



**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**  
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**DATE:** March 16, 2018  
**TO:** Planning Commission  
**FROM:** Comprehensive and Neighborhood Planning Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Preliminary Draft of 2040 Comprehensive Plan

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### **BACKGROUND**

For the past year, the Comprehensive and Neighborhood Planning Committee has been reviewing very early drafts of the draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan, providing feedback to staff chapter-by-chapter and reviewing changes they made in response to our comments. It has been a painstaking process, but one that we felt was necessary to fully understand and provide guidance on the draft document. Over the past year, we have also been providing monthly updates to the Planning Commission on our work, accompanied by staff presentations on embedded issues.

The next step in the process is to send the preliminary draft to the Metropolitan Council for its preliminary (voluntary) review, and to adjacent and affected jurisdictions for their mandatory review (per State Statute requirements). Please note that the draft being sent to these entities is not the official draft for public review but a preliminary draft for review by only these entities.

The Met Council has said it will get its comments back to staff within 30 days; adjacent/affected jurisdictions have six months to respond. Staff will be asking the adjacent/affected jurisdictions to respond within three months, and offering meetings to get their feedback in a more compressed time frame. If the adjacent/affected jurisdictions take the entire six months to respond, City staff will have to ask the Metropolitan Council for an extension beyond the December 31, 2018 final Comprehensive Plan due date.

At our meeting on March 7, 2018, the Committee reviewed the preliminary draft of the Plan (attached). Per the oversight role laid out for the CNPC at the beginning of the comprehensive planning process, we feel that:

1. The text is mostly complete (for preliminary review purposes), with final touches still to be made to graphics, maps and photos.
2. There are no major inconsistencies or conflicts between chapters.
3. The document is coherent.
4. The document is visually compelling and highly readable. We understand that an on-line and more interactive version will be prepared at the conclusion of the planning process.

### **COMPREHENSIVE AND NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

The CNPC recommends that the Planning Commission authorize the release of the March 23, 2018 preliminary draft of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan to the Metropolitan Council for a voluntary 30-day preliminary review and to adjacent/affected jurisdictions for a mandatory review, with a further recommendation that the Planning Commission request adjacent/affected jurisdictions complete their review in three months (rather than six months).

The Planning Commission should authorize the release of the preliminary draft with the understanding that it is not the official public review draft of the document. While it is technically a public document, the Commission is not releasing it widely and is not asking for general public comment at this time. This is a draft for preliminary Met Council and adjacent/affected jurisdiction review only.

Although the Commission is not officially releasing the full draft to the public at this time, staff will discuss the draft policies with advocacy groups and district councils from April through June, at open houses in June, and at community events over the summer. Changes may be made to the final draft document based on these conversations. The formal public hearing draft will be released in late July.

### **2018 REVIEW AND ADOPTION SCHEDULE**

March 23	Planning Commission reviews revised plan, authorizes submittal to adjacent/affected jurisdictions and Met Council (preliminary review)
March 26	Staff submits to Met Council for preliminary review (30 days) and adjacent/affected jurisdictions
April-June	Planners present preliminary draft to District Councils, advocacy groups
June 26	Adjacent/affected jurisdiction 6-month review done in 3 months*
Week of June 11	Public open houses (2)
July 11	CPC reviews comments from adjacent/affected jurisdictions and staff response, recommends to full Commission for public release and setting of public hearing
July 27	PC releases draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan, sets public hearing date
September 7	PC holds public hearing
September 19	CPC reviews testimony, makes final recommendation to PC
October 5	PC makes final recommendation to Mayor, City Council
October 17	CC holds public hearing
November 14	CC approves 2040 Comprehensive Plan, authorizes submittal to Met Council for final approval
December 31	Staff submits final plan to Met Council

#### **Attachments:**

- ✓ Preliminary draft of 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Planning Commission Resolution

city of saint paul  
planning commission resolution  
file number \_\_\_\_\_  
date \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, all incorporated cities, counties and townships within the seven-county metropolitan region are required by MN State Statute §473 to prepare a comprehensive plan with a 20-year timeframe and to update it every 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the current update of Saint Paul's Comprehensive Plan is due to the Metropolitan Council by December 31, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, City staff have been working on the update since 2015, engaging the public, experts, agency and organizational partners, and elected and appointed officials in visioning for Saint Paul's future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive and Neighborhood Planning Committee (CNPC) of the Planning Commission has provided oversight on preparation of the draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan, reviewing preliminary drafts and advising staff on plan content; and

**WHEREAS**, State Statute requires each local government to share its proposed plan update with affected and adjacent jurisdictions at least six months before submitting it to the Metropolitan Council for final review; and

**WHEREAS**, affected and adjacent jurisdictions for Saint Paul include adjacent communities and any agency having jurisdiction with the city limits, such as the Saint Paul School District, watershed districts, MnDOT and the National Park Service; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Council has offered to conduct a 30-day preliminary review of draft plans prior to final submittal; and

**WHEREAS**, the CNPC reviewed a preliminary draft of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan at its meeting on March 7, 2018, and recommended that the Planning Commission: 1) release the preliminary draft to the Metropolitan Council for a voluntary 30-day review; and 2) send the draft plan to adjacent/affected jurisdictions for the mandatory six-month review, with a request that they comment within three months;

moved by \_\_\_\_\_  
seconded by \_\_\_\_\_  
in favor \_\_\_\_\_  
against \_\_\_\_\_

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Planning Commission hereby directs PED staff to:

- 1) release the preliminary draft of the 2040 Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan to the Metropolitan Council for a voluntary 30-day review; and
- 2) send the draft plan to adjacent/affected jurisdictions for the mandatory six-month review, with a request that they comment within three months.

**BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED**, that an official public review draft will be released by the Planning Commission in July 2018, once any concerns from the Metropolitan Council and/or adjacent/affected jurisdictions are addressed.