

Minutes

Community Development Committee



Meeting date: May 19, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair, Robert Lilligren, D6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diego Morales, District 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant, District 15 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Toni Carter, D14 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Lindstrom, District 10 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Wulff, District 16 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reva Chamblis, District 2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chai Lee, District 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> = present, E = excused |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8 | | |

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

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

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Carter.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Chamblis to approve the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Lee, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of April 21, 2025, regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. **Motion carried.**

Information

1. 2026 Preliminary Community Development Operating Budget (Heather Giesel 651-602-1715)

Staff provided an overview of division performance towards advancing Thrive MSP 2040 and Imagine 2050, general economic conditions, and the preliminary 2026 operating budget. Feedback from Committee members will guide upcoming budget discussions this year.

Ms. Giesel and Council Members discussed the gaps and impacts of federal funding. The

use of general funding vs reserves was clarified.

2. HCV Residential Preferences Study: Survey results and next steps (Matt Schroeder 651-602-1513; Darcie Vandegrift 651-602-1669)

This information item shared survey results from the completed Phase One of the study. The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Residential Preferences Study details experiences and housing preferences of HCV recipients. The HCV Program is a federally funded rent assistance program in which eligible households find a unit on the open rental market while renting from a private landlord. Tenants pay 30% of their income toward rent, and housing authorities make up the difference through federal subsidy. Metro HRA Director Terri Smith and Researcher Zhu Gong presented an introduction and background of the study to the Community Development Committee (CDC) in September 2023.

Many contemporary policy discussions take a “place-centered” view of how to best serve voucher holders. Voucher holders are encouraged to move to “high opportunity” areas to achieve the best long-term outcomes, where “opportunity” is typically defined with quantitative data rather than voucher holders’ expressed housing and neighborhood preferences. Recent Community Development-Research studies have found that a “person-centered” view more accurately considers what voucher holders themselves need. In this framing, opportunity is multidimensional, and different places have different kinds of opportunity. Additionally, the people-centered view acknowledges that different voucher holders prioritize different things. This study uses the person-centered view to carefully consider voucher holders’ preferences and experiences, which can help Metro HRA staff and HCV program policies better support voucher holders in attaining the kinds of opportunities they want.

Council Members discussed the results of the survey, requesting a deeper dive with data on ethnicities. Also requested is the availability to track multi-generational residents and the number of bedrooms in the unit. Staff explained the difficulty for voucher holders in finding units that can serve multi-generational families.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:30 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 May 19, 2025.

Council contact:

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