

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Committee Members Present:

Johnson, Chamblis, Ferguson, Barber, Cummings, Atlas-Ingebretson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Vento, Gonzalez, Lee, Fredson, Sterner

Committee Members Absent:

Chair Slawik, Muse, Zeran, Wulff

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice Chair Cummings called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:02 p.m. on Wednesday, September 4, 2019.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The agenda was moved by Sterner, seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

The minutes were moved by Vento, seconded by Gonzalez to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2019 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried.**

Vice Chair Cummings shared an update on two upcoming Council Member retreats that will be held during the October Committee of the Whole meetings. The purpose of these meetings will be to define the vision of the Council within the context of their work for the next three years. Each member of the Governor's cabinet has been asked to identify three goals for their respective agency along with the accompanying metrics and any other data the Governor's office should track. These meetings will be facilitated by Marcy Syman.

INFORMATION

1. Transit Service Allocation Study (Cole Hiniker, 651-602-1748, Daniel Peña 651-602-1968)

Cole Hiniker, Multimodal Planning Manager, Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS), and Daniel Peña, Planner, MTS, gave an update on the Transit Service Allocation Study. The purpose of this study is to: 1. understand to competing roles that transit is serving in the region, and 2. document and analyze the existing allocation of resources to these roles and illustrative scenarios for future allocation. The need for this study was made evident during discussions about the Regional Solicitation, Regional Service Improvement Plan, and Transit expansion funding discussions. This study is intended to be region-wide, not just specific to Metro Transit. Council Members had questions about transit planning during a driver shortage, and about density on map and how transit centers are represented. MTS held two workshops in July with 25 participants: 10 Council Members and 25 TAB Members (including 7 elected officials). Workshop attendees were tasked with a "planning game," to design the bus network in fictional Smithville, USA. The feedback from this activity was that it was hard, fun and a good discussion. Council Members had questions about walkability and best practices; MTS uses analysis from national research groups. Council Members also had questions and comments about efforts to decrease single car use, including walkability, biking, scooters, etc. and if the Council is considering these other forms of transportation.

The presenters also had a small group activity for Council Members to discuss the following two questions:

1. What are the benefits and drawbacks of providing a transit system that maximizes geographic coverage of routes, but with less frequent service?
2. What are the benefits and drawbacks of a transit system that maximizes frequent service routes?

2. Development Trends Along Transit (Lucy Galbraith, 612-349-7669)

Lucy Galbraith, Director, Transit Oriented Development, gave a presentation on Development Trends along Transit. This was the second annual report. Transit studied is high frequency transit: Local bus, BRT, and LRT that operate every 15 minutes or less on weekdays between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. and on Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. This report does not include Northstar; there is a separate report for Northstar development. Development types include: multifamily residential, commercial, public and institutional (not airports or utility projects), and industrial. Highlights include \$8.2 billion in development planned and 29,000 multifamily units planned along high frequency transit. This report shows that the region's growth has shifted and is shifting to locate more along high frequency transit. Council Members had questions and comments about walkability. Council Members also asked if the report includes development and things that would already have been built; Ms. Galbraith responded that the report does not determine causality. Council Members also had a discussion about tax revenue and value from new developments, as well as general discussion about gaps in affordable housing and migration from low-income housing.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Bridget Toskey
Recording Secretary