Committee Report

Information Item

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: June 16, 2014

Subject: Housing Needs and Demographic Trends: Presentation by Arthur C. Nelson, Ph.D., FAICP

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Information only

Staff Prepared: Todd Graham (651-602-1322)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Policy and Research

Background:

To complement research informing the Thrive MSP 2040 plan, Community Development Division commissioned a study on housing needs associated with forecasted demographic trends. The Council contracted Arthur C. Nelson, a nationally recognized housing and planning expert and author, to prepare this report and present his findings to the Committee and other interested audiences.

This study is recently completed, and will be published to the metrocouncil.org website. This study highlights sweeping demographic changes that will alter the nature of housing demand, changing home ownership influences, emerging housing product preferences, and the role of land redevelopment in accommodating both employment and attached housing needs.

Arthur C. Nelson, Ph.D, FAICP, is Professor of Urban Planning and Real Estate Development, and Associate Dean for Research, at the University of Arizona. (Until May 2014, Dr. Nelson was Director of the Metropolitan Research Center at University of Utah.) Sponsors of his work include the NSF, National Academy of Science, HUD, DOT, Economic Development Administration, Brookings Institution, Urban Land Institute, Natural Resources Defense Council, and the National Association of Realtors among many other nonprofits, think-tanks, government agencies and trade associations. Dr. Nelson has written more than 300 other scholarly, professional and popular publications. His current work focuses on the reshaping of America's metropolitan areas through redevelopment of the built environment.

