

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
**390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
Wednesday, September 21, 2011  
4:02 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Susan Haigh, James Brimeyer, Steven Chávez, Jon Commers, John Doan, Steve Elkins, Richard Kramer, Harry Melander, Jennifer Munt, Edward Reynoso, Sandra Rummel, Lona Schreiber, Roxanne Smith, Gary Van Eyll, Wendy Wulff

Members Absent: Gary Cunningham, Adam Duininck

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, Chair Haigh called the Committee of the Whole to order at 4:02 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2011.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Reynoso, seconded by Melander to approve the minutes for the meeting of August 3, 2011. Motion Carried.

**Overview of the Water Resources Management Policy Plan**

Bill Moore, General Manager, Environmental Services presented an Overview of the Water Resources Management Policy Plan. Issues covered: wastewater, water supply and surface water management.

Wastewater: The wastewater system includes seven wastewater treatment plants, 600 miles of regional interceptors, and provides service to 2.8 million people in 105 communities.

Wastewater policy overview: Future wastewater issues include the regulatory impacts of PFOS, phosphorus, nitrogen, emerging contaminants, and combined sewer overflow

Surface Water Management: Surface water includes the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers, more than 40 tributary watersheds, 950 lakes and extensive wetlands. The surface water management plan policies include: water leaving the metro area is as clean as was water entering.

Municipal water supply: 121 communities supplied by 110 utilities, 870,000 supplied by the Mississippi River and 1,600,000 supplied by groundwater.

The water supply plan policies: support the efficient use of water resources to ensure that supplies are adequate for the region's projected growth; work with regional partners to protect the water supply system.

Future water issues: Protection of recharge areas, groundwater/surface water contamination, reliability, conservation and re-use.

### **Overview of Housing Policy**

Guy Peterson, Director of the Community Development Division, presented the History of the Council's Housing Policy from the 1970s to present.

In the 1970s, housing development guides were adopted, and legislation established Metro HRA.

In the 1980s, authority was given to review and comment on local housing revenue bond programs. Housing Development Guide adopted and revised. The Council's ability to implement housing policy was diminished, especially with the elimination of A-95 review.

In the 1990s, the Council formed the Housing Task Force, the Hollman Consent Decree was negotiated and the Livable Communities Act was passed.

In the 2000s, the Mayor's Regional Housing Task Force was formed, adoption of guidelines for priority funding for housing performance, SAC waivers used to support affordable housing.

Current Activities: Metro HRA, Metropolitan Land Planning Act, Livable Communities Act, Housing Performance Scores.

Next steps: Hiring a housing policy analyst, develop affordable and lifecycle housing policy plan, review housing performance score criteria and use, monitor closely threats to sustained funding for Section 8 rent assistance program.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie Nistl, Recording Secretary