

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: August 6, 2018

Subject: Update on Requests for Extensions to the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Deadline

District(s), Member(s): ALL

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statutes, sections 473.864 and 473.869

Staff Prepared/Presented: LisaBeth Barajas, Director, Community Development (651-602-1895)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Planning

Proposed Action

None. Information only.

Background

Minnesota Statutes section 473.864 requires all local governments in the seven-county metropolitan area to review and update their local comprehensive plans and submit those plans to the Metropolitan Council for review and comment by December 31, 2018. Section 473.864 further authorizes the Metropolitan Council to grant extensions to local governments if they need additional time to complete their plan updates.

Specifically, Minnesota Statutes section 473.869 indicates that any extensions granted by the Council “must include a timetable and plan for completion of the review and amendment.” The statute also requires the Council to establish guidelines and procedures to which local governments must conform when preparing, adopting, and submitting their plans.

At its January 10, 2018 meeting, the Metropolitan Council authorized staff to administratively review and approve complete applications for extensions to the December 31, 2018 deadline ([Business Item 2017-293](#)). The Council adopted guidelines that allowed local governments to request of up one additional year, or to December 31, 2019, to complete decennial updates of local comprehensive plans.

The application period opened in January, with applications due by May 31, 2018. Local governments had to submit the following in accordance with statutory requirements:

- An adopted local resolution requesting the extension and indicating the date to which the local government wishes to extend the submittal deadline;
- A description of the completed activities;
- A description of the remaining activities and a timeline for their completion.

Summary

Council staff received and approved 46 applications requesting extensions to the 2018 deadline. Applicant communities vary in population size from township to some of the region’s biggest cities, and are spread geographically across the region. Of the 46 requests, 37 communities requested extensions to the deadline to fall within the first 6 months of 2019. Only 9 requested extensions will fall in the second half of 2019, with 5 of those requests for one full year.

Council staff will provide a more detailed report of the requests and the overall comprehensive planning process at the Community Development Committee on August 6, 2018.