

Metropolitan Governance Task Force

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Presentation to Metropolitan Governance Task Force

August 9, 2023


2023 Legislation


2023 Legislation

- Minn. Laws 2023, ch. 68
 - Appropriation to LCC (art. 1, sec. 5)
 - Task Force description (art. 4, sec. 123)


CHAPTER No. 68
H.F. No. 2887

This bill was passed in conformity to the rules of each house and the joint rules of the two houses as required by the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.



Melissa Hortman
Speaker of the House of Representatives


Bobby Joe Champion
President of the Senate


Passed the House of Representatives on May 21, 2023.


Patrick D. Murphy
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives


Passed the Senate on May 21, 2023.


Thomas S. Bottern
Secretary of the Senate


This bill is properly enrolled and was presented to
Governor on May 23, 2023.


Ryan S. Inman
Revisor of Statutes

Approved on May 24, 2023, at 9:32 A.M.


Tim Walz
Governor

Filed on May 24, 2023.


Steve Simon
Secretary of State

5 Ws for Task Force: Who

Subd. 2. Membership. (a) The task force consists of the following members:

(1) four members of the senate, with two appointed by the senate majority leader and two appointed by the senate minority leader;

(2) four members of the house of representatives, with two appointed by the speaker of the house and two appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;

(3) one person representing cities in the metropolitan area, appointed by the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities;

(4) one county commissioner representing counties in the metropolitan area, appointed by the Association of Minnesota Counties;

(5) one person representing townships in the metropolitan area, appointed by the Minnesota Association of Townships;

(6) one person representing an employee collective bargaining unit of the Metropolitan Council, appointed by the Minnesota AFL-CIO;

(7) one person appointed by the governor;

(8) one person representing transit, appointed by Move Minnesota;

(9) one person representing institutions of higher education, appointed by the Office of Higher Education; and

(10) two members of the public, appointed by the Legislative Coordinating Commission.

(b) The appointing authorities under paragraph (a) must make the appointments by July 15, 2023.

5 Ws: Who

Subd. 5. State; metropolitan agencies must cooperate; subcommittees. The Metropolitan Council and state and metropolitan agencies must cooperate with the task force and provide information requested in a timely fashion. The task force may establish subcommittees and invite other stakeholders to participate in the task force's study and development of recommendations.

Subd. 8. Administrative support; staff. The Legislative Coordinating Commission must provide meeting space, administrative support, and staff support for the task force. The task force may hold meetings in any publicly accessible location in the Capitol Complex that is equipped with technology that can facilitate remote testimony.

5 Ws: What

Subd. 4. Duties. The task force must study and evaluate options to reform and reconstitute governance of the Metropolitan Council. The study must include an analysis of the costs and benefits of:

- (1) direct election of members to the Metropolitan Council;
- (2) a combination of directly elected and appointed members to the Metropolitan Council;
- (3) a council of governments which would replace the current Metropolitan Council;
- (4) reapportioning responsibilities of the Metropolitan Council to state agencies and local units of government;
- (5) adoption of a home rule charter for governance of the Metropolitan Council; and
- (6) any other regional governance approaches that are viable alternatives to the current structure of the Metropolitan Council.

5 Ws: When

Subd. 10. **Report.** The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with responsibility for or jurisdiction over the Metropolitan Council and metropolitan agencies. The report is due by February 1, 2024.

Subd. 11. **Expiration.** The task force expires on June 30, 2024.

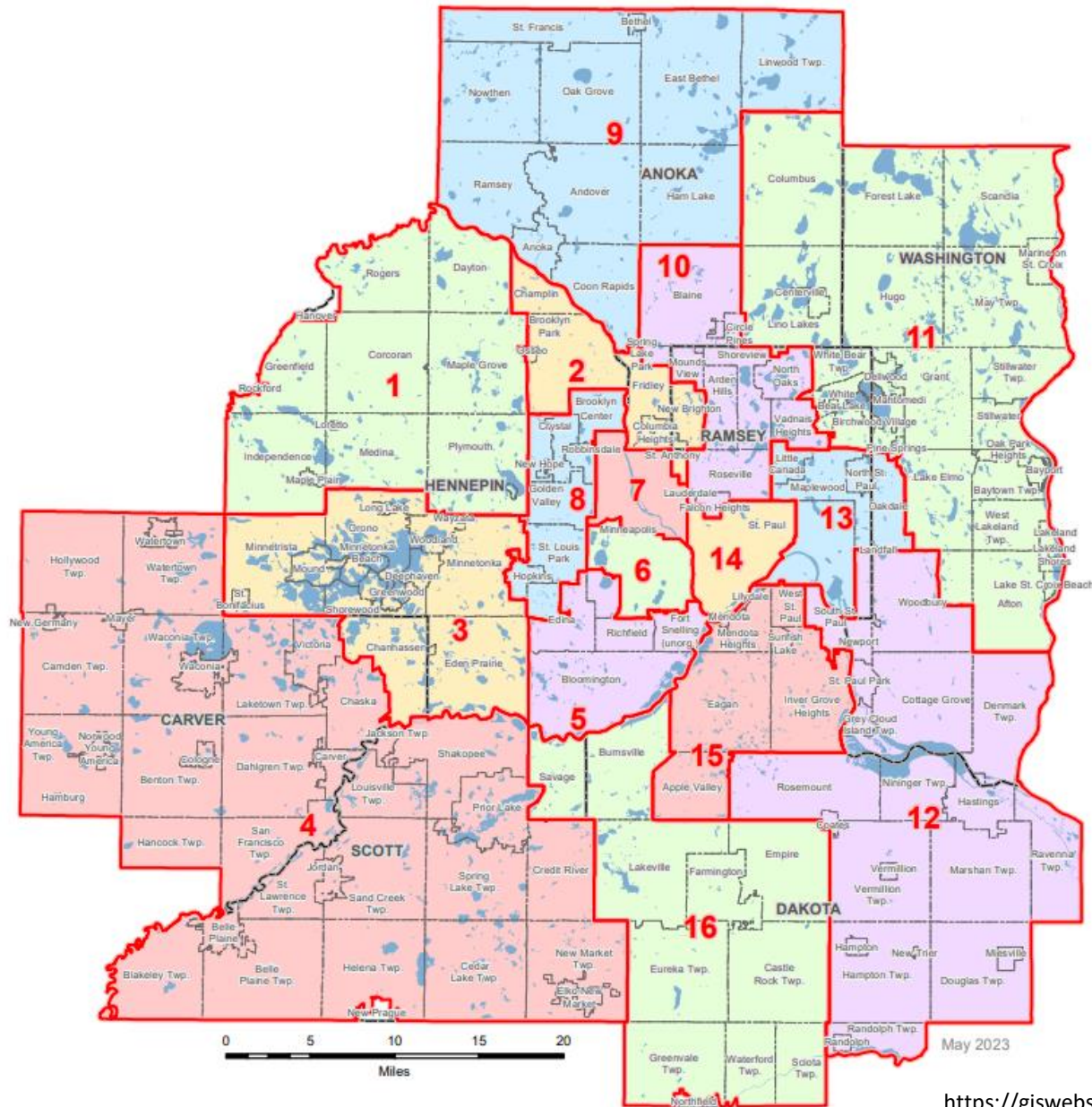
5 Ws: Where

Subd. 8. **Administrative support; staff.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission must provide meeting space, administrative support, and staff support for the task force. The task force may hold meetings in any publicly accessible location in the Capitol Complex that is equipped with technology that can facilitate remote testimony.

5 Ws: Why

Subdivision 1. **Established.** A Metropolitan Governance Task Force is established to study and make recommendations to the legislature on reform and governance of the Metropolitan Council.

Current Structure of Metropolitan Council



https://giswebsite.metc.state.mn.us/mapgallery/pdfs/Council_Districts_8x11.pdf

Council Members

- Minn. Stat. § 473.123
- Must live in district
- Appointed by governor
- Terms coterminous with governor
 - Redistricting impact



<https://metrocouncil.org/About-Us/Who-We-Are/CouncilMembers.aspx>

Council Members

- Must reflect demographic, political, and other metro area interests
- Must know about urban and metro affairs



<https://metrocouncil.org/About-Us/Who-We-Are/CouncilMembers.aspx>

Chair

- At large
- Duties:
 - Preside meetings
 - Principal legislative liaison
 - Present to governor/legislature
 - Principal spokesperson for council



Charlie Zelle

<https://metrocouncil.org/About-Us/Who-We-Are/CouncilMembers/Chair-Charles-Zelle.aspx>

Questions?



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