

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: November 3, 2014

Subject: Economic Competitiveness Initiatives

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Information only

Staff Prepared/Presented: Mark VanderSchaaf; Janna King

Division/Department: Community Development Division

Thrive MSP 2040 has identified economic competitiveness as an important emphasis for our region, and one in which the Council should play a role.

During the third quarter of 2014, Council staff began holding a series of workshops with staff from counties and many of the region's cities to assess their level of interest in a number of potential research, information, and technical assistance products relating to economic competitiveness. These products would be provided for local communities to use on a voluntary basis in their 2016-2018 comprehensive plan updates. One workshop remains to be held, with Hennepin County, but the input already received has helped Council staff to begin crafting a program to address the priorities that were identified.

The November 3 information item will provide an overview of what we've learned from the workshops held thus far, and how staff are preparing to respond to priorities identified at those workshops.