

## Committee of the Whole

Meeting date: October 18, 2017

**Subject:** Comprehensive Plan Review Scenarios: What could you do if...?

**District(s), Member(s):** ALL

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Metropolitan Land Planning Act (Minn. Stat. §473.175)

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** LisaBeth Barajas, Manager, Local Planning Assistance (651-602-1895)

**Division/Department:** Community Development / Regional Planning

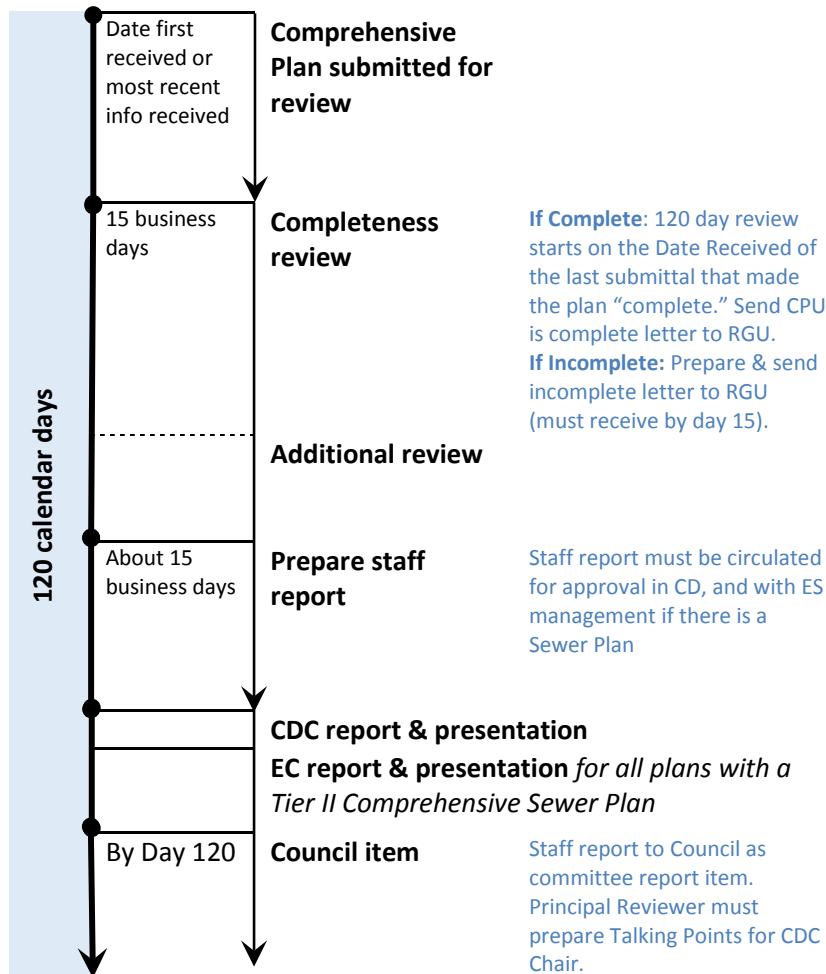
### Proposed Action

No action. This item is for information only.

### Background

Local comprehensive plans are due to the Council by December 31, 2018. Communities have begun to submit preliminary plans for staff level review. The preliminary review is an opportunity for communities to have an early review of their plan before it is submitted to the Council for review. Through this review, Council staff focus on potential conformance issues and identifying parts of the plan that are incomplete for review.

Figure 1 Review timeline for Comprehensive Plan Updates



While the submittal deadline is more than a year away, we do expect at least a dozen plans to be submitted for official review before the 2018 deadline.

Minnesota Statutes 473.175 directs the Council to complete its review and take action on full comprehensive plans within 120 calendar days. The timeline on the left summarizes the overall comprehensive plan update review process and calendar.

First staff conduct a completeness review, ensuring that the plan contains all required elements to evaluate its conformance to regional system plans, consistency with regional policies, and compatibility with the plans of affected jurisdictions. Once a plan has been determined complete for review, it is then scheduled for committee review and final Council

action. Staff from all divisions of the Council contribute their subject matter expertise, system plan conformance, and policy consistency knowledge to the review and final staff reports on comprehensive plans.

All comprehensive plans are reviewed by the Community Development Committee. Minnesota Statutes 473.513 requires the Council to approve municipal wastewater plans, or Tier II Sewer Plans, for communities connected to the metropolitan disposal system. As such, the Environment Committee also reviews plans for communities with Tier II Sewer Plans. The Council then receives the recommendations from each of the Committees and takes final action to approve the Tier II Sewer Plan, where applicable, and *authorize the local unit of government to place its comprehensive plan into effect*.

In preparation for the Council's review of 2040 comprehensive plans, staff will provide an overview of local comprehensive plan review timelines and process, including estimates for plan submittals. Staff will also review the Council's statutory responsibilities and authorities for the review of comprehensive plans. Then, the Council will discuss several comprehensive plan scenarios and how to apply the review standards to those scenarios.