

5.7.26 Scorecard

Ward 11 Council Member Jamison Whiting



Dear Ward 11,

Thank you for your ongoing trust and outreach about the important issues facing our City.

Democracy depends on the core values of **transparency, accountability, and accessibility**. That is why my Office produces bi-weekly scorecards that offer thorough explanations of how and why I voted in the most recent Minneapolis City Council Meeting.

This document shares my votes **(in blue)** and my reasoning for these votes **(in orange)** during the City Council Meeting on May 7th, 2026. Video recording of this meeting can be found on the [City of Minneapolis YouTube page](#).

For further explanation of how I voted or to set up a meeting with my Office, please call 612-673-2211 or email ward11@minneapolismn.gov.

All my love,



Jamison Whiting, Ward 11 City Council Member

Key Votes Summary:

Number/Title:	CM Whiting's Vote:	Pg. #
COW #1: Firearms regulation ordinance	CM Whiting voted in support of regulations on the components, possession, storage and use of firearms. This motion unanimously succeeded.	11
BHZ #10: Commemorative Street Name Addition	CM Whiting voted in support of re-naming a segment of Blaisdell Ave in honor of Officer Jamal Mitchell. This motion unanimously succeeded.	4
Unfinished Business #1: Drug paraphernalia decriminalization ordinance	CM Whiting voted in support of overriding Mayor Frey's veto of the legalization of drug paraphernalia. This override failed.	14
Unfinished Business #2: Temporary pre-eviction notice extension: 45 days	CM Whiting voted against overriding the Mayor's veto of the temporary pre-eviction notice extension to 45 days. This override failed.	14

Minneapolis City Council Agenda

May 7th, 2026 - 9:30 am

Members: Council Members Elliott Payne (President), Jamal Osman (Vice-President), Aisha Chughtai (Majority Leader), Robin Wonsley (Minority Leader), Michael Rainville, LaTrisha Vetaw, Pearl Warren, Elizabeth Shaffer, Soren Stevenson, Jason Chavez, Jamison Whiting, Aurin Chowdhury, and Linea Palmisano.

Call to Order

1. Roll Call.
2. Adoption of the agenda.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to adopting the agenda. The agenda was accepted 13 ayes to 0 nays.

3. Acceptance of minutes.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to accepting the meeting minutes. The minutes were accepted 13 ayes to 0 nays.

4. Referral of petitions, communications, and reports to the proper Committees.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to the referral of petitions, communications, and reports. The motion was successful, 13 ayes to 0 nays.

Discussion

Business, Housing, & Zoning Committee

9. Contract amendment with Meet Minneapolis ([2026-00465](#)).

Authorizing an amendment to contract COM0008586 with Greater Minneapolis Convention & Visitors Association, dba Meet Minneapolis, to release any unused incentive funds from restrictions imposed by the contract's terms, to be used for activities that offset expenses incurred by community events in Minneapolis outside of the Community Event Assistance Program, increase collections within the hospitality sales, and use taxes or promote Minneapolis as a tourist or event destination.

CM Chavez motioned to amend this resolution.

Context: Council Members expressed several concerns about how these dollars might be used without reporting to the City Council. CM Chavez and CM Wonsley worked with our City Operations Officer to change the contract amendment language to encourage both programming and active discussion with Council about how funds are spent.



Council Member Whiting voted yes on this motion as amended. The motion was successful, 13 ayes to 0 nays.

10. Commemorative Street Name Addition: Officer Jamal Mitchell Way, between Franklin Ave W and 22nd St W ([2026-00463](#)).

Approving an application submitted by Mayor Frey and Chief O'Hara to add the commemorative street name of Officer Jamal Mitchell Way to Blaisdell Ave, between Franklin Ave W and 22nd St W.

Context: Several Council Members and Chief O'Hara spoke to this motion and the life and character of Officer Jamal Mitchell. The City is proud to be able to honor his memory, heroism, and kindness in this lasting public way. As a City Attorney working on police reform within the department, CM Whiting got to know Officer Mitchell, in his words: Officer Mitchell was a shining example of what it meant to be a public servant. The City was made better through the service of Officer Mitchell.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to this commemorative re-naming. The motion was successful, 13 ayes to 0 nays.

12. Certificate of Appropriateness appeal: 1717 Developers LLC, 948 18th Ave NE ([2025-01132](#)).

Considering an appeal submitted by 1717 Developers LLC regarding the decision of the Heritage Preservation Commission denying a Certificate of Appropriateness application (PLAN19669) to demolish the property located at 948 18th Ave NE, the Tyler Street Northeast John Cook House, an individual historic landmark.

Council President Payne motioned to postpone this item to the next Council meeting to allow more time for discussion.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to this motion to delay. The motion was successful, 13 ayes to 0 nays.

Passed by Unanimous Consent

Budget Committee [May 4, 2026 - Committee Report](#)

1. 2026 Consolidated Action Plan budget adjustments ([2026-00501](#)).

Passage of Resolution amending the 2026 General Appropriation Resolution by making adjustments to project/program allocations in Schedule 4 related to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grants.

2. Rollover of unspent 2025 appropriations ([2026-00500](#)).

Passage of Resolution amending the 2026 General Appropriations Resolution to roll over funds from 2025 to 2026 for items that were delayed or not completed during the 2025 budget year for several operating departments.

Business, Housing & Zoning Committee [Apr 28, 2026 - Committee Report](#)

1. Liquor license approvals for April 28, 2026 ([2026-00458](#)).

Bonchon Dinky, 406 14TH AVE SE Minneapolis, MN, (Ward 2) submitted by Dinkytown Bon Chon Inc, BLAmend, LIC430619

Lonely's Bar, 117 MAIN ST SE Minneapolis, MN, (Ward 3) submitted by 117 SE Main LLC, BLLiquor, LIC429150

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, 1300 NICOLLET MALL Minneapolis, MN, (Ward 7) submitted by Hyatt Corporation, BLAmend, LIC428909

2. Liquor license renewals for April 28, 2026 ([2026-00459](#)).

[View Items](#)

3. Gambling license approvals for April 28, 2026 ([2026-00460](#)).

Minneapolis Firefighters Local 82 Charities, 2730 LAKE ST W Minneapolis, MN, (Ward 7) submitted by Minneapolis Firefighters Local 82 Charities, BLGeneral, LIC430743

NE Minneapolis Lions Community Foundation, 1928 UNIVERSITY AVE NE Minneapolis, MN, (Ward 1) submitted by NE Minneapolis Lions Community Foundation, BLGeneral, LIC430791

4. Gambling license renewals for April 28, 2026 ([2026-00461](#)).

ALIVENESS PROJECT MINNEAPOLIS, 19 15TH ST W Minneapolis, MN, submitted by
ALIVENESS PROJECT MINNEAPOLIS, BLGeneral, LIC69205

MN Youth Athletics Services, 618 5TH ST N Minneapolis, MN, (Ward 5) submitted by MN
Youth Athletics Services, BLGeneral, LIC400825

5. Vibrant Storefronts Initiative amended guidelines ([2026-00462](#)).

Approving amended guidelines for the Vibrant Storefronts Initiative.

6. Contracts for the 2026–2029 Public Art Manager Pool ([2026-00464](#)).

[View Items](#)

7. Bid for the Minneapolis Convention Center carpet replacement ([2026-00466](#)).

Accepting the low bid of Acoustics Associates, Inc., submitted on Event 3988, in the amount of \$1,197,500, to provide all materials, labor, equipment, and incidentals for the Minneapolis Convention Center Public Space Carpet Replacement project, and authorizing a contract for the project, all in accordance with City specifications.

Context: This item passed during the full consent vote, but it passed 10 ayes to 3 nays, as CM Chavez, CM Wonsley, and CM Chughtai chose to indicate their lack of support.

8. Contract amendment with Jorgenson Construction, Inc. for Minneapolis Convention Center Mill City Pizzeria ([2026-00468](#)).

Authorizing an increase to contract COM0010259 with Jorgenson Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$58,020.66, for a total amount not to exceed \$747,920.66, for the Minneapolis Convention Center Mill City Pizzeria construction project.

9. Contract amendment with Meet Minneapolis ([2026-00465](#)).

Context: Pulled for discussion. See “Discussion” section above for vote and full reasoning.

10. Commemorative Street Name Addition: Officer Jamal Mitchell Way, between Franklin Ave W and 22nd St W ([2026-00463](#)).

Context: Pulled for discussion. See “Discussion” section above for vote and full reasoning.

11. Updated agreement with the Cowles Center ([2026-00489](#)).

Authorizing amended terms of the Lease/Use Agreement with Arts’ Nest (or an affiliated entity), for the Cowles Center to allow the use of remaining City property management

funding as a reserve account for property management, maintenance, and improvements deemed needed by both Arts' Nest and the CPED Business Development Manager after the execution of the Lease/Use Agreement.

12. Certificate of Appropriateness appeal: 1717 Developers LLC, 948 18th Ave NE ([2025-01132](#))

Context: Pulled for discussion. See "Discussion" section above for vote and full reasoning.

Climate & Infrastructure Committee [Apr 30, 2026 - Committee Report](#)

1. 27th Ave NE Resurfacing Project: Project approval and assessment ([2026-00478](#))

Passage of Resolution adopting special assessments, in the amount of \$263,222.71, for the Street Resurfacing Project No. 2380D.

Passage of Resolution requesting the Board of Estimate and Taxation authorize the City's issuance and sale of assessment bonds in the amount of \$263,222.71.

2. University Ave SE and 4th St SE (Central Ave NE to 35W) reconstruction project: Project approval, assessment, and areaway abandonment, and Cooperative Agreement with State of Minnesota and Hennepin County ([2026-00482](#)).

Passage of Resolution adopting special assessments, in the amount of \$1,308,988.27, for the University Ave SE and 4th St SE (Central Ave to 35W) Project No.10124 (CPV074).

Passage of Resolution requesting the Board of Estimate and Taxation authorize the City's issuance and sale of assessment bonds, in the amount of \$1,308,988.27, for the project.

Passage of Resolution ordering the abandonment and removal of areaways located in the public right-of-way in conflict with the project.

Authorizing cooperative agreement with MNDOT (No. 1061784) and with Hennepin County (No. PW 10-40-26) for the University Ave SE and 4th St SE (Central Ave to 35W).

3. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Planning Grant for North Minneapolis Flood Mitigation Projects Feasibility Evaluation ([2026-00473](#)).

Accepting a Planning Grant for Stormwater Resilience from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, in the amount of \$250,000, to conduct a feasibility evaluation of flood mitigation projects in the northern neighborhoods of Minneapolis.

Authorizing an agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency covering the conditions and requirements of the grant.

Passage of Resolution approving appropriation of grant funds to the Public Works Department.

4. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Planning Grant for East Minneapolis Flood Mitigation Projects Feasibility Evaluation ([2026-00474](#)).

Accepting a Planning Grant for Stormwater Resilience from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, in the amount of \$150,000, to conduct a feasibility evaluation of flood mitigation projects in the eastern neighborhoods of Minneapolis.

Authorizing an agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency covering the conditions and requirements of the grant.

Passage of Resolution approving appropriation of grant funds to the Public Works Department.

5. Gift acceptance from the National Association of City Transportation Officials ([2026-00485](#)).

Passage of Resolution accepting donation from the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) for 19 City of Minneapolis staff to attend the NACTO Designing Cities Conference in Minneapolis, MN, from May 12-15, 2026.

6. Bid for 26th Street E and Hiawatha Avenue Safety Improvement Project ([2026-00452](#)).

Accepting the low bid of Thomas and Sons Construction, Inc., submitted for Event 3724, in the amount of \$2,924,275.30, to provide all materials, labor, equipment and incidentals necessary for the 26th Street E and Hiawatha Avenue Safety Improvement Project, and authorizing a contract for the project, all in accordance with City specifications.

7. Bid for Whittier Safe Routes to School Phase 2 Project ([2026-00471](#)).

Accepting the low bid of Meyer Contracting Inc. submitted on Event 4052, in the amount of \$2,733,905.66, to provide all materials, labor, equipment and incidentals necessary for the Whittier Safe Routes to School Phase 2 project, and authorizing a contract for the project, all in accordance with City specifications.

8. Bid for the construction of the Nicollet Ave Irrigation System ([2026-00472](#)).

Accepting the low bid from Minnesota Irrigation, submitted on Event 3986, in the amount of \$95,394.37, to provide all materials, labor, equipment, and incidentals necessary to perform Nicollet Ave Irrigation System Design and Install, and authorizing a two (2) year contract, all in accordance with City specifications.

Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee [Apr 27, 2026 - Committee Report](#)

1. Designation of polling locations for 2026 ([2025-01254](#)).

Passage of Resolution amending Resolution 2025R-461 by changing the Second Ward Precinct 6 polling location and the Seventh Ward Precinct 10 polling location.

Context: This item passed during the full consent vote, but it passed 12 ayes to 1 nay, as CM Warren expressed concerns on the availability of locations in North Minneapolis.

2. Contract amendment with Guidehouse, Inc. to conduct comparable jurisdiction research ([2026-00469](#)).

Authorizing an increase to contract COM0006814 with Guidehouse, Inc., in the amount of \$68,537 for a Master Contract total amount not to exceed \$718,537, for additional services associated with conducting comparable jurisdiction research.

3. Legal Settlement: Workers' Compensation Claim of Rita Juran ([2026-00451](#)).

Approving the workers' compensation claim of Rita Juran by payment of \$225,000 to Rita Juran and attorney, Meshbesh & Spence Law Firm, and authorizing the City Attorney's Office to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

4. Gift acceptance from Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Project on Municipal Innovation ([2026-00503](#)).

Passage of Resolution accepting donation from Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Project on Municipal Innovation for Grace Waltz, Chief of Staff to Mayor Frey, to attend the Project on Municipal Innovation Spring Convening in Cambridge, MA, from May 10 - May 12, 2026

Public Health, Safety & Equity [Apr 29, 2026 - Committee Report](#)

1. Contract amendments with various vendors to reduce greenhouse gas emissions ([2026-00484](#)).

Authorizing an extension of contract COM0009708 with Sabathani Community Center Inc. for eight (8) months, through December 31, 2026, for continued services to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Authorizing an extension of contract COM0009707 with Metal Matic Inc. for eight (8) months, through December 31, 2026, for continued services to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

2. High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program grant for regional drug threats ([2026-](#)

[00445](#)).

Accepting a grant from the Federal Office of National Drug Control Policy, in the amount of \$42,500, to address regional drug threats with the purpose of reducing drug trafficking and drug production in the United States.

Authorizing an agreement with the Federal Office of National Drug Control Policy for the grant, to be executed in accordance with Resolution 2025R-112 related to federally-funded grants.

Passage of Resolution approving appropriation of funds to the Police Department.

3. Gift acceptance from Big Cities Health Coalition ([2026-00487](#)).

Passage of Resolution accepting donation from Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) for Heidi Ritchie, Deputy Health Commissioner, to attend the BCHC Senior Deputies Summer Meeting in Washington, DC, and Baltimore site visit in Baltimore, MD, from June 8-12, 2026.

4. Gift acceptance from Pennsylvania Carey Law School ([2026-00413](#)).

Passage of Resolution accepting donation from Pennsylvania Carey Law School for Police Chief Brian O'Hara to attend Quattrone Center's 2026 Spring Symposium in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from May 12-13, 2026.

5. Drones as First Responders pilot program ([2026-00488](#)).

Approving a legislative directive related to information and data regarding the evaluation, design, and potential implementation of a pilot program utilizing unmanned aerial systems (drones) as first responders to certain 911 priority calls.

6. Contract with Restorative Justice Community Action for restorative justice program services ([2026-00470](#)).

Authorizing a contract with Restorative Justice Community Action (RJCA), in the amount of \$300,000, from June 1, 2026, through May 31, 2029, with the option to extend for two (2) one-year extensions, for restorative justice program services.

7. Joint Powers Agreement with Hennepin County for provision of social worker services ([2026-00475](#)).

Authorizing an increase of Joint Powers Agreement (C-8129) with Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department using agreement drafted by Hennepin County, in the amount of \$152,352 for 2026, for a total amount not to exceed \$303,525, and an extension for the agreement from May 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026.

Committee of the Whole

1. Firearm regulations ordinance ([2026-00202](#))

Passage of Ordinance amending Title 15, Chapter 393 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Offenses—Miscellaneous: Weapons, enacting regulations on components, possession, storage, and use of firearms.

CM Whiting’s Thoughts on this Vote: CM Whiting was extraordinarily proud that this ordinance unanimously passed the Minneapolis City Council today. Though it will not take effect until the State changes local pre-emption legislation, CM Whiting believes it is a meaningful step and a strong persuasive tool to encourage State action.

On Tuesday, May 5th, CM Whiting shared the following remarks in support of this ordinance:

“First, and foremost, thank you to everyone who spoke during the public hearing today. Your words and experiences are heard loud and clear.

And in particular, thank you to those with connections to Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Ward 9 and Annunciation Catholic School in my ward, Ward 11, who now have had to experience the uniquely American phenomena of a mass school shooting. Your bravery, character, and advocacy continue to inspire us.

Lastly, thank you to my co-authors and colleagues who have stood united in our commitment to this change, and particularly to Council Member Chowdhury, who has led this effort with focus and determination. Her leadership has been a textbook example of how to advance a delicate issue with strategy, community input, and legal expertise. Thank you as well to my co-authors, CM Chavez and CM Palmisano.

Gun violence is the leading cause of death for youth ages 1 to 19 years-old in the United States. But unlike other causes of death, we know the cure.

It’s removing guns – particularly high-capacity guns.

It is past time for Cities and States across the United States to protect our children and do what we can to make assault-style weapons – weapons that have no place on our streets or in our schools – inaccessible.

We are hopeful that by passing this trigger ban today and joining St. Paul in having this measure on our books, we are making a clear and united statement that the Twin Cities will stand up for our children, and that we will do all we can to support our representatives at the State to do the same.”

2. Study for New Passenger Rail Corridors ([2026-00512](#))

Passage of Resolution supporting the study of new passenger rail service between Saint Paul and Fargo/Moorhead and the Twin Cities and Kansas City, Missouri.

3. Gift acceptance from Local Progress ([2026-00566](#))

Passage of Resolution accepting donation from Local Progress for City Council President Elliott Payne to attend the Local Progress Federal Deployment Convening in Los Angeles, California from May 18-20, 2026.

4. 2026 Cinco De Mayo honorary resolution ([2026-00569](#))

Passage of Resolution recognizing the historical significance of Dia de la Batalla de Puebla, the Mexican Holiday of Cinco de Mayo.

Addendum - Notice of Ordinance Introductions

1. Encampment reporting policy ordinance ([2026-00275](#))

Chowdhury, Chavez, and Chughtai give notice of intent to introduce at the next regular meeting of the City Council the subject matter of an ordinance amending Title 12, Chapter 244 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Housing: Maintenance Code, removing provisions mandating regular reporting related to encampment removals.

Context: CM Chowdhury recognized Clerk Carl to speak to this NOI. Clerk Carl noted that this NOI is no longer necessary after conversation with the City Attorney due to a scrivener's error. He recommended deleting this item from the agenda, noting that updates will be made in the formal versions.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to delete this item from the agenda. The motion was successful, 13 ayes to 0 nays.

2. Law enforcement agency agreements ordinance ([2026-00516](#))

Chavez, Osman, Chughtai, and Chowdhury give notice of intent to introduce at the next regular meeting of the City Council the subject matter of an ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 18 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Administration: Purchasing, adding a new section 18.210 relating to law enforcement agency agreements; concealment of identity.

Introduction & Referral Calendar

1. Infectious diseases ordinance ([2026-00498](#))

Pursuant to notice, motion by Payne, Wonsley, Stevenson, Chavez, Chughtai, and Chowdhury to introduce the subject matter of an ordinance amending Title 11, Chapter 227 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Health and Sanitation: Nuisances Generally, for first reading and referral to the Public Health, Safety & Equity Committee, addressing gaps in the Health Department's authority to act to reduce the spread of infectious diseases.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to introduce this item and refer it to its appropriate staff or committee. The motion was successful 13 ayes to 0 nays.

Resolutions

1. Laura Mellem honorary resolution ([2026-00558](#))

Passage of Resolution honoring Deputy City Operations Officer Laura Mellem for her leadership and service to the City of Minneapolis.

2. 2026 Kirk Washington, Jr. honorary resolution ([2026-00554](#))

Passage of Resolution honoring the life and legacy of Kirk Washington, Jr.

3. 2026 Mental Health Awareness Month honorary resolution ([2026-00555](#))

Passage of Resolution honoring 2026 Mental Health Awareness Month.

4. 2026 Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month honorary resolution ([2026-00563](#))

Passage of Resolution honoring Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Minneapolis.

5. 2026 Older Adults Month Honorary Resolution ([2026-00556](#))

Passage of Resolution recognizing May 2026 as Older Adults Month in the City of Minneapolis.

6. 2026 Community Action Month honorary resolution ([2026-00557](#))

Passage of Resolution recognizing May 2026 as Community Action Month in Minneapolis.

7. 2026 Teacher Appreciation Week honorary resolution ([2026-00568](#))

Passage of Resolution recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to approve the above resolutions. The motion was successful 13 ayes to 0 nays.

Unfinished Business

1. Drug paraphernalia decriminalization ordinance ([2026-00096](#)).

Considering Mayor Frey's veto of Ordinance 2026-006 amending Title 11, Chapter 223 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Health and Sanitation: Drugs, decriminalizing the possession of drug paraphernalia.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to override the Mayor's veto. The override was unsuccessful 7 ayes to 6 nays, because it requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority (9 votes) to succeed.

CM Whiting's Thoughts on this Vote: CM Whiting wholeheartedly believes that the legalization of drug paraphernalia is a necessary and meaningful step to 1) move our City's response to drug use and drug addiction away from a criminalization and towards public health and 2) align City law with current State law. He shared his full reasoning for his vote on this topic in [the scorecard](#) on 4.23.26. CM Whiting understands Mayor Frey's reasoning for why he vetoed this ordinance, but respectfully disagrees and he remains committed to finding future avenues for a more humane response to drug use and will continue to work with everyone who wants to see this change in Minneapolis.

2. Temporary pre-eviction notice extension ordinance: 45 days ([2026-00352](#)).



Council Member Whiting voted no to override the Mayor's veto. The motion was unsuccessful 7 ayes to 6 nays, because it requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority (9 votes) to succeed.

CM Whiting's Thoughts on this Vote: As expressed in our [previous scorecard](#), CM Whiting voted in favor of the 45-day pre-eviction notice extension on April 23rd because he believed it represents a meaningful improvement over the 60-day version that preceded it.

This shorter, 45-day timeframe would better prevent tenants from falling into an unrecoverable debt trap, capping their accrued back rent to a more manageable level. The anticipated \$40 million state emergency rental assistance package, not a factor when Council voted on the 60-day version of the ordinance, would ensure that our nonprofit housing providers, who shelter our City's most vulnerable residents, avoided the same kind of devastating hit the eviction moratorium caused in 2021 that pushed them toward insolvency.

Council Member Whiting believes that blanket, one size fits all policies, like the 45-day pre-eviction extension, are generally the wrong approach to governing. He would have much preferred the Council take a more targeted approach to preventing ICE related evictions, but CM Whiting refused to let the perfect be the enemy of the good, and supported this ordinance as a strictly temporary, one-time measure to help Minneapolis families impacted by Operation Metro Surge.

However, even in the short time between April 23rd and now, facts on the ground have once again shifted. Recently published April eviction numbers are flat or slightly down since March, which in turn are flat or slightly up since the beginning of the year. CM Whiting voted for the 45-day pre-eviction extension, in part, because he anticipated a potential spike in April evictions, signaling a trend of increased evictions which a 45-day notice extension could alleviate. This trend has not materialized, making the case for a 45-day extension, which CM Whiting relied upon for his initial support, no longer applicable.

CM Whiting has also been explicit, across [multiple scorecards](#) and in direct conversations with colleagues that, in this time-sensitive moment of crisis, legislation which cannot pass the first time does not help the people it is intended to serve. That was true of the 60-day extension, which was vetoed and then failed at override, costing Minneapolis renters nearly two months of potential relief, and it is true again today. The failures of these two votes have striking similarities:

60-day eviction Notice Vote Timeline

- Before the March 5th vote on a 60-day eviction notice extension, the Council was very aware that the ordinance as written was highly likely to be vetoed by Mayor Frey and that the supporting members did not have enough votes to override the veto.
- To avoid this outcome, CM Whiting made several attempts to amend the 60-day notice into a version which would pass the broader Council and receive the Mayor's signature. Sadly, he found little appetite for a compromise between Council Members.
- As was predicted by most, the measure passed on a 7-6 vote and was sent to Mayor Frey, who vetoed the measure. This sent the bill back to Council for a veto override vote (which needs 9 votes to succeed). The veto override failed 7-6.

45-day Eviction Notice Vote Timeline

- Before the April 23rd vote on a 45-day eviction notice extension, the Council was aware, though not positive, that the ordinance as written had a strong likelihood of being vetoed by Mayor Frey. Council Members also knew that the supporting members did not have enough votes to override a veto.
- To avoid this outcome, CM Whiting made several attempts to amend the 45-day notice

into a version which would pass the broader Council and receive the Mayor's signature. Among the compromises floated were a proposed self-attestation form to be included in this ordinance which would target the additional 15 days to those directly impacted by Operation Metro Surge, as well as ordinance language attaching the 45-day notice to residents who have previously applied for any type of rental assistance. Mayor Frey supported both of these options.

- Sadly, CM Whiting found little appetite for a compromise with the Council.
- As was predicted by many, the measure passed on an 8-5 vote and was sent to Mayor Frey, who vetoed the measure. The bill has now been sent back to Council for a veto override vote (which needs 9 votes to succeed). The veto override failed 7-6.

For readers noticing similarities between the steps leading up to these votes, CM Whiting agrees. In both instances, a lack of communication and compromise between and among Council Members resulted in inaction. **Hundreds of hours of City time have been spent attempting to pass a version of this proposal which could have helped at-risk Minneapolitans, time ultimately wasted because the interested parties failed, and frankly barely attempted, to engage with each other.**

It is with this context that Council Member Whiting decided not to vote to override Mayor Frey's veto.

CM Whiting wishes Mayor Frey had signed this bill despite the mixed data (though he maintains that the case for a 45-day eviction extension is weaker than before). CM Whiting has not changed his belief that our neighbors need protection.

He has also not changed his belief that the only protection worth pursuing is one that actually works. Every week spent relitigating a failed veto is a week that could be spent securing the state rental assistance package, expanding access to emergency relief through the County, or building the kind of Council-Mayor collaboration that, when it has shown up, delivered millions of dollars in real, immediate help to Minneapolis families.

Mayor Frey delivered his State of the City address on Tuesday, May 5th, marking CM Whiting's 4th full month on Council. It was the first such address delivered since the devastating events of Operation Metro Surge, and the Mayor emphasized the strength that the City enterprise showed in the face of tragedy. "The true strength of our city isn't found in any single department or any single leader. It is found in our collaboration. When we were pushed to the brink this year, we didn't retreat into our separate corners. We shattered the old bureaucratic silos."

In his response to the State of the City, Council President Payne also focused on collaboration, stating that he wants to "work better together" asking the Mayor to set his veto pen down and "meet me at the white board so that we can actually come up with the solutions."

Council Member Whiting intends to hold both the Mayor and the Council President

accountable to these statements. Unity and collaboration are not just talking points. They require active practice, and CM Whiting is more confident than ever that if we are going to build a better City, the neural pathways of City Government must be rewritten. CM Whiting actively campaigned on compromise and unity, and over his first four months has been governing with compromise and unity at the forefront. CM Whiting is committed to spending the next four years working with each and every one of his colleagues to move legislation that is not stuck in gridlock and political division but benefits the City of Minneapolis by *passing* policy.

3. Appointment of Commissioner of Community Safety ([2026-00261](#))

Considering the Mayor's nomination of Toddrick Barnette to the appointed position of Commissioner of Community Safety for a term ending January 2030.

Context: Earlier this year, Mayor Jacob Frey nominated Toddrick Barnette to be re-appointed as the Commissioner of Community Safety for the City of Minneapolis.

During the City Council meeting on April 9th, 2026, the City Council voted against the re-appointment of Comm. Barnette in a 7-to-6 vote. (CM Whiting supported Comm. Barnette's appointment; read his reasoning [here](#).) This refusal to re-appoint Barnette was then vetoed by Mayor Frey.

This means that Comm. Barnette's re-appointment will be on the Council agenda for consideration every Council meeting until the stipulated consideration time (210 days since the Mayor's inauguration) has run out or the Council chooses to deny it again (at which point it would return to the Mayor for a veto and the process would begin again). Once 210 days pass, the Mayor will need to nominate another candidate to fill this role. If three different appointees have been rejected by the Council, City Council Members will have the opportunity to present candidates to the Mayor.

CM Whiting is working with the Mayor, Council colleagues, and City staff to determine best next steps on this topic.



Council Member Whiting voted no to the denial of this motion. The denial motion was successful 7 ayes to 6 nays.

CM Whiting's Thoughts on this Vote: CM Whiting could not support this denial because it does not align with his opinion on this topic. Read his position on Comm. Barnette's re-appointment [here](#). He would have supported a motion to delay this item to a future meeting to make time for conversation and prevent the loop of vetoes that the Council and Mayor is currently stuck in. He believes that this loop is unproductive and detrimental to the perception and effectiveness of our local government.

New Business

1. Appointment of Council Members to various boards, commissions, and committees (2026-2029 Term) ([2026-00008](#))

Passage of Resolution amending Resolution 2026R-053 entitled "Approving appointments of Council Members to various Boards and Commissions" by revising the appointments to Transportation Advisory Board.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to the motion to replace CM Wonsley with CM Chughtai as the alternate to the TAB Committee. The motion was successful 13 ayes to 0 nays.

2. 2026 State of the City address ([2026-00572](#))

Receiving and filing the 2026 State of the City address by Mayor Jacob Frey.

3. Civil Service Commission appointments ([2026-00573](#))

Receiving and filing Mayor Frey's nomination of William Walker to the Civil Service Commission for a three-year term.

Referring the Mayor's nomination of William Walker to the appointed position of Civil Service Commissioner, Seat 3 beginning March 1, 2026, and ending February 28, 2029, to the Enterprise & Labor Relations Committee for the setting of a public hearing.



Council Member Whiting voted yes to this motion to refer this item to its appropriate committee. The motion was successful 13 ayes to 0 nays.

4. Gift acceptance



Council Member Whiting voted yes to this motion. The motion was successful 13 ayes to 0 nays.

Adjournment

Next City Council meeting: May 21st, 2026