

# Minutes

## Community Development Committee



**Meeting date:** September 8, 2026

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** 390 Robert Street

### Members present:

- |                                                                  |                                                                  |                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Robert Lilligren, D6  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diego Morales, District 9    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victor Obisakin, District 15 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Toni Carter, D14 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Lindstrom, District 10 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Wulff, District 16     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reva Chamblis, District 2               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chai Lee, District 13        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present, E = excused       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8              |                                                                  |                                                                  |

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment read by chair

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

### Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lilligren called the regular meeting of the Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Chair Robert Lilligren

### Agenda approved

Council members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

### Approval of minutes

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Obisakin to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2026, regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. **Motion carried.**

### Consent business

Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-4)

1. **2026-134:** Lake George Regional Park Long-Range Plan, Anoka County. (Colin Kelly)

- 1) Approve the Lake George Regional Park Long-Range Plan, including the addition of a 1.67-acre parcel and the removal of a 1.75-acre parcel, which corrects a boundary

discrepancy from the original 1975 long-range plan identified in the Modernizing Mapping project.

- 2) Approve the minor Rum River Regional Trail Long-Range Plan Amendment.
- 3) Encourage Anoka County to implement Land Use and Solar Resources Advisory Comments.

**2. 2026-141:** Lake Rebecca Park Reserve Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Program, Three Rivers Park District (Shoberg) (Jessica Lee)

- 1) Approve a grant of up to \$376,650 from the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to reimburse for the acquisition of a 1.27-acre parcel located at 8370 Rebecca Park Trail in Greenfield, MN, for the Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.
- 2) Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council.

**3. 2026-142:** 2026-142, Lake Rebecca Park Reserve Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Program, Three Rivers Park District (North Winds) (Jessica Lee)

- 1) Approve a grant of up to \$385,043 from the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to acquire a 0.89-acre parcel located at 8495 Rebecca Park Trail in Greenfield, MN, for the Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.
- 2) Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council.

**4. 2026-166:** 2026-142, Lake Rebecca Park Reserve Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Program, Three Rivers Park District (North Winds) (Jessica Lee)

- 1) State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Program (Legacy)
- 2) SFY 2027 Regional Parks Bonding Program (Bonding), and
- 3) SFY 2027 Legislatively Designated Pass-through Program (Pass-Through), and in accordance with, Tables 1, 2, and 3.

**Table 1. SFY 2027 Legacy Grant Program Agency Shares for Eligible Projects**

| Agency                              | State Fiscal Year 2027 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ANOKA COUNTY                        | \$2,198,096            |
| BLOOMINGTON, CITY OF                | \$384,460              |
| CARVER COUNTY                       | \$700,954              |
| DAKOTA COUNTY                       | \$2,163,561            |
| MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD | \$5,532,367            |
| RAMSEY COUNTY                       | \$2,117,263            |
| SAINT PAUL, CITY OF                 | \$2,907,008            |
| SCOTT COUNTY                        | \$1,044,216            |
| THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT          | \$6,076,308            |
| WASHINGTON COUNTY                   | \$1,375,567            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>\$24,499,800</b>    |

**Table 2. SFY 2027 Regional Parks Bonding Program Agencies Shares for Eligible Projects**

| Agency                              | State Fiscal Year 2027 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ANOKA COUNTY                        | \$1,601,103            |
| BLOOMINGTON, CITY OF                | \$408,749              |
| CARVER COUNTY                       | \$619,113              |
| DAKOTA COUNTY                       | \$1,869,222            |
| MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD | \$3,369,668            |
| RAMSEY COUNTY                       | \$1,352,681            |
| SAINT PAUL, CITY OF                 | \$1,779,847            |



|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| SCOTT COUNTY               | \$733,348           |
| THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT | \$3,735,457         |
| WASHINGTON COUNTY          | \$1,197,479         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>\$16,666,667</b> |

Table 3. SFY 2027 Legislatively Designated Pass-Through Grant Projects

| Grantee                              | Project Description                     | Amount              |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|
| CHAMPLIN, CITY OF                    | Elm Creek Greenway                      | \$500,000           |
| MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD  | North Commons Park                      | \$6,000,000         |
| MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD  | Cedar Riverside Recreation Center       | \$1,500,000         |
| MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD  | Loring Park                             | \$1,800,000         |
| RAMSEY COUNTY                        | Boulevard Trail                         | \$4,750,000         |
| SAINT PAUL, CITY OF                  | Como Zoo                                | \$9,350,000         |
| WASHINGTON COUNTY                    | Brown's Creek State Trail Connection    | \$2,931,000         |
| WASHINGTON COUNTY                    | Hardwood Creek Regional Trail Extension | \$1,000,000         |
| MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD* | Cedar Riverside Recreation Center       | \$5,000,000         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         |                                         | <b>\$32,831,000</b> |

It was moved by Wulff seconded by Vice Chair Cater

**Motion carried.**

### Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

- 1) **2026-143:** Regional Parks and Trails System 2027 Competitive Equity Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability

It was moved by Wulff seconded by Obisakin in that the Metropolitan Council authorize the 2027 Regional Parks and Trails System Competitive Equity Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability.

Chair Lilligren – Question: Looking at the balance between the bonding, the million dollars in council bonds and then the interest earnings at \$7 million. Is that tracking it? It seems high.

Jessica Lee – Answer: It is very high. Last time we had about 2 million.

Vice Chair Carter - I was interested to hear that there is no counting against an organization that applies for a collaborative grant. They can still apply for four additional individual grants. And I just want to applaud that that truly does recognize the need for interaction between our communities and to do the work we can together makes really good sense.

**Motion carried.**

### Information

- 1) 2025 Residential Development and Affordable Housing Production (Matt Schroeder 651-602-1513 and Maia Guerrero-Combs 651-602-1060)

Regional housing production continued to decline in 2025, with significant drops in multifamily and detached home construction. Only about 13% of new units were affordable, and production of deeply affordable housing (30% AMI or below) has fallen sharply, resulting in a large unmet need across the region. Vacancy rates have tightened, rents and home prices have risen, and affordable homeownership options remain scarce. The Met Council identifies major deficits at the lowest income levels and outlines strategies to support deeply affordable housing and expand affordable homeownership.

## Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

## Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Community Development Committee meeting of September 8, 2026.

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### Council contact:

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