



## **The Resilient Region Mission**

*of R5DC Sustainable Communities Regional Planning  
To create a Community driven - University assisted partnership  
around planning sustainable regions that will integrate the  
disciplines of housing, transportation, natural environment (land use)  
and economic development (including energy and local foods) that  
will encompass in-reach strategies through HIGHLY involved civic  
engagement in efforts to build an inclusive region that will provide  
opportunities, be free from discrimination and improve the quality of life of ALL residents.*

*“Community” is defined as multitude of private, public and non-profit agencies as well as the citizens of the region. “Region” is defined as; Crow Wing, Cass, Morrison, Todd and Wadena Counties located in central Minnesota.*

### **HUD – EPA – DOT Six Livable Principles**

1. Provide more transportation choices.
2. Promote equitable, affordable housing.
3. Enhance economic competitiveness.
4. Support existing communities.
5. Coordinate policies and leverage investments.
6. Value communities and neighborhoods.

### **Region’s Guiding Principles**

1. Think regionally and inclusively.
2. Consolidation of effective data.
3. Capitalize on assets, current plans and work in progress.
4. Balance redevelopment / development preservation opportunities through effective land-use planning.
5. Consider regionalization of services (BMPs or our region, drive opportunities)
6. Connect more people to:
  - o well-paid jobs
  - o active living opportunities
  - o broadband technology.

# The Five County Resilient Region Vision and Values

## Vision

The Five County Resilient Region Vision is to provide everyone opportunity through ownership and stewardship by preservation and enhancement of our assets, natural resources and talented people who are here for a day or a lifetime. The Region's primary goals are to nurture innovation, boost philanthropic engagement, foster responsibility and to allocate investments toward growth initiatives that will drive long-term resilience.

## Primary Value

### Sustainability

Meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

## Value Statements

The Five County Vision is to be a Resilient Region; to create a community where people thrive. The Five County Resilient Region is committed to these values.

### Unsurpassed Collaboration

While supporting and valuing existing communities and neighborhoods, blend the skills and assets of the area thereby establishing a regional identity through cooperative teamwork, interdependency and reduction of duplication.

### Community

Create a healthy community incorporating an effective transportation system, equitable housing options, access to broadband and ample healthcare choices.

### Economic Vitality

Foster a progressive driving force of economic competitiveness and community development for the Five County Region to provide opportunity to everyone.

### Growth

Through a balance of economic and environmental vivacity, our region will see continued growth.

### Natural Resources

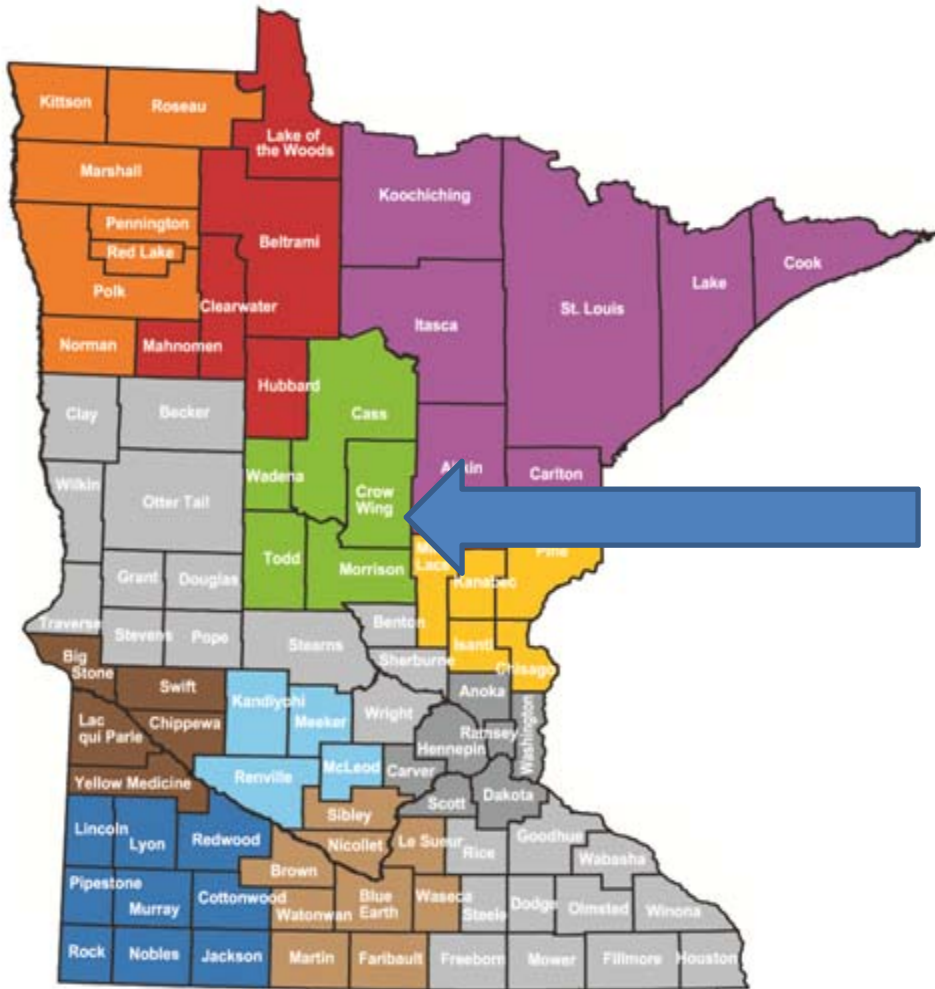
Maintain our natural resource assets and water quality for the benefit of all.

### Success

Infuse and energize the region, enhancing the lives of those who live, work and play here; ultimately generating a High Quality of Life. "Life is good here"

### Stewardship

Coordinate policies, sustain, leverage and reinvest in our region, local communities and neighborhoods by wisely managing our assets, resources and tax dollars.



- Total population of the Region is 163,000
- All 5 Counties in Region are currently considered economically distressed.
- Most of the 65 Cities under 500 residents
- Largest city; Brainerd is one of top 20 fastest growing Micropolitan's in the nation

Sustainable Development in action will satisfy three guiding principles of: economic prosperity, ecological stewardship and community livability.

By definition, sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.