HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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The bill would raise the standard to be met before the council may require changes in a local comprehensive plan. Currently, the council may require changes if the plan "may have an impact on or contains a substantial departure from metropolitan system plans." The bill's threshold for requiring changes is that the plan "will have a substantial, demonstrable and adverse impact on the infrastructure of a metropolitan system."

Under current law, local governments in the seven-county metropolitan area are required to prepare, adopt, and periodically review and update local comprehensive plans. They must then submit the plans and amendments to the metropolitan council for review. The metropolitan council reviews the plans for consistency with metropolitan systems plans (e.g., regional systems for wastewater collection and treatment transportation, airports, parks and open space). Local governments must update their plans every ten years, with the most recent deadline for updates being December 31, 1998.