

Minutes

Community Development Committee



Meeting Date: January 21, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

Chair, Robert Lilligren, D6

Vice Chair, Susan Vento, D12

Judy Johnson, District 1

Reva Chamblis, District 2

Peter Lindstrom, District 10

Chai Lee, District 13

Toni Carter, District 14

Tenzin Dolkar, District 15

Wendy Wulff, District 16

= present, E = excused

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lilligren called the regular meeting of the Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

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

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Vento to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2025, regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. **Motion carried.**

Non-Consent

1. **2025-3 JT:** Accept the public comment reports and adopt Imagine 2050, including land use policy, the 2050 Regional Parks and Trails Policy Plan, and the 2050 Housing Policy Plan (LisaBeth Barajas 651-602-1895; Angela Torres 651-602-1566; Sarah Berke 651-602-1198; Emmett Mullin 651-602-1360)

It was moved by Lindstrom seconded by Chamblis that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Accept the public comment reports for Regional Vision, Values, and Goals; Land Use Policy; the 2050 Regional Parks and Trails Policy Plan; and the 2050 Housing Policy Plan as components of Imagine 2050.
2. Adopt the Regional Vision, Values, and Goals; Land Use Policy; the 2050 Regional Parks and Trails Policy Plan; and the 2050 Housing Plan as components of Imagine 2050.
3. Adopt the local forecasts through 2050 as shown in Appendix A of the Vision, Values, Goals component of Imagine 2050.
4. Authorize staff to finalize the preliminary allocations in Appendix B, Future Affordable Housing Need by Local Jurisdiction, of the 2050 Housing Policy Plan for inclusion in the final document for Council adoption.

Wulff moved to amend the original motion (using the language from the staff report, page 4,

Option C): “Direct staff to amend the Land Use Policy to reflect a Suburban Edge minimum density expectation of 3.0 units per acre and to update the public comment report consistent with the proposed response framework in Table 2 where applicable.”

Council Member Johnson moved an amendment to the amendment to forward to the full Council the full range of density options. After Committee discussion, Johnson withdrew her amendment.

The Committee voted on the amendment moved by Wulff. Motion failed.

It was moved by Johson, seconded by Wulff, to amend the original motion add a fifth action (Option B from the staff report): “Direct staff to amend the Land Use Policy to reflect a Suburban Edge minimum density expectation of 3.5 units per acre and to update the public comment report consistent with the proposed response framework in Table 2 where applicable.”

A roll call was requested:

Carter - yes

Chamblis - no

Johnson - yes

Lilligren - no

Lindstrom - no

Vento - yes

Wulff – yes

Then the Committee voted on the original motion as amended.

Motion carried.

2. **2025-6** Adopt the Regional Parks and Trails Planning Handbook (Colin Kelly 651-602-1361; Tracey Kinney 651-602-1029; Kevin Phan 651-602-1345)

It was moved by Vento seconded by Johnson that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Establish the Regional Parks and Trails Planning Handbook as the administrative guide for regional parks and trails long-range planning requirements.
2. Adopt the attached Regional Parks and Trails Planning Handbook.
3. Authorize Council staff to make administrative changes to the Handbook over time, including additions and updates to related tools and resources.
4. Direct Council staff to bring any updates that directly impact or necessitate implementing agency action related to Sections 3, 5, 6, and 7 of the Planning Handbook to the Council for approval, aligning with any updates to the Regional Parks and Trails Policy Plan.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee did not have any questions.

Information

2025 Livable Communities Act Funding Availability and Scoring Criteria Discussion (Sarah Berke 651-602-1198; Hannah Gary 651-602-1633)

Staff provided a review of funding availability and draft scoring criteria before recommending



approval of the comprehensive 2025 LCA Fund Distribution Plan (FDP), scheduled for the February 3, 2025, Community Development Committee meeting.

The Livable Communities Act (LCA) requires that the Council prepare an annual plan for distribution of Livable Communities funds based on program criteria established by the Council. Criteria must be consistent with and promote the purposes of the statute and the Metropolitan Development Guide.

Staff reviewed 2024 program demand and consulted with Community Development Finance and Administration staff to recommend additional funding beyond the statutorily determined base amounts.

At the request of the Committee during the 2024 FDP discussion, staff worked with consultants Mary Kay Bailey and Ellen Watters to evaluate and plan for program updates that encourage broad participation from communities in the region and reduce barriers to entry to the grant programs.

The LCA program was discussed with the Community Development Committee on March 18, July 15, September 3, October 7, and a final report from the consultants was presented on November 18. The final report noted that there was not enough time to make meaningful changes to the program in 2025 and suggested that staff use the year to assess recommendations and alignment with Imagine 2050.

As previewed at the December 16 Committee meeting, staff are following the consultants' recommendation and not proposing significant program changes for the 2025 grant program. Staff plan to analyze and pursue program changes aligned with the consultants' recommendations and Imagine 2050 goals through a community-engaged process in 2025.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Community Development Committee meeting of January 21, 2025.

Council Contact:

Michele Wenner, Recording Secretary

Michele.wenner@metc.state.mn.us

651-602-1456

