

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: November 6, 2017

Subject: “Sold Out: Affordable Housing at Risk”

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: *2040 Housing Policy Plan*

Staff Prepared/Presented: Libby Starling, Director of Regional Planning (651-602-1135)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Planning

Proposed Action

None, information and discussion only

Background

In 2015, the Minnesota Housing Partnership invited the Metropolitan Council to become a partner in the production of a Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) documentary on the risks facing naturally occurring affordable housing in the Twin Cities region, using the story of the conversion of Crossroads Apartments to the Concierge Apartments as a case study to focus the larger conversation. The Council provided funding and technical support to the documentary as part of its *2040 Housing Policy Plan* strategy to “Address how ‘naturally occurring’ or unsubsidized affordable housing meets the region’s housing needs.”

Minnesota Housing Partnership and TPT premiered [Sold Out: Affordable Housing at Risk](#) at an event in June 2017 and have been airing it both on TPT channels (including TPT-MN and TPT-LIFE) and at special airings since then.

The November 6 Community Development Committee will include an airing of “Sold Out: Affordable Housing at Risk” followed by an opportunity for Council member conversation. Discussion will inform the proposed expenditure in the draft 2018 budget to use the Council’s levy to “assist regional efforts to reduce the loss of naturally occurring affordable housing.”

Thrive Lens Analysis

The preservation of naturally occurring affordable housing across the region contributes to the Thrive Equity strategy of “Creating real choices in where we live... for all residents, across race, ethnicity, economic means, and ability” and specifically the Council’s commitment to “Encourage preserving existing housing....”