



**City of Newport
Newport Economic Development Authority Minutes
January 21, 2016**

1. CONVENE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING

President Geraghty called the Regular NEDA Meeting to order at 6:20 P.M.

A. Roll Call

Commission Members Present – Tim Geraghty, Tom Ingemann, Bill Sumner, Tracy Rahm, Dan Lund

Commission Members Absent -

B. Review Agenda

Motion by Ingemann, seconded by Geraghty, to approve the Agenda as presented. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

C. Approval of November 5, 2015 NEDA Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ingemann, seconded by Sumner to approve the November 6, 2014 minutes as presented. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 2016-1 - Supporting Proposed Legislation to Authorize the County of Washington to Confer Economic Development Powers Upon the Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Barb Dacy, Executive Director of the Washington County HRA, presented on this item as outlined in the attached documents.

Commissioner Sumner - Who wrote this legislation?

Ms. Dacy - The law firm for the HRA.

President Geraghty - On the levy authority, can we levy up to 0.813 or request it?

Ms. Dacy - Yes, you do have the ability.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Sumner, to approve Resolution No. 2016-1 as presented. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

B. Resolution No. 2016-2 - Adopting the 2015 Annual Report

Commissioner Sumner - The Advanced Disposal building is now vacant?

Asst. to the City Admin. Eisenbeisz - Their office building is.

Commissioner Sumner - Are they still paying taxes?

Asst. to the City Admin. Eisenbeisz - Yes and they plan on remodeling it soon.

Motion by Ingemann, seconded by Lund, to approve Resolution No. 2016-2 as presented. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

4. ADJOURN

Motion by Ingemann, seconded by Geraghty, to adjourn the NEDA Meeting at 6:42 p.m. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

Signed: _____
Tim Geraghty, President

Respectfully Submitted:

Renee Eisenbeisz
Assistant to the City Administrator

PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO ADD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POWERS TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY HRA

January 21, 2016
"Helping Communities Thrive"

Through innovation, the Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority promotes community and economic development, and provides and maintains affordable, decent and safe housing opportunities in Washington County.

Economic Development Strategic Plan

- Plan adopted May 2014
 - Springsted Consulting
 - Economic Development Workgroup
 - University of Minnesota Extension Service
 - Washington County Comprehensive Needs Assessment
 - 69% of Washington County residents surveyed support a county role in economic development activities.
- Desired Outcomes
 - Retain premier quality of life
 - Expand tax base and grow jobs
 - County is value-added partner

Guiding Principles

- The private sector is the lead that drives the economy.
- The County will not duplicate or replace the work of cities and other public agencies.
- The County supports a strong collaborative approach to economic development.
- Business attraction and retention are essential policy objectives.
- The diversity of the County requires an adaptable and open-minded approach.
- A deliberate, purposeful and strategic plan is required.

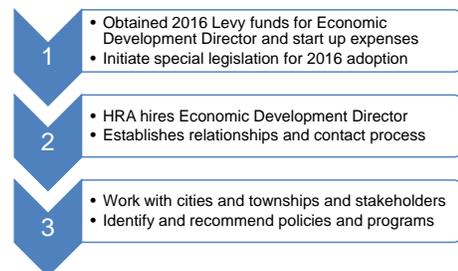
Activities to Date

- Updated TIF and Tax Abatement policies
- Incorporate economic development considerations in county decision making
- Continued to pursue transportation and transit opportunities that will stimulate economic growth
- Continued partnership with GreaterMSP
- Determined HRA to be best structure option

Why the HRA?

- Objectives are consistent with existing brand and mission
- Structure is comparable to other suburban counties
- In house program and accountability "infrastructure"
- Oversight and control of operations and "Special Benefit Levy"
- Relationships with cities and townships

Process



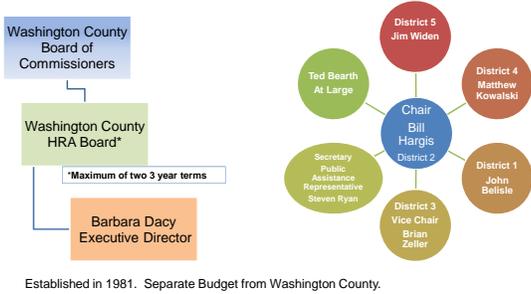
Special Legislation

- Add economic development powers
 - County marketing and public relations programs
 - Economic development studies
 - Financial assistance programs
 - Levying for economic development purposes
- Provide flexibility
- Maintain county process on levy
- Complement city programs
- Rename to Washington County Community Development Agency

Benefits of Special Law

1. Means to accomplish economic development objectives
2. One legal authority
3. No change in Board composition
4. Maintains County consent of HRA levy
5. Maintain continuity with existing "area of operation"

Current Board Composition



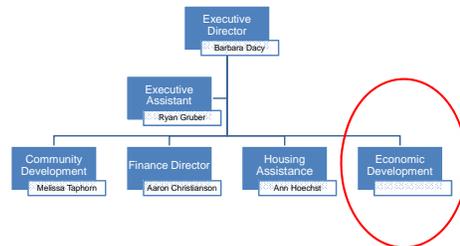
Current Programs and Services

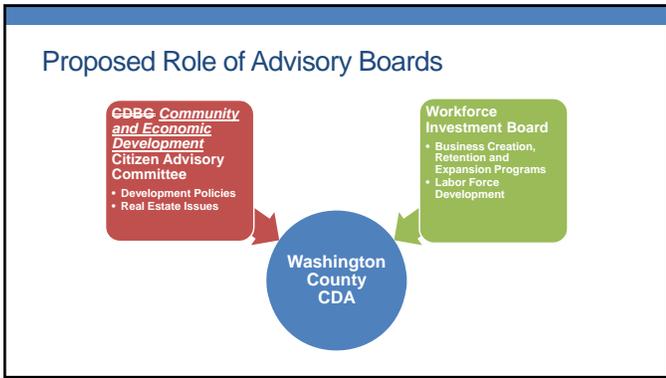
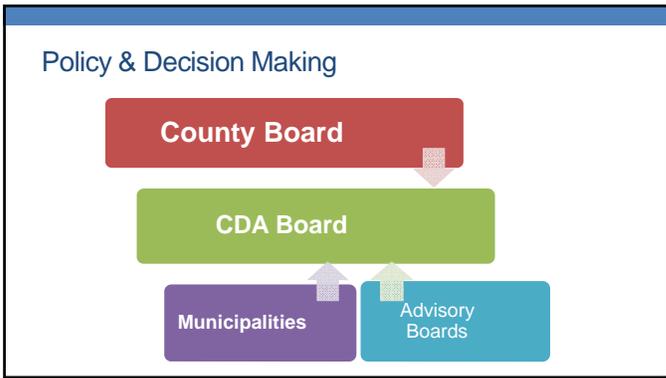


Proposed Law

- Section 1 – Establishes a CDA; identifies powers and duties
- Section 2 – Confirms the jurisdiction and area of operation; coexists with city EDAs
- Section 3 – City may request County CDA act as city HRA or EDA
- Section 4 – City approval required for economic development projects
- Section 5 – County resolution required, retains County Board levy consent, and waives 2 levies
- Section 6 – Enables County to offer forfeited properties to CDA first

Economic Development Director





- ### Examples of Programs that May Benefit Cities
- Assistance to Cities
 - Economic Development Incentive Grant Program (Scott County)
 - Assistance to Businesses
 - Creating new businesses
 - Assisting with development costs
 - Variety of financial assistance programs
 - "Open to Business" and "Economic Gardening"
 - Specialized programs
 - Pollution Clean-Up (Ramsey County)
 - Minnesota Main Street (Scott County)
 - Business Park Development (Chisago County)

- ### Next Steps
- Resolutions of Support from City EDAs
 - Submit bill end of January
 - County delegation meeting February 11
 - Legislative process and hearings
 - Bill adoption
 - County Resolution required