

Metro Cities News

August 11, 2017

Opening on the TAC

Metro Cities is seeking interested applicants for a seat on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Metro Cities has statutory appointing authority for making municipal appointments to the TAC. The TAC and TAB (Transportation Advisory Board) are official participants in the region's 3C transportation planning process on issues that affect transportation planning and funding in the Twin Cities region.

Appointees for the TAC must be department head level staff with an engineering, planning or public works background. Metro Cities' guidelines place a high priority on making the TAC balanced with respect to city size and geography. The Board also gives preference to those who agree to serve on Metro Cities Transportation Policy Committee. The Board seeks candidates who will be committed to strong attendance at meetings.

If you are interested, please submit a letter of interest and a resume/bio by **Friday, September 1, 2017** to Sarah Fredericks. Applications can be submitted via mail (Metro Cities, 145 University Avenue West, St. Paul, MN 55103) or email: sarah@metrocitiesmn.org

Inflow-Infiltration Grant Program Guidelines

The Metropolitan Council's Environment Committee approved guidelines for an Inflow-Infiltration Grant Program that will be funded with the \$3.7 million capital investment appropriation that was championed by Metro Cities and enacted this session. The funding guidelines will follow parameters for past grant programs. The monies can be used for eligible repairs on local public sewer infrastructure, with the purpose of mitigating inflow-infiltration. Notice of the grant program guidelines will be sent to cities in late August. Grant applications will be due on September 22, 2017.

Metro Cities will provide additional information as it becomes available. Questions? Please contact Patricia Nauman at 651-215-4002 or patricia@metrocitiesmn.org

Manufactured Housing Grant Given Preliminary Met Council Approval

A Metropolitan Council pilot program, aimed at preserving manufactured home parks, is in the process of making its first award. The Council's Environment Committee gave preliminary approval for the \$235,000 award, for Maple Hill Estates in Corcoran, which will help preserve affordable housing by defraying part of the cost of connecting to the regional wastewater system.

The grant program is in response to Council research which highlighted challenges to maintaining manufactured home parks as a supply of the region's affordable housing. According to the Council, the grant aims to preserve affordable housing, maintain access to opportunities, and to improve water quality. The grant to Corcoran is a 50-50 match for the Sewer Availability Charge for hooking up the park's 189 units. The full Council will review the grant on August 23.

The second meetings of Metro Cities' policy committees were underway this week. Two committees will form subcommittees to examine Metro Cities policies on transportation/transit finance and Local Government Aid. The subcommittees will report any recommendations to the full Transportation/General Government and Municipal Revenues policy committees respectively, for the September meetings of those committees. The Metropolitan Agencies committee completed its work at its second meeting and will not hold a third meeting. The policy committee is recommending Metro Cities conduct a longer-term task force to examine issues on density.

State Capitol Grand Re-Opening is This Weekend

The grand re-opening of the State Capitol will occur this weekend, with events planned from Friday, August 11 through Sunday, August 13. A list of events and the schedule can be accessed at this link: https://mn.gov/admin/capitol-grand-opening/schedule/

Save the Date! Forum on Comprehensive Planning

Metro Cities will host a forum for city officials on Friday, September 15 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on comprehensive planning. Topics will include new requirements, planning priorities and approaches from city panelists, and a breakout session by city designation, with facilitated Q/A. The forum will be held at the Roseville Oval, and is open to elected city officials and staff. Mark your calendars! More information coming soon!

Metro Cities News is emailed periodically to all Metro Cities member mayors, councilmembers, city managers and administrators to keep officials abreast of important metro city issues. This information is also intended to be shared with city staff.

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