Information Item

Community Development Committee

Meeting Date: August 21, 2023

Topic

Livable Communities Act Workshop Update

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minn. Stat. § 473.253, Livable Communities Act
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Sarah Berke, Senior Manager, Livable Communities, 651-602-1198
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Division/Department:	Community Development/Regional Planning

Background

At the July 17, 2023, Community Development Committee meeting, Committee members participated in an LCA Working Discussion to discuss distribution of funding in Livable Communities Act (LCA) programs. The discussion session focused on high-level goals and visions, including how the Council aligns the programs with its overall regional planning and policy goals.

This presentation will provide an overview of the themes that emerged from the first workshop, and inform the agenda for the next session, which is tentatively scheduled for October 2.

Themes from first workshop

In the workshop session on July 17, Committee members started with the questions, "What are the biggest needs in the region that LCA can impact?" and, "What does an equitable LCA program look like to you?" Several themes emerged from the discussion, including Social Cohesion, Equitable Process, Intersections, Economic Development, and Impact. In addition to understanding the impact that LCA programs have on residents, Committee members expressed interest in measuring how well LCA programs are meeting stated goals.

A second workshop will be scheduled for the October 2 CDC meeting, with the intention of reviewing program data, discussing feasible program changes for the upcoming 2024 program year, and proposing a process for any larger program changes that may be needed to align LCA programs with Imagine 2050 goals and other Council strategies and requirements, in 2025 and beyond.

Questions for consideration

Council staff will ask Committee members to confirm the themes that came out of the July 17 session and the proposed approach to the follow-up session on October 2, including:

1. Did we capture the most important themes from July 17?
2. Are there any themes from the July 17 conversation that are not represented here?
3. What do you need to know, related to these themes, to inform future discussion?