# **Equity Advisory Committee Metropolitan Council**

Presenter: Cyrenthia Jordan, Director, Office of Equal Opportunity

Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government, August 13, 2020



#### Overview

Metropolitan Council Committees

**Equity Advisory Committee** 

EAC 2019 Highlights

EAC 2020 Workplan



#### Metropolitan Council

Guides growth in seven-county metropolitan area & provides regional services



- Regional wastewater services
- Metro Transit's bus & rail system
- Rent assistance
- Long-range planning
- Regional parks system



### Council's system and policy plans

- Regional development guide for metro area
  - Thrive MSP 2040
- Three regional system plans
  - Transportation
  - Water Resources Management
  - Regional Parks & Trails
- Policy plans
  - Housing
  - Water Supply



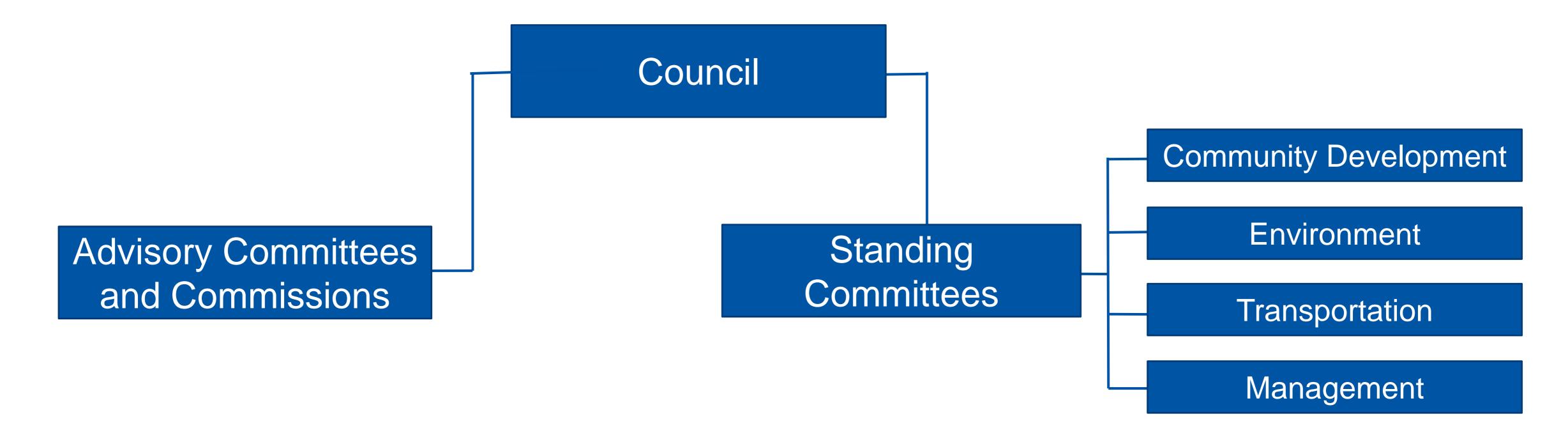


### **Equity Implementation Unit (EIU)**

- Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO)
- Overview of EIU's responsibilities:
  - Provide coordination and support to the Equity Advisory Committee
  - Implement Council's Equity Policy
  - Equity Coordination Enterprise-Wide
  - Manage Urban Scholars Program
  - Develop Council-Wide Training
- Highlight key policies and plans:
  - Council's Equity Policy
  - Public Engagement Plan (PEP)



# Council's policy-making structure





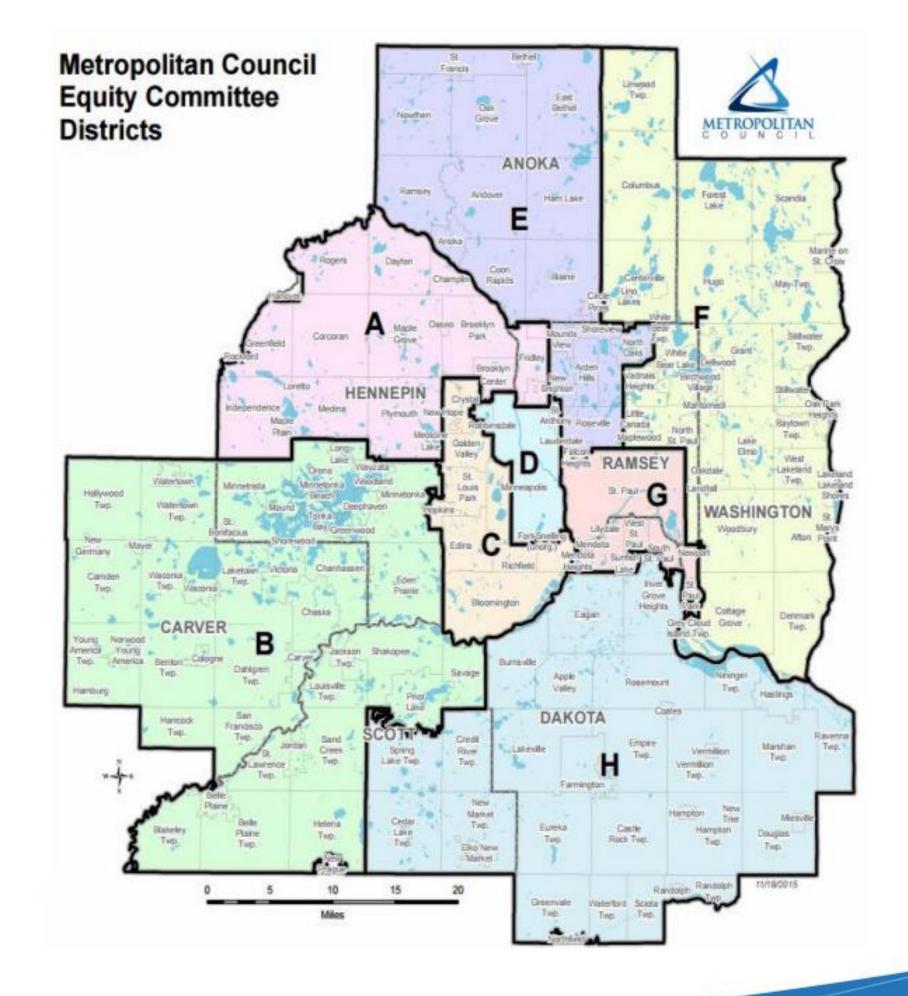
# **Equity Advisory Committee Overview**

- Created by Charter in October 2015 following Equity Working Group's recommendations
- Purpose to advise the Metropolitan Council in its work to advance equity in the metropolitan region and meet the Council's equity commitments in *Thrive MSP 2040*
- Operates under Bylaws
- Regular Meeting every third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.



#### Committee membership

- EAC has 21 members
- Four Council members, one each from the Council's Standing Committees
- Eight geographic members, one each from the following Districts
- Nine at-large members, must be a resident of the seven-county metropolitan area\*
- Two Co-Chairs, a Council member and geographic or at-large member







#### Current EAC Members

Geographic Members	At-Large Members	Council Members
Michael Luseni, District A, Minneapolis	Nelima Sitati Munene, Brooklyn Park, Co-Chair	Francisco Gonzalez, District 12, Co-Chair
Tie Oei, District B, Eden Prairie	Desralynn Cole, Minneapolis	Chai Lee, District 13
Nicholas Jenkins, District C, Bloomington	Julianna Miller, Woodbury	Phillip Sterner, District 15
	Sonya Lewis, Plymouth	Vacant
Anita Urvina Davis, District D, Minneapolis	Lanise Block, New Brighton	
Richard Paul, District E, Blaine	Andres Boland, Saint Paul	
Edward McDonald, District F, Maplewood	Vacant	
Triapio troca	Mohamed Sheikh, Minneapolis	
Sarah Rudolf, District G, Saint Paul		
Leah Goldstein Moses, District H, Eagan	Miah Ulysse, Minneapolis	

# Committee Values and Strategies

- Meaningful dialogue and action
- Community engagement, value voices
- Systemwide change
- Aligning with equity framework
- External equity efforts for community impact
- Support Council progress, make recommendations, promote innovation



# 2019 Highlights

- Received community input on Comprehensive Planning Process
- Submitted formal recommendations for:
  - Human Resources' Building Diversity Initiative to expand diversity recruitment efforts
  - Comprehensive Local Planning Process
- Provided advice on staff projects and initiatives:
  - Metro Transit Network Next, Regional Parks Equity Grant Program, Council Accessibility efforts, Green Line service-hour changes, Reframing Areas of Concentrated Poverty (ACPs), Livable Communities Fund Program



## 2019 Strategic Planning Outcomes

- Clarify the Equity Advisory Committee's Partnership with the Council
- Understand Council Member Equity Work in Priority Areas
- Provide Recommendations, Advice & Collaboration with the Council
- Close the Loop Report back on EAC input
- Meaningful Participation to Operationalize the Equity Framework
- Support Staff as they Develop Strategies to Achieve Equity



#### EAC's 2020 Annual Workplan

- Guide for Committee's meeting agendas & reflects priorities
- Developed annually and focus on the commitments made in Council's *Thrive MSP 2040* document, including implementation of a Council-wide Public Engagement plan
- Four focus areas:

