

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Committee Members Present:

Johnson, Chamblis, Ferguson, Barber, Cummings, Atlas-Ingebretson, Lilligren, Muse, Zeran, Lindstrom, Vento, Gonzalez, Lee, Fredson, Sterner, Wulff

Committee Members Absent:

Ferguson

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Slawik called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:01PM on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Lindstrom to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Muse, seconded by Barber to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2019 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried

INFORMATION

Research and Data Resources Overview

Joel Huting gave a presentation on the Research and Data Services overview, mission, vision and the work we do. The Council forecasts population, households, and jobs, and tracks annual population estimates, construction, affordable housing and land use. New area of focus are parks, climate and data science research. Joel talked about the community profiles tool, interactive dashboards and showed examples of the reports and data.

Todd Graham gave an overview of the Council's local forecast program and the forecast models toolkit for regional economic, land use, and travel demand systems for the future. The Council is responsible for reviewing and approving local forecasts. Council staff is currently testing a new forecast model platform that has more advantage, flexibility, user friendliness and more detailed information. If successful, this new model will be used to prepare the next major update of local forecasts in 2022 or 2023. Council staff will present preliminary forecasts and related research findings as needed.

Council Members had questions and comments regarding the data outcome, future growth, disparities, and the new forecast model platform.

2020 Census: Metropolitan Council's Partnership with the Census Bureau

Todd Graham gave an overview on the 2020 Census including: what is the decennial census, challenges in the 2020 cycle, how the Metropolitan Council supports 2020 Census, and why the Census need help. A current technical assistance task is reviewing and redrawing the Census tracts that US Census Bureau will use to tabulate statistics starting in 2020.

Council Members requested messaging for communicating to constituents.

Creating Tools for Climate Change Mitigation in Our Region

Lisa Barajas gave a brief introduction to the Council's work on climate change mitigation and its connection to Thrive MSP 2040. Mauricio Leon gave an introduction to the "Metro Climate Stats" project to produce tools to support local and regional climate planning. Leon explained the fundamentals of greenhouse accounting and an overview of the greenhouse gas inventory and scenario planning tool that the Council will make available to the public.

Council Members were engaged and had questions and comments regarding the new tools, climate change and equity issues, community outreach and engagement to reduce CO2 emissions.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Liz Sund
Recording Secretary