

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE LAND USE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Committee Members Present:

Karl Drotning, Jon Commers, James Saefke, Kristina Smitten, Bill Neuendorf, Chip Halbach, Jennifer Geisler, Kathi Mocol, and Bill Droste

Committee Members Absent:

James McClean, Pamela Harris, Kathi Hemken, Elizabeth Wefel, Phillip Klein, Marvin Johnson, Michael Webb, and Jamil Ford

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Commers was late so Vice Chair Smitten called the regular meeting of the Council's Land Use Advisory Committee to order at 4:01 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2017.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With a quorum not yet present, Vice Chair Smitten asked for a motion to approve the agenda, by consensus, as presented. A motion was made by Droste, seconded by Saefke, to approve the March 16, 2017, agenda of the meeting of the Land Use Advisory Committee. Vice Chair Smitten noted that the Committee would hear the first Information Item, as no action would be needed. A consensus was reached to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of hearing the Information Item(s) first until a quorum became present.

INFORMATION

Overview of Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) Update – Amy Vennewitz and Katie White, Metropolitan Transportation Services

Vennewitz gave an overview on the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan and the update that is being done at this time as outlined in the materials provided.

Droste asked about Map 21 expiring. Vennewitz stated it will now be called Fast Act and has added one new program focused on freight investments.

Halbach asked about how the advent of car sharing services gets into the plan update and also driverless cars. Vennewitz stated that while they do not have any funds for investment, they know that the technology is coming. The next plan update will focus on three highlight areas within the overview:

1. Autonomous vehicles and potential impacts.
2. Shared mobility – what is it? How does it relate to autonomous vehicles, what might be some impacts on our region, etc.
3. Rebuilding of urban corridors – freeways are 50-60 years old and need major reinvestment.

Neuendorf likes the explanation of why this is being done on an earlier timeline. He feels it is helpful as communities do their comprehensive plans.

Droste asked if there will be approval by the Council and then communication to communities soon. Katie White discussed the changes expected are manageable and communication is being handled.

Neuendorf asked where does passenger rail fit in? Vennewitz stated passenger rail is led by MnDOT. She stated that they track but don't recognize that because it is not funded.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Commers asked for a motion to approve the minutes presented. A motion was made by Drotning, seconded by Saefke, to approve the February 16, 2017, minutes of the meeting of the Land Use Advisory Committee. **Motion carried.** Geisler abstained.

BUSINESS

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws of the Metropolitan Council Land Use Advisory Committee – Jon Commers and Deb Detrick, Local Planning Assistance

Chair Commers asked for a motion to approve the proposed amendments to the bylaws provided in the meeting materials. It was motioned by Saefke and seconded by Smitten that the Land Use Advisory Committee recommend approval of proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Metropolitan Council Land Use Advisory Committee, amended on January 14, 2004. **Motion carried.**

INFORMATION (Continued)

Timeline for Comprehensive Plans – Lisa Barajas, Local Planning Assistance

Barajas discussed the timelines for comprehensive plans as outlined in the materials provided.

Chair Commers stated, regarding the work plan, we will talk about themes emerging among cities – will this be premature to discuss this year? Barajas stated it would be more about issues communities are dealing with and highlight how they are being worked out.

Detrick stated there are some ways that themes interact with LUAC through the PlanIt training series.

Chair Commers stated there is a tension to waiting for themes to emerge and using themes to help other communities dealing with similar issues.

Barajas replied not necessarily in plans but will be in conversations being had.

Chair Commers asked if there is a target timeline with sector reps meeting with communities.

Barajas stated that our responsibility is to be available all of the time. She noted that they're responding as they are requested. As they go through the year they will reach out to those they haven't heard from yet. She noted that as part of the planning grant process those communities are required to have a midpoint meeting and report on their progress.

Halbach asked what the penalty is. Barajas stated that grant recipient would risk losing the second half of their grant and may be required to repay the first half.

Barajas added that after June 30th of 2018 communities will not be allowed to make changes to their 2030 Comprehensive Plans.

Halbach commented on housing – state law doesn't give the Council a 'hammer' on housing but it does call for review. He feels it is very important when a community is not abiding by housing requirements.

Barajas discussed the Livable Communities Program and the need for communities to abide by housing guidelines in their plans in order to participate in that program.

Halbach asked if write up will address state law housing policy. Barajas stated it will address consistency and if not, the plan will be considered incomplete.

Revised 2017 Work Plan for Land Use Advisory Committee – Jon Commers, Chair

Chair Commers reviewed the most recent revised 2017 Work Plan and asked for any questions or further discussion.

Detrick added that this is a very ambitious work plan.

Neuendorf likes the work plan's inclusion of equity. Drotning stated that he also appreciates it. Commers commented that it integrates with the Council's work and is welcome information.

Halbach would like specificity in how this group's work goes forward to the Council.

Geisler discussed fiber and wireless connectivity and treating it like a utility. It goes into the right of way which the FCC is looking at. This is a big land use issue right now, and as we look at broadband and fiber, she would like to incorporate this discussion. Commers stated that the Committee has not discussed this. Geisler stated that the National League of Cities has a position paper. Commers asked to include this topic.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Next Meeting – May 18, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle
Recording Secretary