

Testimony:

Over the past 50+ years, the Met Council has been tasked with doing more and more things. Transit, waste water, land use planning, parks, affordable housing, and more.

It is clear, though, that the organization and structures put in place over those 50 years are no longer sustainable or properly functional.

It's really not reasonable to expect a single entity to do so many disparate tasks well. Instead, in order to get "best in class" results, each of the Met Council's responsibilities should be reassigned to state, county, or local agencies with relevant expertise (with the new agency of course receiving the budget monies that had been earmarked for the task).

In addition, a key part of the reassignment process needs to be asking if ANY centralized agency should be doing the task, or if a decentralized approach is more responsive to citizens, or if a task should even be done at all.

Trying to determine a better governance model for the Met Council is a failed approach; any of the proposed changes won't really fix the underlying problems with the Met Council. Only dramatic and audacious steps to remove the responsibility for each of the duties from the Met Council can do that.

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