

# Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

## Committee Members Present:

Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Zelle

## Committee Members Absent:

Gonzalez, Johnson

## CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 12 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Lee, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Gonzalez, Johnson

No response: 2 Lilligren, Zeran

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Sterner to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried** on the following roll call:

Aye: 12 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Lee, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Gonzalez, Johnson

No response: 2 Lilligren, Zeran

## INFORMATION

### 1. 2050 Metropolitan Development Guide Overview and Timing

Michelle Fure, Manager of Public Involvement, Angela Torres, Manager, Local Planning Assistance, and Dan Marckel, Planning Analyst, gave an update on the status of the 2050 Metropolitan Regional Development Guide. Torres began with an overview of the history of the 1976 Metropolitan Land Planning Act and growth and development in the region. The legislative purpose of the Land Planning Act is to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to ensure coordinated orderly and economic development. Minnesota State Statute 473.145 requires that the Metropolitan Council prepare and adopt a comprehensive development

guide for the metropolitan area. Fure then shared the regional planning questions to be addressed: Where are we today? Where do we want to go? How do we want to get there? What are barriers or opportunities for achieving our vision? Fure shared that Council staff have also used an integrative approach to begin addressing these questions. Marckel gave an update on the status and current work, including an image that is illustrative of the approach staff intends to take in the 2050 planning process. Adoption of the 2050 Plan will occur in mid to late 2024, but work is already in process. Preparation activities were from 2017-2020, including the analysis of 2020 Census data and results, Council committee presentations and discussions, Committee of the Whole conversations, and Council member work groups. The “approaches” portion of the planning process has taken place in 2021, including framing topics, exploring scenarios, model refinement, Census and forecasting, and Council engagement. Marckel shared a graphic with an overview of the timeframe for the next steps of the process including engagement, development, refinement and adoption, and implementation. Work in 2022 will include building the regional vision, standing up technical committees to support public discussion, internal work unit discussions on regional issues, workshops, and 2022 work planning. Emerging principles for the work have been that process is important, the inclusion of public participation, creating opportunities for advisory committees to connect, and engagement with local governments. Important topic areas are equity and reducing/eliminating disparities, sustainability and climate change, housing and housing affordability, and what the post-pandemic region will look like including the persistence of current travel patterns. Staff then asked Council members to consider how they would like to be involved in vision development, including Committee of the Whole conversations, standing and advisory committee discussions, leading and participating in discussions with district communities, the Metropolitan Development Guide Vision work group, and attendance and participation in technical groups.

Council Member Vento had comments about authentic engagement with regard to planning, as well as requested an advisory group that engages township leaders and the expectations of townships. Angela Torres said engagement with townships is in progress. Council Members also had questions and comments about climate migration, strategic vision, and the addition of an equity policy plan. Council Members also had comments regarding the focus on a post-pandemic region, the wide scope of Council work, and how the planning process can be efficient and not replicating work that is already in progress.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Bridget Toskey  
Recording Secretary