

Affordable Housing Need, Goals and Scores: Three critical measures

The Council uses three quantitative measures to inform the regional understanding of affordable housing needs:

- Allocation of affordable housing need (the Need)
- Livable Communities Act affordable and life-cycle housing goals (the Goal)
- Housing performance scores (the Score)

As the following table outlines, these three indicators serve different functional roles that are often confused. **The Need is the only measure of the three that must inform the Housing Element of your Comprehensive Plan update.**

Council Role	Allocation of affordable housing need (the Need)	Livable Communities Act affordable and life-cycle housing goals (the Goal)	Housing performance scores (the Score)
Why	Metropolitan Land Planning Act	Livable Communities Act	Council Policy
Who	All sewerer municipalities with projected growth	Livable Communities Act participating communities	All Communities
How	Calculated by the Council using forecasted household growth and applying methodology specific to the need for affordable housing	Negotiation between Council and communities choosing to participate in the Livable Communities Act programs	Determined by public data on housing construction and preservation, plus voluntary local surveys
What	City must address the Need in the housing element of their comprehensive plan, including the guiding of sufficient land for multifamily housing and other programs, and fiscal devices to address need, including an implementation plan	Strengthen and elevate participating communities' commitment and focus on creating affordable and life-cycle housing	Scores are factored into funding criteria for the Livable Communities Act programs and the Regional Solicitation for transportation funding
When	Every 10-year planning cycle	15 years (1996-2010) 10 years (2011-2020) 10 years (2021-2030)	Annually
Factors	Regional Need forecast Individual community Need calculation, adjusted by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratio of low-wage jobs to low-wage workers • Existing affordable housing 	Individual community Need Availability of resources Existing concentrations of poverty Market conditions Cost and availability of land	Existing affordable housing New affordable housing Preserved affordable housing Housing plans and programs