

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



Committee meeting date: June 25, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: June 25, 2025

Business Item: 2025-156

Appointment to the Land Use Advisory Committee

District(s), member(s): All
Policy/legal reference: MN Statutes 473.127 and 473.853
Staff prepared/presented: Charles A. Zelle, Chair, 651-602-1390
Division/department: Regional Administration, Chair's Office

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointment to the Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC):

District 15: Christos Jensen

Background

The Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC) was established by the Metropolitan Council under MN Statutes 473.127 and 473.853. The committee's purpose is to assist the Council in regional land use planning and undertake other responsibilities as delegated by the Council or required by law. The committee's advisory duties include giving advice and assistance on metropolitan land use, comprehensive planning, and matters of metropolitan significance.

The LUAC membership consists of at least 16 members plus a chair. As required by state statute, membership shall include at least one member from each Council district and provide representation from each metropolitan county. Because both Scott and Carver counties are located within Council District 4, two members are needed from the district which means up to 17 members may be appointed. At least half of the members must be elected officials of local governmental units. Members serve the same period as the term of their appointed Council member.

Rationale

All LUAC member terms expired in January 2023. Since then, the Council has made ongoing efforts to recruit qualified members for all openings. On April 9, 2025, the Council approved appointments for 15 of 17 seats on the Committee. On April 23, 2025, the Council approved one additional appointment. This appointment fills the final Committee vacancy in District 15.

The nominating committee consisted of current LUAC Chair and Council Member Diego Morales and former LUAC Chair and Council Member Wendy Wulff. This nominating committee conducted the candidate interview on June 10, 2025.

With the recommendations in this memo, the Committee will have nine elected officials as members and eight non-elected members.

Thrive lens analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. While appointing members to LUAC is necessary to keep the committee functioning, under the Thrive lens, LUAC work advances all five regional goals in Imagine 2050 through shaping regional land use policy and assisting with the comprehensive planning process.

