

FAQs for Applicants

Metropolitan Council

Land Use Advisory Committee

What does the Land Use Advisory Committee do?

The Committee, often called LUAC, provides advice and assistance to the [Metropolitan Council](#) on regional land use, comprehensive planning, and matters of metropolitan significance as requested by the Council.

What would be my role on the Land Use Advisory Committee?

You would give advice and input on new initiatives, policies, or programs. You would learn about a broad range of topics, because land use and planning relate to so many issues. You would comment on presentations and discuss topics in depth. You would influence projects or policies and help decide what type of subjects come before the Committee. You would act as a sounding board for the Council and may make recommendations to the Council.

Who is on the Land Use Advisory Committee?

The [Land Use Advisory Committee](#) has at least 16 members and a Council Member as the chair. The Committee includes at least one member from each [Council District](#) and represents each of the seven counties in the region. At least half of members must be locally elected officials, such as mayors or City Council members.

What experience or skills do I need to apply?

You should be interested in land use planning and policy. You should have experience or interest in working with local governments and dealing with growth, development, and redevelopment issues.

How do I apply for openings on the Land Use Advisory Committee?

You can find more information on Committee openings at [Current Committee Vacancies](#) and fill out the [Application and Supplemental Questions](#) form.

How could I benefit by serving on the Committee?

You would expand your network by working with elected officials and others interested in land use and planning. You would further your professional development by volunteering on an advisory committee at the Council. You could gain new experience in public service or build on your previous experiences. For example, two Metropolitan Council Members served on the Land Use Advisory Committee before their appointments to the Council. You would learn more about regional land use planning and policy to bring that knowledge back to your organization and community. You would address challenges and contribute to effective regional planning. You would share perspectives from different parts of the region.

Kristina Smitten, a member of the Land Use Advisory Committee, said, “On LUAC, I benefit from the opportunity to work with other Committee members to provide advice and guidance on policy and other matters related to regional land use. The meeting structure supports thoughtful dialogue and deeper understanding of the implications and opportunities of regional policy, which provides for more pertinent recommendations to the Council.”

How much time would it take to be on the Committee?

Serving on the Committee does not take much time. The Land Use Advisory Committee usually meets every other month, and meetings last up to two hours. It takes about 12 hours a year to attend regular meetings and additional time to review materials before meetings.

What are examples of the Committee’s recent work?

The Committee took the leading role in recommending changes to the Council used to determine [Community Designations](#) in *Thrive MSP 2040*, the long-range plan for the region. The Committee provided advice on developing key resources for the [Local Planning Handbook](#) and the [Plant](#) training program to help local planners in updating their local comprehensive plans. The Land Use Advisory Committee gave feedback on updating parts of the [2040 Transportation Policy Plan \(TPP\)](#). The Committee made recommendations to the Council on eligibility and funding for a local planning assistance fund. The Committee’s input strengthens efforts to support communities integrating [resilience](#) strategies into their comprehensive plans. The Committee is beginning to collaborate with the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee.

The Committee shares its work with the Council’s Community Development Committee several times a year.

Where and when does the Committee meet?

The Committee meets in downtown St. Paul at 390 Robert Street North. The Committee typically meets on Thursdays at 4 p.m. Meetings are accessible by transit, and parking is available at nearby ramps.