

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, November 15, 2021

Committee Members Present: Chamblis, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Vento, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Cummings, Muse

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lilligren called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2021.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Chamblis to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2021 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

[Click here to view the November 15, 2021 Community Development Committee meeting video](#)

BUSINESS - Consent

2021-296 Eagle – Bryant Lake Regional Trail Master Plan, Three Rivers Park District (Colin Kelly 651-602-1361; Chee Yang 651-602-1449)

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lindstrom, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve Three Rivers Park District's Eagle-Bryant Lake Regional Trail Master Plan.
2. Acknowledge Three Rivers Park District's intent to split the Eagle-Bryant Lake Regional Trail Search Corridor into two distinct but interconnected regional trails – the Eagle Lake Regional Trail and the Bryant Lake Regional Trail – which will be formally documented in the next update of the Regional Parks Policy Plan, anticipated in 2024.
3. Require Three Rivers Park District, prior to initiating any new development of the regional trail corridor, to send preliminary plans to the Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services Interceptor Engineering Assistant Manager.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion as part of its consent agenda.

2021-297 Spring Lake Park Reserve Master Plan, Dakota County (Tracey Kinney 651 -602-1029)
It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lindstrom, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve Dakota County's Spring Lake Park Reserve Master Plan.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion as part of its consent agenda.

2021-298 Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve, Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund (Muehlenhardt), Scott County (Jessica Lee 651-602-1621)

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lindstrom, that the Metropolitan Council approve a grant of up to \$25,650 to Scott County, using funding from FY2021 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, to acquire the vacant 15-acre Muehlenhardt property for Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions or discussion as part of its consent agenda.

BUSINESS – Non-Consent

2021-327 Extend Sabathani Senior Housing Livable Communities Demonstration Account Grant Beyond Five Year Term Limit

Senior Grant Administrator Sam Johnson presented the business item to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Lee, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve a one-year extension beyond the five-year maximum grant term to Livable Communities Demonstration Account grant SG-05058 for the Sabathani Senior Housing project.
2. Authorize the Community Development Executive Director to execute the amendment.

Motion carried.

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action without questions.

Council Members expressed their support for this vital project to the community and the hopes of closing the wealth gap through such projects.

Bill English, founding Director of the Sabathani Center, expressed his appreciation for the opportunity and support.

INFORMATION

1. **Mobility Demonstration Program Update** – Assistant HRA Director Stephanie Paulson presented an update on the awarded Mobility Demonstration program including HUD guidance, projected timelines, and next steps.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) and the Metropolitan Council's Housing and Redevelopment Authority (Metro HRA) \$5.2 million under the Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Program. The Demonstration builds on recent research that shows growing up in neighborhoods with lower levels of poverty improves children's academic achievement and long-term chances of success.

The program will support Metro HRA and MPHA in addressing barriers to increasing housing choices by offering mobility-related supports. The program will also include a rigorous, independent evaluation to determine which supports are most effective in helping families achieve success.

The Demonstration will run for a 6-year period ending October 2028. The first year is a planning year that will include program design, weekly meetings with HUD's technical assistance team, hiring mobility team staff, collaboration with other Demonstration agencies, and community and resident engagement.

Council Member Chamblis asked for more information on the target groups and recruitment for those groups.

Ms. Paulson explained how the CMRS and Control groups are randomly selected, and HUD training for consistency.

2. Discussion to inform 2022 scoring criteria for Livable Communities Demonstration Account (LCDA) and LCDA – Transit Oriented Development (LCDA-TOD) funding (Tara Beard 651-602-1051; Stephen Klimek 651-602-1541; Hannah Gary 651-602-1633)

Livable Communities staff presented this information item to the Community Development Committee.

The 2021 LCDA and LCDA-TOD development applications are scored using a two-step process. In Step One, Council staff with subject matter expertise evaluate the applications. In Step Two, members of the Livable Communities Advisory Committee evaluate the applications. A minimum Step One score must be achieved for projects to be considered in Step Two. For the first time, in 2021, a minimum score from Step One equity-related criteria was also required to advance.

Step One scoring for 2021 applications is now complete. Livable Communities staff shared findings related to the "*How: Proposed Project Process*" ("Process") criteria and propose for discussion some changes to the criteria for implementation in 2022. Questions for the Committee include:

- Do the proposed changes allow the Process criteria to consider more variation and context across communities?
- Do the proposed point changes to the Process criteria better reflect prioritize for engagement?
- Would a reallocation of points to allow more equity consideration in Outcomes than in Process better reflect priorities for equity?

Council Members inquired about the impact of the variations, do they meet individual needs?

Ms. Beard provided information on engagement and experiences.

Other questions proposed from Council Members regard process criteria, proposed changes, and equity outcomes, including the importance of employers' involvement/engagement.

Ms. Beard asked the members how to value a process and outcomes?

Council Members liked meaningful results that can be measured. And include unique inequities for the aging and disabled, which will mitigate some racial inequities.

Council Members asked for info on uses of projects, and the receipt of higher scores for racial equity. Staff confirmed the priority to address racial equity and achievement of points.

Members asked about including all disabled not just BIPOC in receiving all the points.

Ms. Beard commented this is a helpful perspective, and explained the different types of equity, particular inequities, and policy priorities.

Council Members continued to discuss the equity targeting efforts addressing racial and / or disabled inequities. Lee commented racial equity should be first and foremost. Wulff commented on disabled people have income limits, keeping them poor. Comments from members agreed focused priorities on racial equity outcomes may address all three: race, age, ability.

Ms. Beard remarked points are granted for accessibility and intersectionality.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary