Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Monday, August 18, 2014

Committee Members Present: Cunningham, Chávez, Commers, Elkins, Kramer, Munt, Rummel, Wulff

Committee Members Absent:

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER
A quorum being present, Committee Chair Cunningham called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, August 18, 2014.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
It was moved by Commers, seconded by Elkins to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Elkins to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2014 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

BUSINESS
2014-142 Public Hearing – 2015 Five Year and Annual Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan

Chair Cunningham opened the public hearing, no one signed up to speak, and Chair Cunningham announced the public record will remain open until 4:30 pm on August 28, 2014. The final version of the 2015 PHA Plan will be presented to the Community Development Committee on September 15th and the Metropolitan Council on September 24th.

No vote is needed.

2014-204 Authorization Renewal for Metro HRA Special Program Administration

HRA Manager Terri Smith presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Chávez, seconded by Rummel, that the Metropolitan Council authorize continued administration of rental assistance programs serving special populations as outlined below and authorize the Regional Administrator, the Community Development Director, the Director of Housing and Livable Communities and the HRA Manager, as appropriate, to submit applications and execute grant agreements for continued participation and funding. Motion carried.

Several general questions about the HRA programs were asked and answered.

2014-200 Release the draft 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan for public comment and set public hearing date (Jan Youngquist 651 602-1029; Raintry Salk 651 602-1669)

It was moved by Commers, seconded by Munt, that the Metropolitan Council:
• Release the draft 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan for public comment;
• Authorize a public hearing to be conducted regarding the draft 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan at 5:00 p.m. on October 20, 2014 as part of the Community Development Committee meeting;
• Keep the public record open until 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2014; and
• Direct staff to publish public hearing notices and distribute copies of the draft 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan for public comment under the Council’s administrative procedure for public hearings.

Motion carried.

Committee Members complimented staff for their work addressing equity and for integrating a discussion of the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network from the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan in the draft plan. Council Member Munt asked whether staff intended to follow up with the stakeholders and advocates who were part of the initial outreach and engagement for development of the draft plan. Staff responded that the draft plan will be posted online and that stakeholders will be notified of the public comment period.

2014-203 City of Corcoran, Peachtree Partners, LLC Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Review File No. 20601-3

Local Planning Assistance planner Raya Esmaeili presented the staff’s report to the Committee.

It was moved by Chávez, seconded by Rummel, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the attached review record and allow the City of Corcoran to put the Peachtree Partners, LLC Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) into effect.

2. Find the proposed CPA does not change the City’s forecasts.

Motion carried.

Committee member Commers asked how the City had arrived at guiding densities of 10+ units per acre in the first place and now reducing it to a almost a third. Esmaeili explained that this is a housing market issue, and the City is still meeting Council’s policies for Developing Communities with higher density residential guiding elsewhere. Furthermore, this is the first development in the city since the approval of Corcoran 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update in 2010. Committee Member Wulff added that the housing market in the outer ring suburbs is significantly different from inner areas, and without this change the community will not be able to develop their property.

INFORMATION

1. Land Use Advisory Committee Report – Committee member Jon Commers gave an overview of LUAC activities; In May, committee members received updates and commented on these Agenda items: Update on Thrive MSP 2040 and Public Input; and Updates on Regional Policy Plans: (1) Transportation Policy Plan Outline and Schedule; (2) Regional Parks Policy Plan; (3) Water Resources Management Policy Plan Presentation and Water Resources Policy Plan Draft; and (4) Housing Policy Plan.

Committee members discussed four main topics on the Agenda in July:
Conformance, Consistency, and Compatibility in Local Comprehensive Plans;
Changes to Land Use and Local Planning in Draft 2040 Transportation Policy Plan;
Local Planning Handbook; and Planning Assistance Fund.

The Land Use Advisory Committee will continue to give advice and feedback on the Planning Assistance Fund this fall and the Local Planning Handbook through early 2015. In addition, the committee will work on a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Guide. Other likely projects in 2015 include preparing for potential System Statements hearings and providing input on efforts supporting regional and local economic competitiveness.

2. 2013 Regional Parks System Use Estimate – Senior Research Raintry Salk presented a presentation on the 2013 Regional Parks System Use Estimate. Since 1995, the Metropolitan Council has annually prepared a Regional Parks System use estimate. The use estimates are produced based upon a four-year average of visit data. Council staff works with regional park implementing agencies to conduct visitor counts in regional parks and trails from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Those counts are then used, along with the preceding three years of data, to develop an estimate for Regional Parks System use for the entire calendar year.

Community Development Division Director Guy Peterson announced the September 2nd Community Development Committee meeting will be cancelled.

Chair Cunningham asked the Community Development Committee their preferences for an earlier meeting time of 4:00 pm, there were no objections. The Community Development Committee meetings will start at 4:00 pm beginning October 6, 2014 and that meeting will be held at the Brooklyn Park City Hall Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT
Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary