

Committee of the Whole 1/2/2021

1. What does it look like to be an effective steward of regional resources?

Mentimeter responses

- Facilitate economic growth and prosperity for all.
- **Transparent** decision-making;
- **Authentically** listen to customers;
- **Welcome diverse voices** to the decision-making process;
- Strive for **servant leadership**;
- Advocate for the needs in your district while recognizing the needs of the region
- do the homework to be informed
- choose areas of focus to be more impactful
- align goals, strategies, tasks to the **OUTCOMES/GOALS** in Thrive 2040 & the Council's workplans
- be **intentionally inclusive in community outreach/engagement**
- recognize **financial resources are limited** & work to make them count
- our plans/actions must demonstrate & work to **end disparities & systemic racism that impact BIPOC & disabled communities**. Doing more of the same gives us more of what we have
- **All our resources are finite** in some fashion. it is critical that we **maximize return by fully utilizing what we have**. This means using green technologies to conserve and reuse, and using equitable strategies to involve & serve all of our stakeholders
- to make sure we truly **safeguard what is scarce**, maintain what is needed to keep things in good working condition and **always think long term**
- maintain what needs upkeep, defend the scarce and plan for the future
- Responsibly directing resources to a shared vision of a more equitable region.
- Maximizing our effectiveness. Doing the best job we can with what we have available to us.
- Thorough and transparent in deliberation & decision making
- Sustainable, consistent, and looking forward to a 100-year plan that works for ALL.
- A cost-effective policy that looks at effectiveness, durability, sustainability, and efficiency for all at every facet every time.

Council member discussion

Communication	Leadership	Planning	Stewardship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparent • Authentically listen • Intentionally inclusive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Servant Leadership • End disparities and systemic racism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose areas of focus • Outcomes/goals • Think long-term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finite resources • Maximize returns • Safeguard what is scarce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Engagement fatigue is real * Talking with local governments not to them and being intentional with those conversations * Limitations for people with different abilities, e.g. vision or hearing, requires us to find other ways to provide information * Follow best practices for information sharing * Go where the people are (Nextdoor) and deliver bite-sized information, sectioning things out in an iterative process. * Last cycle, open ended meetings did not work * Provide information ahead of time to process and digest * Create a feedback loop throughout the process to be upfront and transparent with impact of feedback * Adopt IAP2 spectrum of public participation, manage expectations, recognize levels of engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Collaborating and listening * Co-leading with stakeholders, practice humility * Alignment, find common language * Respectful of local government leadership * Balancing stakeholder groups and relationships, inclusive of non-profits and advocates * Find shared values between elected or appointed officials and the people we serve – these voices matter * Engaging with people across all the communities in the region * Requirements to be more inclusive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * How can we maintain over time, execute it well while sustaining goals/outcomes? * What does success look like? * Flexibility, move with the pace change * Adapt to the unforeseen * Imbed changes driven by COVID-19, e.g. work from home * Scaling processes based on size of community from small places that aren't changing dramatically to big places that are changing quickly * Setting standards ahead of time so we're not reinventing the wheel across the region * Goals need to be measurable and address macro and micro issues * Community-based planning, hyper-local activities informing policies and plans. Capture the local energy and interests * Learn from practices in place that agencies and municipalities are using, information sharing with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Outcomes and accountability to reduce disparities * Fulfilling our duties around the rules and guidance that outline our role and contract with the public and the populations we represent * Accountability to that contract * Use a perspective of abundance not scarcity * Create change and advance equity * Make choices/prioritize based in facts and science * Be prepared to support and explain the decisions we make when they are based on best practices and the best information we have

Communication	Leadership	Planning	Stewardship
<p>* Imbed flexibility in how we communicate.</p>		<p>partners, adopting innovations to build capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Integrate increasing cultural diversity into the planning process * Integrate community-based groups' input in a more regular way, imbed in the process * Using advisory committees as a mechanism to integrate input and outreach to community members * Listen to EAC members on how they want to have more influence and impact. Assess the current structure of committee. 	

2. What's going well and should keep moving forward?

Mentimeter responses

- Environmental team and equity work in the parks are on the right track and nation/region leading we should continue and expand this work to other departments. Inequalities is the greatest risk to our region.
- Well managed waste water systems
- Moving to Work initiative;
- Solar for Vouchers;
- Tech assistance to cities that incorporate resiliency/climate/clean energy;
- Economic Values Atlas;
- BRT expansion/Network Next
- Grants to cities for water conservation & I&I reduction"
- The MC is facing unprecedented challenges and have done some heroic work to pivot, shift, innovate, collaborate, reimagine our services. I believe we have awesome talent at MC who are leading in so many ways.
- Met Council technical staff is outstanding! Our staff is dedicated and committed to the Council and experts in their fields
- we are doing great job being innovative
- staff are very dedicated and forward thinking
- Investing in transit with a priority on addressing equitable service.
- Our wastewater system is awesome.
- Focus on equity and inclusion in distribution of resources, decision making and engagement.

Councilmember discussion

- * Encourage innovative thinking in an ever-changing world
- * Wastewater – two new treatment plants, energy efficiencies from the start
- * Shared mobility, what does that look like for our transit system
- * Move a target on one of the metrics on disparities, specifically ethnic people – employment at the Council and with contractors, construction projects, our own transit police have done well
- * 2020 showed us how creative and innovative our services can be and how responsive we were to the greater needs.
- * Acknowledge and be open to the fact that we're not going back to where we were
- * Leverage the technology and what we've learned and what's going to stay with us
 - e.g. virtual interviews make a lot of sense to accommodate schedules, traffic, etc.
- * Council meetings adopt a hybrid model of in person and virtual – we don't have to choose one over another
 - Accommodates committee members who have difficulty getting to the building – reduces a barrier for some
 - Advocate for the open meetings law to change
 - People who have a vision disability may not agree online meetings is an innovation. Accessibility is important.
- * Keep in mind the benefits of experiencing this time that we're in. Requires a change in culture.

Mentimeter responses

3. What questions are we not asking ourselves about the long-range future of the region?
 - We are not monitoring enough nor provided enough data to our municipalities on the shared planning and impacts of developments **impact on our environmental sustainability**. How to **demolish our nation leading inequalities for African Americans**.
 - How do we address **racial disparities** and **stop accepting failure and a lack of leadership**?
 - How will we be able to provide adequate transit while address a significant deficit?
 - We plan. But do we know the plans we are laying out will directly impact our goals? I would like to see how transportation/transit, community development, environmental services, public safety **plans are not only transactional but transformational**.
 - COVID has shown that telecommuting is feasible and preferably (less travel, less pollution) so transportation needs will change; also, there is no comprehensive vision on how changing demographics will demand changes to our services
 - how can we be more **creative in thinking outside the box on historical questions and undoing processes** which need new life?
 - How our resources and investments promote a more equitable region even outside of our formal authorities; how we leverage our investments to create change broadly throughout the region.
 - How can we better adapt to the rapidly increasing pace of change.
 - How to address growing gap in financial security and its impact on the future of the metro region.

4. What are the unique opportunities the Metropolitan Council has to create distinction, leadership and trust in the region?
 - We could **use the technology capacity built to meet remotely to do more, be more accessible**, and find ways to further improve on its use. Cost savings from this can be spent on **more engagement** and other needs.
 - Convene people around regional issues
 - As a top 5 Xcel customer, **moving to 100% renewable energy** will distinguish us nationally
 - **Relationship building**. Fact-based communications. Transparency. Timeliness. Inclusivity - in all ways. Accountability. We are a huge organization & need to remember interactions/work are still personal. Keep the council members engaged and connected.
 - **more leadership at the cutting edge** – how can we continue to build the pipeline of jobs for trades which our workforce needs?
 - By focusing our investments around community development on hyper-local, community-driven initiatives we can, as district reps balancing local and regional perspectives, collaboratively gain broader support for these efforts.
 - Right now we have more challenges than opportunities.
 - Increasing awareness of the assets and needs of the region for decision-makers at all levels and for citizens.

5. What part should you play in leading the Metropolitan Development Guide?
 - That appropriate for the role, listener, connector, advocate, and steward.
 - Visible presence in my district to facilitate conversations
 - I am responsible to my district (as well as the whole region) – so any opportunities to connect with my stakeholders will be important to ensure their voices are heard.
 - any way we can plug in please let us know
 - Bringing innovative, "out of the box", ideas and perspective to the guide to ensure it is forward looking and not overly confined to the status quo.
 - Listener and leader.