

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: March 21, 2016

Subject: Housing Performance Scores

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: *2040 Housing Policy Plan*

Staff Prepared/Presented: Jonathan Stanley (651-602-1555)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Policy and Research

Proposed Action

None. Information only at this time.

Background

The Council's Housing Performance Scores are calculated annually for cities and townships, assessing local efforts in developing and maintaining affordable housing and providing housing-related services and programs. Housing Performance Scores are used in ranking applications to the Livable Communities Demonstration Account and Tax Base Revitalization Account and are used inversely in the Local Housing Initiatives Account to spur affordable housing activities in communities with less existing affordable housing (i.e., a lower score gives greater priority). The Scores are also used in the Regional Solicitation for transportation funding, accounting for 7 percent of a proposal's total score.

Concurrent with the development of the *2040 Housing Policy Plan*, staff assembled a subgroup of the Housing Policy Plan Work Group to revise the Guidelines for Priority Funding for Housing Performance (the methodology for calculating the scores); this represented the first substantive revision of the Scores since 2002. Recognizing that the new guidelines could have a significant impact on communities' 2015 Scores, the Council established a "hold harmless" provision such that no community's Score could fall below 80 percent of the average of their last five years' Housing Performance Scores. The Council also committed to reviewing the scoring system in 2016 to ensure the Scores advance Council goals and objectives.

Staff will soon reconvene the subgroup and solicit comments from other stakeholders, including the Land Use Advisory Committee. Staff will return to the Community Development Committee with proposed changes for approval later this spring.