

The Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) is a land corridor along the Mississippi River in the 7-county metro area where there are special land use regulations that guide development activity. The corridor was designated a Critical Area in 1976. Local governments in the corridor must complete a MRCCA plan (a required chapter in the comprehensive plan) that complies with state rules [\(MR 6106.0010 – 6106.0180\)](#).

BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PLAN

Adjacent and Affected Jurisdiction Review

- MRCCA plans must be submitted to the National Park Service (NPS) and any other jurisdiction owning and operating land within the MRCCA to review for 60 days prior to submitting the plan to the Metropolitan Council.
- If the DNR owns or manages any land in your community within the MRCCA, please send your plan for “adjacent and affected review”

Public Hearing

- A public hearing is required to consider the plan and decision to submit the plan to the Metropolitan Council for review. LGUs must send a public hearing notice to the DNR, NPS and adjoining LGUs at least 10-days before the public hearing.

SUBMIT 2050 PLAN TO MET COUNCIL

No Amendments or Updates to the Approved MRCCA Plan

1. If the LGU is incorporating the approved MRCCA plan, and not changing it, the following requirements and procedures apply:
 - a. LGUs must follow these requirements for a complete submission.
 - I. The draft 2050 Comp Plan acknowledges that existing DNR-approved MRCCA plan as an element in the 2050 plan by including the existing DNR-approved plan as:
 - i. a “MRCCA” chapter in the 2050 plan, or
 - ii. an appendix to the 2050 plan, and
 - iii. referencing the DNR approved MRCCA plan in the 2050 plan with language similar to:

“The MRCCA plan adopted on xx/xx/xxxx (is included in this chapter/section or in Appendix X). This MRCCA plan continues as policy document guiding development in the MRCCA under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 116G and Minnesota Rules 6106.”

AMENDMENTS OR UPDATES PROPOSED TO THE APPROVED MRCCA PLAN

Submittal Requirements

2. If the LGU proposes amendments, the following requirements and procedures apply:
 - LGUs must follow these requirements for a complete submission:
 - LGUs must submit the existing DNR-approved MRCCA plan as a Word document.
 - All changes must be shown using track changes
 - All changes must be explained using the comment feature in Word.
 - MRCCA plan amendments submitted as PDF documents or plans that do not show the proposed amendments with explanatory comments will be returned as incomplete. s

Determination of Completeness

3. Metropolitan Council determines if the 2050 plan is complete for review **within 15 business days** of plan submittal.
4. **If a community is proposing amendments to the MRCCA plan**, Met Council sends the MRCCA plan to DNR for review as soon as possible after receiving submittal.
5. Metropolitan Council sends communications on submittal status after 15 days (complete or incomplete letter).

Review Process

6. DNR reviews plan, and makes approval determination within 90 calendar days after receiving the submittal from the Met Council.
7. DNR communicates directly with the LGU on approval determination. Approval of the MRCCA plan will be conditional upon the Metropolitan Council approval and final action on the entire comprehensive plan.
8. If found incomplete, DNR notifies the LGU and the Met Council of needed modifications and returns the plan to the LGU
9. Revised MRCCA plans that address DNR comments shall be submitted by the LGU to the Met Council (repeat steps 3 through 7)
10. Submittal of new materials will reset the 90-day deadline.
11. Comprehensive plans cannot be adopted by LGUs until all jurisdictions (e.g. DNR) have approved their respective plan elements.
12. The DNR will conditionally approve MRCCA plans within 90 calendar days of final MRCCA plan submittal and provide final MRCCA plan approval when the MC authorizes the Comprehensive Plan - within 120 calendar days of a complete plan submittal.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Met Council MRCCA webpage [here](#).

For more information on MRCCA, visit the MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) [website](#).