

## Minutes of the

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

#### Committee Members Present:

Sandra Rummel-Chair, Wendy Wulff-Vice Chair, Cara Letofsky, Harry Melander, Edward Reynoso, Lona Schreiber

#### Committee Members Excused:

Marie McCarthy

#### CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Rummel called the regular meeting of the Council's Environment Committee to order at 4:02 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2017.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Lona Schreiber, seconded by Wendy Wulff to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Wendy Wulff, seconded by Edward Reynoso to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2017 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

#### BUSINESS

1. 2017-42 JT: 2017 Unified Budget Amendment Regular Carryforward  
It was moved by Cara Letofsky, seconded by Wendy Wulff, that the Metropolitan Council amend the 2017 Unified Operating Budget for wastewater operations to increase expenses by \$3,671,117 and revenues by \$1,584,889. **Motion carried.**
2. 2017-70: Land Acquisition for Lift Station L-55 Replacement in Bloomington  
It was moved by Lona Schreiber, seconded by Edward Reynoso, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to acquire fee title and temporary easements necessary for the Bloomington Lift Station (L-55) Replacement Project 808400 and authorizes Council legal staff to initiate condemnation proceedings for those parcels that staff cannot acquire by negotiation per Resolution Number 2017-7. **Motion carried.**
3. 2017-71: Fee Title, Permanent and Temporary Easements and File Condemnation Petitions for Lift Station L-80 Project in Corcoran  
It was moved by Lona Schreiber, seconded by Harry Melander that the Metropolitan Council authorize its regional Administrator to acquire fee title and permanent and temporary easements necessary for the Corcoran Lift Station (L-80), MCES Project 808520, and authorizes Council legal staff to initiate condemnation proceedings if staff cannot acquire them by negotiation per Resolution Number 2017-8. **Motion carried.**

#### INFORMATION

##### 1. General Manager Report:

Staff have already starting working on their 2018 budget reports. This year, we will be adding "listening sessions" in April to give elected officials and city managers an opportunity for input and review of our budget approach. It will also give them a better understanding of our rates, drivers, and performance improvements. In late May and early June, we will be continuing our customer budget forums, but with a more geographically directed approach. Rather than just two sessions, we will

have closer to six with customized 2018 rate information for targeted customers. This follows the successful model of our capital improvement outreach and increases the transparency.

We welcome council member participation at any of the sessions. We will send out the dates and locations once finalized.

2. Welcome to new Environment Committee member Cara Letofsky who was appointed to this committee at the March 8, 2017 Council meeting. Committee Member Letofsky mentioned she met with Leisa Thompson, Jason Willett, and Ned Smith who provided an overview of the Committee and key topics occurring.
3. Jason Willett will be retiring after 21 years with the Council on April 21, 2017. Thank you for your service.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Susan Taylor  
Recording Secretary