

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL FROM
CLIMATE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
February 6, 2025

A regular meeting of the committee was convened at 1:35 pm on this date.

Members Present: Council Members Katie Cashman (Chair), Emily Koski (Vice-Chair), LaTrisha Vetaw, Jamal Osman, Jason Chavez, and Aurin Chowdhury (Quorum - 4)

Matters listed below are hereby submitted with the following recommendations; to-wit:

1. Gas franchise agreement ordinance ([2024-01398](#))

Passage of Ordinance amending Appendix C-1 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, Gas Franchise, repealing the existing franchise ordinance for gas distribution system and passing a new franchise ordinance for gas distribution system.

2. Electric franchise agreement ordinance ([2024-01405](#))

Passage of Ordinance amending Appendix D-1 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Northern States Power, D/B/A Xcel Energy, Electric Franchise, repealing the existing franchise ordinance for electric distribution system and passing a new franchise ordinance for electric distribution system.

Staff Presentation regarding items 1 and 2 by Jocelyn Bremer, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office; and Luke Hollenkamp, Sustainability Program Manager, Health Department.

The public hearing regarding items 1 and 2 was opened, and the following persons spoke:

1. Patricia Koelsch, ISAIAH /Faith in Minnesota.
2. Julie Doherty, ISAIAH /Faith in Minnesota.
3. Kat Knudson, CenterPoint Energy.
4. Dan Turner, ISAIAH /Faith in Minnesota.
5. John Marshall, Xcel Energy.
6. Jean Ross, Vote Climate.
7. Hannah Merrill, ISAIAH /Young Adult Coalition.
8. LesLee Jackson, Northside Green Zones.

9. Lee Samelson, Community Power.
10. John Purdy.
11. Reverend Nathan Roberts, First Lutheran Columbia Heights.
12. Brian Krohnke, Community Power/ CEAC.
13. Ulla Nilsen, Unidos MN.
14. Byron Richard, Unidos MN.
15. Mike Rollin, Faith in Minnesota.
16. Kawai Washburn, Unidos MN.
17. Jonathan Harms, Faith in Minnesota.
18. Joey Rosicka, Faith in Minnesota.
19. Patty O'Keefe, EVAC.
20. Timothy DenHerder-Thomas, Cooperative Energy Futures.
21. Peter Schmitt.
22. Marcus Mills.
23. Alice Madden.

The public hearing was closed.

Cashman moved to approve items 1 and 2. On voice vote, the motion passed.

3. Blue Line Light Rail Extension: Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 2 ([2025-00158](#))

Authorizing Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 2 with the Metropolitan Council, to reimburse the City a not-to-exceed amount of \$291,592, for professional staff costs incurred by the Community Planning & Economic Development Department in the areas of internal and external project communications, development of stakeholder relationships, and outreach for anti-displacement work in conjunction with the METRO Blue Line Extension Project.

Cashman moved to approve. On voice vote, the motion passed.

4. Upper Harbor Terminal Public Infrastructure: Acquisition of permanent easement ([2025-00169](#))

Authorizing acquisition of a permanent utility easement from Thomas & Sons Construction, Inc.

Cashman moved to approve. On voice vote, the motion passed.

5. Grant application for the Municipal Investment Fund Planning grant ([2025-00156](#))

Authorizing the submittal of a grant application to apply for the Municipal Investment Fund Planning grant, in the amount of \$250,000, for geothermal planning in environmental justice communities.

Cashman moved to approve. On voice vote, the motion passed.

6. Lateral Water and Sewer Lines ([2025-00157](#))

Directing staff to conduct a landscape review of municipal programs or policies designed to provide support to property owners on expenses related to the assessment, repair, or replacement, of lateral sewer and water lines; provide an assessment on the feasibility of programs or policies; and identify any trends, barrier, or opportunities.

Cashman moved to approve. On voice vote, the motion passed.

7. Financial Hardship and Special Assessments ([2025-00161](#))

Directing staff to undertake research and analysis to produce a report of different types of special assessments used in Minneapolis and a landscape of municipal and nationwide special assessment assistance programs.

Cashman moved to approve. On voice vote, the motion passed.

8. Memoranda of Understanding with CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy for the continuance of the Clean Energy Partnership ([2025-00168](#))

Authorizing memoranda of understanding with CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy for the continuance of the Clean Energy Partnership.

Staff Presentation by Jocelyn Bremer, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office; and Luke Hollenkamp, Sustainability Program Manager, Health Department.

Cashman moved to approve. On voice vote, the motion passed.

9. 38th Street and Chicago Avenue, George Floyd Square: Concept layout approval and easements ([2024-01336](#))

1. Approving the concept layout for the 38th Street and Chicago Avenue, George Floyd Square project.

2. Authorizing negotiation with private property owners to acquire easements and additional right-of-way, if necessary, for the project.

The Chair afforded the courtesy of the floor to Council Member Jenkins, who expressed concerns about the project's timeline.

Cashman moved to refer to Clerk to be placed on file. On roll call, the motion passed.

Aye: Cashman, Osman, Chavez, and Chowdhury (4)

Nay: Koski and Vetaw (2)

Abstain: (0)

Absent: (0)

With no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned at 3:33 pm.

Reported by Amber Sinatra, Clerk