

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



For the Metropolitan Council: December 3, 2025

Business Item: 2025-308

Public Hearing on the Draft 2025 Regional Economic Framework (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Alternative)

District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	U.S. Economic Development Administration Guidelines for CEDS Imagine 2050, Our Region is Dynamic and Resilient (p. 79)
Staff prepared/presented:	Baris Gumus-Dawes, Planning Analyst, (651) 602-1331
Division/department:	Community Development Division

Proposed action

No action—Public Hearing to begin at 4:00 p.m.

Background

In August 2020, the Metropolitan Council adopted the region's first Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Alternative, known as the Regional Economic Framework. The Framework described the state of the regional economy and identified shared priorities and strategies to advance economic health and prosperity for people across the region.

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a planning document that informs a region's economic development efforts. The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires each region to create and adopt a CEDS or a CEDS-Alternative every five years to remain eligible for EDA grants and funding opportunities. The 2025 Regional Economic Framework is the region's updated CEDS-Alternative.

The Metropolitan Council's regional infrastructure, systems, and policies form the foundation of the region's economic health and functionality. The 2025 update of the Regional Economic Framework is closely aligned with the goals and policies outlined in Imagine 2050, which were shaped by extensive public engagement and input from communities across the region over several years.

The 2025 Regional Economic Framework update is being led by the Metropolitan Council, with support from consultants at the University of Minnesota.

More detailed information about the Regional Economic Framework project can be found on [the project website](#).

Schedule and Next Steps

On [August 27, 2025](#), Council staff provided an update to the Council on the 2025 Regional Economic Framework.

Following the August update, Council staff and the consultant team developed the first draft of the Framework, which was presented to the Committee of the Whole on [October 15, 2025](#).

The second [draft 2025 Regional Economic Framework](#) document incorporated the revisions made

in response to the feedback received during the October 15, 2025 Committee meeting.

On November 12, 2025, Council staff requested Council authorization to release the draft 2025 Regional Economic Framework for public comment and to schedule a public hearing.

The Council authorized the release of the report, establishing a public comment period from November 13, 2025, to December 22, 2025, and scheduling a public hearing for December 3, 2025.

On January 21, 2026, Council staff will share the Public Comment Report that summarizes the public comments received on the draft 2025 Regional Economic Framework with the Committee of the Whole.

Council staff will present to the Council on February 11, 2026, to share the final Public Comment Report on the 2025 Regional Economic Framework and to request adoption of the Framework as the region's 2025 CEDS Alternative.

