

Minutes of the MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Committee Members Present: Rodriguez, Commers, Reynoso, Van Eyll, Elkins, Brimeyer, Rummel, Melander, Kramer, Wulff, Chávez, Haigh

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Haigh called the meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:10PM on Wednesday, October 2, 2013.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Reynoso seconded by Rummel to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Van Eyll, seconded by Kramer to approve the minutes from the September 25 Committee of the Whole meeting. **Motion carried.**

THRIVE MSP 2040

Review of Proposed Policy Direction for Economic Competitiveness and Prosperity in *Thrive MSP 2040*—Gary Van Eyll, on behalf of the Thrive Working Group

The group suggested explicitly including the Council's cost savings in our systems, as well as the role we play as an infrastructure provider.

Status Report and Next Steps on *Thrive MSP 2040*—Libby Starling

Libby provided an overview of the progress the Council has made in the *Thrive MSP 2040* process, as well as the next steps. Phase III Outreach and Engagement will occur October through November. A draft of *Thrive* will be ready for review mid-November, and the final version will be adopted in April.

Review of Proposed Policy Directions for the Metropolitan Council—Libby Starling

The group discussed the proposed policy direction document that was circulated by Libby. During the policy discussions, the Council expressed they would like to take on broader functions of convening on key regional issues, including offering additional technical assistance to local governments as needed, and providing resources to help communities with decision making. The document that Libby distributed described in detail the proposed role the Council will play in each topic area as it relates to expanding technical assistance to local governments and expanding information resources. The group suggested linking some of the key ideas in this document to specific feedback from the Outreach and Engagement sessions. The Council also discussed the way its role may differ for various communities. Smaller communities may need more technical assistance from the Council than bigger communities, for example. A Council member asked whether we would have the budget for additional assistance. The answer from the Regional Administrator was that changes will occur within the organization (such as hiring additional staff) in order to fulfill what the Council deems priorities. The group agreed that another level of convening is the action planning.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:05PM.

Emily Getty, Recording Secretary