Minutes

Committee of the Whole

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

Meeting date: July 15, 2026 **Time**: 4:00 PM **Location:** 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Robin Hutcheson
- ☐ Judy Johnson, District 1
- ☒ Reva Chamblis, District 2
- ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3
- ☒ Deb Barber, District 4
- ☒ John Pacheco Jr., District 5
- ☒ Robert Lilligren, District 6
- ☒ Yassin Osman, District 7
- ☐ Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- ☐ Diego Morales, District 9
- ☐ Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- ☐ Gail Cederberg, District 11
- ☒ Mark Jenkins, District 12
- ☐ Chai Lee, District 13
- ☒ Toni Carter, District 14
- ☐ Victor Obisakin, District 15
- ☒ Wendy Wulff, 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, Council Chair Hutcheson called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:01 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Barber.

Agenda approved

Council members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Jenkins, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2026, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole, and the minutes of the June 17, 2026, special meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Transit Oriented Development Policy Update (Michael Krantz, Jon Commers - SRF, Thatcher Imboden - AECOM)

   Jon Commers shared themes from the Stakeholders Engagement, which consist of 25 small group conversations conducted by project team members between March and June 2026. Commers shared six emerging themes that came out of the small group conversations:

   - Align Council and city goals, project by project; Strengthen municipal partnerships; Build the internal framework for consistent Transit Oriented Development (TOD) delivery; Calibrate Council role to community capacity; Clarify equity and anti-displacement goals, articulate and scale tools to achieve them; and Clarify the tools the Council brings to each TOD role.

   Michael Krantz shared the Council's authority and where its TOD authority is limited based on state statutes or funding requirements. Council Members noted that the engagement themes and feedback were not surprising. Council Members discussed TOD constraints and local jurisdiction authority and where there may be opportunities to work toward long-term successes.

   Thatcher Imboden concluded the presentation with four substantial lessons from peer agencies:

   - Agencies established explicit TOD goals to drive decisions; Develop inventory of its own land/assets and prioritize framework relative to the goals on TOD policy; Investment in planning assistance, local partnerships, community engagement before development projects advanced; and Leverage land ownership as long-term lessors to strengthen potential revenue generators to support transit, community benefits and the TOD program itself.

   Council Members asked presenters for ideas beyond land disposition and opportunities so that funding for affordable housing and revenue for transit operations are not competing against each other. In addition, Council Members asked if there are opportunities for partnerships that allow for community-based supports as it relates to station planning.

   Presenters thanked the Council for their feedback throughout the process and will return in the near future for further discussion.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole meeting of July 15, 2026.

Council contact:

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