

Update on the use of the Council's Fair Housing Resources in 2017

December 18, 2017

Community Development Committee



\$70,000 for Fair Housing Activities carried over from 2016

- \$9,500 to support continued training and technical assistance for the Mixed-Income Housing Calculator
- \$35,000 for the development of a model fair housing policy for adoption by local governments
- Testing on landlord acceptance of Housing Choice Vouchers was not able to be done in 2017, leaving \$25,500 in unallocated carry-over
- \$125,500 was therefore available in 2017

\$125,500 for Fair Housing Activities in 2017 Budget (1 of 3)

- \$10,000 to the Fair Housing Implementation Council
 - Supports regional collaboration on fair housing
 - Supports the Thrive strategy of “engaging a full cross-section of the community in decision-making”
 - Builds on \$17,500 in investments made in 2015 and 2016

\$125,500 for Fair Housing Activities in 2017 Budget (2 of 3)

- \$75,000 to HousingLink's Housing Hub:
 - Centralizes the region's project-based Section 8 waiting lists
 - An online tool that allows all of the properties with project-based Section 8 units to be part of one website
 - Benefits low-income renters and property managers of affordable properties
 - Other funders include philanthropic and government sources

\$125,500 for Fair Housing Activities in 2017 Budget (3 of 3)

- \$37,500 to support HOME Line's tenant advocacy hotline:
 - Provides legal advice to solve rental problems, preventing over 555 evictions in 2017 in the 7-county metro and helping renters save an estimated \$944,947
 - More than half the residents served call from suburban communities
 - The vast majority of callers are at or below HUD's definition of low-income and 44% of callers identify as people of color

For more information:

Contact: Tara Beard, AICP
Housing Policy Analyst
tara.beard@metc.state.mn.us

