

## Minutes of the

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, November 16, 2020

**Committee Members Present:** Atlas-Ingebretson, Chamblis, Cummings, Johnson, Lee, Lindstrom, Vento, Wulff

**Committee Members Absent:** Lilligren, Muse

**Committee Members Excused:**

#### CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Vento called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2020.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Chamblis to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2020 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

[Click here to view the November 16, 2020 Community Development Committee meeting video.](#)

#### BUSINESS

##### **2020-317** Public Hearing – Metro HRA Moving to Work Program Application Submittal

The purpose of this item is to conduct a public hearing to inform a future action on the submittal of an application for the Moving to Work Program to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Comments from the engagement meetings and received during the public comment period will be shared with the Committee at the December 7, 2020 meeting, when a formal action item will be considered.

Public hearing was opened and closed with no testimony.

##### **2020-318** 2021 Payment Standards for Metro HRA Rent Assistance Programs

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lindstrom, that the Metropolitan Council adopt payment standards as shown in Table 1 for the Housing Choice Voucher and other rent assistance programs effective January 1, 2021.

**Motion carried.**

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion as part of its consent agenda.

**2020-307 JT:** City of Andover 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 22301-1 (Michael Larson 651-602-1407)

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Cummings, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Andover to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Revise the City's forecasts downward as shown in Table 1 of the attached Review Record.
3. Revise the City's affordable housing need allocation for 2021-2030 to 362 units.
4. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for TAZ allocations, Local Water Management Plan, and Local Water Supply Plan.

**Motion carried.**

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion.

**2020-308 JT:** City of Circle Pines 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 22394-1

Planning Analyst Michael Larson presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Lee, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Circle Pines to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Revise the City's forecasts as shown in Table 1 of the attached Review Record.
3. Revise the affordable housing need allocation for the City to 12 units.
4. Strongly encourage the City to address all widely known tools in order to be fully consistent with Council housing policy. The City should consider addressing the following tool in the Plan before final adoption:
  - a. Identify the preservation of projects that used the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC).
5. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Housing and Water Supply.

**Motion carried.**

Council Member Lindstrom inquired whether the Plan addressed the missing link in the Rice Creek North Regional Trail Corridor. Mr. Larson stated he would follow up with committee members with information on how the Plan addresses CM Lindstrom question.

**2020-309 JT:** City of Ramsey 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Sewer Plan, Review File 21819-1

Planning Analyst Eric Wojchik presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Johnson, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Ramsey to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Revise the City's forecasts upward as shown in Table 2 and Table 3 of the attached Review Record.
3. Advise the City that per state statute resolutions adopting comprehensive plans cannot be based on contingent approval by the Metropolitan Council. Minnesota Statutes, section 473.585,

subdivision 3, states: Comprehensive “plans shall be submitted to the council following recommendation by the planning agency of the unit and after consideration but *before final approval by the governing body* of the unit.” (emphasis added). Submission of an adopting resolution inconsistent with state statute may jeopardize the City’s access to necessary permits or eligible grant programs.

4. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for wastewater, surface water management, land use, water supply, and plan implementation.
5. Advise the City to adopt the Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area (MRCCA) Plan within 60 days after receiving final DNR approval and submit a copy of the final adopted plan and evidence of adoption to the DNR, Council, and National Park Service within 10 days after the adoption.

**Motion carried.**

Tim Gladhill, Community Development Director, from the City of Ramsey was in attendance. During his presentation, Mr. Wojchik added recommendation #3 to the proposed actions following guidance from General Counsel. Ahead of the meeting, Mr. Gladhill had submitted a written request that the Council waive its deadline on amendments to 2030 comprehensive plans to allow the City to proceed with a change in the short term. The Committee declined to hear the request to waive Council policy.

**2020-312 SW:** Amend the 2020 Annual Livable Communities Fund Distribution Plan  
Community Development Director Lisa Barajas presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Atlas-Ingebretson, seconded by Chamblis, that the Metropolitan Council revise the 2020 Annual Livable Communities Fund Distribution Plan to increase the funding availability for the Local Housing Incentives Account by \$1 million.

**Motion carried.**

Committee members asked some clarifying questions regarding how quickly funds were disbursed, project selection, and timing for the original Winter Homeless Initiative. Ms. Barajas provided additional details on the process and timing for project solicitation and selection. Committee members inquired about potential projects that might be recommended from the current applications in the Local Housing Incentives Account solicitation. Livable Communities Manager Tara Beard provided additional information regarding potential applications, how the additional \$1 million would likely be distributed, and the next steps and timing that would come before the Council.

**2020-305 JT:** 2020 Budget Amendment – November Operating Budget Amendment  
Finance Director Heather Aagesen-Huebner presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Cummings, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the 2020 Unified Budget amendment as indicated.

**Motion carried.**

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion.

## INFORMATION

### 1. 2021 Livable Communities Act programs scoring criteria

The Livable Communities Act (LCA) requires that the Council prepare an annual plan for distribution of the Livable Communities funds based on scoring criteria developed by the Council. As in prior years, staff will have multiple conversations with the Community Development Committee before recommending adoption of criteria for 2021 LCA programs at the January 19, 2021, committee meeting.

Staff shared recommendations for high level scoring criteria changes intended to:

- Provide clearer organization of criteria to better communicate intended program outcomes to participating communities and their development partners, and
- Create a clearer link between scoring criteria and the foundational purpose of LCA, including aligning criteria with the metropolitan development guide (*Thrive MSP 2040*).

Council Members requested information on failed projects, appreciated the exchange of ideas, and the efforts to develop a scoring criteria that is clear and objective with accountability.

## BUSINESS

Joint Meeting of CDC and MPOSC: Public Comment Summary Report and Staff Recommendation on Changes to the draft amendment to the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan

Parks Manager Emmett Mullin and Planner Tracey Kinney provided a summary of the Public Summary Comment Report and recommendations on changes to the Policy Plan. The staff recommendation for changes to the Policy Plan updates the list of changes that staff shared at the beginning of the public comment period. At this joint meeting, staff provided highlights from the Public Comment Process, including:

- High level learnings from the outreach effort.
- List of new groups and organizations reached.
- Overwhelming support for the proposed 26 system additions. ○ Some concerns regarding the need to take care of the existing system before adding more.
- Comments supporting prioritizing natural resource conservation over recreational use, for example, proposal to change acreage threshold for designating park reserves.
- Significant interest in regional trails and future of the trail system.
- Support for water trails, as well as some concerns.
- Updated Cost to Complete System with refined methodology that led to no change in estimated \$2.1 billion total cost.
- Updated Chapter 9 Work Plan that proposes the Cultural Historical Study to incorporate land acknowledgement.

### input requested on three topics:

- Clarified regional trail boundary requirement
- Clarified acquisition cost requirements.
- Proposal to study Bridging facilities during next Policy Plan update, exploring whether to count visitors as part of the annual use estimate.

Council Members questioned the underrepresented, data collected from visitors, which is not diverse, is used for decision making. A definition of bridging facilities and an explanation of their partnership was requested. Comments of support for the proposed trail boundaries and links were made, issues of

safety and conflicts of use were expressed. Council Members and Commissioners expressed support and appreciation of comments, and inclusion efforts.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Michele Wenner  
Recording Secretary