

## Minutes of the

### MEETING OF THE LAND USE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 20, 2017

#### Committee Members Present:

Chip Halbach, Jennifer Geisler, Phillip Klein, Karl Drotning, Jon Commers, Kathi Mocol, James McClean, Pamela Harris, Elizabeth Wefel, and Bill Droste

#### Committee Members Absent:

James Saefke, Kristina Smitten, Bill Neuendorf, Jamil Ford, Marvin Johnson, and Kathi Hemken

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Commers called the regular meeting of the Council's Land Use Advisory Committee to order at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2017.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Commers asked for a motion to approve the agenda. It was motioned by Klein and seconded by Wefel. **The motion was approved.**

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Commers asked for a motion to approve the March 16, 2017, minutes. It was motioned by Geisler and seconded by Drotning to approve the minutes as presented. **The motion was approved.**

Chair Commers asked for a motion to approve the May 18, 2017, minutes. It was motioned by Mocol and seconded by Klein to approve the minutes as presented. **The motion was approved.**

#### INFORMATION

##### **2016 General Land Use** – Paul Hanson, Regional Policy and Research

Hanson gave a presentation on the 2016 Generalized Land Use as outlined in the materials provided.

Commers asked about commercial areas (urban farms) that are vacant and becoming agriculture. Hanson stated that in 2010 we called them recreation; this time we labeled them agriculture as it is becoming more and more popular.

Drotning discussed old farmsteads that are farming undeveloped land to get a lower tax rate.

McClean asked how many cities have a parkland dedication. Hanson stated the Council does not have those numbers, and if they did it, would fall under planned land use. He noted that we do utilize cities' websites as well.

Commers asked if we know how we compare to other regions. Barajas stated that staff could get back to the Committee with more information on that.

##### **Regional Industrial Land Inventory** – Todd Graham, Regional Policy & Research

Graham gave a presentation on Regional Industrial Land Inventory and how we use that information as outlined in the materials provided.

Klein asked if it shows available (for sale) properties. Graham stated we have not worked with commercial realtors but could possibly get real-time data. He

discussed other facets to be included, i.e., level of education of populations within drivable distances.

Droste discussed housing issues for workers and mentioned Shutterfly. He felt we need to look at this when doing land use planning and how much money they will make, as well as what/where can they afford to live.

Klein asked if we know where this growth is expected. Graham stated this is a great question. He stated we have forecasted employment numbers but not where they will be in general. He believes industrial jobs will go near other industrial.

Halbach discussed rail and movement of goods and asked do we track changes over time from river, rail, and air.

Libby Starling responded that staff have heard medical device facilities prefer air because they are smaller and it's less expensive. She noted that air freight is very small and stated that other air freight is going by truck to Chicago and then being flown out.

Halbach asked how much industrial manufacturing output would fit within 'clusters.' Graham responded that we do have economic clusters in medical, manufactured goods. He then discussed industry clusters.

Geisler asked if Amazon has changed these models. Graham stated that companies are looking for sites conducive to short merchandise hauling. He felt that production space has fallen somewhat and the trend is for more of the 'Amazon' type to move product quickly – more commercial.

Jon Commers discussed a comprehensive plan challenge of big employers versus last-mile connections.

Mocol discussed their industrial growth, i.e., Amazon; the city stated they don't have workers but they came anyway. Graham stated that our forecast modeling is limited.

Droste discussed Fed Ex, that left after two years. He discussed large facilities with a lot of laborers in need of transit and asked where are they going to live? He noted how crucial vehicle transportation is in his community.

### **PlanIt – Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) and Community Engagement Training –** Angela Torres, Local Planning Assistance

Torres gave a presentation update on PlanIt and Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) and Community Engagement training as outlined in the materials provided.

Halbach asked about the fair housing event. Torres noted there will be a webinar in October.

Halbach stated they brought the GARE discussion in and it was not good. Halbach said there are a lot of different groups. Torres stated we partnered with GARE to develop the workshops but asked local experts as well.

Halbach asked staff how do you define equity. Torres stated they look at outcomes – fair outcomes. She stated that it means different things to different people.

Halbach felt that people have difficulty expressing what equity is. He feels there's no shared understanding.

Torres stated each community's needs to develop a shared foundation.

### **Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) – Performance Measures –** Mark Filipi, Metropolitan Transportation Services

Filipi gave a presentation on the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) performance measures as outlined in the materials provided.

Filipi discussed safety and security and noted it will be a bigger component in the next update.

Mocol asked about future land use and if staff are looking at future sites for transit. Filipi responded that given fiscal realities, we consider where transit would be reasonable.

McClellan asked if counties are a part of this. Filipi stated that we are working with counties and what they will continue to fund. He stated we don't expect major effects on projects we're currently working on but the long-term may look much different.

Commerz asked about the time frame for feedback. Filipi stated September-October and offered to come back to the Committee. Commerz encouraged Committee members to think about this and give feedback.

Halbach asked members as they look at this to keep equity in mind.

Commerz will circulate the definition that the Council came to on equity during the Thrive process.

Geisler discussed accountability in performance measures.

Commerz suggested coming back to this topic at the September 21 meeting and distributing information before then.

### **Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) – Regional Bicycle Barriers Study – Steve Elmer, Metropolitan Transportation Services**

Elmer gave a presentation on the Twin Cities Regional Bicycle Barriers study as outlined in the materials provided.

Klein asked if staff are reaching out to cycling clubs. Elmer discussed the use of Wikimapia, which is where they got a lot of their input.

Halbach discussed river crossings and felt they should be included where reconstruction is being done – not dismissing them.

Elmer stated that planned locations are in the plan.

Geisler asked if staff have an inventory of crossings that do exist. Elmer stated we have 80% of existing crossing in the plan.

Wefel asked if the Committee members will get further updates. Elmer stated they could certainly come back to a future meeting and provide updates.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

**Next Meeting** – September 21, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle  
Recording Secretary