

## Committee of the Whole

Meeting date: September 15, 2021

**Subject:** Affordable Housing Trends and Regional Housing Policy Update

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stat. § 473.254

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Krysten Ryba-Tures, Senior Researcher (651- 602-1821); Tara Beard, Livable Communities Manager (651-602-1051)

**Division/Department:** Community Development / Regional Planning

### Proposed Action

Information Item only. No action required.

### Background

Under Minn. Stat. 473.254, the Metropolitan Council is responsible for preparing a “comprehensive report card on affordable and life-cycle housing in each municipality in the metropolitan area.” The Council fulfills this responsibility by conducting annual surveys of local governments regarding building permits and the construction and preservation of affordable housing. The Council supplements the information submitted with additional information from County development agencies and other housing market data sources available. According to statute, the Council’s data on new affordable housing must “include information on government, nonprofit, and marketplace efforts” and capture all new housing that meets the Council’s affordability thresholds, including units added without public subsidy or income restrictions.

This Committee presentation will meet the requirements of Minn. Stat. 473.254 for 2020, and contain information on:

- the location and characteristics of the region’s newly added affordable units in 2020;
- a look back at affordable housing production over the 2011-2020 decade and how it compares to affordable housing need for that decade;
- a look forward at forecasted growth in affordable housing need for the 2021-2030 decade and how it compares to the last five years of affordable housing production
- an updated “big picture” of affordable housing demand across the region; and
- consideration of Council efforts to more specifically address the hardest to meet affordable housing needs

### Thrive Lens Analysis

Collecting and sharing information on new affordable housing production is a key part of the Council’s contribution to the Thrive Equity strategy of “Creating real choices in where we live... for all residents, across race, ethnicity, economic means, and ability,” and the *2040 Housing Policy Plan*’s overall priority to “create housing options that give people in all life stages and of all economic means viable choices for safe, stable and affordable homes.” With information on both how much new affordable housing is built and where those units are, the Council and its partners can more effectively implement policies and priorities to create housing choices across the region.