

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



For the Metropolitan Council: September 27, 2023

Business Item: 2023-231

Establish the 2050 Regional Development Guide 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 2050 Regional Development Guide Work Group through December 31, 2025.
2. Appoint the following members to serve on the work group: Toni Carter, Chair; Gail Cederberg; Judy Johnson; and Robert Lilligren.

Background

As directed by Minn. Stat. 473.145, the Metropolitan Council must create a comprehensive development guide that guides "the orderly and economical development, public and private, of the metropolitan area." The Council has been engaged in the development of the 2050 Regional Development Guide (RDG), the next guide for the region over the last several years. While adoption of the 2050 RDG is scheduled to occur in late 2024, there have been many activities that the Council has been engaged on so far, including:

- Preparation – 2017-2020: Regional development monitoring and evaluation of trends on major outcomes, local comprehensive plan trends and findings, identification of new issues and topics influencing growth and development of the region
- Approaches – 2021-2023: Census results and regional forecasting, topic framing, scenario planning, technical studies, Council and external engagement, visioning and goal setting

The planning process is at the early stages of moving into the development of plan content, including policies, objectives, and actions, with significant amounts of external engagement and local governmental coordination underway.

Work Group Purpose

The 2050 Regional Development Guide Work Group is intended to provide a forum for Council Members to work with Council staff, with Work Group members having the following charge:

- Guiding the development of the vision, regional goals, direction for growth and development in the region, and land use policy for the 2050 Regional Development Guide
- Identifying regional planning issues in need of clarifying direction or deeper conversation

- with the full Council
- Making recommendations and guiding 2050 RDG conversations among Council members at meetings of the full Council

The establishment of this internal advisory 2050 Regional Development Guide Work Group will guide staff related to the development of the 2050 RDG as described above. This group will not make any formal decisions. Rather, recommendations on RDG content and direction will be conducted in the standing committees of the Council where appropriate, advisory committees of the Council where applicable, and at meetings of the full Council, primarily Committee of the Whole. Working versions of components of the 2050 Regional Development Guide have already been developed and presented to the governing body, such as community designations, regional values, and regional goals. The remaining components, any revisions to previously endorsed components, and full and final drafts of the 2050 Regional Development Guide will be presented to the full Council for review, discussion, endorsement, and ultimately adoption.

Rationale

The development of the 2050 Regional Development Guide requires consideration of new or revised policy direction that requires more time for deeper issue exploration and discussion with Council Members and staff. The 2050 Regional Development Guide Work Group will allow for more time and collaborative discussion to explore planning issues than would otherwise be available in existing meetings.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The 2050 Regional Development Guide Work Group will take an integrated approach to the development of long-range plans for growth and development in the 2050 Regional Development Guide, including representation from each of the Council's standing committees. The Work Group will improve the Council's ability to advance the policies and outcomes identified in *Thrive MSP 2040* and to continue to advance efforts and address new challenges and opportunities in the 2050 Regional Development Guide.

Funding

The Community Development Division will provide primary staff support for the 2050 Regional Development Guide Work Group, as part of its regular work.

Small Business Inclusion

N/A

