

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

METROPOLITAN LAND PLANNING ACT

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- **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**
- **METROPOLITAN COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES**
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**
- **PLANNING ASSISTANCE**

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

1967 Regional Planning

- Council must adopt a comprehensive development guide
- A compilation of policy statement, goals, standards, programs and maps prescribing guides for the orderly and economical development, public and private, of the metropolitan area
- “Written comment and recommendations”

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1974 Housing and Redevelopment Authority

- Municipal housing and redevelopment authority within region
- Federal Section 8 rental assistance program*

*Currently serving 6,719 households (18,349 people/9,077 children)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1976 Metropolitan Land Planning Act

- Interdependency among local units of government
- Urbanization created need for additional state, regional and local public services and facilities and increased the dangers of air and water pollution
- Recognition that developments in one city may affect the provision of regional capital improvements for sewers, transportation, airports and regional parks
- Problems transcend local boundaries

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1976 Metropolitan Land Planning Act Cont.

- Need for coordinated plans and controls by all local governments to protect the health, safety and welfare of the region's citizens and ensure "orderly and economic development"
- Established requirements and procedures to accomplish comprehensive local planning with land use controls "consistent with planned, orderly and staged development and the metropolitan system plans"

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1976 Metropolitan Land Planning Act Cont.

- Local land use controls cannot conflict with the local comprehensive plan or permit any activity that conflicts with a metropolitan system plan
- Council authority to require local comprehensive plan modifications

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1985 Metropolitan Land Planning Act Cont.

- “If the comprehensive municipal plan is in conflict with the zoning ordinance, the zoning ordinance supersedes the plan.”

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1994 Metropolitan Reorganization Act

- Metropolitan Waste Control Commission, Metropolitan Transit Commission and Regional Transit Board abolished
- Agencies' duties and responsibilities transferred to Council

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1995 Comprehensive Planning Legislation

- Decennial review requirements
- Fiscal devices and official controls cannot conflict with local comprehensive plans or permit activities that conflict with metropolitan system plans
- Some conflicting fiscal devices or official controls are permitted
- Metropolitan Livable Communities Act

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

METROPOLITAN LAND PLANNING ACT

Metropolitan Council Responsibilities

- Adopt comprehensive development guide for the region (*ThriveMSP 2040*)
- Adopt long-range policy plans for transportation, wastewater and regional parks
- Adopt “metropolitan system plans” which are the policy plans and capital budgets for wastewater service, transportation and regional recreation open space

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Metropolitan Council Responsibilities Cont.

- Issue metropolitan system statements
- Review and comment on local comprehensive plans and plan amendments
- Ensure local comprehensive plans do not have a substantial impact on or contain a substantial departure from metropolitan system plans: the *Lake Elmo* litigation

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Metropolitan Council Responsibilities Cont.

- Review and “approve” local sewer plans
- Prepare guidelines and procedures relating to the requirements of the Act and related regional planning statutes: *Local Planning Handbook*

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Local Government Responsibilities

- Adopt a local comprehensive plan that contains:
 1. Land use plan including a water management plan
 2. Protective element for historic sites, solar access

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Local Government Responsibilities Cont.

3. Housing element containing standards, plans and programs providing adequate housing opportunities to meet existing and projected local and regional housing needs, including official controls and land use planning to promote the availability of land for low- and moderate-income housing
4. Local goals, intentions and priorities regarding natural resources, transportation infrastructure
5. Public facilities plan with a transportation plan, a sewer policy plan, a parks and recreation open space plan, and a water supply plan

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Local Government Responsibilities Cont.

- Adopt an implementation plan that has:
 1. Description of public programs, fiscal devices and specific actions taken in sequence to implement the comprehensive plan and “ensure conformity with metropolitan system plans”
 2. Capital improvement programs for transportation, sewers, parks, water supply and open space facilities
 3. Housing implementation program which will provide “sufficient existing and new housing to meet the local units’ share of the metropolitan area need for low- and moderate-income housing”

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Local Government Responsibilities Cont.

- Amend local comprehensive plans to ensure continuing conformity with metropolitan system plans and submit amendments to the Council for review
- Review and, as necessary, amend their comprehensive plans at least once every ten years as required by the Act and submit their plan updates to the Council for review

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Local Government Responsibilities Cont.

- Adopt and implement official controls and fiscal devices to ensure they do not conflict with adopted comprehensive plans or do not permit activities “in conflict with metropolitan system plans”
- Review and amend official controls that conflict with comprehensive plans as a result of a plan amendments (within 9 months)
- Within 30 days after adoption, submit copies of their official controls to the Council “for informational purposes only”

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

Local Government Responsibilities Cont.

- Fiscal devices or official controls are not considered to be in conflict with local comprehensive plans or to permit an activity in conflict with metropolitan system plans if:
 1. Fiscal devices or official controls are adopted “to ensure planned, orderly, and staged development of urbanization or redevelopment areas designated in the comprehensive plan”
 2. The comprehensive plan designates urbanization or redevelopment areas and specifies in the capital improvement program the timing and sequence of major local public facilities and in the implementation program official controls which will ensure urbanization or redevelopment occurs only in the designated areas and in accordance with the plan

Metropolitan Land Planning Act

- Local Planning Assistance Unit
- Environmental Services Staff
- Land Use Advisory Committee
- Local Planning Handbook
- Local Planning Assistance Grant and Loan Program

Planning Assistance