

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



For the Metropolitan Council: September 27, 2023

Business Item: 2023-230

Establish the Housing Work Group and Appoint Members

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:

1. Establish an internal advisory Housing Work Group through December 31, 2026.
2. Appoint the following members to serve on the work group: Reva Chamblis, Chair; Tyronne Carter; Chai Lee; Diego Morales; and Wendy Wulff.

Background

The Metropolitan Council is involved in housing in a variety of ways, including through the provision of rent subsidies operated by the Metro HRA, long-range planning for a full range of housing options in the region, and through the annual Livable Communities grant programs. The Council also participates in several cross-jurisdictional efforts to address housing needs in the region. Earlier this year, the Council updated its 2023-2027 Strategic Plan and included a Housing Priority to direct Council strategies in the short term. The Council is also in the process of developing the Housing Policy Plan to be included as part of the 2050 Regional Development Guide.

Work Group Purpose

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

- Guiding the development of the Housing Policy Plan for the 2050 Regional Development Guide
- Implementing the strategies identified in the Council's Housing priority in the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan
- Guiding the Council's work in evaluating the Livable Communities Act programs for alignment with the Strategic Plan and emerging themes from the 2050 regional planning process

The establishment of this internal advisory Housing Work Group will guide staff related to the above issues and will help identify additional topics for exploration as they emerge, particularly in the housing policy work. This group will not make any formal decisions. Rather, discussion and recommendations on Housing Policy will be conducted in the Community Development Committee

and at meetings of the full Council. The Housing Policy Plan will be presented to the governing body as a component of the 2050 Regional Development Guide. Other housing-related discussion and decisions will also occur within the Community Development Committee and will be forwarded to the Council for action upon their recommendation.

Rationale

The development of the 2050 Housing Policy Plan, and related strategies and program implementation, will require consideration of new or revised policy direction that requires more time for deeper issue exploration and discussion with Council Members and staff. The Work Group will allow for more time and collaborative discussion to explore housing policy-related issues than would otherwise be available in existing meetings.

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 policy and Housing goal. 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 well as advance those outcomes in the development of 2050 Housing policy.

Funding

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

Small Business Inclusion

N/A

