

# Minutes

## Community Development Committee



**Meeting date:** August 18, 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** 390 Robert Street

### Members present:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair, Robert Lilligren, D6             | <input type="checkbox"/> Diego Morales, District 9               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victor Obisakin, District 15 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Toni Carter, D14 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Lindstrom, District 10 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Wulff, District 16     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reva Chamblis, District 2    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chai Lee, District 13        | <input type="checkbox"/> = present, E = excused                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8   |  |  |

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

### Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lilligren called the regular meeting of the Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Carter.

### Agenda approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

### Approval of minutes

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Chamblis to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2025, regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. **Motion carried.**

### Information

1. 2026 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Annual Plan (Stephanie Paulson 651-602-1584)  
Staff provided an overview of the 2026 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Annual Plan.

### Public Hearing

**2025-206** Public Hearing 2026 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Annual Plan (Stephanie Paulson 651-602-1584)

No testimony from public was given.

## Consent business

1. **2025-195** West Mississippi River Regional Trail, Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Award (Steinke), Three Rivers Park District (Jessica Lee 651-602-1621)

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Obsikan that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve a grant of up to \$546,445 from the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to reimburse for the acquisition of a 2.17-acre parcel located at 17020 Dayton River Road in Dayton, MN, for the West Mississippi River Regional Trail.
2. Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council.

2. **2025-196** West Mississippi River Regional Trail, Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Award (Lennander), Three Rivers Park District (Jessica Lee 651-602-1621)

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Obsikan that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve a grant of up to \$405,155 from the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to acquire a 1.14-acre parcel located at 17060 Dayton River Road in Dayton, MN, for the West Mississippi River Regional Trail.
2. Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council.

### Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion as part of its consent agenda.

## Non-consent business

1. **2025-194 JT:** 2025 Budget Amendment – 3rd Quarter (Heather Giesel 651-602-1715)

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Lee that the Metropolitan Council authorize the 2025 Unified Budget amendment as indicated, and in accordance with, the attached tables.

### Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion.

## Information

2. Livable Communities Act Program Update and Alignment with Imagine 2050 (Emily Seddon 651-602-1023; Hannah Gary 651-602-1633)

This information item included staff's near-final recommendation (90% draft) for the LCA application process, scoring criteria, and award guidance for Council Member feedback, along with additional information that committee members requested. The Met Council has been engaged in a multi-year effort to update the Livable Communities Act (LCA) grant program to ensure impact and responsiveness, as well as align with the recently adopted regional development guide, Imagine 2050. Since engaging consultants to advise on how to encourage broad participation from communities in the region and reduce barriers to entry to the grant programs, staff presented information items and held discussions with the Community Development Committee (CDC) on [March 18, 2024](#); [July 15, 2024](#); [September 3, 2024](#); [October 7, 2024](#); [November 18, 2024](#); [December 16, 2024](#); [April 21, 2025](#); and [July 7, 2025](#). Since the July update, staff have

continued to refine the program design based on partner feedback.

Using feedback from the discussion today, staff plan to seek Met Council approval of the final proposed LCA program design in September, to provide staff time for outreach and technical assistance before 2026 grant opportunities open. Specific funding levels for LCA grants in 2026 will be brought to the committee in the annual Fund Distribution Plan in January/February 2026.

### **Adjournment**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

### **Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Community Development Committee meeting of August 18, 2025.

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### **Council contact:**

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