

APPENDIX

B



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

August 9, 2023

10:00AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Representative Frank Hornstein, Chair

Senator Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Kristin Beckmann

Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Sen. Scott Dibble

Lisa Goodman

Marion Greene

James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Lindsey Port

Jeff Reed

Sam Rockwell

Rep. Mark Wiens

Senator Dibble called the meeting of the Metropolitan Governance Task Force to order at 10:03 AM.

Members and staff introductions

All members and staff introduced themselves.

Election of Chair

Senator Dibble nominated Representative Hornstein for the position of Chair and Senator Pratt for the position of Vice Chair. A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Beckmann, Bigham, Coleman, Dibble, Goodman, Greene, Hornstein, Hovland, Klevorn, Koznick, Orfield, Pereira-Webb, Port, Pratt, Reed, Rockwell, Wiens

There being 17 Ayes and 0 Nays, The Motion Prevailed.

Representative Hornstein assumed the gavel.

Nonpartisan Staff Presentation

Chelsea Griffin, Legislative Analyst with the House of Research Department, provided an overview of the enabling legislation and current governance structure.

Task Force Discussion

Members discussed the work before the task force, public engagement, and future meeting topics.

With there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

September 13, 2023

10:00AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair
Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair
Kristin Beckmann
Karla Bigham
Sen. Julia Coleman
Sen. Scott Dibble
Marion Greene
James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn
Rep. Jon Koznick
Myron Orfield
Renae Pereira-Webb
Sen. Lindsey Port
Sam Rockwell
Rep. Mark Wiens

Members Excused:

Jeff Reed

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:00 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Senator Pratt moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from August 9, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Presentation on History and Background of the Metropolitan Council

Taylor Koehler, Research Analyst with the LCC, gave a presentation on the history and background of the Metropolitan Council, including its legislative history and expansion.

Chair Hornstein passed the gavel to Vice-Chair Pratt to chair the meeting.

Presentation on OLA's 2011 Evaluation Report: Governance of Transit in the Twin Cities Region:

Judy Randall with the Office of the Legislative Auditor provided an overview of the Jan. 2011 OLA Report, specifically regarding the governance components of the Report in Chapter 2.

Vice-Chair Pratt passed the gavel back to Chair Hornstein to finish chairing the meeting.

Presentation on Citizen's League Report, The Metropolitan Council: Recalibrating for the Future 2016:

John Knapp, former co-chair of the 2016 Citizens League Task Force on the Metropolitan Council, discussed the Citizens League report and what the task force members considered regarding governance reform.

Task Force Discussion:

Senator Dibble and Member Kristin Beckmann presented their proposal for public engagement, and task force members discussed it.

Public Testimony:

Two members of the public testified.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

September 27, 2023

10:00AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair
Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair
Kristin Beckmann
Commissioner Karla Bigham
Sen. Julia Coleman
Sen. Scott Dibble
Mary Pattock
Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland
Rep. Ginny Klevorn
Rep. Jon Koznick
Professor Myron Orfield
Renae Pereira-Webb
Sam Rockwell
Jeff Reed

Members Excused:

Rep. Mark Wiens
Sen. Lindsey Port

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:00 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Representative Klevorn moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Presentation on the 2020 Blue Ribbon Panel Final Report & Recommendations:

Mary Liz Holberg, Dakota County Commissioner, gave a presentation overviewing the final report and recommendations that came out of the 2020 Governor's Metropolitan Council Blue Ribbon Panel.

Metropolitan Council Presentation on the Community Development and Environmental Services Divisions:

Lisa Barjas, the Metropolitan Council's Community Development Director, gave an overview of the MN statutory provisions which the Community Development Division implements and what that work looks like. Leisa Thompson, the Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services General Manager, gave an overview of the MN statutory provisions which direct the Environmental Services Division's work and the results of that work.

Public Testimony:

Chair Hornstein asked if any member of the public wished to speak, and no member of the public did so. Chair Hornstein directed members to the written testimony of Richard Adair and Barry Schade, which was included in members' folders.

Task Force Discussion:

The task force briefly discussed public engagement efforts. Senator Dibble will bring date proposals for public engagement to the next task force meeting on October 11, 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:09pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

October 11, 2023

10:00AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Kristin Beckmann

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Sen. Scott Dibble

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Professor Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Senator Port

Sam Rockwell

Jeff Reed

Rep Mark Wiens

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Representative Koznick moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from September 27, 2023. The motion prevailed.

MnDOT Presentation on Greater Minnesota MPOs:

Tim Sexton, Assistant Commissioner at the Minnesota Department of Transportation, gave a presentation on Greater Minnesota's MPOs.

Discussion on Public Engagement:

Senator Dibble advised that the task force was looking at the following dates and times for hosting public hearings:

November 6, 2023, in the evening

December 14, 2023, around noon

January 9, 2024, in the evening

Representative Wiens advised that he and Commissioner Bigham would be interested in hosting one of these public hearings in the East Metro/Lake Elmo area.

Further information will be brought forward at the next meeting.

UMN Presentation on Metropolitan Planning Organizations: History, Definitions & Other Context:

Dr. Kyle Shelton, Director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies, and Frank Douma, Director of State and Local Policy and Outreach for the Institute for Urban and Regional Infrastructure Finance at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, gave a joint presentation on MPOs.

Overview of the Metropolitan Council Budget:

Andrew Lee, a nonpartisan House Staff Researcher, gave a presentation overviewing the Metropolitan Council's Budget.

Public Testimony:

Richard Adair, Timothy Marino, and James Schoettler provided in-person public testimony.

Chair Hornstein advised the task force that written testimony was also submitted by the Lakes and Parks Alliance of Minneapolis and James Schoettler.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

October 25, 2023

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Kristin Beckmann

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Professor Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Port

Sam Rockwell

Jeff Reed

Rep. Mark Wiens

Members Excused:

Sen. Scott Dibble

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from October 11, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Update on Public Engagement:

Chair Hornstein reaffirmed that there will be three offsite public engagement meetings. The dates for those meetings are November 6, 2023, December 14, 2023, and January 9, 2024. As soon as the locations for those dates are confirmed, that information will be emailed out to task force members.

Metropolitan Council Presentation on Transit, Transportation, and MPO Roles:

Lesley Kandaras, the Metro Transit General Manager, gave an overview of Metro Transit's work. Nick Thompson, the Interim Executive Director of METRO Projects for Metro Transit, provided an overview of current METRO projects and the role of public engagement in these projects. Charles Carlson, the Executive Director of Metropolitan Transportation Services, presented on the Metropolitan Transportation Services Department, the Metropolitan Council's designation as the region's MPO, and the role of the Transportation Advisory Board.

Ann Bloodhart, Metropolitan Council's General Counsel, and Dave Theisen, Assistant General Counsel, answered task force member questions relating to the governmental status of the Metropolitan Council.

Task Force Discussion & Vision/Goal Setting:

The task force began discussing the values that should guide the task force as it evaluates different governance models and ultimately presents its conclusions both to the legislature and the public.

Public Testimony:

Mathews Hollinshead provided virtual public testimony over Zoom. James Schoettler provided in -person public testimony.

Chair Hornstein directed members to the written testimony of Mathews Hollinshead and James Schoettler, which was included in members' folders.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

November 1, 2023

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Kristin Beckmann

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Professor Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Port

Jeff Reed

Rep. Mark Wiens

Members Excused:

Sen. Scott Dibble

Sam Rockwell

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Representative Wiens moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from October 25, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Presentation & Discussion on Portland Metro:

Portland Metro's Council President, Lynn Peterson, presented in-person on Portland Metro. She provided an overview of Portland Metro's work and explained how its elected council governance structure works.

Presentation & Discussion on TriMet:

TriMet's Executive Director of Public Affairs, JC Vannatta, virtually presented on TriMet, which is the transit operator for the Portland region. He spoke on how TriMet engages and works with Portland Metro to achieve transit goals.

Public Testimony:

Jerry Pitzrick provided in-person public testimony.

Update on Public Engagement:

Chair Hornstein advised that the public engagement meeting set for November 6, 2023, at the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation has been rescheduled for December 7, 2023, and it will still be taking place at the Wilder Foundation.

Chair Hornstein advised that the additional meetings are still in the process of being confirmed, and information on those will be sent out as updates are available.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

November 8, 2023

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Kristin Beckmann

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Professor Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Port

Jeff Reed

Rep. Mark Wiens

Members Excused:

Sen. Scott Dibble

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Representative Klevorn moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from November 1, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Update on Public Engagement:

Chair Hornstein advised that the public engagement meetings are all set, although the one on December 7, 2023, at the Wilder Foundation may potentially be moved. The confirmed public engagement meetings are as follows:

- Thursday, December 14th at 12pm at the Lake Elmo City Center
- Friday, January 5th at 12pm at the University of Minnesota's Robert J. Jones Urban Research/Outreach Center (UROC)
- Tuesday, January 9th at 6pm at the Scott County Government Center

Chair Hornstein advised that more information will be forthcoming.

Task Force Discussion & Vision/Goal Setting:

The task force continued discussing the values that should guide the task force as it evaluates different governance models and ultimately presents its conclusions both to the legislature and the public.

Metro Cities Presentation on Staggered Terms:

Patricia Nauman, the Executive Director of Metro Cities, provided a brief presentation outlining Metro Cities' support for a governance option of staggered terms for a governor-appointed council.

Task Force Discussion on Staggered Terms:

The task force engaged in a discussion around staggered terms.

Public Testimony:

MN State Representative Steve Elkins provided in-person public testimony.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58am.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

November 29, 2023

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Kristin Beckmann

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Professor Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Port

Jeff Reed

Rep. Mark Wiens

Sen. Dibble

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Senator Pratt moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Presentation & Discussion w/ Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG):

Douglas Rex, the Executive Director of DRCOG, gave a presentation outlining DRCOG's work and its role as the region's MPO.

Presentation & Discussion w/ Denver's Regional Transportation District (RTD):

Debra Johnson, RTD's General Manager, provided a brief overview of RTD and its interaction with DRCOG. Kate Williams, RTD Director, provided testimony on the role of the RTD's elected directors and how those directors interact with both RTD and DRCOG staff.

Presentation on County Engagement with the Metropolitan Council:

Lezlie Vermillion, the Scott County Administrator, gave a presentation outlining the ways in which counties interact and engage with the Metropolitan Council.

Public Testimony:

Chair Hornstein asked if anybody in the public wished to provide testimony, but nobody wished to do so.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

December 6, 2023

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Rep. Jon Koznick

Professor Myron Orfield

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Port

Jeff Reed

Rep. Mark Wiens

Sen. Dibble

Excused:

Kristin Beckmann

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Mary Pattock moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from November 29, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Update on Public Engagement:

The following dates, times, and locations are all confirmed for upcoming public engagement meetings for the task force:

- Friday, December 8, 2023, at 2pm at the Wilder Foundation in St. Paul;
- Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 12pm at the Lake Elmo City Center in Lake Elmo;
- Friday, January 5, 2024, at 12pm at the University of Minnesota's Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center in Minneapolis; and
- Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 6pm at the Scott County Government Center in Shakopee

Discussion with Former Portland Mayor Charlie Hales:

Former Portland Mayor Charlie Hales discussed his view of metropolitan governance and what makes it successful.

Discussion with Former Denver Mayor Michael Hancock:

Former Denver Mayor Michael Hancock discussed his view of metropolitan governance and what makes it successful.

Task Force Discussion on Vision & Goals:

The task force members continued their discussion around identifying 1) the problems with the current Metropolitan Council structure, 2) who the "constituents" of the Metropolitan Council are, and 3) to whom the Metropolitan Council should be accountable to.

Public Testimony:

Chair Hornstein asked if anybody in the public wished to provide testimony, but nobody wished to do so.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

December 13, 2023

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Kristin Beckmann

Rep. Jon Koznick

Renae Pereira-Webb

Sen. Port

Jeff Reed

Rep. Mark Wiens

Sen. Dibble

Excused:

Professor Myron Orfield

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Senator Dibble moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from December 6, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Update on Public Engagement:

The following dates, times, and locations are all confirmed for upcoming public engagement meetings for the task force:

- Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 12pm at the Lake Elmo City Center in Lake Elmo;
- Friday, January 5, 2024, at 12pm at the University of Minnesota's Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center in Minneapolis; and
- Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 6pm at the Scott County Government Center in Shakopee

Presentations & Discussion on Home Rule Charters

Professor Nestor Davidson, of Fordham School of Law, testified on the home rule charter process and what that entails. Mike McKeever, former SACOG Executive Director, testified as to how the charter process engaged local governments in Portland. Robert Liberty testified as to how the home rule charter process functions with an elected council.

Task Force Discussion on Problem Identification & Analysis:

The task force members discussed the following question:

- 1) What do you believe the problems, if any, are with the Metropolitan Council?

Public Testimony:

Chair Hornstein asked if anybody in the public wished to provide testimony, but nobody wished to do so.

Chair Hornstein directed members to the written testimony of Les Everett and Matthew Bruns which was included in members' folders.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:13pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

January 3, 2024

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair
Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Karla Bigham
Sen. Julia Coleman
Mary Pattock
Commissioner Marion Greene
Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn
Rep. Jon Koznick
Renae Pereira-Webb
Sen. Port
Rep. Mark Wiens
Sen. Dibble

Excused:

Professor Myron Orfield
Kristin Beckmann
Jeff Reed

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:17 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Mayor Hovland suggested an amendment to the draft Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2023. He proposed that language under the “Presentations & Discussion on Home Rule Charters” header be amended to say that “Robert Liberty testified as to how the home rule charter process functions with an elected council.” Rep. Hornstein moved to amend the draft minutes per Mayor Hovland’s suggestion, and that motion prevailed. Senator Pratt moved to adopt the amended Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2023. The motion prevailed.

Update on Public Engagement:

The following dates, times, and locations are all confirmed for upcoming public engagement meetings for the task force:

- Friday, January 5, 2024, at 12pm at the University of Minnesota’s Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center in Minneapolis; and
- Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 6pm at the Scott County Government Center in Shakopee

Presentations and Discussion on Previous Proposed Legislation:

Senator Pratt discussed his bill, SF2809 (2018), which would have created a COG model of governance for the Metropolitan Council. Senator Dibble discussed his bill, SF1624 (2023), which would have created an elected Metropolitan Council, as well as his former proposal for a Charter Commission. Rep. Koznick discussed his bill, HF3323 (2023), which would have provided for continued governor appointment of Metropolitan Council members but with staggered terms and expanded membership of the nomination committee.

Public Testimony:

Karen Shell, Betty Ford, Deb Kevsten, and MN State Representative Steve Elkins provide in-person public testimony.

Chair Hornstein directed members to the written testimony of Jim Schoettler which was included in members’ folders.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:27pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

January 10, 2024

10:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair
Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Karla Bigham
Sen. Julia Coleman
Mary Pattock
Commissioner Marion Greene
Mayor James Hovland

Rep. Ginny Klevorn
Renaé Pereira-Webb
Rep. Mark Wiens
Sen. Scott Dibble
Professor Myron Orfield
Kristin Beckmann
Jeff Reed

Excused:

Rep. Jon Koznick
Sen. Lindsey Port

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 10:00 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Rep. Wiens moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2024. The motion prevailed.

Preview of Remainder of MGTF Meetings & Process for Report:

Rep. Hornstein explained that the task force meeting on January 17, 2024, would be reserved for members to bring forward motions on what recommendations they would like included in the report for a vote. The Task Force report would then be written by Taylor Koehler for review by the task force on the January 24, 2024, meeting date.

Mayor Hovland expressed his desire to see the task force delay all major voting until January 24, 2024, so that task force members could prepare proposals and thoughts for review in advance of voting. Task force members discussed this proposal. Mayor Hovland moved for the following timeline to be adopted:

- January 15, 2024: task force member proposals & comments/thoughts due to LCC for distribution to task force;
- January 17, 2024: task force member discussion on proposals; task force may vote only on ancillary motions, not core report recommendations;
- January 24, 2024: task force votes on motions related to core report recommendations;
- January 30, 2024: task force votes to approve final report.

A roll call vote was taken on Mayor Hovland's motion. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Mary Pattock, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Myron Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Absent: Rep. Koznick, Senator Port

There being 15 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Senator Pratt moved to require a supermajority instead of a simple majority vote for any report recommendation motion to prevail. A supermajority of 11 task force members would be required to affirmatively vote in favor of the motion for it to prevail. Task force members discussed the pros and cons of requiring a higher threshold than a simple majority. A roll call vote was taken on Senator Pratt's motion. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Senator Pratt, Senator Coleman, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Rep. Hornstein, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mary Pattock, Myron Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell

Absent: Rep. Koznick, Senator Port

There being 5 Ayes and 10 Nays, the motion failed.

Mary Pattock proposed a motion to adopt a problem statement finding accountability to be the core issue identified by the task force. Task force members discussed this proposal. The motion was tabled for the January 17, 2024, to allow all task force members to read the exact language proposed.

Public Testimony:

Rich Neumeister, Dick Adair, Karen Schaffer, and MN State Representative Steve Elkins provided in-person public testimony.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

January 17, 2024

9:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Renae Pereira-Webb

Rep. Mark Wiens

Sen. Scott Dibble

Professor Myron Orfield

Kristin Beckmann

Jeff Reed

Rep. Jon Koznick

Sen. Lindsey Port

Excused:

Mayor James Hovland

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 9:19 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Rep. Wiens moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2024. The motion prevailed.

Task Force Discussion & Motions on Adopting a Problem Statement:

Mary Pattock moved to adopt the following problem statement:

The Problem: Accountability is the Core Issue

Finding: We have determined that there is widespread confusion and widespread disagreement about who is and who should be accountable for Met Council vision, planning, execution (construction and operation), and performance evaluation.

Recommendation: The first and core issue the legislature should address in any Metropolitan Council reform or governance changes is how the Council should be accountable to the public and to local governments. We recommend that the legislature make clear assignment of these areas of accountability.

Task force members discussed Mary Pattock's proposed motion to adopt the above problem statement. Rep. Koznick proposed a friendly amendment that the words "first and core" in the "Recommendation" section of the problem statement be removed. Mary Pattock agreed to amend the language and suggested substituting in the word "basic" instead of "first and core." Rep. Koznick agreed to the substitution of "basic."

A roll call vote on substituting the word "basic" for the words "first and core" in Mary Pattock's proposed problem statement was taken. The new proposed recommendation was as follows:

Recommendation: The basic ~~first and core~~ issue the legislature should address in any Metropolitan Council reform or governance changes is how the Council should be accountable to the public and to local governments. We recommend that the legislature make clear assignment of these areas of accountability.

The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Myron Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Absent: Mayor Hovland

There being 16 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Senator Pratt proposed a friendly amendment to add accountability to the legislature, amending the "Recommendation" section of the problem statement to say, "to the legislature, the public, and to local governments." Mary Pattock agreed to amend the language and suggested instead that the recommendation say, "the public and state and local governments." Senator Pratt agreed to that language.

A roll call vote was taken on amending language in Mary Pattock’s problem statement so that Council accountability to “public and state and local governments” be addressed. The new proposed recommendation was as follows:

Recommendation: The basic issue the legislature should address in any Metropolitan Council reform or governance changes is how the Council should be accountable to the public and to state and local governments. We recommend that the legislature make clear assignment of these areas of accountability.

The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Myron Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Absent: Mayor Hovland

There being 16 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion prevailed.

A roll call vote was taken to adopt Mary Pattock’s full problem statement with the earlier voted upon amendments. The full problem statement voted upon is as follows:

The Problem: Accountability is the Core Issue

Finding: We have determined that there is widespread confusion and widespread disagreement about who is and who should be accountable for Met Council vision, planning, execution (construction and operation), and performance evaluation.

Recommendation: The basic issue the legislature should address in any Metropolitan Council reform or governance changes is how the Council should be accountable to the public and to state local governments. We recommend that the legislature make clear assignment of these areas of accountability.

The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Myron Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Absent: Mayor Hovland

There being 16 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Commissioner Greene brought forward principles which she wanted the task force to vote to adopt. The task force discussed her proposed principles. Commissioner Greene agreed to refine her principles for a vote at the January 24, 2024, task force meeting.

The task force discussed member proposals for Metropolitan Council governance changes and reform to be voted upon at the January 24, 2024, meeting.

Public Testimony:

Katie Jones, Michael Wojcik, and Peter Wagenius provided in-person public testimony.

Rep. Koznick read into the record written testimony from Denise Peterson.

Rep. Hornstein also called task force members' attention to the additional written testimony in members' folders.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:17pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

January 24, 2024

9:00 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Renae Pereira-Webb

Rep. Mark Wiens

Sen. Scott Dibble

Professor Myron Orfield

Kristin Beckmann

Jeff Reed

Rep. Jon Koznick

Sen. Lindsey Port

Mayor James Hovland

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 9:07 AM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Rep. Wiens moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2024. The motion prevailed.

Task Force Motions on Guiding Principles:

Rep. Wiens introduced the four guiding principles below:

Credibility: The COA delivers immediate credibility inherent in elected officials (either by local governments or direct election) who are accountable to their district and operate under the principle of being held accountable for their actions.

Accessibility: The COA delivers immediate accessibility inherent in elected officials (either by local governments or direct election) who are accountable to their district and operate under the principle of responsiveness to the public.

Transparency: The COA delivers immediate transparency inherent with elected officials (either by local governments or direct election) who are accountable to their district and operate under the principle of openness to the public.

Collaboration: The COA delivers immediate collaboration inherent with elected officials (either by local governments or direct election) who are accountable to their district and operate under the principle of a non-partisan collaborative planning environment.

Task force members discussed Rep. Wien's proposed principles as a slate. Rep. Klevorn proposed a friendly amendment that accountability be expanded to include the region so that the phrase reads "...accountable to their district and the region." Rep. Wiens agreed to amend the language.

Senator Pratt proposed a friendly amendment that the words "elected officials" be changed to "Metropolitan Council members." With that change in language, "(either by local governments or direct election)" was also removed. Rep. Wiens agreed to amend the language and then also proposed to strike out the words "inherent in."

Senator Dibble proposed a friendly amendment that the "Collaboration" principle be amended to say "...collaborative planning and service delivery environment." Rep. Wiens agreed to amend the language.

Rep. Wiens moved the following proposed principles, incorporating the friendly amendments previously discussed:

Credibility: The COA delivers immediate credibility in Metropolitan Council members who are accountable to their district and the region and operate under the principle of being held accountable for their actions.

Accessibility: The COA delivers immediate accessibility in Metropolitan Council members who are accountable to their district and the region and operate under the principle of responsiveness to the public.

Transparency: The COA delivers immediate transparency in Metropolitan Council members who are accountable to their district and the region and operate under the principle of openness to the public.

Collaboration: The COA delivers immediate collaboration in Metropolitan Council members who are accountable to their district and the region and operate under the principle of a non-partisan collaborative planning and service delivery environment.

A roll call vote on Rep. Wien's four principles, submitted as a slate, was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Kristin Beckmann, Senator Dibble, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port

There being 13 Ayes and 4 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Commissioner Greene introduced the following principle:

Proportionality: The Course of Action (COA) ensures proportional representation so that each member represents the same number of residents.

Task force members discussed Commissioner Greene's "Proportionality" principle. Senator Dibble proposed a friendly amendment that the principle be amended to say that the COA "ensures there is equal representation for all residents." Commissioner Greene agreed to amend the language.

Commissioner Greene moved the following principle, incorporating Senator Pratt's friendly amendment:

Proportionality: The Course of Action (COA) ensures there is equal representation for all residents.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Rep. Koznick

Absent: Senator Coleman

There being 15 Ayes and 1 Nay, the motion prevailed.

Commissioner Greene introduced the following principle:

Regional: The COA provides a regional orientation whereby Metropolitan Council members are locally selected.

Task force members discussed Commissioner Greene's "Regional" principle. Commissioner Greene moved the "Regional" principle without any amendment.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Koznick, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Kristin Beckmann, Rep. Klevorn, Renae Pereira-Webb

There being 14 Ayes and 3 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Commissioner Greene introduced the following principle:

Compensation: The COA includes the establishment of compensation and the resources necessary for Metropolitan Council members commensurate with the level of responsibility entrusted to them.

Task force members discussed Commissioner Greene's "Compensation" principle. Commissioner Greene moved the "Compensation" principle without any amendment.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Senator Pratt, Senator Coleman, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick

There being 12 Ayes and 5 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Sam Rockwell introduced the following principle:

Clarity of Accountability: The COA delivers actual, rather than just perceived, accountability to the public by ensuring that the public knows and understands to whom Metropolitan Council members are accountable to on an ongoing basis.

Task force members discussed Mr. Rockwell's "Clarity of Accountability" principle. Mr. Rockwell moved the "Clarity of Accountability" principle without any amendment.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Senator Pratt, Senator Coleman, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick

There being 12 Ayes and 5 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Task Force Motions for Report Recommendations:

Rep. Hornstein advised that task force members with governance proposals which had not already been discussed would each have a few minutes to present their proposal before task force discussion on the proposal.

Commissioner Greene presented her proposal advocating an elected model of governance.

Mayor Hovland presented his proposal for maintaining a governor-appointed model but with some changes, including adding staggered terms and amending the nominating committee process. Rep. Klevorn proposed that Mayor Hovland add into his proposal that the legislature should review compensation and look at the possible inclusion of staffing requirements. Mayor Hovland accepted those proposals and said they could be added into his proposal.

Senator Dibble presented his proposal for a "hybrid" model of governance to include both an elected body and a COG body, which had been updated since the prior meeting.

Senator Pratt presented two proposals. He presented his COG model, which had been updated since the prior meeting. He also presented another variation of a COG model but with a governor appointment process.

Kristin Beckmann presented her proposal to advance all of the proposals received by the task force for review by the legislature. Ms. Beckman moved to adopt the following course of action:

Include all the options for reforming the governance of the Metropolitan Council submitted to the Metropolitan Governance Task Force by January 24, 2024 in the final report to the MN State Legislature.

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt an amendment to Ms. Beckmann's motion so that only Senator Dibble's "hybrid" model and Senator Pratt's COG model be included in the Report as recommendations. The task force discussed Commissioner's Bigham's motion.

A roll call vote was taken on Commissioner Bigham's motion to amend Ms. Beckmann's motion to only include Senator Dibble's and Senator Pratt's proposals in the Report as recommendations. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Senator Pratt, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Rep. Koznick, Jeff Reed, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Rep. Hornstein, Kristin Beckmann, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Sam Rockwell

There being 6 Ayes and 11 Nays, the motion failed.

Ms. Beckmann moved her original proposal to include all options for reform in the Report. A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Rep. Koznick, Professor Orfield, Sam Rockwell

There being 14 Ayes and 3 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Having determined that all governance proposals would be included in the Report and submitted to the legislature, Rep. Hornstein advised that the task force would now consider other motions related to reform but not governance specific.

Senator Pratt introduced the following recommendation:

The Task Force recommends that the operation and construction of Metro Transit be separated from the Metropolitan Council by January 1, 2027. The Task Force recommends that the legislature work on potential legislation and create a working group of all the necessary stakeholders to recommend options on how to implement such a separation.

The task force discussed Senator Pratt's recommendation. Senator Pratt moved his recommendation. A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Senator Pratt, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Rep. Koznick, Mary Pattock, Jeff Reed, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Rep. Hornstein, Kristin Beckmann, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Professor Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Sam Rockwell

There being 7 Ayes and 10 Nays, the motion failed.

Commissioner Bigham introduced the following recommendation:

The Task Force recommends that performance measures, especially related to funding for transportation and transit projects, should be part of any legislative proposal to ensure member accountability and financial transparency.

Develop, adopt, and articulate agreed-upon regional transit service efficiencies and allow for strong local input into decisions about investment and operations.

The task force discussed Commissioner Bigham's recommendation. Commissioner Bigham moved her recommendation. A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Abstain: Professor Orfield

There being 16 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Commissioner Bigham introduced the following recommendation:

The Task Force recommends that a reformed Council would need to immediately address the funding structure and relationship between the Metro HRA and other regional HRAs related to administration of housing vouchers.

The task force discussed Commissioner Bigham's recommendation. Rep. Klevorn proposed a friendly amendment that the words "immediately address" be replaced with "review." Commissioner Bigham agreed to amend the language.

Commissioner Bigham moved the following recommendation, incorporating Rep. Klevorn's friendly amendment:

The Task Force recommends that a reformed Council would need to review the funding structure and relationship between the Metro HRA and other regional HRAs related to administration of housing vouchers.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Mary Pattock, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep. Wiens

Nays: Professor Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb

There being 15 Ayes and 2 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Sam Rockwell introduced the following recommendation:

The legislature should establish a comprehensive set of statutory goals for the Metropolitan Council. These goals can and should then serve as guideposts for Metropolitan Council vision and action and as benchmarks for Metropolitan Council success and public accountability.

The task force discussed Mr. Rockwell's recommendation. Mayor Hovland proposed a friendly amendment that the recommendation be adjusted so that the legislature should first determine whether statutory goals should be developed. Mr. Rockwell agreed to amend the language accordingly.

Mr. Rockwell moved the following recommendation, incorporating Mayor Hovland's friendly amendment:

The legislature should study whether to establish a comprehensive set of statutory goals for the Metropolitan Council. These goals can and should then serve as guideposts for Metropolitan Council vision and action and as benchmarks for Metropolitan Council success and public accountability.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Dibble, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Professor Orfield, Mary Pattock, Senator Port, Sam Rockwell

Nays: Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Renae Pereira-Webb, Jeff Reed, Rep. Wiens

There being 8 Ayes and 9 Nays, the motion failed.

Mary Pattock introduced the following recommendation:

Recommendation: The Met Council should adopt a vision that prioritizes quality of life.

The task force discussed Ms. Pattock's recommendation. Ms. Pattock moved her recommendation. A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Dibble, Mary Pattock, Senator Port, Sam Rockwell

Nays: Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Senator Coleman, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Professor Orfield, Renae Pereira-Webb, Jeff Reed, Rep. Wiens

There being 6 Ayes and 11 Nays, the motion failed.

Rep. Hornstein inquired of members if they had any other motions that they would like to bring forward for a vote. No member brought forward any additional motions.

Rep. Hornstein explained broadly what would be included in the report. He advised that Ms. Koehler will send out a draft report by Sunday, January 28, 2024. Task force members should review that draft report and provide any feedback to Ms. Koehler by Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 5pm. Ms. Koehler will incorporate that feedback and send out a final report by Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Task force members will need to review the final report prior to voting on it at the final task force meeting on February 1, 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:33pm.



Metropolitan Governance Task Force

February 1, 2024

2:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair

Sen. Eric Pratt, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Karla Bigham

Sen. Julia Coleman

Mary Pattock

Commissioner Marion Greene

Rep. Ginny Klevorn

Renae Pereira-Webb

Rep. Mark Wiens

Sen. Scott Dibble

Professor Myron Orfield

Kristin Beckmann

Jeff Reed

Rep. Jon Koznick

Sen. Lindsey Port

Mayor James Hovland

Call to Order:

Chair Hornstein called the Metropolitan Governance Task Force meeting to order at 2:33 PM. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes:

Senator Pratt moved to adopt the Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2024. The motion prevailed.

Senator Pratt moved to adopt the corrected Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2024. The Meeting Minutes were corrected to include Commissioner Greene's name in the vote record for Senator Pratt's motion regarding supermajority voting, as her name had been mistakenly excluded. The motion prevailed.

Commissioner Bigham moved to authorize LCC staff to prepare and Rep. Hornstein & Senator Pratt to jointly approve the meeting minutes from today's meeting and then to have those Meeting Minutes added to the Appendix of the Task Force's final report.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Senator Dibble, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Rep. Koznick, Professor Myron Orfield, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Senator Port, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell,

Absent: Commissioner Greene, Rep. Wiens

There being 15 Ayes and 0 Nays, the motion prevailed.

Task Force Discussion on Report:

Task Force members discussed their thoughts on the report.

Professor Orfield advised that he will be submitting a “Minority Report” at a later date.

Senator Pratt introduced a “Minority Report” to be included in the final report, and the language of that Minority Report was distributed to Task Force members. It was determined that the Minority Report would be added as Section V of the final report. No vote on inclusion of the Minority Report was required and none was taken.

Mayor Hovland expressed an interest in also filing a Minority Report at a later date.

Chair Hornstein explained that any future submissions of Minority Reports would not technically be a part of the final report or the appendix, as the final report is being submitted today, February 1, 2024. However, any future submissions can be included on the Task Force’s webpage and will also go to the Legislative Reference Library to be included as part of the Task Force’s record. Chair Hornstein also advised that members are always able to individually send out materials to the legislature.

Task Force Motion for Report Approval and Submission:

Kristin Beckmann moved the following:

To approve the report as provided today with Senator Pratt’s minority report included. LCC staff are authorized to prepare the report and include any technical changes that are necessary. Chair Hornstein and Vice-Chair Pratt are authorized to approve and work with staff to submit the final report.

A roll call vote was taken. The results were as follows:

Ayes: Rep. Hornstein, Senator Pratt, Kristin Beckmann, Commissioner Bigham, Senator Coleman, Commissioner Greene, Mayor Hovland, Rep. Klevorn, Mary Pattock, Renae Pereira-Webb, Jeff Reed, Sam Rockwell, Rep Wiens

Nays: Senator Dibble, Senator Port

Abstain: Rep. Koznick

Absent: Professor Orfield

There being 13 Ayes and 2 Nays, the motion prevailed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:47pm.