

S.F. No. 2790 – Climate Action Plan (as proposed to amended by SCS2790A-1 delete-everything amendment and SCS2790A-2 amendment)

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S.F. 2790 requires the Metropolitan Council to (1) utilize greenhouse gas emission reduction benchmarks established by the commissioner of transportation, (2) develop a climate action plan as part of its comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area, (3) produce a land use study and (4) report to the legislature. Requires the commissioner of transportation to (1) perform highway capacity expansion analysis in conjunction with the greenhouse gas emission benchmark targets and (2) add capacity expansion project development to statewide multimodal planning.

Article 1 Climate Change Response

Article 1 establishes greenhouse gas emissions benchmarks as part of the Metropolitan Council's long-range comprehensive policy plan.

Section 1 [Greenhouse gas emissions benchmarks] requires the commissioner of transportation to establish benchmarks for statewide greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and specifies the requirements of the benchmarks. Effective February 1, 2025.

Section 2 [Requirement] requires the Metropolitan Council to adopt a long-term comprehensive plan with a climate action chapter and include forecasts pertaining to greenhouse gas emissions. Effective the day following final enactment in the seven-county metropolitan area.

Section 3 [Development guide; climate action plan] governs the requirements of the climate action plan chapter in the Metropolitan Council's long-term comprehensive plan. The climate action plan must include policies that describe how to meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals established by the state and the transportation targets established by the commissioner of transportation under **section 1**. Effective the day following final enactment in the seven-county metropolitan area.

Section 4 [Climate action plan] requires the Metropolitan Council to specify how the climate action plan must be incorporated into the council’s comprehensive plan content. Effective the day following final enactment in the seven-county metropolitan area.

Article 2 Land Use

Section 1 [Metropolitan Council; land use study] requires the Metropolitan Council to conduct and complete a metropolitan land use and transportation policy study on or before June 30, 2024. Effective July 1, 2023.

Subdivision 1 defines terms.

Subdivision 2 describes the required land use and transportation policy study which must inform the Metropolitan Council’s 2050 comprehensive development guide.

Subdivision 3 specifies the contents of the land use and transportation policy study.

Subdivision 4 requires the Metropolitan Council to submit the report to the legislature no later than February 1, 2025.

Subdivision 5 appropriates \$1,000,000 from the general fund to the Metropolitan Council to conduct the study.

Article 3 Next Generation Transportation Expansion

Section 1 [Transportation greenhouse gas emissions impact assessment] requires the commissioner of transportation to perform a capacity expansion impact assessment on capacity expansion road projects to determine if the project conforms with certain requirements. Effective February 1, 2025.

Subdivision 1 defines terms.

Subdivision 2 requires the commissioner of transportation to perform a capacity expansion impact assessment before including a capacity expansion project in the state transportation improvement program. The assessment requires the commissioner to consider if the project conforms with (1) greenhouse gas emissions benchmarks established in **article 1, section 1**; (2) the vehicle miles traveled reduction targets under the statewide transportation plan; and (3) providing neutral environmental effects in areas of persistent poverty or in historically disadvantaged communities. If the commissioner determines the expansion project does not conform to those criteria, the commissioner must either (1) alter the scope of the design of the project; (2) interlink impact mitigation; or (3) halt project development.

Subdivision 3 requires the commissioner to establish a process to perform capacity expansion impact analysis as required under **subdivision 2**.

Subdivision 4 establishes the requirements for the commissioner to interlink impact mitigation as provided under **subdivision 2**.

Subdivision 5 requires the commissioner to post public information regarding capacity expansion impact assessments on MnDOT's website.

Section 2 [Revision of statewide multimodal transportation plan] requires the commissioner to include capacity expansion project development in the revisions to the multimodal transportation plan. Effective the day following final enactment.

Section 3 [Appropriation; capacity expansion impact analysis] appropriates an unspecified sum from the trunk highway fund to the commissioner of transportation for the implementation costs of capacity expansion impact analysis.