

Age-Friendly Minnesota Council Meeting

June 10, 2026
9:00 am to 10:30 am

AGE FRIENDLY
minnesota



Agenda

9:00 am	Call to Order and Roll Call	Chair Pugh
9:05 am	Advocacy/Policy Committee Report	Chair Pugh / Farah Baig
9:20 am	Strategic Partnership Committee	Rajean Moone / Committee
9:50 am	Blueprint Steering Committee	John Patterson
10:00 am	Action Items	
10:15 am	Director's Report	Lisa Edstrom / Staff
10:25 am	Next Meetings	
	June 11: Blueprint Steering Committee	
	June 17: Strategic Partnership Committee & MBA meeting	
	July 8: AFMN Council Working Session	
10:30 am	Adjourn	

**Next Council Meeting:
Wednesday, July 8, 2026 | 9 to 10 am | Online**



Policy & Advocacy Committee Report

Going into 2027

- **AFMN Legislation did not pass in 2026 session**
 - Program Integrity
 - Divided legislature
- **Messaging for 2027**
- **Big changes coming in 2027**
 - New governor
 - 25-member retirements
 - 18 members seeking different office
- **2027 session**
 - Runs January 5th-May 17th
 - Budget year

AFMN Council Policy and Advocacy Committee

- **Council members:**
 - Chair Sherrie Pugh
 - Sandy Vargas
- **Partner members:**
 - Georgia Lane
 - Adam Suomala



Strategic Partnership Committee Report

Strategic Partnership Committee

- Revisit our discussion last month – Themes document was sent out to all members
- Strategic Partnership Committee formed – Sherrie, Mimi, Rajean, Sandy, Simone – Will be meeting twice per month. Will also be meeting with MBA committee on July 1 to learn more about each other's work and plans
- Convening of partners – August 13
- MBA Strategic planning meeting in September



Blueprint Steering Committee Report

Blueprint Steering Committee Status Update – June 10

Work to Date/Ongoing Efforts:

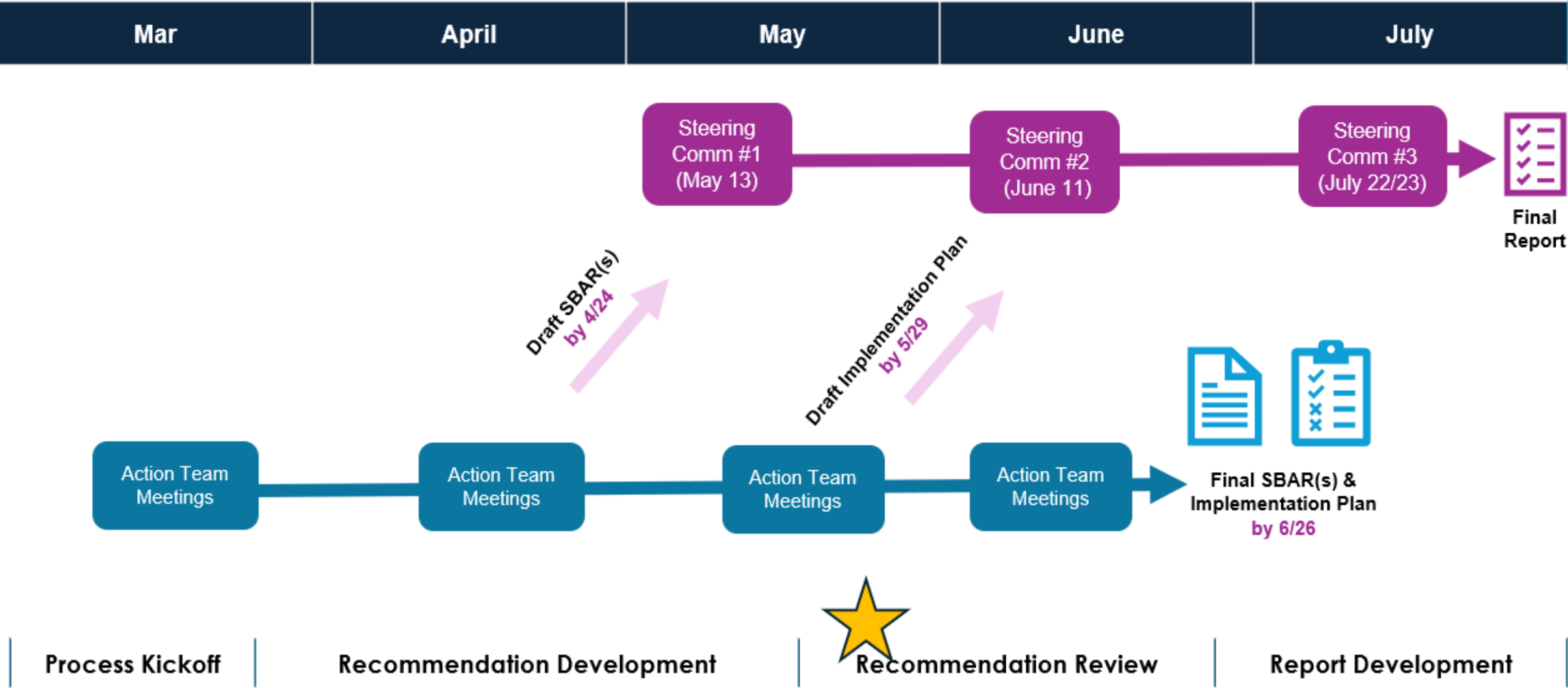
- All nine Action Teams are actively meeting
- Action Teams submitted draft SBARs; these were reviewed during the May 13 Steering Committee meeting
- Action Teams are finalizing draft Implementation Plans (submitted May 29)



Next Steps:

- Steering Committee meets **June 11** to review Implementation Plans and outcomes
- Action Teams will submit final SBARs and Implementation Plans by **June 26**
- AFMN team begins drafting the recommendations report
- Steering Committee reconvenes in **July** to review the final report
- Final report submitted to the Council in **August**

Timeline Overview



Action Team Recommendation Themes

System & Policy Change

- Many challenges are driven by policy constraints, funding structures, and system-level rules
- There is a desire for state and federal policy change to enable progress

Infrastructure & Capacity Building

- There are gaps in system infrastructure and organizational capacity that limit implementation, coordination, and scale
- Many solutions rely on shared systems, workforce capacity, and technology

Access, Choice, and Co-Design

- Access to services is uneven, and systems do not always reflect individual preferences or community needs
- There is a growing emphasis on choice, cultural responsiveness, and lived experience

Strengthening Systems of Care & Support

- Systems of care (health, housing, transportation, caregiving, etc.) are fragmented and difficult to navigate
- There is a need for more coordinated, person-centered systems of support

Ageism is a cross-cutting driver influencing access, policy, systems, and outcomes across these themes.



Grants Update and Action Items

Community Grantees: Approve Expansion Award Amounts

Grantee	Contract Extension Date	Expansion Award Amount
Community Mediation Minnesota	12/31/2026	\$8,000
Ecolibrium3	12/31/2026	\$8,000
MN Medication Repository Program (dba Roundtable Rx)	12/31/2026	\$8,000
Living at Home Block Nurse Program Inc. (dba Living at Home Network)	12/31/2026	\$8,000
Total	x	\$32,000

TAP Grantees: Final Expansions and Extensions

Grantee	Contract Extension Date	Expansion Award Amount
Minnesota Gerontological Society	12/31/2026	\$15,000
KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc	12/31/2026	\$12,000
Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging	12/31/2026	\$22,000
Leah Hill	6/30/2027	\$60,000
Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging	6/30/2027	\$68,000
Available: \$177,000	x	TOTAL: \$177,000

Contract Extension Only	Contract Extension Date
InTegrity Partners Consulting	12/31/2026
Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging/NWRDC	12/31/2026
Central MN Council on Aging	12/31/2026
Family Service Rochester	12/31/2026
Morken Consulting	6/30/2027

Community Grantees: Extensions until 12/31/2026

Grantee	Contract Extension Date
<i>Contract Extension Only</i>	12/31/2026
Asian American Business Resilience Network	12/31/2026
Byron Public Schools ISD#531	12/31/2026
Central Lakes College Foundation	12/31/2026
Faith Community Nurse Network of the Greater Twin Cities	12/31/2026
Joelle Hoeft	12/31/2026
Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota	12/31/2026
MN Center for Health Care Ethics	12/31/2026
Northspan Group, Inc.	12/31/2026
Rivers of Hope	12/31/2026
Southern MN Regional Legal Services (SMRLS)	12/31/2026

June Director/Staff Report

Continued MMB meetings: Staff continue to meet with MMB colleagues to share work and look for opportunities to partner on moving the Blueprint forward.

AASD/MBA Coordination Team: Farah and Lisa are now meeting with the Aging and Adult Services and MN Board on Aging staff to support development of the new State Plan and look for ways to align with the Blueprint not replace or combine.

GWEP: Lisa is on the Geriatric Work Enhancement Program. At a recent meeting I presented on areas of alignment with Blueprint. Lisa and Simone will be presenting for team at VA.

AARP Blueprint filing: The Blueprint has been formally filed with AARP as part of our recognition.

Data Dashboard: AASD/MBA have contributed \$\$ to the development of a user- friendly data dashboard that will cover a comprehensive set of data relevant to aging in Minnesota and the US

Annual Progress Report: Staff are drafting a progress report to be released later this summer. The report will highlight accomplishments and share broad goals for 2027.

Presentations and Outreach

- **Completed:**
 - St. Paul Advisory Comm on Aging
 - National Council on Aging
 - Age Friendly University Day
- **Upcoming**
 - Grantee visits – HACER in July
 - October: Minnesota Recreation and Parks Assoc.
 - October: American Planning Assoc.
 - Health Affairs – Interview/article Nature as we Age
- **Tribal Relations**

Regional Exchanges 2026

- **Planning underway!** Planning committee meeting monthly (AAAs and other regional partners)
- **Hold the Dates:**
 - **Day 1: Tuesday, Oct. 27** – Virtual, half-day, statewide focus.
 - **Day 2: Wednesday, Oct. 28** – In-person, full day, five sites across the state
- **Keynote speaker: Trust for America's Health** – to educate and inspire about age-friendly ecosystem
- **More to come!**



Upcoming Meetings

- **June 11** **Blueprint Steering Committee**
- **June 17** **Strategic Partnership Committee**
- **June 17** **MBA meeting w/Partnership Committee**
- **June 26** **Advocacy/Policy Committee**
- **July 8** **AFMN Council Working Session**