

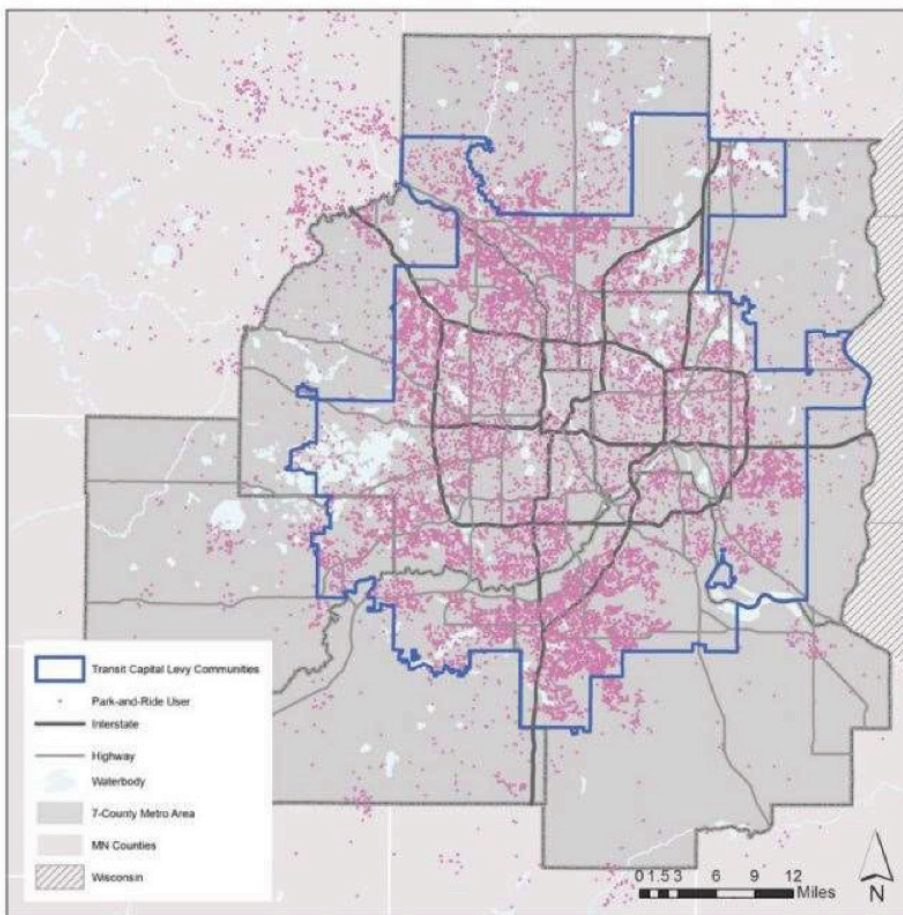
Expanding the Regional Transit Capital Area in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area



Washington County supports expansion of the Regional Transit Capital area to include the entire seven- county metropolitan area to more accurately reflect the area benefiting from transit.

Issue At-A-Glance

- The Regional Transit Capital (RTC) area, established in the 1970s, provides property tax funding for transit capital improvements. Communities placed into the RTC were chosen based on the original Metropolitan Urban Service Area boundary.
- Since the 1970s, the Twin Cities has added nearly one million people with little change to the RTC boundary.
- The current taxing district boundaries do not equitably share the cost of providing transit services in the metropolitan region.



2018 Park-and-Ride user home origins from Minnesota license plates.

Support

The county would need to work with the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) and the Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) to develop strong regional support for this proposal.

Previous Consideration

County Board position for several years.

No Action

If no action, the current taxing district will not fairly represent the region.

Financial Implications

If the transit capital area is expanded, the financial cost of transit services will be more equitably shared within the metropolitan region.

Justification

As the map on the left demonstrates, there are many transit users living outside of the RTC area.

Expansion of the RTC area will more accurately reflect the area benefiting from transit and will coincide with the boundaries of the Metropolitan Council.

Contact

Don Theisen, Public Works Director
Washington County Public Works
Department 651-430-4304
Don.Theisen@co.washington.mn.us