January 24, 2018

TO: Members, Livable Communities Work Group
FROM: Patricia Nauman, Executive Director, Metro Cities
RE: Livable Communities Act (LCA) Work Group Overview and Charge

Thank you for agreeing to participate on a Livable Communities work group with city officials, Metro Cities staff, and Metropolitan Council members and staff. Formation of a work group was recommended by Metro Cities for the purposes of examining the Livable Communities Act (LCA) programs, identifying any areas of concern and any recommendations for modification to the programs. Metro Cities' policies strongly support the LCA programs and support ensuring that program criteria are flexible and programs are accessible to participating communities.

The intent is to complete work in three meetings. This work will include a review of the LCA programs provided by Metropolitan Council LCA staff, a review of city experiences with programs and any concerns, and discussion of any potential recommendations from the group.

With various programs under the LCA umbrella there is a plethora of material for each program relating to criteria and processes. It will be important to review processes and criteria, and pertinent materials will be included with the agenda packets. We will also work to ensure that the group's time spent reviewing any background materials is conducted thoroughly as well as efficiently. Please be sure to review agenda materials prior to the meetings.

Thank you again for agreeing to participate. Your input is very important, and we look forward to working with you!

METRO CITIES
Association of Metropolitan Municipalities

Livable Communities Work Group

Meeting #1   **Monday, January 29, 2018**

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Grant Fernelius, Chair - Community Development Director, City of Coon Rapids

AGENDA

1. Welcome (Chair, Metro Cities staff)
2. Introductions
3. Review of Metro Cities Livable Communities Policy (Metro Cities staff)
4. Cities' General Experiences with the Livable Communities Program (City Participants)
5. Statutory Guidance (Met Council staff)
6. Participating Communities and Requirements (Met Council staff)
7. Maps of Awards (Met Council staff)
8. Application Guide to Funding Accounts (Met Council staff)
   - 2017 Budget – Revenues and Allocations
   - 2018 Budget
   - LCA Grants Calendar/Cycle, Program Timelines
   - Application Review Process
9. Summary of City Survey Comments (Metro Cities staff)
10. Work Group Member Comments, Topic and Data Requests, Requests for Further Discussion (all)

FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday, February 12, 2018   12:00 – 2:00 pm (lunch provided)
Wednesday, March 7, 2018   12:00 -2:00 pm (lunch provided)

PARTICIPANTS

Grant Fernelius	Community Development Director	Coon Rapids -- CHAIR
Kim Lindquist	Community Development Director	Rosemount
Susan Arntz	City Administrator	Waconia
Loren Olson	Government Relations Representative	Minneapolis
Kristin Guild	Deputy Director of Planning & ED	St. Paul
Ellen Richter	City Manager	White Bear Lake
Karen Barton	Community Development Director	St. Louis Park
Tina Goodroad	City Administrator	Dayton
Kurt Ulrich	City Administrator	Ramsey
Tim Gladhill	Community Development Director	Ramsey
Jeff Sargent	Community Development Director	New Hope
Jill Hutmacher	Community Development Director	Eagan
Charlie Vander Aarde	Government Relations Specialist	Metro Cities
Patricia Nauman	Executive Director	Metro Cities
Paul Burns	Manager, Livable Communities	Met Council
Libby Starling	Deputy Director, Community Dev	Met Council
Beth Reetz	Director, Community Development	Met Council
Marcus Martin	Planner, Livable Communities	Met Council
Ryan Kelley	Senior Planner, Livable Communities	Met Council
Jonathan Stanley	Senior Planner	Met Council
Deb Barber	Councilmember, District 4	Met Council
Steve Elkins	Councilmember, District 5	Met Council
Wendy Wulff	Councilmember, District 16	Met Council

4-P Livable Communities

The Livable Communities Act (LCA) provides a voluntary, incentive-based approach to affordable housing development, tax base revitalization, job growth and preservation, brownfield clean up and mixed-use, transit-friendly development and redevelopment. Metro Cities strongly supports the continuation of this approach, which has been widely accepted and is fully utilized by local communities. Since its inception in 1995, the LCA program, administered by the Metropolitan Council, has generated billions of dollars of private and public investment, created thousands of jobs and added thousands of affordable housing units in the region.

Metro Cities supports a review of the LCA programs and any necessary statutory changes to ensure that the LCA program criteria are flexible and promote the participation of all participating communities, and to ensure that all metropolitan area cities are eligible to participate in the Livable Communities Demonstration Account (LCDA).

Metro Cities supports increased funding and flexible eligibility requirements in the LCDA to assist communities with development that may not be exclusively market driven or market proven in their particular location and in order to support important development and redevelopment goals.

Metro Cities supports the statutory goals and criteria established for the Livable Communities Act, and opposes any changes to LCA programs that constrain flexibility around statutory goals, program requirements and criteria.

Metro Cities opposes funding reductions to the Livable Communities Program and the transfer or use of these funds for purposes outside of the LCA program.

Metro Cities supports statutory modifications in the LCDA to reflect the linkages among the goals, municipal objectives, and Met Council system objectives.

Metro Cities supports the use of LCA funds for projects in transit improvement areas, as defined in statute, if funding levels for general LCA programs are adequate to meet program goals and the program remains accessible to participating communities.

Use of interest earnings from LCA funds should be limited to covering administrative program costs. Remaining interest earnings should be considered part of LCA funds and used to fund grants from established LCA accounts per established funding criteria.