

# Summary

## Community Air Monitoring Project Minneapolis – Harrison Neighborhood



### What we monitored

We monitored air quality for fine particles (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and air toxics (carbonyls, metals and volatile organic compounds) in the Minneapolis Harrison neighborhood.

### Why is it important?

People exposed to air pollution are at increased risk for adverse health effects. This can include shortness of breath, asthma, heart attacks or stroke. Studies show that low-income communities might be unfairly affected by pollution from industrial, highway or air traffic sources.

Monitoring in these communities can help us to better understand the community's air quality and how it compares to other monitoring sites.

### Highlights & key findings

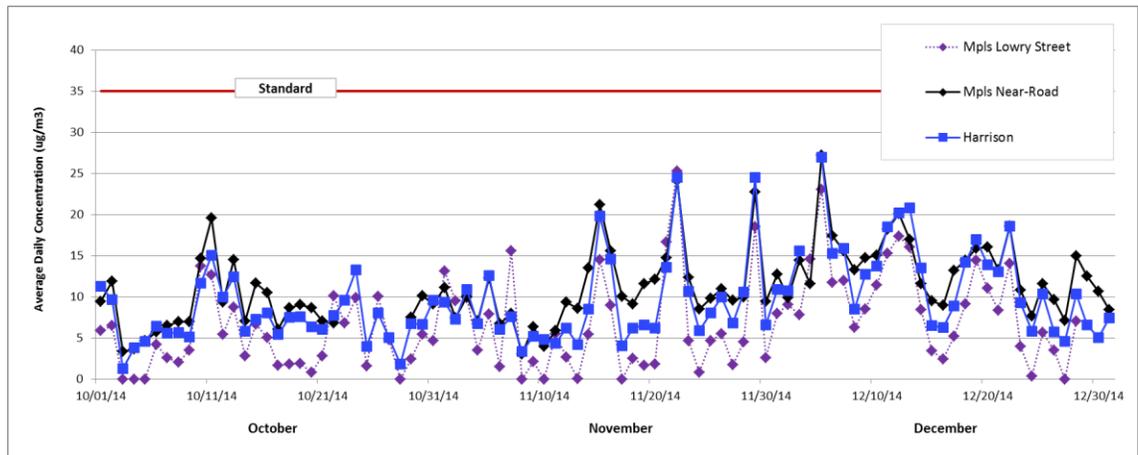
#### About this study

In 2013, the Minnesota Legislature provided funding for a two-year air monitoring study to measure air quality in Minnesota communities where low income communities might be disproportionately impacted by pollution from highway traffic, air traffic, and industrial sources.

- We put an air monitoring station in the Minneapolis Harrison neighborhood.
- This station monitored air quality for three months from October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.
- We compared the monitored data with air quality health standards and compared the data with other air data collected during the same time period at other monitors.
- All average daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> values were below the daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard of 35 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m<sup>3</sup>).
- Average daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> values measured at the Harrison monitor followed a similar daily trend as other Minneapolis sites.
- Of the 72 measured air toxic chemicals, the levels of 41 chemicals were so low that they were not detected by the monitor.
- Of those chemicals detected, average values were at or below established health benchmark values.

## Fine particles (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)

This graph shows the average daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> values at the Harrison community monitor and other Minneapolis air monitors. The average daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> behavior was similar across these monitors.

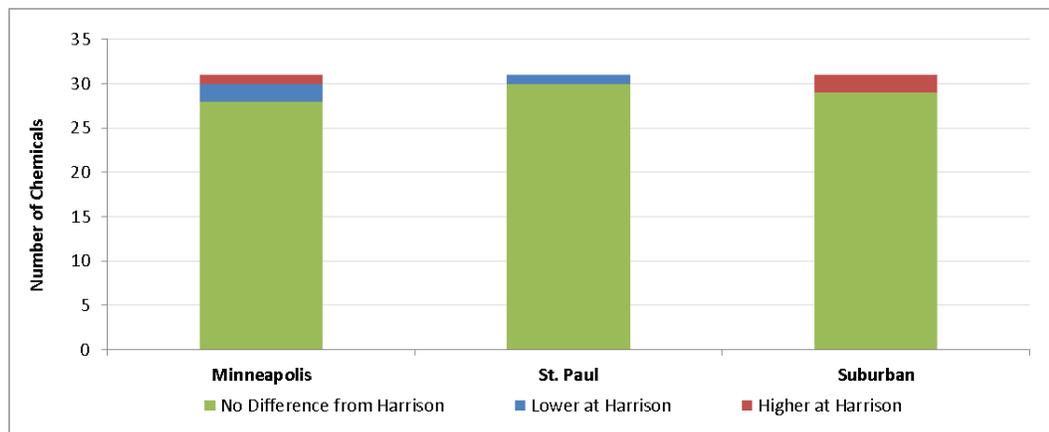


## Air toxics

Of the 72 air toxics measured, 31 were detected at the Harrison community monitor.

The majority of air toxics measured were not different from levels measured at other Twin Cities monitoring sites.

This graph shows the number of air toxics that differed between the Harrison monitor and other Twin Cities monitors. For all detected chemicals, average values were at or below established health benchmark values.



## Project website

For more information on the community air monitoring project, please visit [www.pca.state.mn.us/9xc4ahc](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/9xc4ahc) or call either 651-296-6300 or 1-800-657-3864 and ask for air data analysis staff.

More information about the MPCA's air monitoring program is available on the web at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/ruu6fhw>.

