

## Other Business

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 27, 2020

**Subject:** Establishment and appointment of the Housing Work Group

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Bylaws of the Metropolitan Council, art. III.C.

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Charlie Zelle, Chair, 651-602-1390

**Division/Department:** Chair's Office

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Zelle's recommendation to create an internal advisory Housing Work Group and appoint the following members to serve on it: Robert Lilligren, Chair; Reva Chamblis; Molly Cummings; and Judy Johnson.

### Background

The Council is involved in housing in a variety of ways, including through rent subsidies provided by the Metro HRA, planning for a full range of housing options, and through Livable Communities funding. With growing homelessness and housing instability in the region, the Council also participates in many cross-jurisdictional efforts to address housing needs. This year, the Council began its decennial process to negotiate housing goals with local governments so that they may re-enroll in Livable Communities Act programs for the next decade (2021-2030).

The Housing Work Group is intended to provide a forum for Council Members to work with Council staff on the following items:

- Implementing the strategies as identified in the Council's Housing goals
- Guiding the Council's work in evaluating the Livable Communities Act programs
- Guiding the Council's work in addressing homelessness
- Identifying emerging housing issues for the Council's consideration

### Rationale

The establishment of this advisory Housing Work Group will guide staff research, implementation, and actions related to the above issues, and help identify additional topics for exploration as they emerge. This group will not make any formal decisions. The group will conclude with a formal report and recommendations to the Community Development Committee and the Council on the following items:

- Progress on the implementation of strategies identified in the Council's Housing goals
- Evaluation of the Livable Communities Act programs for consideration for the 2021 Fund Distribution Plan
- Report on emerging housing issues and recommendations on action steps to take
- Evaluate and make recommendation for continuation of the Housing Work Group with an identified set of items to address, if appropriate

The advisory Housing Work Group will be expected to make its recommendations by December 31, 2020, at which time the group's work will be completed, unless the Council determines that the group should be continued for an additional period of time to address any items identified for further consideration.

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

The Housing Work Group will take an integrated and broad approach to the Council's housing work, including supporting strategies to further the Council's Housing goal and thinking cross-divisionally about how the Council approaches this work. This Housing Work Group will improve the Council's ability to advance the policies of the *2040 Housing Policy Plan* and outcomes identified in *Thrive MSP 2040* as they relate to housing.

### **Funding**

The Community Development Division will provide primary staff support of the Housing Work Group as part of its regular work.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition.