

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: February 3, 2020

Subject: Discussion of 2021-2030 Affordable and Life-cycle Housing Goals for Livable Communities Act Re-enrollment

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Livable Communities Act (Minn. Stat. § 473.25)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Tara Beard, Livable Communities Manager (651-602-1051)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Planning

Proposed Action

None. Information and discussion only.

Background

The Livable Communities Act is a voluntary grant program adopted by the legislature in 1995 to promote living-wage jobs, a full range of housing options, and compact and efficient development. To participate in the program local governments must meet the following requirements:

- Adopt affordable and life-cycle housing goals
- Establish a housing action plan that states how those goals will be met
- Spend an affordable and life-cycle housing amount (ALHOA)

The February 3 Committee discussion will address the first requirement: affordable and life-cycle housing goals. Goals are determined on a decennial basis, consistent with our 10-year planning cycle and forecasting methods. Current LCA participating cities have adopted affordable and life-cycle housing goals for the 2011-2020 decade. All communities that wish to re-enroll for the 2021-2030 decade must adopt new goals by November 15, 2020, to be eligible to apply for LCA grants in 2021.

Council staff have held multiple meetings with a wide variety of stakeholders to discuss how 2021-2030 goals should be determined. There is broad regional consensus that goals should be determined using a consistent and transparent methodology across all participating communities. Other factors have been discussed revealing a variety of perspectives and considerations.

At the February 3 Committee meeting, staff will provide:

- additional background on LCA and how LCA goals have been determined in the past
- a summary of the discussions that have occurred thus far; and
- an opportunity for feedback and discussion to inform next steps