

Funding Recommendations

2025 Livable Communities Act Pre-Development and Policy
and Program Grants



September 2, 2025

Livable Communities Act

Goals Shared Across LCA Programs

- Help create more housing choice and support affordable housing
- Support living wage jobs growth
- Improve connections between housing, jobs, and regional amenities
- Support more equitable development outcomes



Policy Development Grants

The Policy Development program provides funding to participating cities to support **locally adopted policies** that influence **physical development** and further both LCA and Imagine 2050 goals with an emphasis on equitable development.



Pre-Development Grants

Financial Feasibility



Downtown Artist Housing, Chaska

Building or Site Design



Center for Asian and Pacific Islanders, Brooklyn Center

Infrastructure Systems



Towerside District Stormwater System, Minneapolis

Development Planning



Northstar TIF Masterplan, Fridley

Engagement



Downtown Longfellow, Minneapolis

Funding Availability



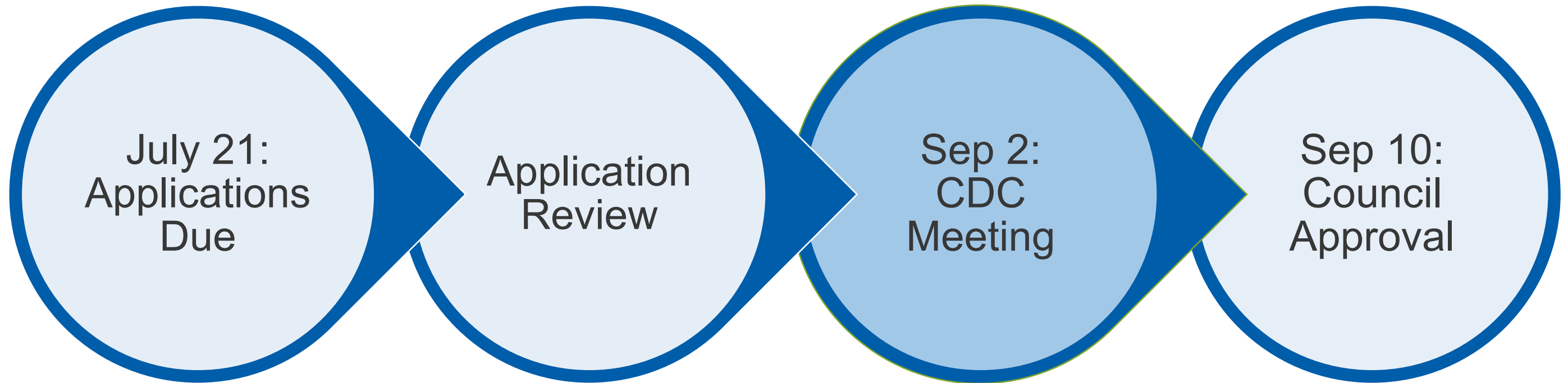
2025 Fund Distribution Plan

As part of the Fund Distribution Plan (FDP), the Council approved

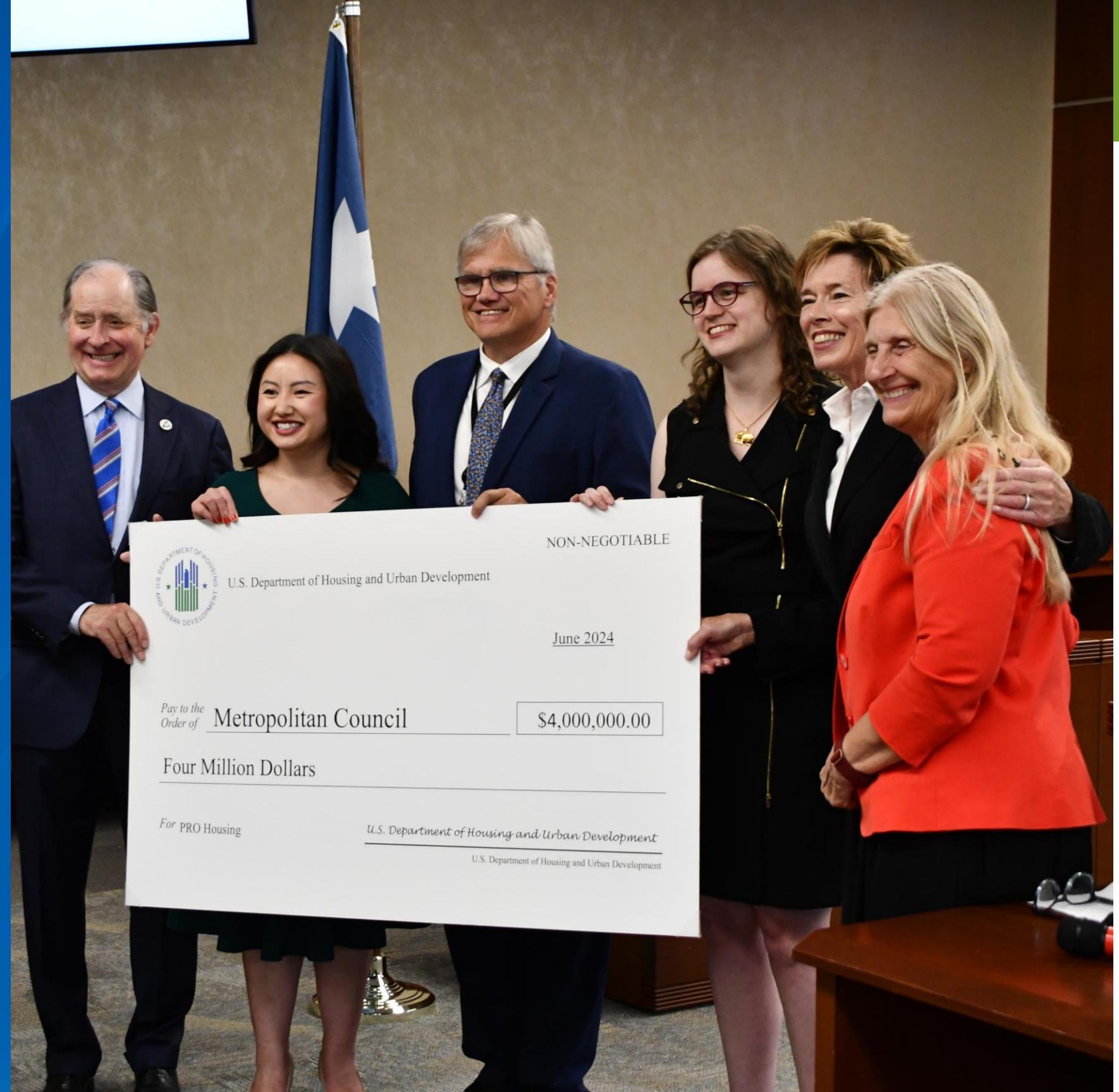
- approved up to \$200,000 for LCA Policy Development grants
- up to \$2,000,000 for LCA Pre-Development grants to be awarded in two application rounds.

In addition, up to \$600,000 was available from the Met Council's FY23 HUD Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (HUD PRO) award

Process



LCA Policy Development Criteria and Recommendations



Policy & Program Grant Evaluation Criteria

Scoring Categories

- What: Project Outcomes (LCA & Thrive Goals)
- How: Project Process
- Who: Project Team

Scoring Criteria		
What: Policy Development Project Outcomes		
The goals and vision of the proposed policy would meet one or more of the following LCA and/or Imagine 2050 goals associated with physical development:		
LCA and Imagine 2050 Goals	Remove barrier to producing or preserving affordable housing, with priority given to efforts that focus on housing affordable to households living at 30% of the area median income and/or prevent displacement in areas receiving new investment	30
	Support wealth building and economic opportunity for communities of historic wealth extraction	
	Minimizing climate impact by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving natural resources	
	Support more equitable development outcomes in physical developments and/or through city process to approve physical development	
How: Policy Development Process		
Process	The process will include analysis of who will benefit most from the policy or program and in what ways, and use findings to influence equitable development strategies and outcomes	10
Who: Policy Development Team		
Who is Involved	The project team has a defined scope of work with tangible goals	10
City Capacity	Of LCA participating cities, if the net tax capacity falls within the: - Top 25%: 2 points - 50%-75% Percentile: 6 points - Below 50% Percentile: 10 points	10
TOTAL		60
Applications must score at least 25 of the possible 60 points		

Policy & Program Grant Funding Recommendation

Applicant	Project	Score	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Funding Source
City of Hopkins	Housing Assessment & LAHA Planning	56	\$50,000	\$50,000	HUD PRO
City of Richfield HRA	Housing Program Development (LAHA)	54.5	\$22,000	\$22,000	HUD PRO
City of Blaine	Floodplain Policy & Program Development	53	\$50,000	\$50,000	HUD PRO
City of New Brighton	Housing Action Plan (LAHA)	47	\$39,000	\$39,000	HUD PRO
City of Eden Prairie	Housing Analysis in Support of Zoning and Land Use Update	40.5	\$50,000	\$50,000	LCA
City of Edina	Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Update	40.5	\$50,000	\$50,000	LCA
City of Golden Valley	Missing Middle Housing Study to Update Zoning & Policy	40.5	\$50,000	\$50,000	LCA
		TOTAL	\$311,000	\$311,000	
		Total Recommended from LCA		\$150,000	
		Total Recommended from HUD PRO		\$161,000	

Projected Outcomes

Pre-Development Grants

- 3 communities seeking direction on utilization of LAHA funding
- 4 communities plan to update Zoning Code or other ordinances
- Research and development on 4 or more new locally administered housing programs



LCA Pre-Development Criteria & Recommendations



Pre-Development Grant Evaluation Criteria

Scoring Categories

- What: Project Outcomes (LCA & Thrive Goals)
- How: Project Process

Scoring Criteria		
The goals and vision of the proposed project would meet one or more of the following LCA and/or Imagine 2050 goals:		
LCA and Imagine Goals	Add new housing types and create or preserve affordable housing. Priority for projects with deep affordability and/or serving populations who have barriers to finding housing	16
	Create or preserve long-term living wage jobs or support economic opportunity for communities of historic wealth extraction	
	Increase or preserve (for preservation/rehab projects) density on the site and make it easier for people with mobility barriers to easily access housing, jobs, services, and amenities; OR Preserve existing density (for preservation/rehab projects) and connections for people to access housing, services, jobs, and amenities.	
	Minimize climate change and/or environmental impact for residents in areas most negatively impacted by environmental justice	

How: Pre-Development Project Process		
Process	Show an understanding of who will benefit most from the project and in what ways, and use this understanding to shape equitable development strategies and outcomes	14
	The project reflects the culture and needs of the community it is intending to serve	
	The strength of the partnership between the applicant (City/County/HRA/EDA) and development partner(s), including the level of support and engagement the applicant has with the project	
TOTAL		30
Applications must score at least 15 of the 30 points available		

Pre-Development Funding Recommendation

Applicant	Project Name	Score (min 15)	Request	Recommendation
Roseville EDA	Oyate Ota Center	24	\$297,000	\$297,000
Brooklyn Center	5400 Block of Brooklyn Boulevard	23.5	\$152,500	\$152,500
Saint Paul	The Lexington Deluxe	20.5	\$300,000	\$300,000
Columbia Heights	800 53 rd Avenue NE	20	\$300,000	\$250,500
North Saint Paul	Nature Pointe Townhouse	10.5	\$225,000	\$0
Total Recommended				\$1,000,000
Total Available				\$1,000,000
Amount Remaining				\$0

Projected Outcomes

Pre-Development Grants

- 11 affordable for-sale townhouses for families
- Nearly 280 new affordable apartments
- 36,000 square feet of community service space



Funding Recommendation

2025 Round Two Funding Recommendations

1. Award four (4) Livable Communities Act Pre-Development Grants totaling \$1,000,000 as shown in Table 1 and
2. Award seven (7) Livable Communities Act Policy and Program Development Grants totaling \$311,000 as shown in Table 2 of the business item.





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