Minutes

Land Use Advisory Committee

Meeting date: March 19, 2026 **Time**: 4:00 PM **Location:** 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Diego Morales, District 9
- ☐ Tom McKee, District 1
- ☒ Lona Doolan, District 2
- ☐ Vacant, District 3
- ☒ Gerald Bruner, District 4 Carver
- ☒ Kathi Mocol, District 4 Scott
- ☐ Sean Hayford Oleary, District 5
- ☒ Robert Glisky, District 6
- ☐ Gunnar Carlson, District 7
- ☒ Noah Keller, District 8
- ☐ Beketa Jilo, District 9
- ☒ Dan Roe, District 10
- ☐ Kirsten Libby, District 11
- ☒ William Droste, District 12
- ☒ Mai Chong Xiong, District 13
- ☒ Heather Worthington, District 14
- ☐ Christos Jensen, District 15
- ☐ Daniel Wolter, District 16

☒ = Present

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Morales called the regular meeting of the Land Use Advisory Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Chair Morales.

Agenda approved

Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. The agenda was accepted.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Worthington, seconded by Glisky to approve the minutes of January 15, 2026, regular meeting of the Land Use Advisory Committee. **Motion carried**.

Information

1. Preparation for Holding a System Statement Hearing (David Zoll, attorney with Lockridge Grindel Nauen)

   Zoll gave background on the process of holding a System Statement Hearing (hearing) and reviewed the hearing request from Forest Lake.

Committee members asked clarifying questions regarding the objections expected to be discussed at the hearing.

Zoll noted that the City of Forest Lake has the burden of proof.

Droste asked for specific exclusions for storm water and right of way that the Council considers. Staff made a note of this request.

Zoll discussed the prehearing memorandum, due from Forest Lake by 3/30/2026, that will lay out the City's witnesses, evidence, and expected testimony or why they feel they're right. This will be a good source for review prior to the hearing, and he encouraged Committee Members to note questions prior to the hearing (i.e., in the margins of this document). The Council will provide their memorandum by April 6, 2026. These will be provided to Committee Members electronically.

The question was raised, if Committee Members have questions, can they ask prior to the hearing and who should those be directed to? Zoll first cautioned open meeting law applies even in email format. He stated that if the questions are 'technical' in nature, Committee Members to forward them to the Recording Secretary and she will get them to appropriate staff and cc' Zoll. Questions should not be questions that you want to ask the City – save those for the hearing.

Question was raised, if not at the hearing, can a Committee Member still vote on the recommendation that is sent to the full Council? A follow up question was raised; will the hearing be available to watch via streaming? Zoll stated that it would not be illegal to video record the hearing and that it would be up to the Metropolitan Council to do so. He also noted that there will be a court stenographer that will provide a full transcript to everyone including those not in attendance. He felt that LUAC members could certainly weigh in on the final recommendation.

Zoll noted that the public, because this is a public hearing, will be allowed to speak and encouraged the Committee to set a time limit for each speaker.

Chair Morales asked if the Committee would be willing to move the start of the hearing up, in case it runs long. The Committee Members were all in favor of starting the hearing at 2pm. Chair Morales noted that the hearing would be held in Chambers.

Chair Morales then noted that the follow-up needs to be done within 30 days of the hearing, so he asked if the May LUAC meeting could be moved to 2pm on May 7th. All Committee Members agreed.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Land Use Advisory Committee meeting of March 19, 2026.

Approved this 7 day of May 2026.

Council contact:

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