Review Period: Calendar Years 2022–2026

Executive Summary

Every five years, Minnesota Statute §462.393 requires that each regional development commission review its activities and issue a report assessing its performance in fulfilling the purposes of the Regional Development Act. The report must also address whether the existence of the commission is in the public welfare and interest.

This assessment reviews the activities and performance of the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission for the previous five years. The review considers activities included within MMDC's regular commission and annual reports, the Commission's mission and governance structure, the audited financial statements from MMDC's most recently completed audit (FY2025), and the purposes, powers, and duties established by Minnesota's Regional Development Act.

The evidence supports that MMDC continues to fulfill its obligations to the four-county region, that the organization continues to benefit its stakeholder communities and their residents, and that MMDC's continued presence will further serve the welfare and interest of the public.

Finding 1 — MMDC substantially fulfills the purposes for which regional development commissions were established.

Throughout the five-year period, MMDC consistently performed the core functions contemplated by the Regional Development Act: regional planning; coordination among governmental and nongovernmental partners; technical assistance to local governments and organizations; administration of state and federal programs; economic development assistance; transportation planning and coordination; and implementation of regional and community initiatives.

Finding 2 — MMDC provides a regional capacity that individual local governments often struggle to efficiently maintain independently.

The Commission's work repeatedly addresses issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries or require specialized expertise. Examples include transportation coordination/mobility management; economic development and regional economic planning; workforce initiatives; comprehensive planning; broadband, housing, and childcare support; business finance; and grant development.

This closely corresponds with the Legislature's stated rationale for regional development commissions: problems of growth and development often transcend local government boundaries, making coordination and the pooling of resources necessary.

Finding 3 — MMDC effectively leverages local public resources with state, federal, philanthropic, and private resources.

In FY2025, MMDC's local tax levy (approximately $407,500) helped MMDC to leverage additional revenue, bringing the organization's total revenue to more than $1.06 million. Beyond the local levy, MMDC's revenue came from sources including the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), Minnesota Department of Commerce (MnDOC), local contracts, revolving loan funds, a private foundation, and interest earnings.

The Commission's revolving loan programs provide an especially clear example of resource leverage. By the end of calendar year 2025, MMDC reported 112 historical loans, $7.26 million in cumulative lending, $1.72 million in active loan balances, and more than $54.5 million in additional investment leveraged through its revolving loan programs.

Finding 4 — MMDC demonstrated substantial adaptability during a period of significant change.

The five-year period included the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, changing federal administration and funding priorities, new federal and state programs, changes in MMDC and partner staffing, emerging workforce and transportation challenges, and new opportunities in areas such as energy, environmental resilience, and regional food systems. Rather than narrowing its activities, MMDC repeatedly stretched and adapted to respond to changing regional needs.

Finding 5 — MMDC demonstrates meaningful public value through technical assistance, regional coordination, and direct investment.

MMDC's regular commission and annual reports document numerous activities, plans, financing actions, partnerships, and technical-assistance efforts. Among the clearest examples are comprehensive planning, transportation coordination, business financing, grant assistance, workforce initiatives, community planning, childcare support, and regional economic development.

Finding 6 — While the FY2025 audit identifies internal-control improvements that should remain a management priority, MMDC demonstrates generally sound fiscal stewardship.

The independent auditors issued an unmodified opinion on MMDC's most recent (FY2025) financial statements. The audit also found no noncompliance material within financial statements and issued an unmodified opinion on the major federal program.

The auditors did identify two, relatively minor, material weaknesses in internal control: a limited segregation of duties and the absence of an internal control system for preparing the audited financial statements and related notes, which are instead prepared with auditor assistance. The Commission has acknowledged these conditions, which are difficult to fully eliminate given the small size of MMDC's staff. While these findings do not negate the Commission's overall effectiveness, the close monitoring of MMDC finances should remain an explicit Commission priority. This will serve to ensure these identified weaknesses don't create opportunities for fraudulent activity.

Overall Determination

Based on the evidence reviewed, the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission's existence continues to be in the public welfare and interest. The evidence demonstrates that MMDC fulfills functions consistent with the purposes of the Regional Development Act, provides regional capacity and coordination that would otherwise be fragmented among individual jurisdictions, leverages local resources with substantially larger state, federal, philanthropic, and private resources, and delivers technical assistance and planning services to communities, businesses, and organizations throughout the four-county region. The assessment therefore concludes that MMDC's continued operation is justified.

Purpose and Scope of the Assessment

Minnesota's Regional Development Act of 1969 established the statutory framework for regional development commissions. The Legislature identified a fundamental problem: economic, social, physical, and governmental issues frequently cross local government boundaries. No single city, township, county, or other local unit can always address such issues independently without affecting neighboring jurisdictions. The statute therefore identifies coordination of multijurisdictional activities, intergovernmental cooperation, and effective use of local, state, federal, and private resources as central purposes of the regional development system.

Minnesota Statutes §462.383 states that the purpose of the Regional Development Act is to authorize regional development commissions to work with and on behalf of local units of government to develop plans or implement programs addressing economic, social, physical, and governmental concerns of each region. Commissions may also assist individual local governments with plans and programs.

Section 462.393 establishes the specific five-year assessment requirement. Every five years, a regional development commission must review its activities, assess its performance in fulfilling the purposes of the Act, and address whether its existence is in the public welfare and interest. This report fulfills that assessment requirement for MMDC.

Review Period

The primary programmatic review period is 2022-2026. Staff reports provided to MMDC's regular commission, coupled with information gleaned from MMDC's annual reports, provide substantial information for this programmatic review.

Financial information requires a different treatment. MMDC's annual reports are organized by calendar year, but the financial information presented in those reports is generally based on fiscal years running from July 1 through June 30. Accordingly, this assessment identifies financial information by fiscal year whenever a specific fiscal period is relevant. The most recent independent financial information reviewed is MMDC's financial statement audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 (i.e., FY2025).

Evaluation Framework

This assessment evaluates MMDC against six dimensions of performance:

1. **Statutory alignment:** Does MMDC's work correspond to the purposes, powers, and duties established by the Regional Development Act?
2. **Mission achievement:** Does MMDC's work fulfill its stated mission?

   MMDC Mission Statement: "To administer state and federal programs and coordinate multi-jurisdictional activities, and to provide technical assistance to government, business, and local organizations in order to maintain and enhance quality of life and support economic development."
3. **Regional effectiveness:** Does MMDC address problems that cross jurisdictional boundaries and require regional coordination?
4. **Public value:** Does MMDC produce benefits for local governments, businesses, organizations, and residents that justify the public resources devoted to the Commission?
5. **Fiscal stewardship:** Does MMDC manage public resources responsibly and leverage its local resources effectively?
6. **Organizational capacity and adaptability:** Has MMDC maintained the expertise and organizational capacity necessary to respond to changing regional conditions?

MMDC and the Mid-Minnesota Region

MMDC serves Minnesota Economic Development Region 6E, consisting of Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, and Renville Counties. The four-county region contains numerous municipalities, townships, school districts, businesses, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, transportation providers, and other entities. Many of the challenges affecting one jurisdiction also affect neighboring jurisdictions. The Legislature anticipated precisely this circumstance when it concluded that regional problems frequently transcend local boundaries and that regional commissions can provide a mechanism for cooperation and coordination.

The Commission is an independent regional government entity created under Minnesota's Regional Development Act. The organization's role is centered on strengthening communities, improving quality of life, supporting economic prosperity, providing technical assistance, and helping communities overcome shared barriers. MMDC's activities during the review period demonstrate that the regional model remains relevant.

Governance and Regional Representation

MMDC's governance structure provides an important component of its public value. The Commission is not governed exclusively by a single county, city, or professional staff. Instead, its membership combines locally elected officials with public-interest commissioners and subject-matter representatives.

Specifically, Commission membership includes representation from each of the four counties, through county board, township board, and city council officials, with dedicated representation for larger municipalities as well as two school board representatives. In addition to these 16 officials from elected bodies, public-interest representation includes the Local Workforce Development Board, higher education/Ridgewater College, communities of color, youth and people with disabilities, aging individuals, and the transportation, information technology, agriculture and aggregate mining, healthcare, and mental health sectors.

This representation structure serves two important functions. First, it provides direct governmental representation. Local elected officials bring the perspective of the jurisdictions responsible for public decisions and public resources. Second, it provides specialized regional knowledge. Subject-matter representatives provide perspectives that elected officials and professional staff may not otherwise possess. This combination is particularly appropriate for an organization whose purpose is to coordinate across jurisdictions and sectors.

The governance model also provides a mechanism for regional priorities to emerge through interaction among local governments, institutions, businesses, and community interests rather than through the unilateral direction of a single jurisdiction.

Assessment of Statutory Performance

Regional Planning

Planning is one of the clearest areas in which MMDC fulfills the purpose of the Regional Development Act. Minnesota law authorizes regional development commissions to prepare and submit comprehensive plans, address regional physical, social, and economic needs, assist with community and economic development plans, and provide planning assistance to local governments. During the review period, MMDC completed or supported a broad range of planning activities.

2022: MMDC provided local ordinance assistance, county parks and trail planning, comprehensive planning, strategic planning, and active-living planning. MMDC was also active in larger childcare support and broadband planning efforts.

2023: MMDC completed several planning projects, including comprehensive plans for Eden Valley and Spicer and the McLeod County Parks Plan. Additional work included Kandiyohi County trails planning, the McLeod County Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, and the Buffalo Lake Active Living Plan.

2024: MMDC completed both the Buffalo Lake Active Living Plan and the Kandiyohi County Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails plan. MMDC also initiated work on the Renville County Comprehensive Plan and the New London Energy and Climate Resilience Plan.

2025: MMDC completed the New London Energy and Climate Resilience Plan and the Renville County Comprehensive plan. Additionally, MMDC launched work on energy and climate resilience plans for the communities of Buffalo Lake and Eden Valley. At the same time, MMDC initiated development of Hutchinson's Safe Routes to Schools Plan.

2026: Thus far, planning efforts have included the completion of both Buffalo Lake's and Eden Valley's energy and climate resilience plans, work on a similar plan for the City of Olivia, and the conclusion of Hutchinson Safe Routes to Schools Plan. Additionally, MMDC has been working with the Grove City community on a development plan as well as a strategic plan for the City of Renville's EDA. This while also updating the region's U.S. EDA-required Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and preparing for the update of the U.S. Transit Administration-required Local Human Service – Public Transit Coordination plan.

MMDC has shown sustained performance in both regional and local planning. Importantly, MMDC's role is not limited to producing plans. The Commission's planning activities frequently provide communities with the staff capacity, facilitation, technical expertise, and grant-related support needed to turn planning into implementation.

Finding: MMDC substantially fulfills the Regional Development Act's planning purpose.

Economic Development and Business Assistance

Economic development represents another core area of statutory alignment. MMDC's economic development activities include direct technical assistance to businesses, business financing, regional economic planning, grant assistance, workforce initiatives, and support for business-related infrastructure.

The Commission's revolving loan funds provide an especially tangible form of economic development assistance. MMDC frequently participates alongside private lenders and other economic-development partners, filling financing gaps that our private lenders cannot.

At the end of 2025, MMDC reported 112 historical loans, more than $7.26 million in historical lending, and more than $54.5 million in additional investment leveraged. These figures illustrate an important characteristic of MMDC's economic-development model: public resources are used as catalytic capital rather than simply as operating expenditures.

The revolving loan funds represent one of MMDC's strongest demonstrations of direct economic impact. They also illustrate why a regional organization can provide value beyond traditional planning. MMDC combines financing, technical assistance, partnerships, and regional knowledge in a way that allows relatively modest public resources to support substantially larger private investments.

Finding: MMDC demonstrates sustained and measurable performance in business assistance and economic development, including substantial leverage of revolving loan resources.

Administration of State and Federal Programs

MMDC's mission specifically identifies the administration of state and federal programs as a core responsibility. The five-year record demonstrates repeated success in securing, administering, and implementing programs funded by EDA, MnDOT, USDA, MnDOC, philanthropic organizations, and other sources.

For example, MMDC's FY2025 revenue included EDA Planning, USDA funding, energy-program revenue, MnDOT Planning, and MnDOT Regional Transportation Coordinating Council funding in addition to local levy and contract revenue.

The Commission also repeatedly served as a local or regional intermediary through which outside resources could reach communities. This role is especially significant for smaller communities that may lack dedicated grant-development personnel. In 2024, MMDC provided technical assistance to the Willmar Community on an EDA grant application, which has now been awarded and will bring $2.3 million to the City for industrial park enhancements. In 2025, MMDC assisted with two disaster supplemental grant applications following severe storms and flooding affecting McLeod and Renville Counties. If awarded, these grants will support the reconstruction of Renville County State Aid Highway 21, an important commerce corridor, and the development of a new Ridgewater College training facility.

Program administration and grant assistance are central to MMDC's statutory and organizational purpose. The Commission's role is not merely to obtain funds for itself. It frequently functions as an intermediary, technical resource, or grant-development partner for local governments and regional organizations.

Finding: MMDC consistently fulfills the mission component concerning administration of state and federal programs and use of outside resources for regional purposes.

Multi-Jurisdictional Coordination

The statutory rationale for regional development commissions rests heavily on coordination. MMDC's transportation work provides one of the clearest examples. In 2022, MMDC completed an update of the Region 6E Local Human Services–Public Transit Coordination Plan, identifying transportation gaps and strategies for addressing them.

MMDC also operates the Mid-Minnesota Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (MMRTCC), with the objective of improving coordination among transportation providers and reducing transportation gaps. In 2023, as part of our MMRTCC efforts, MMDC supported a Willmar fare-free transit pilot that provided more than 2,700 fare-free rides and simultaneously sought to improve transit efficiency and capacity. By 2025, MMDC was experimenting with additional rural mobility solutions, including a rideshare support project designed to complement limited rural public-transit service.

These activities involve multiple transportation providers, government agencies, community organizations, and funding sources. They are therefore precisely the kind of activity for which regional coordination is intended.

Finding: MMDC demonstrates sustained performance in coordinating activities that cross jurisdictional and organizational boundaries.

Community Development and Quality of Life

MMDC's mission includes maintaining and enhancing quality of life. The five-year record demonstrates that the Commission interprets this responsibility broadly. Activities have included comprehensive planning, parks and trail planning, active-living and Safe Routes to Schools planning, childcare and workforce initiatives, senior-related programming, transportation, public safety, and even the awarding of small community enhancement grants.

In 2021, MMDC launched the Mid-Minnesota Community Enhancement Fund, providing small grants to local governments, school districts, and nonprofit organizations for emergency-response equipment purchases, public amenities, wellness-related initiatives, and workforce training. The program illustrated another important feature of MMDC's role: relatively small investments can help communities address needs that may otherwise compete unsuccessfully against larger capital priorities. The Commission's planning work contributes to long-term quality of life by helping communities make decisions about land use, parks, trails, transportation, public facilities, and other local assets.

Finding: MMDC's community-development activities demonstrate that the Commission's public value extends beyond conventional economic development to the broader conditions that make communities viable places to live, work, and conduct business.

Workforce, Education, and Regional Talent

Workforce availability became an increasingly prominent issue during the review period. MMDC has long identified that workforce shortages are closely connected to housing, childcare, transportation, broadband, and training availability, along with other quality-of-life considerations. The Commission has responded through partnerships rather than treating workforce development as the responsibility of a single organization.

A notable example is the IGNITE Your Future career-exploration event. In both 2024 and 2025, more than 1,000 sophomores from up to 17 area school districts participated in an event, held on Ridgewater College's Hutchinson campus, exposing students to dozens of careers across sectors that included agriculture, business, engineering, construction, transportation, healthcare, government, and the arts. In October 2026, MMDC will again take part in this event.

MMDC's Commission membership also includes representation from both the Local Workforce Development Board and Ridgewater College, reinforcing the connection between regional governance and workforce institutions. MMDC's workforce role is appropriately collaborative. The Commission is not attempting to replace workforce-development organizations; rather, it connects workforce issues to economic development, transportation, education, and community development.

Finding: MMDC meaningfully contributes to regional workforce coordination and economic competitiveness.

Adaptability and Organizational Responsiveness

A significant strength demonstrated by the five-year record is organizational adaptability. The Commission moved from pandemic response and recovery into new initiatives involving food businesses, energy efficiency, transportation coordination, grant development, community planning, and disaster recovery.

The Regional Food Business Center is one example. MMDC became a partner in the USDA North Central Regional Food Business Center in 2023, focusing on food infrastructure, connections among producers and businesses, and business-development assistance. Unfortunately, the program was paused, and later terminated, in early 2025. This due to a change in federal administration and a misalignment with the new administration's priorities. The significance of this episode is not simply that a program ended. Rather, it demonstrates the external funding environment in which regional development commissions operate.

Finding: MMDC's ability to redirect staff expertise, and to seek alternative opportunities and funding to accomplish regional progress, is an important component of its organizational effectiveness.

Fiscal Stewardship and Financial Condition

Fiscal stewardship must be considered separately from program performance. The FY2025 audited financial statements provide the strongest independent evidence available for this assessment. The independent auditors concluded that MMDC's financial statements had fairly presented the Commission's financial position in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

As of June 30, 2025, MMDC reported total net position of $2,780,754, including $1,330,277 restricted for revolving loan funds. The General Fund ended the year with a balance of $988,935, an increase of $92,479 from the prior year. MMDC received $407,501 in levy revenue during FY2025.

The composition of revenue is also significant. MMDC's operations are not financed solely by local taxation. The FY2025 local tax levy represented approximately $407,500 of the $1.062 million in total MMDC revenue. Other revenue came from EDA planning, revolving loan funds, energy programs, local contracts, MnDOT planning and transportation coordination, USDA, and other sources.

Internal Control

MMDC's auditors did identify two relatively minor material weaknesses in internal control. The first involved a limited segregation of duties resulting from the Commission's small number of finance-focused employees. The auditors noted that, without consistent Commission oversight, this lack of duty segregation could create an environment where a material error or other inconsistency could go undetected for a longer period.

The second finding involved the preparation of the financial statements and related notes. Because of the complexity of GAAP financial statements and MMDC's limited staffing, the Commission relies on its auditors to prepare these statements. This creates an internal-control limitation because management remains responsible for the statements.

At the same time, the audit reported no effect from the segregation of duties finding on the financial statements, no material noncompliance, and an unmodified opinion on the major federal program.

It should also be noted that MMDC has taken steps to strengthen financial capacity. In 2024, the Commission approved a part-time finance assistant position, specifically to increase segregation of financial duties, grow finance capacity, and provide continuity for essential finance functions.

Finding: While internal controls should remain an explicit management and Commission priority, MMDC's overall financial position and audit results support a conclusion of generally responsible fiscal stewardship.

Public Value and the Case for Continued Regional Government

The statutory question is not simply whether MMDC has been busy. It is whether the existence of the Commission remains in the public welfare and interest. The answer depends on whether MMDC provides a continuing public function that justifies maintaining a regional organization. The evidence supports that conclusion – that MMDC remains in the public welfare and interest – for several reasons.

First, regional problems remain regional. Transportation, workforce, housing, economic development, infrastructure, business finance, broadband, and many other issues do not stop at municipal or county boundaries. MMDC's work demonstrates that local governments continue to encounter problems requiring cooperation across those boundaries.

Second, specialized capacity is expensive to maintain at the local level. A small city or township may not need – and often cannot afford – a full-time economic developer, grant specialist, community planner, transportation planner, mobility manager, or finance specialist. A regional organization allows multiple jurisdictions to access specialized expertise without each government maintaining an equivalent staff structure.

Third, MMDC provides economies of scale. The Regional Development Act expressly recognizes the value of operating programs regionally to provide economies of scale or improve program efficiency. MMDC's transportation coordination, planning, grant assistance, revolving loan funds, and regional economic development programs demonstrate this principle in practice.

Fourth, MMDC acts as a bridge to outside resources. The Commission's revenue structure and program history show a recurring pattern: local resources support the organization, which then accesses federal, state, philanthropic, and private resources. The FY2025 tax levy of approximately $407,500 helped MMDC to leverage additional dollars, with total revenue exceeding $1.06 million. The revolving loan funds provide an even more pronounced example, with cumulative reported lending of more than $7.26 million and more than $54.5 million in leveraged investment.

Fifth, MMDC provides a neutral regional forum. Because its governance includes representatives from multiple counties, municipalities, townships, school districts, and other regional interests, MMDC provides a setting where jurisdictions can address shared issues without one local government controlling the agenda. This function is difficult to replicate through individual local governments acting independently.

What Would Be Lost Without MMDC?

A useful way to evaluate public value is to consider what functions would have to occur if the Commission did not exist. The evidence suggests that its functions would not simply disappear. Instead, they would likely be fragmented among local governments, state agencies, private organizations, consultants, and other regional partners. While some activities could continue through other entities, and some could be contracted out, others could be abandoned because the resources required would not justify the cost for a single jurisdiction.

The greatest potential loss would, therefore, not be a single program. Rather, it would be the region's capacity to connect programs, jurisdictions, expertise, and funding opportunities.

Without a regional organization:

- Regional planning could become more fragmented;
- Grant-development capacity could become less available to smaller communities;
- Transportation coordination could become more difficult;
- Business financing would lose an established regional revolving resource;
- Opportunities for multi-jurisdictional projects could become harder to organize;
- Regional economic-development information and expertise could become more dispersed;
- Local governments would have fewer opportunities to share planning and technical resources.

This does not mean MMDC is the only organization capable of performing any individual function. Rather, the evidence indicates that MMDC provides an established platform through which these functions can be coordinated. That distinction is important. The public value of MMDC is not based on performing work that nobody else could ever perform. Instead, it is based on performing regional work efficiently, collaboratively, and at a scale appropriate to the four-county region.

Findings

Finding 1 — Statutory Alignment

MMDC's activities during the last five-year period substantially correspond to the purposes of the Regional Development Act, including regional planning, economic development, technical assistance, program administration, and multijurisdictional coordination.

Finding 2 — Regional Planning

MMDC provided sustained planning assistance to counties, cities, and other regional stakeholders, including comprehensive planning, transportation planning, parks and trails planning, active-living planning, and regional economic planning.

Finding 3 — Economic Development

MMDC provided direct assistance to businesses and entrepreneurs through technical assistance, grant support, partnerships, and revolving loan funds.

Finding 4 — Resource Leverage

MMDC consistently used local resources to access larger state, federal, philanthropic, and private resources. The revolving loan funds provide a particularly strong example of long-term resource leverage.

Finding 5 — Regional Coordination

MMDC demonstrated a continuing role in coordinating transportation, economic development, workforce, community development, and other activities that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Finding 6 — Community Benefit

MMDC's activities contributed to quality of life through community planning, transportation coordination, public amenities, workforce initiatives, childcare support, and other community-development activities.

Finding 7 — Organizational Adaptability

MMDC demonstrated the ability to respond to changing regional conditions, funding opportunities, and federal and state priorities while maintaining its core mission.

Finding 8 — Fiscal Stewardship

While the FY2025 audit identified material weaknesses in internal control typical of a small organization, and while these should remain an active management priority, MMDC maintains a generally sound financial position and has received unmodified audit opinions.

Finding 9 — Public Value

The evidence indicates that MMDC provides regional expertise, coordination, economies of scale, and access to outside resources that would otherwise be more fragmented among individual local governments and organizations.

Determination Regarding the Public Welfare and Interest

Minnesota Statutes §462.393 requires the Commission to address whether its existence is in the public welfare and interest. Based on the evidence reviewed for calendar years 2022 through 2026, the continued existence of Mid-Minnesota Development Commission is, in fact, in the public welfare and interest.

This determination is based on five principal considerations.

1. MMDC continues to perform functions expressly contemplated by the Regional Development Act.
2. MMDC addresses problems that extend beyond the boundaries and individual capacities of local governments.
3. MMDC provides specialized technical capacity and economies of scale to communities that may not otherwise be able to maintain equivalent expertise.
4. MMDC consistently leverages local public resources with state, federal, philanthropic, and private resources.
5. The record demonstrates continuing demand for regional planning, economic development, transportation coordination, grant assistance, business finance, and community-development services.

The Commission's continued existence should not be understood as eliminating the need for local governments, private organizations, or other regional entities. Rather, its value lies in complementing those organizations by providing a regional platform for cooperation, technical assistance, resource development, and implementation.

The evidence therefore supports the continuation of MMDC as a regional development commission serving Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, and Renville Counties (i.e. Economic Development Region 6E). MMDC has substantially fulfilled the purposes of the Regional Development Act during the 2022-2026 review period and, therefore, remains in the public welfare and interest.