Metropolitan Council

Committee Report

Community Development Committee



Committee meeting date: September 15, 2025 For the Metropolitan Council: September 24, 2025

Business Item: 2025-233

Board Resolution - Bring It Home Statewide Rental Assistance Program

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution Number 2025-21 for the Bring It Home Rental Assistance Program:

- Authorizing acceptance of the grant award of \$30,914,448 from Minnesota Housing; and
- Authorizing the Executive Director, Community Development, to negotiate and execute the Contract Grant Agreement and other documents required by Minnesota Housing.

Summary of Community Development Committee discussion/questions

The Community Development Committee passed the Board Resolution as part of its regular consent agenda.

Business Item

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Board Resolution - Bring It Home Statewide Rental Assistance Program

District(s), member(s): All

Policy/legal reference: MN Statutes section 462A.2095

FM 15-2 Grant/Loan Approval Policy

Staff prepared/presented: Terri Smith, Director, Housing and Redevelopment Authority, (651) 602-

1187

Division/department: Community Development / HRA

Proposed action

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- Authorizing acceptance of the grant award of \$30,914,448 from Minnesota Housing; and
- Authorizing the Executive Director, Community Development, to negotiate and execute the Contract Grant Agreement and other documents required by Minnesota Housing.

Background

The Bring It Home Statewide Rental Assistance program was authorized by the MN Legislature in 2023 through a new quarter-cent sales tax. The program will bring approximately 5,000 new housing vouchers to Minnesota.

The Council's housing and Redevelopment Authority (Metro HRA) was notified by Minnesota Housing that it will be awarded \$30,914,448 over the next two years. This funding will support approximately 900 new housing vouchers. Minnesota Housing requires a Board Resolution authorizing the funding.

Metro HRA staff presented an information item to the Community Development Committee on <u>April 7, 2025</u>, to set the stage for the grant award.

The Metro HRA team has been engaging with voucher holders, property owners, non-profits, service provider, county partners and consultants with lived experience in homelessness over the last year on program design and implementation.

The state program is modeled after the federal Housing Choice Voucher program. The law and program guide allow administrators some flexibility in program operation. The Metro HRA intends to operate the program like the federal Housing Choice Voucher and Project Based Voucher programs. The law requires priority for families with children and allows administrators to establish additional priority populations based on local need, such as people experiencing homelessness.

Due diligence items are due to Minnesota Housing in October. The Contract Grant Agreement

will then be negotiated. It is anticipated funding will be available at the start of 2026.

Rationale

The grant funds will allow Metro HRA to provide rent assistance to an additional 900 households. Minnesota Housing requires a Board Resolution for grant agreement execution.

Thrive lens analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. The program supports the Thrive outcomes of equity, livability, and prosperity by increasing the housing choices available to low-income families across the region. Families that have stable housing in a community of their choice are better able to thrive and flourish.

Funding

Funding for this Contract Grant Agreement is \$30,914,448 in Metro Area Sales and Use Tax for Housing via Minnesota Housing. Funding will be programmed into the Council's operating budget following the execution of the grant agreement.



METROPOLITAN COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2025-21

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH MINNESOTA HOUSING FOR THE BRING IT HOME RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority was notified that it was approved for funding in the amount of \$30,914,448 by Minnesota Housing for the administration of the Bring It Home Rental Assistance Program and the Council desires to accept that funding.
- WHEREAS, The grant term will start upon execution of the Grant Contract Agreement by both parties and will end two years after execution.
- WHEREAS, Minnesota Housing requires a Resolution as a part of the funding award process designating named signatories and authority to enter into the Contract Grant Agreement, or other documents required for funding.
- WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Council seeks to authorize the Executive Director, Community Development, Lisa Barajas, to negotiate and execute the Contract Grant Agreement and other documents required for the Bring It Home Rental Assistance Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Executive Director, Community Development is authorized to negotiate and execute the Contract Grant Agreement and other documents required by Minnesota Housing for the Council to accept funding for the Bring It Home Rental Assistance program.

Adopted this 24 th day of September 2025.		
Reva Chamblis, Vice Chair	Recording Secretary	