

Minutes

Committee of the Whole



Meeting Date: August 16, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Deb Barber, District 4
- John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- Robert Lilligren, District 6
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- Diego Morales, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Gail Cederberg, District 11

- Susan Vento, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Toni Carter, District 14
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Vice-Chair Chamblis called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:10 p.m.

Agenda Approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. Agreed to allow public comments from Peter Rickmyer.

Mr. Rickmyer expressed his concern about felons on probation and people with active restraining orders working as security for the Metropolitan Council through a Security Contractor. Mr. Rickmyer claims its policy is not to run background checks on their employees. He requests anyone providing security for the Council require background checks.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Carter, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2023, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried.**

Information

1. Housing Policy Plan Update for 2050 Regional Development Guide (Sarah Berke 651-602-1198; Hilary Lovelace 651-602-1555)

The Metropolitan Council has begun development of the 2050 Regional Development Guide. The current Regional Development Guide, Thrive MSP 2040, along with the Council's metropolitan system and policy plans, are the governing documents that help guide the orderly growth and development of the region. System and policy plans include the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan, the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan, the 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan, and the 2040 Housing Policy Plan.

This presentation provided information about the history of the Housing Policy Plan, Council positionality in the housing system in our region, and themes from engagement completed to date. Council staff will continue to engage residents across the region on their vision and hopes for the future of housing in our region and continue work on preparing the Housing Policy Plan.

Council staff asked Council Members several questions at the end of the presentation, including:

- Do you have any questions about the role the Council plays in housing?
- What areas of housing policy do you have questions about?
- What connections to housing or housing issues are you most excited about?

Council staff will return to Council committees on multiple occasions before the end of 2024 to provide updates on the planning process and seek Commissioners' and Council Members' guidance, input, and feedback. Minnesota State Statute 473.859.2 requires that the Council require that Cities promote the availability of land to support the development of moderate- and low-income housing. Completion of the policy plan update is expected in late 2024, aligned with the timelines for the other policy areas and components of the 2050 regional development guide.

Council Members had questions and comments regarding the research into the need for new housing and the measurements for success. Staff explained the "fresh start" every decade, market forecasts, and scenarios.

The discussion continued regarding the measurements for new development vs preserving existing homes and the forecasted growth. The need for a geographic balance to include the suburban perspective was expressed. Staff commented on the recruitment efforts and Council Members offered some contacts for engagement.

Council Members commented on the ever-changing demand for different types of housing needed; senior, starter homes, and multi bedroom housing.

Council Members and staff discussed the land use challenges, zoning restraints, and the need for a holistic approach to meet needs for all people. And creating homeownership opportunities through policy, non-profits, public investment, and HUD resources.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole meeting of August 16, 2023.

Approved this 6 day of September 2023.

Council Contact:

Bridget Toskey, Recording Secretary
Bridget.Toskey@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1806