

MPAC Worksheet

Agenda Item Title:

Update on the 2040 Planning and Development Grants

Purpose/Objective

Provide an update to MPAC members regarding the restructuring of the 2040 Planning and Development Grant Program that has been requested by Metro Council. Changes to the program are currently slated to be finalized in December 2019 prior to launch of the eighth grant cycle in 2020.

Action Requested/Outcome

This is an update to MPAC members; no action is requested at this time.

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

In September, 2019, staff updated MPAC members regarding the seven grants which the Metro Council awarded in July, 2019. As part of the grant review process for the 2019 grants, the 2040 Grant Screening Committee recommended to the Metro COO that changes be implemented in order to strengthen the Equitable Development component of the program. Screening Committee members and staff identified several potential program adjustments to be considered prior to the next grant cycle including:

- Customizing the grant evaluation criteria specific to each category
- 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;
- 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.

Staff has since developed a proposal for restructuring the New Urban Area Planning Grants and the Equitable Development Grants and refining the program's application process. Staff met with CORE on October 17 to get their feedback. Metro Council reviewed staff's proposed approach in a work session on Oct. 29, 2019 and supported the new direction outlined by staff. The Metro Council will consider legislation on December 12 to formally approve this new approach.

What packet material do you plan to include?

No additional materials are included.