

## **RESOLUTION 16-60**

### **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PRINCIPLES FOR REFORM OF THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, regional planning and local government cooperation is vital to the continued success of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Council is, by statute, the regional planning agency for the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area, with broad authority, including the ability to levy taxes, charge fees and set regional policy; and

**WHEREAS**, cities and counties are directly affected by policies and financial decisions of the Metropolitan Council, making them primary constituents of the Metropolitan Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coon Rapids has had a long-standing relationship with the Metropolitan Council on Comprehensive Planning, housing policy, housing projects, and transportation projects; and

**WHEREAS**, a governmental entity with taxing authority must be responsible, responsive, and accountable to those it represents; and

**WHEREAS**, the appointment of Metropolitan Council members resides solely with the Governor; and

**WHEREAS**, many cities and counties believe that the authority to impose taxes and set regional policy should include local government elected officials.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that reform to the Metropolitan Council should ensure that the Metropolitan Council is a responsible, responsive, and accountable partner for regional development and progress; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Coon Rapids supports consideration of the following principles if reform of the Metropolitan Council is considered:

- I. That, in order to recognize the responsibility that the Metropolitan Council has to local units of government, local governments shall have a decision role in the appointment process for representatives to the Metropolitan Council; and
- II. That, in order to promote the stability and continuity of governance, the terms of office for Metropolitan Council members shall be staggered; and
- III. That, in order to promote equitable regional representation, membership on the Metropolitan Council shall continue to include a balanced geographic representation from all areas of the metropolitan region.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2016, by the Coon Rapids City Council.

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Jerry Koch, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk