

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Committee Members Present:

Rodriguez, Schreiber, Barber, Letofsky, Tchourumoff, Reynoso, McCarthy, Melander, Kramer, Wulff, Rummel, Commers, Elkins, Munt

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Tchourumoff called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:02 on Wednesday, November 1, 2017.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Kramer to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2017 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

Climate Vulnerability Assessment

Lisa Barajas provided the introduction and Eric Wojchik gave the presentation. Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) is a project encompassing two climate hazards and an analysis across Council systems and assets. Today's presentation focused on Localized Flood Risk and the Transit/Transportation systems. Climate change and the need for resilience planning was included in Thrive MSP 2040 because climate change is a regional issue and the Council can and has acted as a convener for multijurisdictional coordination and collaboration. We are already experiencing climate change impacts in our region. Assessing the vulnerability of the built environment has a two-pronged approach: assess our regional systems and assets and create strategies to address vulnerabilities, and develop tools and suggested strategies applicable for local governments. The CVA work includes extreme rainfall and extreme heat. Wojchik shared a table from the MN DNR State Climatology Office, which illustrates the climate change trends in Minnesota through 2099. The CVA project includes team members and technical experts from all departments within the Council. Additional partners include local academic institutions, state agencies, counties, cities, and the White House Office of Science and Technology of the previous administration.

The Council is assessing Council-owned assets and operations, as well as assets that we collaboratively plan with outside partners, such as the Regional Parks and transportation systems. Wojchik explained how the Council is assessing localized flooding hazards using GIS data. The Council used existing LiDAR (light detection and ranging/remote sensing) to create the Bluespot Localized Flooding map layer. The data is kept simple, so it can have a broad application for metro communities and stakeholders. Bluespots are categorized into four flood hazards: shallow, primary, secondary, and tertiary. The Council chose flood depths based on its assets and potential impacts on the operation or maintenance of those assets.

The desired outcomes of the CVA localized flooding transportation and transit chapter include: prioritize operations and asset management through verification of localized flooding vulnerability, manage stormwater locally, on site, as much as possible through grey and green infrastructure approaches, and ensure that localized flooding takes place only

where it does the least damage. Additional CVA chapters will be regional parks, facilities and Council housing, and wastewater and water resources.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:12PM.

Emily Getty
Recording Secretary