

# METROPOLITAN COUNCIL SEEKS A DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(Salary Range \$111,779 to \$162,677)

**Anticipated Starting Range: \$125,000 - \$140,000 DOQ/E Plus Excellent Benefits!**

The Metropolitan Council, a regional policy-making body that has guided strategic growth of the Twin Cities' seven-county region for 50 years, is seeking a **Director of Community Development** to lead the Community Development Division. The Council was created as a “*regional solution for regional problems*” and is governed by a 17-member policy-making board that provides essential services and infrastructure for Minnesota’s largest metropolitan area, including the cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The seven counties in the Council’s Twin Cities Metropolitan Area are Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties. The Council’s core services include: public transportation, regional wastewater treatment, community and park planning, and housing.

This growing metropolitan area, comprised of over 4 million residents and the nation’s 14<sup>th</sup> largest region, is spread over 8,000 square miles and was established around the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix rivers in east central Minnesota. Highly respected by those who study and compare metro areas, the Twin Cities region is widely regarded as a vibrant, progressive, and well-educated community with affordable housing, diverse neighborhoods, and excellent elementary, secondary, and post-secondary educational opportunities. Residents and the region enjoy and benefit from a dynamic and growing economy with a strong business base, top rated health care and medical research facilities, and a variety of outstanding cultural amenities, including six professional sports teams and the nation’s best parks and recreation system.

Because the Metropolitan Council is granted unique regional planning and coordinating authority by the State of Minnesota to approve comprehensive land use plans of local governments, the Community Development Division is responsible for helping to shape the regional development guide, *Thrive MSP 2040*, and to coordinate implementation efforts related to the plan. *Thrive MSP 2040* guides the Council’s systems and policy plans for Transportation, Parks, Housing, and Water Resources and Water Supply. These plans provide guidance that forms the foundation of the comprehensive land use plans for the region’s 180 municipalities. The Council’s 2040 plans include a deliberate focus on using its influence and investments to build a more equitable region. The Community Development Division also forecasts population growth for the region, encourages affordable housing creation, issues development grants, funds a regional park system, and provides land use planning assistance to local communities.

The Community Development Department consists of six core activities that include: Regional Parks and Natural Resources; Local Planning Assistance; Research; Livable Communities; and the Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority (Metro HRA). Several major priorities include assessing and addressing policy and system impacts that may result from the review of local comprehensive plan updates occurring over the next 12-18 months; initiating a strategic and collaborative process to establish the next regional development guide; and, assessing alternative strategies in response to fluctuations in federal funding levels for affordable housing programs.

The Council seeks a strong and visionary leader who is team-oriented, possesses exceptional communication skills, and utilizes a style that engenders mutual trust and openness with the community and among all levels of the organization, and has demonstrated experience in fostering an inclusive work environment to advance racial equity. A strong customer service focus, attention to detail and commitment to fully engaging a cross-section of the community in decision-making is also desired. The

ideal candidate will be adept at building partnerships with other agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations and associations to address regional community development issues.

The Director of Community Development reports directly to the Regional Administrator and serves on the Council's Executive Team. The Director is responsible for overseeing an annual budget of over \$105 million and 88 employees. The position requires a Bachelor's Degree in administration, urban planning, public administration or a related field, plus ten (10) years of progressively responsible related experience in a leadership / management capacity. Experience in long-term and comprehensive planning and development practices, including exposure to urban / suburban growth trends, and knowledge or experience utilizing best practices when working with affordable housing programs and policy, planning for parks, recreation, and open space preservation, research, and grant management is desirable.

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume on-line at <https://waters-company.recruitmenthome.com/postings/1765>. This position is open until filled; **First review deadline is Wednesday, March 14, 2018**. Following the first review date, resumes will be screened in relation to the criteria outlined in the recruitment brochure. For more information, please contact Art Davis at [adavis@springsted.com](mailto:adavis@springsted.com), or by phone at 816.868.7042; or contact Patty Heminover at [pheiminover@springsted.com](mailto:pheiminover@springsted.com), or by phone at 651-223-3058. *Applicants selected as finalists for this position will be subject to a criminal history/credit/driver's license check prior to an on-site interview.*

***The Metropolitan Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer of Minorities, Females, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities (EOE).***