

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, March 21, 2016

Committee Members Present: Cunningham, Chávez, Dorfman, Elkins, Letofsky, Munt, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Commers, Kramer

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Cunningham called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:05 p.m. on Monday, March 21, 2016.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Letofsky, seconded by Wulff to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Letofsky to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2016 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

A. Consent

2016-48 Harriet Island-South St. Paul Regional Trail Master Plan, Saint Paul

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Elkins, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve the Harriet Island-South St. Paul Regional Trail Master Plan.
2. Require that prior to initiating development of the regional trail, preliminary plans must be sent to Scott Dentz, Interceptor Engineering Manager at Metropolitan Council Environmental Services for review in order to assess the potential impacts to the regional interceptor system.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee approved this business item as part of the consent agenda.

2016-49 Amend Project Scope of Parks Grant SG2013-090, Anoka County

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Elkins, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve an amendment to grant agreement SG2013-090 to change the project scope to add "work for the Wargo Nature Center entrance redevelopment at Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve."

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee approved this business item as part of the consent agenda.

2016-62 City of Maplewood Conifer Ridge Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Review File No. 20628-9
It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Elkins, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the attached Review Record and allow the City of Maplewood to place the Conifer Ridge Comprehensive Plan Amendment (amendment) into effect.
2. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee approved this business item as part of the consent agenda.

B. Non-Consent

2016-50 Amend Project Scope of Parks Grant SG2011-119, Lebanon Hills Regional Park, Dakota County

Senior Planner Tori Dupre presented the report to the Community Development Committee.
It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Munt, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve an amendment to grant agreement SG2011-119 to change the project scope to add the following: “design, engineering, construction and construction administration for the following improvements at Lebanon Hills Regional Park:
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant paved loop trail and site improvements around McDonough Lake,
 - ADA compliant paved trail and site improvements from the Holland Trailhead facility to an existing ADA fishing pier on Holland Lake,
 - Parking and site improvements at the West Trailhead facility,
 - Associated natural resource improvements for the above projects.”

Motion carried.

Two audience members spoke to the Community Development Committee:

Catherine Zimmer from the group “Wilderness in the City” – requests the denial of the amendment; stating her concerns were not heard via County hearings. She is concerned about the natural habitat when bull dozing occurs for the asphalt trails.

Laura Hedland, Eagan resident – Supports the MPOSC tied vote, she stated the requirements for public comments was not met. She is concerned about salt use, invasion of non-native vegetation, and the number of Oak trees removed for new wider trails.

Committee Member Wulff briefed the Community Development Committee on the action and discussion of the last MPOSC meeting and due to the caucuses that night the meeting had to be adjourned at 6 pm.

Steve Sullivan, Dakota County Parks Director, stated a consultant is to be hired to assist in the public engagement process for the design and construction stage. He stated public involvement is wanted.

2016-63 SW: Approve the 2016 Annual Livable Communities Fund Distribution Plan

Livable Communities Manager Paul Burns presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Chávez, seconded by Letofsky, that the Metropolitan Council approve the 2016 Annual Livable Communities Fund Distribution Plan. **Motion carried.**

Committee members commented on requirements for the term of affordability for affordable housing projects, the possibility of highlighting or touring projects and possible changes for next year.

2016-64 2016 Community Development Committee Work Plan

Regional Planning Director Mark VanderSchaaf presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Dorfman, that the Community Development Committee adopt this work plan with the understanding it is to serve as a guide for its work but is subject to revision as needed or directed by its Chair and the Committee. **Motion carried.**

Committee members suggested two additions to the work plan; a Human Services presentation from Kelly Harder regarding “Whole Person” services and equity, and a presentation on the “Holistic Approach”.

INFORMATION

Housing Performance Scores – Jonathan Stanley, Housing Planning Analyst provided a presentation on the Housing Performance Scores.

The Council’s Housing Performance Scores are calculated annually for cities and townships, assessing local efforts in developing and maintaining affordable housing and providing housing-related services and programs. Housing Performance Scores are used in ranking applications to the Livable Communities Demonstration Account and Tax Base Revitalization Account and are used inversely in the Local Housing Initiatives Account to spur affordable housing activities in communities with less existing affordable housing (i.e., a lower score gives greater priority). The Scores are also used in the Regional Solicitation for transportation funding, accounting for 7 percent of a proposal’s total score.

Concurrent with the development of the *2040 Housing Policy Plan*, staff assembled a subgroup of the Housing Policy Plan Work Group to revise the Guidelines for Priority Funding for Housing Performance (the methodology for calculating the scores); this represented the first substantive revision of the Scores since 2002. Recognizing that the new guidelines could have a significant impact on communities’ 2015 Scores, the Council established a “hold harmless” provision such that no community’s Score could fall below 80 percent of the average of their last five years’ Housing Performance Scores. The Council also committed to reviewing the scoring system in 2016 to ensure the Scores advance Council goals and objectives.

Staff will soon reconvene the subgroup and solicit comments from other stakeholders, including the Land Use Advisory Committee. Staff will return to the Community Development Committee with proposed changes for approval later this spring.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary