

Minnesota Report Card Summit

The UBS Forum

Minnesota Public Radio
Itasca Project
Wilder Research





Welcome

Jeff Nelson

Minnesota Public Radio

Kathy Tunheim

Tunheim Partners

Moderator



Overview of initiative

Paul Mattessich

Wilder Research

On important social and economic issues, we usually have solid data that people can easily use.

3% 1. Strongly agree

27% 2. Agree

58% 3. Disagree

12% 4. Strongly disagree

Different groups/organizations, concerned about the same issue, usually have a credible base of facts they all agree on.

0% 1. Strongly agree

8% 2. Agree

56% 3. Disagree

36% 4. Strongly disagree


People who are working to improve the region need a better, more credible way to understand important trends.

68% 1. Strongly agree


27% 2. Agree


5% 3. Disagree

0% 4. Strongly disagree



Good intentions +
No common base of information =
Inefficient decisions

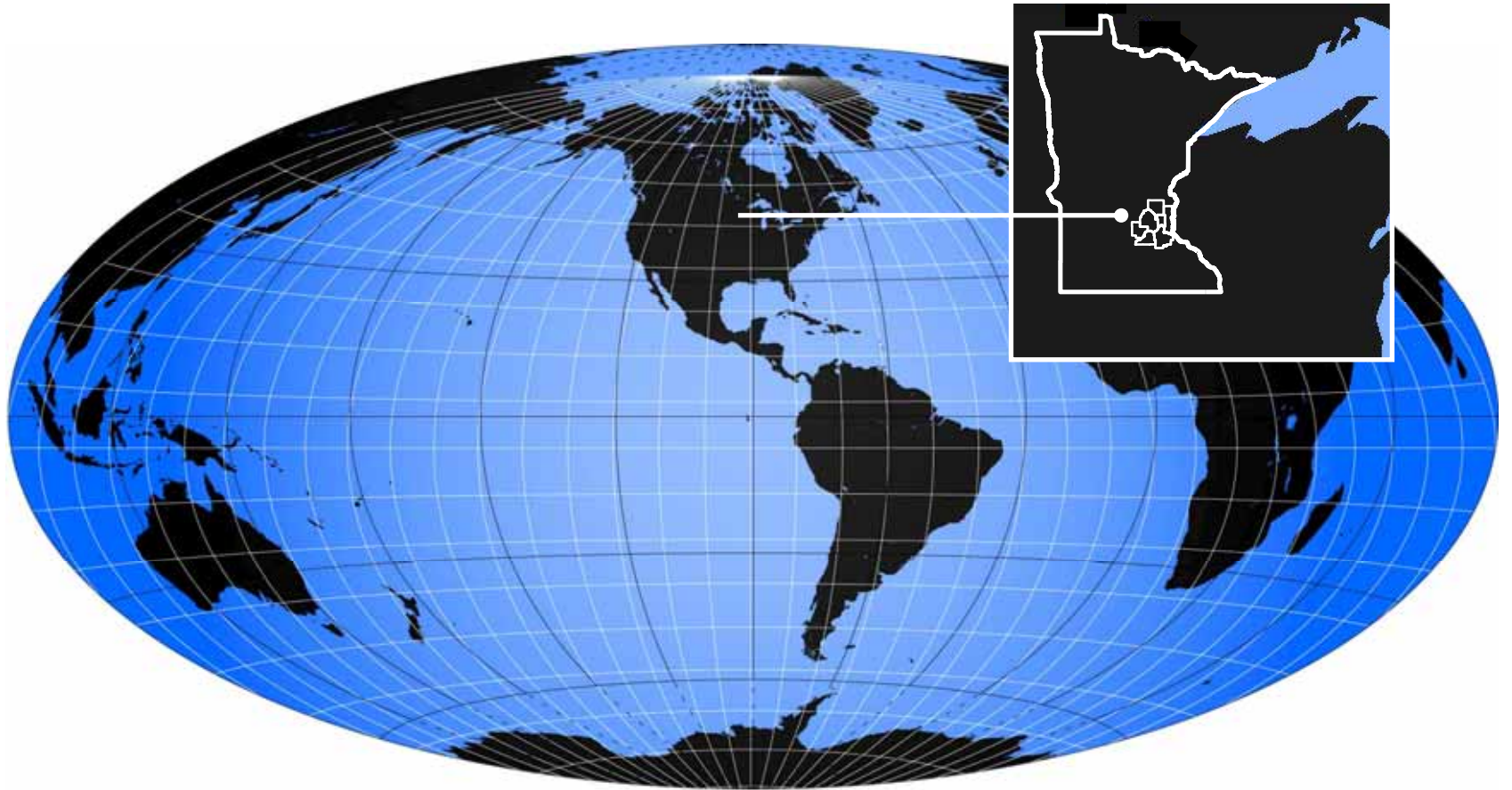




Good intentions +
Sound, credible information +
Common sense of purpose =

**Productive decisions
for a strong region**







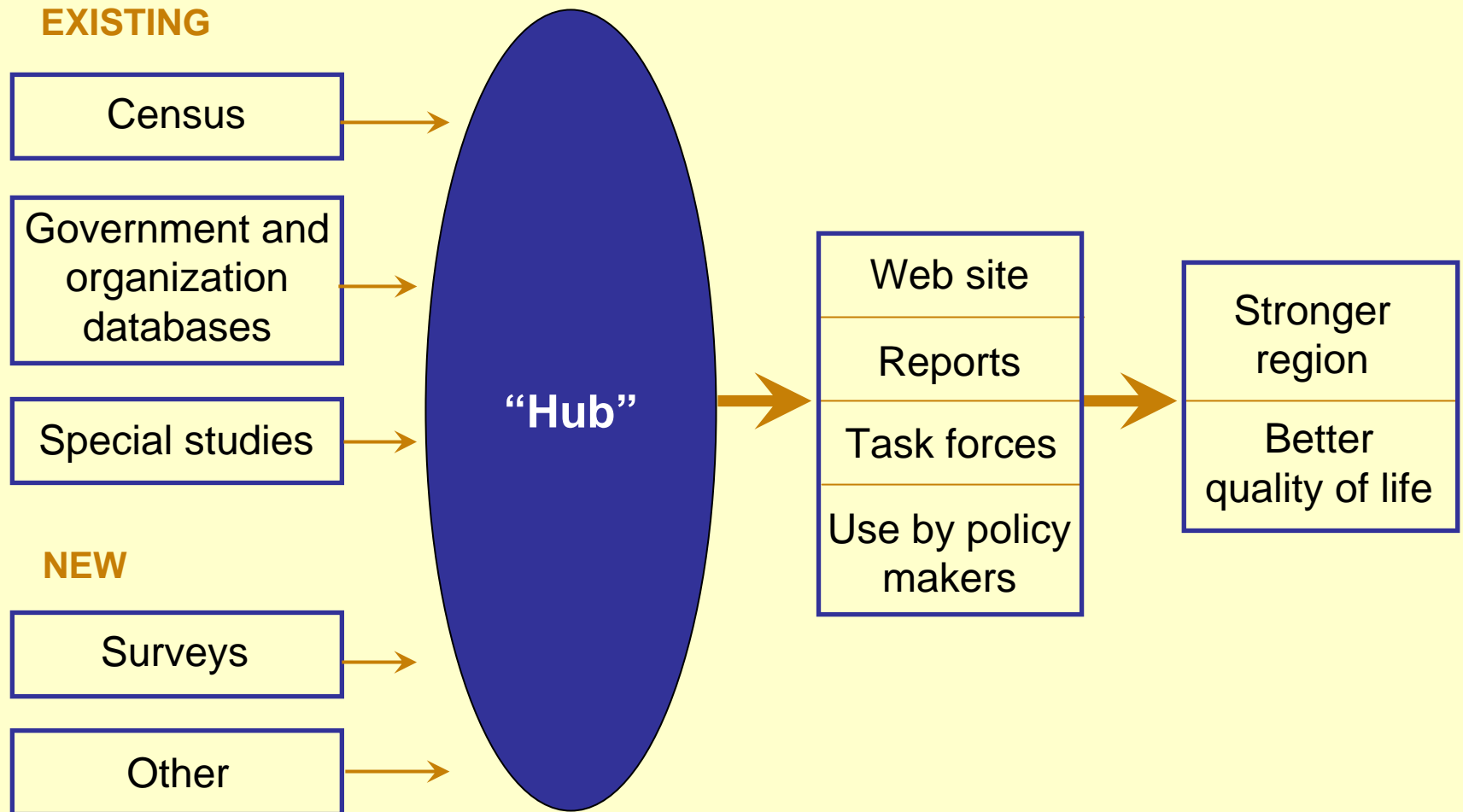
How might it work?



Long-term results

Information

Relevant, accessible indicators



Major topics

- Education
- Health
- Crime
- Transportation
- Environment
- Housing
- Government
- Economics
- Employment
- Society/culture

Current momentum

- Itasca Project
- Minneapolis Foundation Disparities Initiative
- “Metro Trend Watch”
- Excitement/interest among leaders

Two themes for today

- What do we need to know?
- What will make this project successful?

Panel – Mary Brainerd

- Are we creating new jobs and businesses in our region?
- Are our children starting kindergarten prepared to learn?
- Is there adequate housing available for people at all income levels?
- Are our residents able to access care for their health needs?
- Is our community a safe place to live and work?

Panel – Rob Grunewald

- Is per capita income growing?
- Is the poverty rate decreasing?
- What percentage of the population has a college degree?
- Are kids ready to learn when they start kindergarten?
- How much research grant money is flowing to the U of M?

Panel – Sean Kershaw

- The “20-Something Index”
- The “Walleye Index”
- The “Autogeddon Index”
- The “1-2-3 Education Index”
- The “Middle Class Anxiety Index”
- The “Income Inequality Index”
- The “I Voted Index”

Working groups

- What are the five questions you would need answered to know how our region is doing in the present and how well we are positioned for the future?
- In order to be useful to you, how does this project need to look and feel? What must it have to be useful and credible?



Discussion

Which best describes you?



Talent/human capital

- 18%** 1. What percentage of students in each grade made a year's worth of progress by year end?
- 6%** 2. What is the change in college educated 20-something in Minnesota?
- 24%** 3. What is the percentage of 10th graders who are proficient based on college prep curricula?
- 15%** 4. Are kids ready to learn when they start kindergarten?
- 21%** 5. Do all people have opportunities to thrive?
- 18%** 6. Is the state tapping the skills and contribution potential of each citizen?

Society and culture

- 24%** 1. Are different people and groups hopeful about their families and the state's future?
- 5%** 2. What is the percentage of eligible voters who vote?
- 41%** 3. Is optimism/resilience/self confidence increasing in the community especially among children?
- 16%** 4. Is our community a safe place to live and work?
- 14%** 5. Do people know their neighbors? Are they part of a community?

Economics-personal and regional

- 28%** 1. Are income and wealth disparities among groups increasing or decreasing?
- 39%** 2. Are we creating new jobs and businesses in our region?
- 11%** 3. Is income growth proportionately distributed by class, race, and geography?
- 3%** 4. What is the distribution of income in the metro region?
- 19%** 5. Are we creating jobs that pay enough? Is productivity growing?

Additional questions

- How do our citizens feel about the water quality of lakes and streams?
- Are we healthier today than we were ten years ago?
- Are residents able to access affordable health care?



Closing remarks

Paul Mattessich
Wilder Research