

Minutes

Committee of the Whole



Meeting date: May 15, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Deb Barber, District 4
- John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- Robert Lilligren, District 6
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- Diego Morales, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Gail Cederberg, District 11

- Susan Vento, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Toni Carter, District 14
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:03 p.m.

Agenda Approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Lindstrom to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2024 regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried.**

Information

Imagine 2050: 60% Draft Plan

Chair Zelle welcomed Lisa Barajas, Executive Director of Community Development Division. Barajas introduced the Imagine 2050 60% Draft Policy Plan and the areas for today's discussion. Work continues after the 60% stage, with the public comment draft released in August, followed by more official actions. Barajas turned the presentation over to staff to present the five areas.

Land Use Policy Update (Angela R. Torres, Senior Manager of Regional Planning) Torres went over key takeaways and broad changes since they last reported to Council, along with reporting on some of the upcoming sessions. Staff also plan to partner with local cities for workshops. The plan is to bring recommendations to Met Council in August.

Land Use focus for 2050 was reviewed, and the eight objectives were shared.

Council member comments included having a definition around the term equitable development, ensure there are engagements with the rural areas and cities not in the metro area. Torres responded we are offering multiple sessions and will invite all cities in, even if not a part of the metro area.

Torres stated we have an equity statement that will be defined in the 2050 plan. Equitable

development practices will be clear in the various objectives, policies and actions on each one. Torres mentioned we will continue to integrate feedback for the next public comment draft. We continue to center equity in the policies.

Housing Policy (Maia Guerrero-Combs, Senior Planner). Guerrero-Combs went over the recent schedule since last reporting to the Council. We have been incorporating feedback that was received and are refining the plans and expect to present the 60% draft to the Community Development Committee on May 20.

Guerrero-Combs went through the key takeaways, and how it will affect local governments. City staff feel this is a really focused plan. The 2050 plan stressed the need for affordable housing.

Council members provided positive comments on the plan.

Water Policy (Judy Sventek, Manager of Water Resources). Sventek provided an update on the plan status. Since April, there were two workshops held, with another one scheduled for May 17 and one more to be held in June. Staff are looking at ways to expand the rural participation.

The draft Water Policy Plan objectives were reviewed, including climate, investments, health and equity. We continue to have input and engagement for the policy plan.

The 12 policy topics were shown. There are a lot of positive comments being received on the draft plan, and Sventek went over some of the key takeaways being received. There will be upcoming engagement meetings on 5/16, 5/30 and 6/26, and Council members are invited to attend if available.

Regional Parks and Trails Policy (Emmett Mullin, Senior Manager). Mullin provided an update on the Parks Plan since it was last brought to the Council in February. Mullin also mentioned that on Saturday, May 18 there is Take Kids To Park Day happening.

Mullin shared the meetings that were held since February. Staff have been working with the committees on the information. There are 8 – 9 workgroups that have been formed and are holding meetings. Topics were brought to these groups and the idea of cultural landscape to Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee. Great feedback has been received to date.

Transportation Policy (Cole Hiniker, Senior Manager) Hiniker went through the committee structure working on this draft. The technical working group meets monthly on the plan. Along with these groups there are also technical groups specific to buses and bikes that have worked on this plan.

Hiniker went over the last two years of the work. Over 12 studies have been completed; and over 50 listening sessions held. There were policy development teams formed that worked on the plan.

Earlier drafts of the plan were shared with policy makers, and it was also presented to Met Council in February. Hiniker went over the items that will be in the Transportation Policy plan. The goals chapters will be repurposed and become objectives. Some of the comments on the objectives were shared.

Lisa Barajas concluded the presentation, and shared that staff are working towards a Council action on August 14. Until then, additional engagement and work continues on the plan.

Council members provided their appreciation for the work on these plans.



Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole meeting of May 15, 2024.

Approved this 5th of June 2024.

Council contact:

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