

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, February 5, 2018

Committee Members Present: Barber, Chávez, Commers, Dorfman, Elkins, Munt, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Cunningham, Kramer

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice Chair Commers called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 5, 2018.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Elkins to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2018 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

2018-31 Baytown Township 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Review File 21746-1

Senior Planner Corrin Wendell presented the staff's report to the Committee.

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Wulff, that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

Recommendations of the Community Development Committee

1. Authorize Baytown Township to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Revise the community designation for the central portion of Baytown Township, as shown in Figure 2, from Diversified Rural to Rural Residential.
3. Advise the Township to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Parks, Transportation, Surface Water Management, and Housing.

Motion carried.

Representatives from Baytown Township were not in attendance as they were holding their Planning Commission and Town Board meeting that evening. Council Member Elkins asked whether the soils of the community could support individual private subsurface sewage treatment systems. Local Planning Assistance Manager, Lisa Barajas, responded that the soils within the Township are capable of supporting such systems.

The Community Development Committee unanimously recommended approval of the proposed action at its meeting on February 5, 2018.

2018-32 2018 Community Development Committee Workplan

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Chávez, that the Community Development Committee adopt the attached 2018 Work Plan.

Stewardship

- Responsibly manage the region's finite and financial resources.
- Fund the acquisition of priority natural resource areas for inclusion in the Regional Park System.
- Encourage local governments to locate and design new developments that preserve the natural environment.
- Encourage local governments to adopt local land use strategies for protecting natural resources.

Prosperity

- Foster conditions for shared economic vitality with balanced investments and activities across the region.
- Invest in infrastructure, amenities, and the quality of life needed for economic competitiveness.
- Encourage local governments to protect and preserve compatible land uses around airports, railroads, and industrial land.

Equity

- Invest to build a more equitable region.
- Create choice for where to live, how to travel, where to play for all residents across race, ethnicity, economic means and ability.
- Encourage local governments to plan for and create a mix of housing affordability throughout the region, especially along transit corridors.
- Engage the community in regional decision-making.

Livability

- Ensure access to nature and outdoor recreation through regional parks and trails.
- Provide housing choice for a range of demographics.
- Align resources to support transit oriented development and walkable neighborhoods.
- Promote healthy communities and active living through land use planning and investment.

Sustainability

- Provide leadership and technical assistance to local governments in the area of climate change.
- Promote compact, pedestrian-friendly development patterns.
- Support the Regional Parks System to protect open space.

Motion carried.

Vice chair Jon Commers presented the business item to the Community Development Committee. A Gantt chart was requested representing the Community Development Committee workplan.

INFORMATION

1. Trends in Comprehensive Plan Amendments 2010-2017 (Lisa Barajas 651 602-1895)

Local Planning Assistance Manager Lisa Barajas presented detailed information on the types of amendments, the relationship to housing density, the geographic distribution of amendments, and additional land use information.

To support continued conversations regarding planning and development trends in the region, staff analyzes trends in comprehensive plan amendments during the timeframe from 2010 to 2017. This timeframe reflects the period starting when the Council had reviewed nearly all of the 2030 comprehensive plan updates through the end of last year.

Communities amend their comprehensive plans for a variety of reasons, including to respond to specific development proposals, to incorporate the work of small area or station area planning, and to reflect changes in the plans of other jurisdictions. Communities must send proposed amendments to the Council for review prior to local implementation.

During this study period (2010-2017), the Council reviewed 547 comprehensive plan amendments, with 74 in the year 2017.

2. Areas of Concentrated Poverty in the Twin Cities Region – Senior Research Matt Schroeder presented the information item to the Community Development Committee.

In 2014, the Metropolitan Council released [*Choice, Place and Opportunity: An Equity Analysis of the Twin Cities Region*](#). This report defined Areas of Concentrated Poverty (census tracts where at least 40% of residents have incomes less than 185% of the federal poverty threshold), analyzed their origins and evolution, evaluated their access to opportunity, and offered policy responses.

Recently released American Community Survey data from the U.S. Census Bureau offer the latest look at Areas of Concentrated Poverty. Key findings from the new data include:

- The region's poverty rate (measured as 185% of the federal poverty threshold) has declined in recent years.
- Over the past decade, areas of concentrated poverty have expanded in the cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul as well as in the suburbs.
- There are ongoing signs that areas of concentrated poverty have peaked and are receding. This is not true, however, for areas of concentrated poverty where at least 50% of the residents are people of color, pointing to the influence of historical and contemporary discrimination on concentrated poverty.

3. Livable Communities Act Discussion – Livable Communities Act Manager Paul Burns and Metro Cities staff member Charlie Vander Aarde presented the information item to the Community Development Committee.

Several months ago, MetroCities reached out to Council staff about conducting a policy-level review of the impact and implementation of the Livable Communities Act programs. Late in 2017, MetroCities conducted an informal survey of cities about their experiences with the program. Working with Council staff, MetroCities has convened a set of three meetings of a workgroup of city staff to discuss their perceptions of how well the Livable Communities Act programs are meeting their needs. Council Members Wulff, Barber and Elkins are representing the Community Development Committee at these meetings. Ten communities are represented.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary