

Land Use Advisory Committee

Meeting date: March 18, 2021

Subject: 2040 Comprehensive Plan Composite Report

District(s), Member(s): ALL

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. §§ 473.864, subd. 2 and 473.869

Staff Prepared/Presented: Angela R. Torres, Manager, Local Planning Assistance (651-602-1566)
Michael Larson, Planning Analyst (651-602-1407)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Planning

Proposed Action

No action necessary. This is an information item only.

Background

Council staff have been working with the region's local governments to review 2040 comprehensive plans since the Council issued System Statements in September 2015. Council staff provided planning resources, administered planning grant assistance funds, facilitated requests for deadline extensions, provided preliminary review of plans, and to date have facilitated review for 162 of 168 expected plans.

At the Committee meeting on March 18, 2021, for the Committee's information, Council staff will provide a status of comprehensive plan reviews as well as an update on planning grants before sharing a report on some initial takeaways from the 2040 comprehensive plans. This report is a high-level composite of data gathering across Council divisions and a report out on planning elements taken into consideration as part of communities' long-term planning efforts.

The composite will highlight preliminary regional land use analysis using factors like Community Designation and density as well as provide a comparison of trends from the 2030 plans with the 2040 plans. Staff have also compiled information from the 2040 plans on elements that impact land use such as housing, transportation, water resources, and others. Areas that communities introduced as part of the planning process including resilience, equity, and others will also be shared.

Council staff will ask Committee members to help identify additional research questions. The *Thrive MSP 2040* Community Designations were developed with the Committee's guidance and as we plan for development of the next metropolitan development guide, the Committee may want to consider what information is needed to help advise the development of future regional land use policy.

Committee members may like to review the context in which local governments were developing their 2040 plans by reviewing a few resources. An analysis on [trends in plan amendments](#) may help understand the types of changes communities were seeing before the planning process began. [Thrive MSP 2040](#) and the accompanying system and policy plans provide regional policy context. Also, a recent presentation on [regional development patterns](#) may provide background on construction and market trends at the time.