

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, June 20, 2016

Committee Members Present: Commers, Chávez, Dorfman, Elkins, Kramer, Letofsky, Munt, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Cunningham

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Commers called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on June 20, 2016.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Letofsky, seconded by Elkins to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2016 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

Consent

SW 2016-125 City of Champlin The Legends of Champlin Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Review File No. 20615-6

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Letofsky, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the attached Review Record and allow the City of Champlin to place The Legends of Champlin Comprehensive Plan Amendment into effect.
2. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation, Forecasts, and Land Use.

Motion carried.

No questions or discussion occurred with this consent item.

2016-110 Grant Agreement Amendment for Coon Rapids Dam RP, Anoka County

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Letofsky, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve an amendment to grant agreement SG2012-034 to expand the project scope to add "construction of a fishing pier at Cenaiko Lake at Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park."

Motion carried.

No questions or discussion occurred with this consent item.

2016-126 City of Plymouth Begin Oaks Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Review File No. 20361-18
 It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Letofsky, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the attached review record and allow the City of Plymouth to place the *Begin Oaks* comprehensive plan amendment (CPA) into effect.
2. Find that the amendment does not change the City’s forecasts.

Motion carried.

No questions or discussion occurred with this consent item.

Non-Consent

2016-124 Livable Communities Act Tax Base Revitalization Account Grant Recommendations - Senior Planner Marcus Martin Presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Chavez, seconded by Letofsky, that the Metropolitan Council (1) award 9 Tax Base Revitalization Account grants as follows and (2) authorize its Community Development Division Director to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council:

Projects recommended for Spring 2016 TBRA funding cycle:	Recommended amount
Pilot	
Minneapolis - 1215 2nd Av. N.	\$55,600
Contamination Investigation	
Minneapolis - California Street Apartments Area	\$50,000
Contamination Cleanup	
Hastings HEDRA - Artspace Hastings Lofts	\$29,100
Minneapolis - Superior Plating	\$488,500
St Louis Park EDA - Morrie's Dealership	\$53,000
St Louis Park EDA - Parkdales, The	\$277,600
St Louis Park EDA - Parkway 25	\$245,600
Saint Paul Port Authority - Major League Soccer Stadium Complex	\$1,250,000
Vadnais Heights - Garceau Corner	\$106,200
TOTAL	\$2,555,600

Motion carried.

Committee member asked about the projects eligible for TBRA and City funds and who contributes what?

Mr. Martin explained he works with the cities, requests are split up and projects have different timelines.

Committee members asked if projects are eligible for site investigation and cleanup funds.

Mr. Martin stated yes funds are available and all applicants are encouraged to apply for funds.

2016-111 Regional Parks System Equity Toolkit Recommendations – Research Analyst Raintry Salk and Lisa Tabor presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Elkins, that the Metropolitan Council accept the Regional Parks System Equity Toolkit recommendations and direct staff to begin use of the toolkit in the Capital Improvement Program and the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grant program in the manner specified in the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

Motion carried.

Questions from the committee included how agencies can do better with the resources they have, including technical resources.

Ms. Salk & Ms. Tabor responded the guidebook will explain resources available, and spending suggestions. Guidebook assists in prioritizing projects. The focus on users helps to understand barriers, and under-served areas.

INFORMATION

1. Mixed income housing policy: Education and feasibility project – Tara Beard, Housing Policy Analyst presented the information item to the Community Development Committee.

The *2040 Housing Policy Plan* identifies the potential of mixed-income housing to create a full range of housing choices throughout the region, yet recognizes the challenges in current policies and financing tools to realize such developments. Reducing barriers to development of mixed-income housing and neighborhoods is a key opportunity for collaboration, as noted in the two following Council roles listed in the *Housing Policy Plan*:

- Provide local governments with data, research, and best practices on the development of mixed-income housing and related strategies.
- Encourage mixed-income strategies through comprehensive plan reviews by recognizing their contribution to a local government’s planning for meeting their “share” of the region’s affordable housing need.

Mixed-income housing refers to developments that mix market-rate housing units and subsidized units affordable to low- and moderate-income households. It is a policy and development strategy that can increase housing choices without contributing toward concentrations of poverty; it can also bring affordable housing to an area of opportunity in a way that is less controversial to existing residents. There has been great interest in mixed-income housing (sometimes referred to as inclusionary housing), but it has also been characterized as difficult to accomplish. However, a renewed interest, nationally and locally, on mixed-income housing has brought new attention to its ability to address many of the region’s housing challenges.

At the same time, new tools and creative solutions that may reduce barriers to mixed-income housing development have emerged. The Council has partnered with the Family Housing Fund, and Urban Land Institute Minnesota to bring an education opportunity and a new feasibility tool to local communities that wish to deepen their efforts to support mixed-income housing.

2. Federal Grant Application for Metro Climate Stats – Lisa Barajas, Manager, Local Planning Assistance presented the information item to the Community Development Committee.

The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy has made a Funding Opportunity available through their Cities-LEAP program. This Opportunity is intended to support the development and piloting of data-driven decision frameworks that improve the ability of local governments to integrate, analyze, and understand varied datasets in order to pursue opportunities to improve greenhouse gas emissions reductions across a variety of sectors.

Council staff submitted a Concept Paper for a \$500,000 grant from this funding opportunity for Metro Climate Stats, a proposed regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction inventory and planning tool. This project will provide the following:

- Community-specific GHG emissions inventories that can be aggregated to the regional scale. The inventory will be developed by aggregating data held at the Council (ex. wastewater generation, water consumption) as well as data sourced from others, such as energy consumption and waste generation.
- A scenario planning tool to support informed policy decisions and local actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This tool will also be applicable at the regional level, to better inform the Council's regional policy development and allow the Council to target its technical assistance and resources to implementation actions and/or communities where the assistance would have the greatest impact on regional greenhouse gas emissions.

We had planned to work on regional climate data gathering and distribution as part of carrying out the direction in Thrive, when this funding opportunity came to our attention.

3. Section 8 Management Assessment Program – Terri Smith, Manager, HRA presented the information item to the Community Development Committee.

The Section 8 Management Assessment Program is a rating system used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to rank housing authority performance. The purpose of this item is to provide you with information on the rating system and scoring components specific to the Council's Housing and Redevelopment Authority (Metro HRA).

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary