

## **Minutes of the MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

**Committee Members Present:** Van Eyll, Chávez, Cunningham, Melander, Duininck, Commers, Wulff, Haigh, Elkins, Schreiber, Rummel, Kramer, Rodriguez, Brimeyer, Munt

### **CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, Chair Haigh called the meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:05PM on Wednesday, September 18, 2013.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

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

It was moved by Rummel, seconded by Duininck to approve the minutes from the September 4 Committee of the Whole meeting. **Motion carried.**

### **THRIVE MSP 2040**

**Equity: A National Perspective—**The Honorable Ron Sims, former Deputy Secretary of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and former Executive Director of King County, Washington  
Mr. Sims spoke to the Council about his experience in King County and at HUD. He stated that while working to improve equity in King County, inventory of resources was done before an action plan was created. He encouraged the Council to take an inventory, and then use the inventory available. Mr. Sims stressed that the Council should try to infuse equality in every single neighborhood, and equity is the superior growth model.

**Overview of Council Policy Options on Equity and Balance—**Libby Starling and Dan Marckel  
Libby and Dan provided a brief overview of the policy options on equity and balance. The Council has several roles in racial and economic equity, including as a service provider, regional planner, funder, information provider, convener, and partner. Council activities that promote racial and economic equity include providing higher rent limits in certain cities to allow Section 8 voucher recipients to live in higher income areas of the region; conducting Title VI service equity analyses to ensure that major changes in transit service do not lead to disparate impacts on low-income and communities of color; requiring that local jurisdictions requesting Livable Communities TOD grants adopt an official local controls regarding equity considerations in the TOD area. The Council discussed whether it would be appropriate to elevate the policy guidance on public participation to the Thrive level. The Public Participation Plan included with the Transportation Policy Plan focuses solely on transportation planning. The group discussed whether they should solicit public input for other policies, and ultimately agreed it would not be wise to ask for participation on things such as mandates. They also do not want to unnecessarily repeat public comment periods. The group also spent time discussing their definition of equity. The staff proposal is to develop a definition of regional balance addressing the distribution of goods and services, and a parallel definition of equity addressing disparities across race, ethnicity, income, disability and immigrant status. The group will continue this discussion at its next meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:49PM.

Emily Getty, Recording Secretary