new businesses, and increasing quality of life.

Original	Proposed Revision
E2: Increase the pool of skilled labor in the region	<i>No change to strategy wording, but the description of the strategy should include a clear rationale or connection to the “why” (i.e., to support growth opportunities for local businesses) and suggestions for the approach</i>

5c: Strategies

E3: Network the response to economic disruptions

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include allowing people to stay in their homes, supporting small businesses, and becoming more prepared for future disruptions.

Original	Proposed Revision
E3: Network the response to economic disruptions	<i>No change recommended</i>

5c: Strategies

E4: Measure impacts of action locally and regionally

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include allowing community members to see and measure progress, informing planning and future growth, and providing insights for investments and decision-making.

Original	Proposed Revision
E4: Measure impacts of action locally and regionally	<i>No change recommended</i>

Economic growth strategies: Proposed revisions, **discussion**

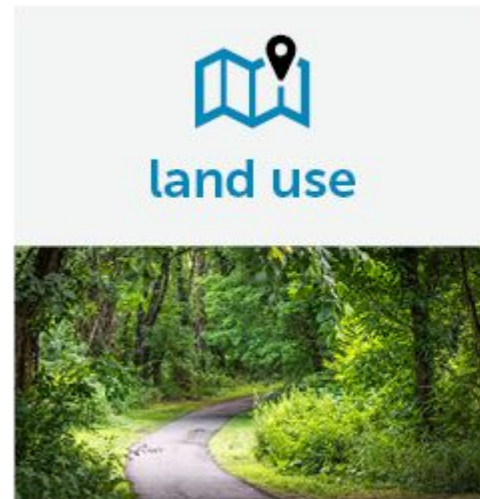
Original	Proposed Revision
E1: Expand quality and diversity of employment opportunities	<i>No text change, but the description of the strategy should include references to fiscal outcomes and the role of lifelong education</i>
E2: Increase the pool of skilled labor in the region	<i>No change to strategy wording, but the description of the strategy should include a clear rationale or connection to the “why” (i.e., to support growth opportunities for local businesses) and suggestions for the approach</i>
E3: Network the response to economic disruptions	<i>No change recommended</i>
E4: Measure impacts of action locally and regionally	<i>No change recommended</i>

Reflection questions:

- What did you find intriguing, surprising, or raised questions?
- What are your additional comments, thoughts, or questions?

Further discussion, revisions -- consensus

Draft Strategies



Draft Strategies - Two questions:

1. How might this strategy benefit your community?
2. What ideas do you have to successfully implement this strategy?

5c: Strategies

I1: Create a clear regional identity to advance collaborative work

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include bringing market awareness to the region, creating more opportunities to mutually benefit from amenities across communities, and opening opportunities for funding and grants.

Original	Proposed Revision
I1: Create a clear regional identity to advance collaborative work	<i>Create a clear and compelling regional identity to advance collaborative work</i>

5c: Strategies

I2: Enhance regional connections

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include sharing of amenities, reducing traffic congestion, and protecting and enhancing the character of the region (e.g. small town and rural feel).
- Some residents interpreted this to mean enhancing connections with the surrounding region. Instead, the strategy is about connecting the communities to one another (within the region as defined by the partnership).

Original	Proposed Revision
I2: Enhance regional connections	<i>Enhance connections between communities</i>

5c: Strategies

I3: Share talent, time, and information

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include reducing redundancies, maintaining and improving cybersecurity, and promoting unity across the communities.

Original	Proposed Revision
I3: Share talent, time, and information	<i>No change recommended</i>

5c: Strategies

I4: Continually address regional vulnerabilities

RESPONSE SUMMARY

- Potential benefits include promoting collaboration, allowing areas to develop in ways that complement neighboring areas, and preparing for future setbacks.

Original	Proposed Revision
I4: Continually address regional vulnerabilities	<i>Continually address regional vulnerabilities and emerging opportunities</i>

Interconnectedness strategies: Proposed revisions, **discussion**

Original	Proposed Revision
I1: Create a clear regional identity to advance collaborative work	<i>Create a clear and compelling regional identity to advance collaborative work</i>
I2: Enhance regional connections	<i>Enhance connections between communities</i>
I3: Share talent, time, and information	<i>No change recommended</i>
I4: Continually address regional vulnerabilities	<i>Continually address regional vulnerabilities and emerging opportunities</i>

Reflection questions:

- What did you find intriguing, surprising, or raised questions?
- What are your additional comments, thoughts, or questions?

Further discussion, revisions -- consensus

5c: Vote on revised strategies

FINAL revised strategies (showing 4/22 changes) -- Approved

LAND USE

- L1: Leverage the region's unique parks, trails, and natural resources
- L2: Promote life-cycle housing
- L3: Invest in placemaking
- L4: Improve regional communication to better support local land planning & mgmt.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

- E1: Expand on the quality and variety of employment opportunities
- E2: Increase the pool of skilled labor in the region
- E3: Network the response to economic disruptions
- E4: Measure impacts of action locally and regionally

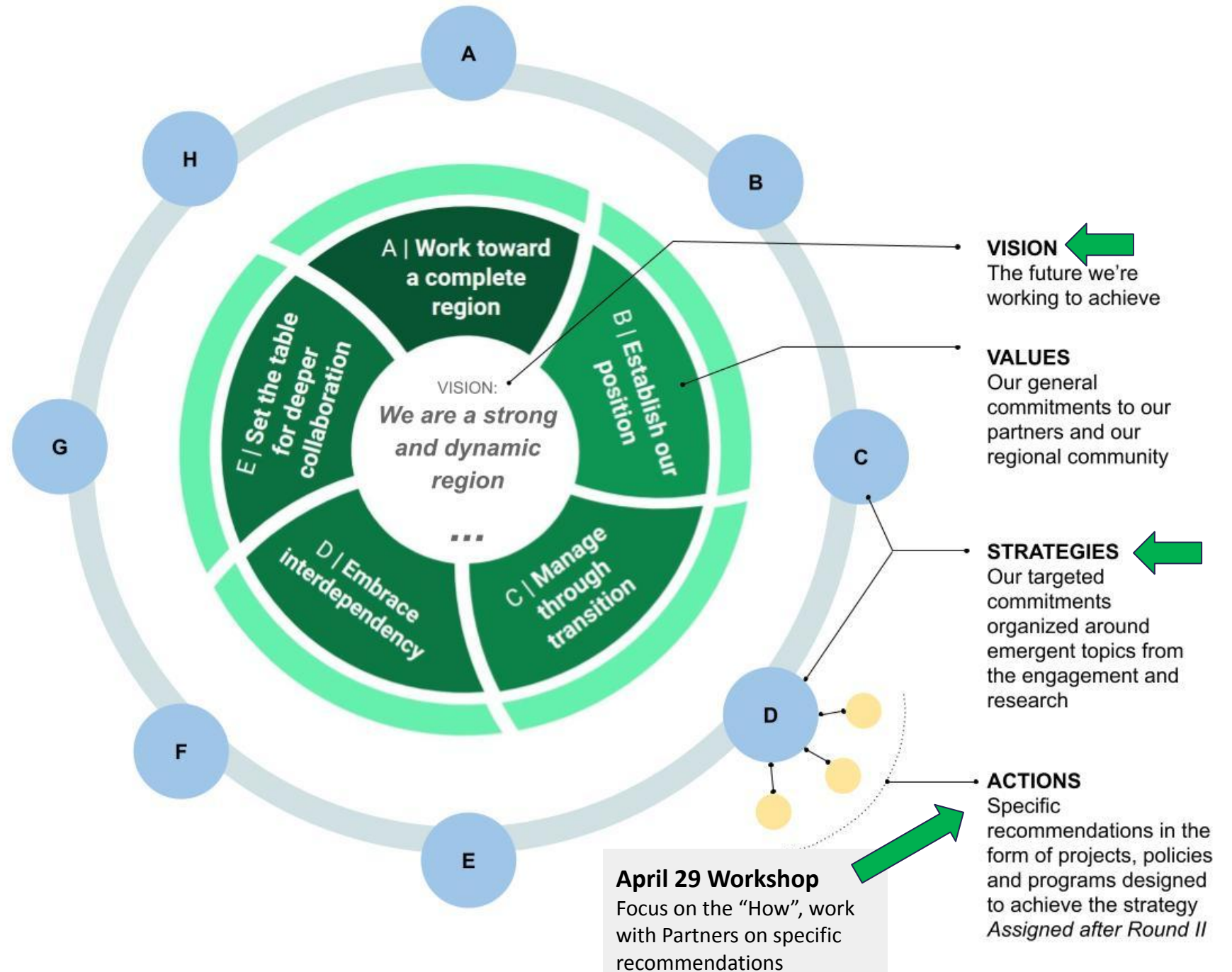
INTERCONNECTIONS

- I1: Create a clear and compelling regional identity to advance collaborative work
- I2: Enhance connections between our communities
- I3: Share talent, time, and information
- I4: Continually address regional vulnerabilities and emerging opportunities

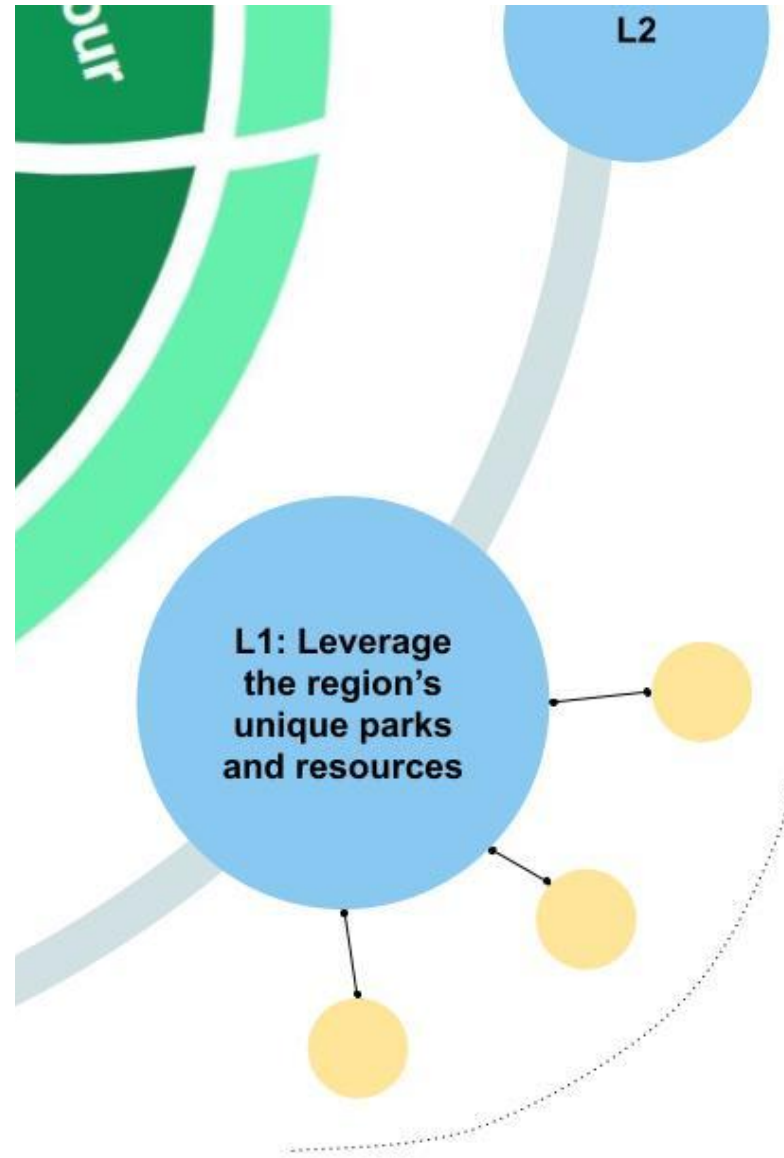


Next Steps: Action planning and Framework 2030 Plan

6: Action Planning (4/29 workshop)



6: Action Planning (4/29/21 workshop)



ACTIONS

- Specific recommendations to advance the strategies and thus the vision
- Specific projects, programs, or policies
- Measurable progress and impacts

Consultant will present *draft* action items for Partnership to review, revise, add to, and prepare to finalize -- based on:

- Analyses, FactBook findings, etc.
- Ideas from Round 2 feedback
- Previous Partnership direction
- Staff and consultant expertise

6: Framework 2030 Plan (5/27 and 6/24 meetings)

May 27, 2021

1. Present Draft Framework 2030 Plan
 - a. Final background analyses, processes, etc.
 - b. Final vision and strategies
 - c. Draft implementation: Action items, schedule, priorities
2. Discussion, decisions:
 - a. Finalize action items
 - b. Provide feedback, direction on implementation schedule, priorities
3. Discuss plans for Partners to present Framework 2030 to their jurisdictions later this summer

June 24, 2021: Agree on final (working) implementation and receive/accept complete Framework 2030 Plan

7: Other business/ future agenda items

7. Other business/future agenda items:

- a.
- b.

8: Adjourn