

MPAC Worksheet

Agenda Item Title: Update on 2040 Planning and Development Grant Awards 2019/Cycle 7

Presenter: Lisa Miles, Metro

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Purpose/Objective

Provide an update to MPAC members regarding the seven grant awards made in July 2019. Inform MPAC members regarding grant program restructuring that has been requested by Metro Council, which will be implemented in Fall 2019 prior to launch of the eighth grant cycle in 2020. Metro Council will review and consider potential changes to the 2040 Planning and Development Grant program in a work session scheduled for October 22.

Action Requested/Outcome

No action is requested at this time.

What has changed since MPAC last considered this issue/item?

Metro Council awarded grants to seven jurisdictions in July, 2019. As part of the grant review process for the most recent round of grants, the 2040 Grant Screening Committee recommended the Metro COO that changes be implemented in order to strengthen the Equitable Development component of the program. While the Committee is enthusiastic about funding more project work in the Equitable Development Category, many of the applications received in this category in the last several cycles have not been as strong as the committee would like to see in order to merit funding. To strengthen this aspect of the program, committee members and staff identified several potential program adjustments to be made prior to the next grant cycle including:

- Customizing the grant evaluation criteria so that each of the three funding categories can have more specific criteria that directly relates to the category of project;
- Host a pre-application meeting at the kick-off of the next grant cycle to emphasize what is expected in an equitable development project approach;
- While the current grant cycle is the first time Metro has “piloted” having private entities eligible to receive grant funding, consider how Metro could best cultivate strong applications from community entities that are leading equitable development work throughout the region.
- Tap the expertise of Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity (CORE) to further consider program adjustments that could result in better applications for equitable development projects.

What packet material do you plan to include?

Chief Operating Officer’s Recommendation regarding 2040 Grant Awards for 2019