

12/14/23

Good afternoon my name is Stan Karwoski Wash Co. Commissioner

Current Vice Chair on our Board and serving my 7<sup>th</sup> Year as a Commissioner

Also, 16 Years in total serving on the Oakdale City Council and serving as Mayor.

23 years total since 2001 elected experience working with the Met Council

I come with testimony serving as a member of the MICA a ring county group (that includes Anoka County). I also serve on the AMC 7-County kitchen cabinet group.

Both groups working on a new MC governance structure and performance.

To date both groups have discussed many of the same priorities for change. I believe at this point the MICA group is a little further along in discussing and consensus building on change.

**COG (Council of Governance) MICA group - further along:**

1. *A majority of Metropolitan Council members shall be elected officials who are appointed from and by cities and counties. **No Direct Elect Concept support!***
2. ***Metropolitan cities** shall directly control the appointment process for city representatives to the Metropolitan Council.*
3. ***Each of the seven metropolitan counties** shall directly appoint their own representative to the Metropolitan Council.*
4. ***Terms of office** of any Metropolitan Council members shall be staggered. The Governor continues to appoint the Met Council Chair.*
5. *The New Metropolitan Council shall represent the entire region.*

6. *Counties are looking into a **larger 32 District Met Council** with “one” representative from each of the 7 metro Counties. The remaining districts will have local appointment control and with a priority that district boundaries do not cross county boundaries more than necessary - proportionality.*
  
7. *Reform goals – **members more accountable to constituents** and the Met Council Staff more accountable to elected representatives.*

Moving forward I urge you all the Reform Committee to listen to these two AMC & MICA groups and apply their input as a high priority!

I also urge you to use the insight of Commissioner Bigham serving on your Reform Committee and representing the county perspective.

Lastly, I urge you to call on MICA Executive Director Matt Massman as a great resource for collar county perspectives and also the entire region.

Thank you for your time.