

**Mississippi River Corridor Rulemaking**  
Public Process - September 16, 2013

### Purpose of Tonight's Gathering

- Collaborate!
- Consensus building around the topic of updating land use standards along the Mississippi River
  - Minnesota Legislature has directed the DNR to update minimum standards in the Critical Area
  - Ramsey will be part of this rulemaking process
  - Ramsey will need to update its Zoning Code to be in substantial compliance with updated rules
  - Consensus can range from identification of key resources and standards to protect these key resources to recommending that no changes be made to the minimum standards

### Schedule for Evening

Event	Time
Background of Critical Area and Overview of Public Process	6:00 – 6:20
Schedule Individual Sessions	6:20 – 6:30
Individual Session #1	6:30 – 7:15
Large Group Session #1	7:15 – 7:45
Individual Session #2	7:45 – 8:30
Large Group Session #2	8:30 – 9:00

### What is the Critical Area?

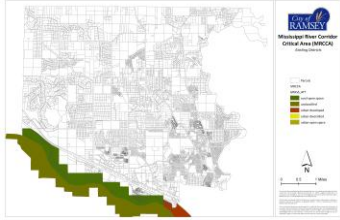
### How was the Critical Area established?

**History of the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area**

- 1973 Minnesota passes Critical Areas Act of 1973 (MN Statutes, Chapter 116G)  
EOB adopts rules to implement Act (MN Rules, parts 4410.03100 – 4410.09110)
- 1976 Mississippi River and adjacent corridor designated a state critical area by Governor Wendell Anderson (Executive Order No. 130)
- 1979 Designation continued by Governor Albert Quie (Executive Order 79-19)  
Metropolitan Council acts to make designation permanent (Resolution 79-48)
- 1988 Mississippi National River and Recreational Area (MNRRA) established by Congress as unit of NPS (MNRRA shares same boundary as Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area)
- 1991 MNRRA designated a state critical area per Critical Areas Act (MN Statutes, section 116G.15)
- 1995 Responsibility shifts from EOB to DNR by Governor Arne Carlson (Reorganization Order 170)
- 2007 Legislature directs DNR to prepare report on the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (Completed January 2008)
- 2009 Legislature amends MN Statutes, section 116G.15 and directs DNR to conduct rulemaking for the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MN Laws 2009, Chapter 172, article 3, section 5.e.)
- 2011 DNR develops draft rule after participatory stakeholder process, but rulemaking authority lapses
- 2013 Legislature directs DNR to resume rulemaking process in consultation with local governments

This is an update of existing rules.

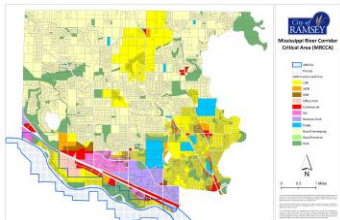
### How is Ramsey Currently Classified



### Development Standards (Existing)

Rural Open Space		Urban Developed	
Standard	Min. Threshold	Standard	Min. Threshold
Lot Size	2.5 acres	Lot Size	20,000 square feet/ 12,150 square feet
Lot Width	200 feet	Lot Width	90 feet
River Setback-bluff	35 feet	River Setback-bluff	20 feet
River Setback-water	200 feet	River Setback-water	100 feet
Septic Setback-water	75 feet	Septic Setback-water	75 feet

### How Does This Compare to the Comprehensive Plan?

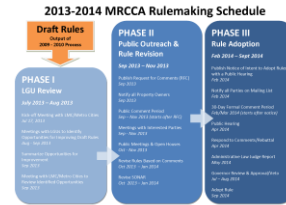


### What is the Purpose of the Rulemaking Process

- According to the approved bill and DNR Feedback:
  - Protection of key features:
    - Floodplains, wetlands, gorges, areas of confluence with key tributaries, natural drainage routes, shorelines, riverbanks, bluffs, steep slopes, very steep slopes, unstable soils, bedrock, significant vegetative stands, tree canopies, native plant communities, scenic views, vistas, publicly owned parks, publicly owned trails, publicly owned open spaces, cultural sites, historical sites, historical structures, water quality, commercial resources, industrial resources, residential resources.
  - Clarify inconsistent/conflicting standards
  - Baseline of common standards
    - Currently variety of minimum standards between each community

Letter from DNR Commissioner Landwehr

### What is the Rulemaking Process?



### Proposed Districts



### Preliminary Analysis

- Early in new process
- Need time to analyze impacts and policy directive from the Planning Commission and City Council
- Local Community Meeting on September 25, 2013
  - Suggest participation from the Chair of the City Council (Mayor), Planning Commission and Environmental Policy Board
- Potential participation by the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (WMO) and Anoka Conservation District
  - Potential coordination and similar missions
- Preliminary Analysis to be presented to the Planning Commission at the October 3, 2013 Planning Commission Meeting



- Agenda - 10th Annual WRCOA Meeting**  
November 20, 2013 9am - 4:30pm
- Introduction & Meeting Purpose**
- Welcome
  - Introduction of key stakeholders
- Review District Map**
- Any proposed public comment cards
    - Development of implementation action plan
    - Map, schedule and budget
    - Public input and map
- Review Draft Map**
- Districts and Planning
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  - Districts and Planning
- Review Draft Map**
- Districts and Planning
  - Districts and Planning
- Proposed meeting format or schedule for implementation - 10th Annual**
- Questions and Answers**
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  - Questions and Answers
- WRCOA Meeting for 2014**
- Meeting location and schedule
  - Meeting location and schedule
  - Meeting location and schedule

### Process for Tonight

- Identify potential issues and opportunities to bring to DNR staff
  - Participants will schedule and host individual sessions
  - Participants will document conversation: opportunities and issues
  - Participants will report back to the larger group
- Build consensus around topics to discuss
  - Not agreeing to specific standards this evening