

DRAFT 2050 HOUSING POLICY PLAN

A CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDE, IMAGINE 2050



IMAGINE²⁰₅₀
housing policy plan

A prosperous, equitable, and resilient region
with abundant opportunities for all to live,
work, play, and thrive.

Regional core values

Equity | Leadership | Accountability | Stewardship

Regional goals

Our region is equitable and inclusive

Racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated; and all residents and newcomers feel welcome, included, and empowered.

Our communities are healthy and safe

All our region's residents live healthy, productive, and rewarding lives with a sense of dignity and wellbeing.

Our region is dynamic and resilient

Our region meets the opportunities and challenges faced by our communities and economy including issues of choice, access, and affordability.

We lead on addressing climate change

We have mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and have adapted to ensure our communities and systems are resilient to climate impacts.

We protect and restore natural systems

We protect, integrate, and restore natural systems to protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for the people of our region.



Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction | 4 |
| <i>Why a Housing Policy Plan</i> | 5 |
| <i>Housing Policy Plan Objectives, Policies and Actions</i> | 5 |
| <i>Regional Housing Values: A Year of Engagement</i> | 5 |
| <i>Housing Objectives and Policies</i> | 6 |
| <i>Housing Policy Plan Actions</i> | 7 |
| <i>Metrics/Measurement</i> | 7 |
| Section 1: Proximity and Choice | 8 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 1: FAIR HOUSING & GEOGRAPHIC CHOICE</i> | 8 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 2: OPTIONS TO OWN AND RENT</i> | 9 |
| Section 2: Dignity and Decency | 11 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 3: STABILITY</i> | 11 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 4: QUALITY</i> | 12 |
| Section 3: Connection and Wellbeing | 14 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 5: CULTURAL CONNECTION AND WELLBEING</i> | 14 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 6: EQUITY</i> | 15 |
| <i>OBJECTIVE 7: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</i> | 17 |
| Appendices | 18 |
| References | 18 |

Introduction

The Housing Policy Plan (HPP) is part of Imagine 2050, the regional development guide (RDG), and sets regional policies to ensure the prosperous and economic growth of the Twin Cities metropolitan region.

The Council is developing this 2050 Housing Policy Plan to provide leadership, guidance and priorities on regional needs and challenges. As a part of Imagine 2050, the Housing Policy Plan will connect with and complement the regional vision, values, goals and define how these values and goals apply to the Metropolitan Council’s housing policies, partnerships, and programs.

Imagine 2050 is scheduled to be adopted by the Council at the end of 2024.

| IMAGINE 2050 VALUES | |
|----------------------------|--|
| EQUITY | We value the people and communities of our region. Our region is economically and culturally vibrant. We also recognize, however, the harm and disparities that injustices, including racism, have created. |
| LEADERSHIP | <p>We value those in our region who inspire and motivate others for positive change. Our region is known for its civic engagement. We need broad and inclusive leadership to help confront the significant challenges we face around equity, climate change, safety, and other pressing issues.</p> <p>To maximize the potential of our region and its communities, we turn to leadership that is diverse, collaborative, culturally competent, and innovative. We encourage this kind of leadership across all sectors including business, government, non-profit, and education.</p> |
| ACCOUNTABILITY | <p>We value being effective in our work and achieving measurable outcomes. Our region is known for its research, initiatives, and collaborations. We must be open to criticism and clearly understand when we are not achieving results or have harmed communities.</p> <p>We recognize that we can maximize our effectiveness by being in partnership with others. We will also be transparent and flexible so that we can change course when needed.</p> |
| STEWARDSHIP | <p>We value our region’s resources. Our resources include our natural, economic, and financial resources as well as our infrastructure. We recognize that these resources may be vulnerable over time to changing conditions, including from climate change.</p> <p>We must design our systems and allocate our resources in ways that can be sustained over time and support the needs of future generations.</p> |

Additionally, Imagine 2050 contains cross-cutting regional goals. Collectively, these goals describe and support an overall vision for the region and set the policy agenda for the objectives outlined in this Housing Policy Plan.

| IMAGINE 2050 CROSS-CUTTING REGIONAL GOALS | |
|--|--|
| OUR REGION IS EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE | Racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated; and all residents and newcomers feel welcome, included, and empowered. |
| OUR COMMUNITIES ARE HEALTHY AND SAFE | All our region’s residents live healthy, productive, and rewarding lives with a sense of security, dignity, and wellbeing. |
| OUR ECONOMY IS DYNAMIC AND RESILIENT | Our region meets the opportunities and challenges faced by our communities and economy including issues of choice, access, and affordability. |
| WE LEAD ON ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE | We have mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and have adapted to ensure that our communities and systems are resilient to climate impacts. |
| WE PROTECT AND RESTORE NATURAL SYSTEMS | We protect, integrate, and restore natural systems to protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for the people of our region. |

Why a Housing Policy Plan

[Insert discussion of statutory guidance (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/473.859>), history of housing policy plans in the region, what is unique about this plan]

Housing Policy Plan Objectives, Policies and Actions

The Housing Policy Plan contains Objectives, Policies, and Actions that carry the Council’s regional values and cross-cutting goals through the areas of housing planning. These Objectives and related policies and actions are separated into three chapters representing the regional housing values that were identified through community engagement: Proximity and Choice, Dignity and Decency, Connection and Wellbeing.

Regional Housing Values: A Year of Engagement

To learn from the history of the region and plan for a future where all can thrive, especially those who have been historically excluded from decision-making, we began by engaging community members so that we can understand, honor, and listen to residents’ values and desires for our collective future. Residents in the region, especially our residents of color, guided the focus of this plan. The Council acknowledges that the decisions of the past have not benefited people of color, often because they were written by and designed to benefit white people. The 2050 Housing Policy Plan aims to promote racial equity in how we grow, to reflect the needs and priorities of our entire community, and to begin to

address the historical inequities of past decisions and policies. To align the objectives and strategies of the Council’s housing work with this aim, the guiding topics of this plan are rooted in the themes that were generated through a year of engagement.

[Insert description/visual representation of community engagement sessions, technical advisory group, staff, and policymaker engagements and how each engagement contributed to developing values, objectives, policies and actions]

Housing Objectives and Policies

The Housing Policy Plan is organized around the regional housing values identified during resident engagement. Each topic area has objectives and policies describing the Council’s future actions and partnership opportunities to realize these values.

Proximity and Choice



1 FAIR HOUSING & GEOGRAPHIC CHOICE: PEOPLE OF ANY ABILITY, AGE, FINANCIAL STATUS, RACE, AND FAMILY SIZE, CAN LIVE IN A COMMUNITY THEY CHOOSE

Develop programming, provide resources and funding, and support local, regional, and state initiatives that increase the ability for households to choose where to live in the region regardless of ability, age, financial status, race, or family size.



2 OPTIONS TO OWN AND RENT: ALL HOUSING OPTIONS, INCLUDING RENTAL AND SHARED OWNERSHIP, ARE ACCESSIBLE TO HOUSEHOLDS OF ALL INCOME LEVELS

Support and incentivize development, preservation, and maintenance of affordable housing units, of all types and tenure (rental, shared equity, and ownership), that reflect the true cost-burden experienced by residents.

Dignity and Decency



3 STABILITY: SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND DIGNIFIED PLACES TO LIVE ARE AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE, ESPECIALLY THOSE EXPERIENCING HOUSING INSECURITY AND HOMELESSNESS

Develop programming and support local, regional, and state policy that makes it less likely for residents in the region to experience housing instability and homelessness, with focused support for people who are experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.



4 QUALITY: AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS BUILT AND MAINTAINED TO A HIGH STANDARD, ENSURING SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL RESIDENTS

Support and incentivize development, preservation, and maintenance of affordable units of all types that provide residents a safe, dignified, and healthy place to live.

Connection and Wellbeing



5 CULTURAL CONNECTION & WELL-BEING: EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO HOMES, NOT JUST HOUSING

Enhance residents' ability to keep their housing, amenities, health, social networks, and/or sense of belonging within their neighborhood.



6 EQUITY: REPAIR HISTORIC AND ONGOING INJUSTICE IN HOUSING PRACTICES AND OUTCOMES

Limit the effects of historical injustices through reparative and community-centered action, and limit future disparities by shifting current policies to protect communities whose disparities are largest.



7 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: HOUSING IN OUR REGION IS RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND FURTHERS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Support the development, retrofitting, and maintenance of homes to create a climate resilient future.

Housing Policy Plan Actions

[Insert introduction to policies and actions]

Metrics/Measurement

[Insert: Overview of regional indicators, performance measures, and how a draft framework, measurement slate, data development workplan, and engagement plan will be developed]

Section 1: Proximity and Choice

A More Diverse Region

[Insert: Data and discussion of population growth and demographic projections]

A Sustained and Increased Wealth Gap

[Insert: Data and discussion of key topics, including jobs, homeownership, income growth vs rent]

A Growing Need for Affordable Housing Everywhere

[Insert: Data and discussion of key topics, including housing supply built vs. actual need; Community Designations, increases in production, housing development policies]

OBJECTIVE 1: FAIR HOUSING & GEOGRAPHIC CHOICE

People of any ability, age, financial status, race, and family size can live in the community they choose.

Policy: Develop programming, provide resources and funding, and support local, regional, and state initiatives that increase the ability for households to choose where to live in the region regardless of ability, age, financial status, race, or family size.

Actions

Provide:

- Prioritize the development, preservation, and rehabilitation of deeply affordable housing in Livable Communities Act programs.
 - Align Livable Communities Act (LCA) affordability limits with Metro Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) voucher affordability standards by prioritizing LCA projects where voucher holders can afford to reside.
 - Require affordable housing projects awarded LCA grants to accept Section 8 voucher holders and offer rents that do not exceed payment standards.
- Provide technical assistance and convene workshops for local governments to:
 - Develop and share initiatives, policies, and programs that increase regional housing choice.
 - Help communicate the connections between affordable housing income limits and resident housing, economic, and social experience.
 - Support “Missing Middle” (small and medium multifamily and townhomes) housing as a strategy to improve affordability and expand housing choices for cities and townships across the region.
- Assist voucher holders in accessing housing of their choice through search assistance development, opportunities for adopting higher payment standards, and incorporating voucher holder perspectives in place-based assistance.
- Track all new housing constructed in the region to assess its affordability and report trends in affordable housing construction in the region.

Plan:

- Calculate an Allocation of Affordable Housing Need number for sewer-serviced cities and townships based on their forecasted growth for the 2031-2040 decade, and require cities and townships to address how they will meet their allocation by guiding sufficient eligible land for affordable housing development.

- Ensure that the Allocation of Affordable Housing Need calculation fully represents the need for deeply affordable housing in the region.
- In the review of 2050 local comprehensive plans, consider adjusting the local Allocation of Affordable Housing Need due to the creation and/or loss of economic centers to more responsively allocate where affordable housing is needed relative to low-wage jobs.
- Develop a system for attributing credit for cities and townships with successful affordable housing development policies towards meeting their Land Guided for Affordable Housing requirement.

Partner:

- Continue to partner with Minnesota Housing to share data and technical assistance, and align funding, for affordable housing development.
- Increase collaboration with local and county housing organizations in prioritizing and funding the development of all affordable housing types, including but not limited to multifamily, single-family, townhomes, duplexes, triplexes, manufactured housing, and accessory dwelling units (ADUs).
- Explore opportunities to contribute to federal housing affordability measurement, including potential alternatives to the HUD rent and income limit model.
- Identify and address the specific challenges and barriers to the development of affordable housing in different city and township contexts, especially those in Suburban Edge and Rural Center community designations.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

OBJECTIVE 2: OPTIONS TO OWN AND RENT

All housing options, including rental and shared ownership, are accessible to households of all income levels.

Policy: Support and incentivize development, preservation, and maintenance of affordable housing units, of all types and tenure (rental, shared equity, and ownership), that reflect the true cost-burden experienced by residents.

Actions

Provide:

- Provide technical assistance and share strategies to counties and local governments for coordinated use of new sources of housing funding, such as the Metro Sales Tax, to develop affordable housing opportunities through municipal program development.
- Livable Communities Act (LCA) grant programs support more homeownership development opportunities by increasing funding for the Affordable Homeownership program.
- Explore, in partnership with Environmental Services and community stakeholders, the Publicly Assisted Housing/Conservation SAC fee reduction to prioritize higher reductions for deeply affordable housing projects.
- Maintain and improve data infrastructure to advance knowledge and awareness of the region's housing stock and demographic characteristics.

- Explore the Council's ability to use Council-owned land to support affordable housing development.
- Explore opportunities in the Metro HRA to build capacity for programs that increase the ability for voucher holders to build wealth and access the housing of their choice as their economic situation changes.
- Explore the potential for a Metropolitan Council role in monitoring ownership of rental housing properties in the region.
- In partnership with ES, seek opportunities to defray the costs for manufactured home communities to connect to the wastewater system.
- Provide grants through LCA programs to prioritize affordable housing options via brownfield and infill site redevelopment.

Plan:

- Provide an Allocation of Affordable Ownership Housing Need to affected local governments to inform planning for the development of low-income affordable ownership opportunities based on cities and townships' existing deficit of affordable ownership options relative to their forecasted growth in ownership ready households.
- Require that local Comprehensive Plans consider development and preservation tools to meet their homeownership need throughout the decade.
- Require that local governments address which tools they will pursue to create low-income cooperative, shared ownership, mixed-tenure, or ownership opportunities in their Comprehensive Plan update including preservation of manufactured housing and development of townhomes, small multifamily, and Accessory Dwelling Units.

Partner:

- Increase collaboration with local and county housing organizations in prioritizing and funding programs that increase, through development or preservation, all affordable housing tenures (rental, cooperative, limited and/or full homeownership).
- Convene a regional conversation to reduce barriers across state, regional, county, and city affordable housing funding programs.
- Participate in local, regional, and state conversations and initiatives supporting the rehabilitation and preservation of affordable housing.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

Section 2: Dignity and Decency

An Older Population

[Insert: Data and discussion on growth and diversity of senior population]

Aging Infrastructure

[Insert: Data and discussion on Class C property; age and condition of housing throughout the region]

Accessible Housing

[Insert: Data and discussion on disability and accessibility needs]

Housing as a Foundation

[Insert: Data and discussion on homelessness and housing instability]

OBJECTIVE 3: STABILITY

Safe, affordable, and dignified places to live are available to everyone, especially those experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness.

Policy: Develop programming and support local, regional, and state policy that makes it less likely for residents in the region to experience housing instability and homelessness, with focused support for people who are experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.

Actions

Provide:

- Livable Communities Act (LCA) programs prioritize funding housing projects that serve residents who are or have experienced homelessness and/or incorporate supportive services.
- Improve outreach and work to simplify access and reduce barriers to Metropolitan Council rental assistance programs.
- Continue to connect with individuals using transit as shelter (via Housing Action Team (HAT) and program partners) to find appropriate housing options and supports.
- Offer technical assistance for local communities to develop and refine programs that provide housing stability, including partnerships with education systems and social services providers.
- When using Council-owned land for development, seek opportunities to prioritize housing options accessible to residents experiencing housing instability and/or voucher holders.
- Develop best practices and technical assistance to support local tenant protection policies, specifically around rent stabilization and eviction.
- Support the continued participation in project-based subsidy programs by engaging property owners and emphasizing the community benefits of participation.
- Prioritize developments that incorporate supportive services for allocating Project-Based Vouchers (PBV).

Plan:

- Require local comprehensive plans to identify tools they will use to meet the need for stabilizing services and shelter.
- Continue to credit newly constructed High Priority Homeless units towards a local government's affordable housing need allocation.

Partner:

- Collaborate with counties, Community Action Partnerships, Continuums of Care, and schools on funding sources and priorities for ending homelessness in the region.
- Continue collaboration with state agencies via Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness.
- Engage with people with lived experience of homelessness to guide Met Council policies, programs and plans and compensate participants who serve in a consulting role.
- Seek more partnership opportunities with service providers to ensure households with rental assistance and vouchers receive the necessary supportive services to achieve housing stability.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

OBJECTIVE 4: QUALITY

Affordable housing is built and maintained to a high standard, ensuring safety, and accessibility for all residents.

Policy: Support and incentivize development, preservation, and maintenance of affordable units of all types that provide residents a safe, dignified, and healthy place to live.

Actions

Provide:

- Increase prioritization for affordable housing preservation and improvement in Livable Communities Act (LCA) funding criteria.
- Offer technical assistance to local governments and counties on housing preservation and maintenance programs, policies, and practices.
- Provide technical assistance on program design for local Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH) preservation efforts to ensure incentives are well-designed for improving or maintaining housing quality and affordability.
- Provide a clear preference in scoring LCA housing development projects that exceed the Minnesota Housing state-required minimums that units be designed and constructed to meet accessibility requirements.
- Prioritize the development of more accessible units and universal design in Met Council grant programs.
- Support the development of affordable senior housing options at various care and service levels, with priority for households that have historically had less access to wealth building opportunities.
- Inform State Building Code updates to encourage construction of more affordable, maintainable, high-quality, safe, and climate-resilient homes.
- Promote the use of housing code enforcement or rental licensing as tools to maintain unsubsidized affordable housing.
- Partner with Environmental Services to support the prioritization of low-income and historically overburdened households in the allocation of the Private Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Grant Program.
- Track NOAH in the region and share data on NOAH with local staff to monitor changes over time and identify areas for preservation.

Plan:

- Consider credit towards a city or townships' Allocation of Affordable Housing Need for the affordability preservation and substantial rehab of affordable housing units either set to expire or in a state of disrepair.
- Require the local Need for accessible housing units to be considered in local level plans.
- Require the local Need for affordable senior housing options at all service levels be considered in local level plans.
- Require that local-level preservation tools be considered in local comprehensive plans.
- Require local comprehensive plans to consider the use of tax abatement, fee waivers, or other locally available financing tools to encourage the maintenance and preservation of unsubsidized affordable housing.

Partner:

- Participate in local, regional, and state conversations and initiatives implementing and/or supporting tenant protections prioritizing accessible, safe, and healthy housing.
- Partner with community organizations, to develop resources, and access to legal support when needed, to ensure continued access to quality living environments.
- Work with partners in the advocacy and public finance domains, such as HousingLink and Minnesota Housing, to monitor potential properties nearing their federal subsidy expiration, and explore providing assistance for preservation strategies.
- Partner with HOME Line to promote tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities and support renter initiatives.
- Cultivate relationships with landlords participating in HCV programs to support tenant rights, and tenant-landlord relationships.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

Section 3: Connection and Wellbeing

Homes not just Housing

[Insert: Data and discussion on tenant protections and displacement]

Repairing Historic and Ongoing Harm

[Insert: Data and discussion on redlining/racial covenants]

More Extreme Weather Events & Climate

[Insert: Data and discussion on climate changes; heat/shade; nexus of affordability and energy efficiency, affordability and insurance]

OBJECTIVE 5: CULTURAL CONNECTION AND WELLBEING

Everyone has access to homes, not just housing.

Policy: Enhance residents' ability to keep their housing, amenities, health, social networks, and sense of belonging within their neighborhoods.

Actions

Provide:

- Prioritize place-based investments, for allocation of Met Council funds, that implement displacement mitigation strategies in displacement risk areas, as identified by the Met Council.
- Livable Communities Act (LCA) prioritizes/supports community connection in scoring criteria.
 - Prioritize projects that preserve and/or add to the cultural landscape of the neighborhood the project is located in.
 - Prioritize culturally responsive approaches, such as interest-free and Individual Taxpayer Identification mortgage products, multi-generational housing, and community-designed housing projects.
- Provide guidance and best practices, within Met Council and with external partners on anti-displacement mitigation strategies for investment projects in collaboration with the Blue Line Anti-Displacement Working group and other anti-displacement work across the Met Council.
- Provide technical assistance supporting the development of community-level programs working to promote equitable access to stable housing such as Down Payment Assistance, Affordable Housing Trust Funds, and Rent Stabilization.
- Lead the development of a displacement risk factor evaluation tool and explore the implementation of this tool in Met Council grant programs.
- Develop technical assistance for anti-displacement policy development for local governments.

Plan:

- Include the requirement of a community-based Displacement Risk Assessment (DRA) for all Council owned investments.
- Require local plans to consider tools to enhance the social and economic capital of residents in newly constructed affordable and mixed income housing, such as mental health services, job training programs, and educational support.

Partner:

- Continue collaboration with the Blue Line Anti-Displacement work group to align and integrate practices across all of the Met Council’s planning and operations, and anti-displacement efforts of external community partners.
- Engage with housing stakeholders such as neighborhood groups, non-profits, research organizations to align Met Council displacement risk assessment with other equity scorecard and anti-displacement tracking efforts around the region.
- Collaborate with partners, including local governments and private sector stakeholders in policy development, Council-led development projects, site-specific TOD resources, and opportunities that support and prioritize the development of affordable housing.
- Convene regional and local housing stakeholders including practitioners, funders, and advocates, to promote greater communication, and to refine policies and processes to respond to the housing needs of historically over-burdened households throughout the region.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

OBJECTIVE 6: EQUITY

Repair historic and ongoing injustice in housing practices and outcomes.

Policy: Limit the effects of historical injustices through reparative and community-centered action, and limit future disparities by shifting current policies to protect communities whose disparities are largest.

Actions

Provide:

- Livable Communities Act (LCA) grants to support projects that work to repair historical injustices and intentionally incorporate an equity component.
 - LCA supports equitable development policy with cities through the policy development program.
 - The Affordable Homeownership program continues to prioritize projects that increase ownership opportunities for historically excluded households, especially Black and Indigenous households.
- Maintain Place Based Equity Considerations dataset for region-wide use for place-based decision making.
- Invest in and support projects and activities to advance fair housing in the region, such as the Fair Housing Implementation Council, fair housing training and resources, and other similar

projects. Provide tenant protection policy workshops in partnership with a housing justice organization for local and county staff.

- Conduct a study on the impact of inaction of providing affordable housing opportunities on economic and social disparities of residents in the region.
- Support research and communication tools to address discriminatory lending practices, real estate steering, and other current and historical discriminatory practices limiting equitable housing choices.
- When engaging with residents, intentionally uplift historically underrepresented populations in decision-making and co-creating Met Council policy and processes.

Plan:

- Modify Affordable Housing Need calculations to amplify the need of housing for historically excluded communities by more accurately considering economic ability of all households in allocation adjustments.
- Continue to require Livable Communities Act grant recipients to adopt a fair housing policy to be eligible to receive funds and provide best practices in fair housing policy adoption to support local government efforts.
- Explore whether to require the adoption of a tenant protections policy to be eligible to receive Livable Communities Act grants to support housing development.

Partner:

- Explore partnerships to research and develop alternative credit pathways, such as rent payment history, to support homeownership opportunities.
- In all the Council's housing work, develop respectful and meaningful partnerships with tribal governments and organizations, housing advocacy groups, homeless coalitions (and other government offices), particularly those that have a majority Black, Indigenous, people of color and low-income representation.
- Participate in the Fair Housing Implementation Council and provide both data tools and technical assistance.
- Convene local governments, housing organizations, and historically over-burdened communities to align communication and best practices to continue addressing racial and ethnic disparities in housing access.
- Participate in a regional conversation to reduce barriers in state, regional, county, and city funding programs that limit the entry of new affordable housing developers, especially those led by Black, Indigenous, people of color.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

OBJECTIVE 7: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Housing in our region is resilient to climate change impacts and furthers environmental justice.

Policy: Support the development, retrofitting, and maintenance of homes to create a climate-resilient future.

Actions

Provide:

- LCA programs support the equitable development of and policies to support housing that adapts to and mitigates climate change in regional development, prioritizing reductions for households that are both energy cost-burdened and housing cost-burdened.
 - Give funding consideration in Livable Communities Act grants to projects that use cost effective, energy savings, and decarbonization elements promoted by Green Communities criteria, the Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines, or other green and sustainable building practices.
 - Prioritize energy-efficiency, climate resilience, and decarbonization in preservation projects.
 - Share and promote the Environmental Hub green development and design resources with developers and communities through LCA program resources (i.e. solar ready, green roofs, landscaping, model ordinance resources).
 - Share and promote the Department of Energy Low-income Energy Affordability Data Tool (LEAD) and similar tools with developers and communities through LCA program resources.
- Provide climate mitigation and adaptation technical resources to local governments (i.e. resources for extreme heat, shade, energy) for multifamily housing projects in order to increase resilience and maximize the impact of limited resources.
- Continue implementing energy efficiency efforts for Council owned housing units including the purchase of energy efficient equipment and supplies.
- Identify key brownfield and infill sites for redevelopment and provide assistance to local governments to apply for brownfield cleanup grant assistance.

Plan:

- Ensure the inclusion of utility costs, where they are not already, in rent and ownership affordability limits.
- Local governments consider opportunities to direct energy-efficiency and weatherization and decarbonization resources to low-income households and multifamily rental properties in their local comprehensive plans.

Partner:

- Explore opportunities to access and align with federal and state funding that supports climate resilient housing production and preservation.
- Integrate the Council's Climate Action Work Plan commitments and strategies into housing policies and programming.
- Explore opportunities to partner with organizations to further implement environmental justice efforts in housing policy and programming.

Metrics and Measurements

[Insert: Discussion of regional indicators, performance measures]

Section 4: Roles, Responsibilities, and Implementation

[Chapter 4 will include detailed information about key Council housing policy tools and references for cities and townships, including:

Allocation of Affordable Housing Need

Land Guided for Affordable Housing

Local Housing Incentives Account/Livable Communities Act

Partnerships

Housing Implementation Plan

Local Responsibilities/Changes

This content will be finalized after regional growth projections are completed.]

Appendices

[Engagement findings, Acknowledgements]

References



390 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1805

651-602-1000
TTY 651-291-0904
public.info@metc.state.mn.us
metro council.org/imagine2050

Draft

IMAGINE
2050