

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



For the Metropolitan Council: August 13, 2025

Business Item: 2025-204

Livable Communities Advisory Committee Appointments for 2025-2027

District(s), member(s): All
Policy/legal reference: Minnesota Statutes 473.25
Staff prepared/presented: Charlie Zelle, Chair
Division/department: Chair's Office

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council appoints the following twelve individuals to two-year terms of service on the Livable Communities Advisory Committee (through July 2027).

- Michael Giovanis, Consultant
- Jason Gottfried, Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Libin Hashi, Social Service Provider
- Stephanie Hawkinson, City of Edina
- Aron Johnson, DJR Architecture
- Nate Kabat, City of Chaska
- Roxanne Kimball, Minnesota Homeownership Center
- Nichole Klonowski, City of Brooklyn Park
- Valerie Quarles, City of Saint Paul
- Matthew Ramadan, City of Minneapolis
- Suzanne Schefcik, Colliers
- Der Yang, Greater Twin Cities United Way

Background

The Livable Communities Advisory Committee (LCAC) reviews and recommends funding awards under three Livable Communities grant categories:

- Demonstration Account
- Transit Oriented Development
- Affordable Homeownership

The LCAC is a technical review group with broad expertise that scores and recommends complex development and redevelopment proposals based on the Metropolitan Council's approved program criteria. Projects applying to the Livable Communities Act programs all aim to create more housing choice, support living wage job creation, and connect jobs, housing, and regional amenities to build a more equitable region.

The LCAC has 15 members who are appointed by the Metropolitan Council and represent a range

of professional expertise, geography, and lived experiences. Members are appointed for two-year terms and may serve up to two terms.

Rationale

All of the appointments are due to term expiration. Five of the 12 individuals are recommended for re-appointment to their second two-year term. Council Member Chamblis, Council Member Cameron, and staff assisted in recommending the seven other individuals. The Metropolitan Council accepted applications for LCAC via its website from April 21, 2025, through May 26, 2025. In addition to those members seeking reappointment, 10 people applied. Council Members Chamblis and Cameron and staff reviewed applications and interviewed new candidates to arrive at the recommendation above by balancing expertise, geography, and lived experiences.

If appointed, the appointees will complete their terms in July 2027. After which, five will have reached their maximum term of service and seven will be eligible for reappointment.

Imagine 2050 lens analysis

The Livable Communities Act (LCA) grant programs are a key implementation tool for Imagine 2050 policies at the local level. The LCAC is key to reviewing and awarding these competitive grants. (Re)appointing these members maintains the normal functioning of this committee.

Funding

Support for the LCAC, including staffing, is part of the regular Community Development Division operating budget. No additional funds are allocated with this proposed action.

Small business inclusion

There are no direct impacts to small businesses with the proposed action.

