

## Community Development Committee

Meeting date: July 20, 2015

**Subject:** Overview of 2014 Population Estimates

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stat. 473.24

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Matt Schroeder, Senior Researcher (651-602-1513)

**Division/Department:** Community Development / Regional Planning

### Proposed Action

None. Information only.

### Background

Under Minnesota Statutes 473.24, the Metropolitan Council is responsible for preparing local population and household estimates for the cities and townships in the seven-county Twin Cities area. These estimates are the official population and household estimates for state government purposes and are used to determine local government aid and local street aid allocations. By July 15 of each year, the Metropolitan Council certifies the estimates of population, households, and average household size for the previous year to the State Demographer and to the Commissioner of Revenue.

According to statute, the Council must distribute preliminary estimates to cities by the end of May; this year, the Council mailed out its preliminary estimates on May 15. Local governments had until June 24 to submit comments, questions or objections to the preliminary estimates.

Council staff released the final 2014 population estimates on July 14; the estimates are available on the Council's website at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/Data-and-Maps/Data/Census-Forecasts-Estimates.aspx>.

### Rationale

Under Minnesota Statutes 473.24, the Metropolitan Council is responsible for preparing local population and household estimates for the cities and townships in the Twin Cities seven-county area.

### Funding

Developing the annual population estimates is a regular part of the Community Development Division budget.

### Known Support / Opposition

During the statutory comment period, the Council received comments on the preliminary 2014 estimates from eleven cities. Four cities concurred with the preliminary estimate; the other seven cities updated the Council's estimate of the city's housing stock, requested revisions to the occupancy rate to reflect more accurately the housing market recovery, or requested revisions to the average household size to align more closely with Census 2010 data. Council staff revised the preliminary estimates for these seven cities and initiated corrections to the estimates for eight other communities, increasing the estimated regional totals for 2014 by 626 households and 1,898 people.