

About the Equity Advisory Committee

Who is on the Committee?

Equity Advisory Committee membership consists of:

- 4 Metropolitan Council Members - one each from the Community Development Committee, Environment Committee, Transportation Committee, and Management Committee
- 8 members are appointed by the Metropolitan Council geographic districts A-H
- 9 at-large members to provide for membership that reflects the range of interests and experiences of the region which may not result from the membership from the eight districts.

The Equity Advisory Committee members will include people of different races, incomes, abilities, and backgrounds to ensure the Metropolitan Council is hearing from and accountable to the full range of voices and perspectives in the region.

EAC Roles and Responsibilities

The Council adopted the following equity “outcome”

Equity connects all residents to opportunity and creates viable housing, transportation, and recreation options for people of all races, ethnicities, incomes, and abilities so that all communities share the opportunities and challenges of growth and change. For our region to reach its full economic potential, all of our residents must be able to access opportunity. Our region is stronger when all people live in communities that provide them access to opportunities for success, prosperity, and quality of life.

Promoting equity means:

Using our influence and investments to build a more equitable region.

Creating real choices in where we live, how we travel, and where we recreate for all residents, across race, ethnicity, economic means, and ability.

Investing in a mix of housing affordability along the region’s transit corridors.

Engaging a full cross-section of the community in decision-making.

Metropolitan Council, Thrive MSP 2040 p. 38 (adopted May 2014)

The Equity Advisory Committee shall advise the Council regarding the development of policy and appropriate processes for assessing and monitoring the Council’s performance against such policies in the Council’s efforts to advance equity in the region¹. As requested by the Council the Equity Advisory Committee shall provide advice regarding various policy issues, and the Committee may also identify additional policy topics for the Council’s consideration to address. (from the Bylaws of the Metropolitan Council Equity Advisory Committee). Further, the Committee has the following responsibilities:

- Serving as liaisons and ambassadors to advance the broader interests of the local communities or interests they represent.
 - Serving as a conduit for information by routinely reporting back to their communities or organizations on the activities and discussions of the Committee and bringing information or ideas from their communities to the Committee.
 - Actively participating in Committee discussions by sharing ideas and expertise.
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- Providing feedback on the policy issues identified by the Council or the Committee.

Meeting Information

Frequency: Meetings are typically held every third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Timing: Meetings last up to 2 hours

Location: Virtual via Teams or Downtown St. Paul (Room LLA, Metropolitan Council, 390 Robert Street North). The Metropolitan Council on Robert Street is accessible by transit (bus and rail), and parking is available free of charge.

Approximate time commitment annually: 40 hours annually (24 hours for monthly meeting, 12 hours for subcommittee work, 6 hours meeting prep)

Benefit of Joining the EAC

- Expand network by working with elected official and others interested in land use and planning.
- Further professional development by volunteering on an advisory Council committee.
- Gain new experiences and people in public service.
- By joining the committee, individuals have opportunity to advise Council equity policies and initiatives within the organization.
- Joining the committee can provide a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction. Knowing that one is actively contributing to positive change within equity and social justice.

Committee Accommodations

- Dinner or a snack is provided at every committee meeting (dietary accommodation) if in person
- Parking is available on site.