

2020 REGIONAL SOLICITATION: ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING GUIDANCE

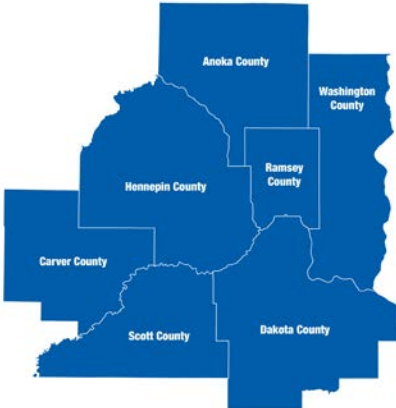


February 2020

The Council's mission is to foster efficient and economic growth for a prosperous metropolitan region

Metropolitan Council Members

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Charles Zelle | Chair | Raymond Zeran | District 9 |
| Judy Johnson | District 1 | Peter Lindstrom | District 10 |
| Reva Chamblis | District 2 | Susan Vento | District 11 |
| Christopher Ferguson | District 3 | Francisco J. Gonzalez | District 12 |
| Deb Barber | District 4 | Chai Lee | District 13 |
| Molly Cummings | District 5 | Kris Fredson | District 14 |
| Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson | District 6 | Phillip Sterner | District 15 |
| Robert Lilligren | District 7 | Wendy Wulff | District 16 |
| Abdirahman Muse | District 8 | | |



The Metropolitan Council is the regional planning organization for the seven-county Twin Cities area. The Council operates the regional bus and rail system, collects and treats wastewater, coordinates regional water resources, plans and helps fund regional parks, and administers federal funds that provide housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families. The 17-member Council board is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the governor.

On request, this publication will be made available in alternative formats to people with disabilities. Call Metropolitan Council information at 651-602-1140 or TTY 651-291-0904.

Describe how the proposed project will improve or impact residents of the affordable housing locations with ½ mile of the project. This should include a description of the improved access by all modes (e.g. automobiles, transit, bicycle and pedestrian). Since residents of affordable housing are less likely to own a private vehicle, higher points will be provided to projects that include other multimodal improvements.

Refer to the Socio-Economic Conditions map for Census tracts surrounding your project. Contact your local housing and community development staff to assist with providing information on existing affordable housing or affordable housing under development.

For other methods to obtain information, the applicant may access the Minnesota HousingLink STREAMS tool at <https://www.housinglink.org/streams/>. This link provides the user with an interactive map and searchable database of publicly funded (subsidized) rental housing within Minnesota. The applicant can retrieve information necessary for the Affordable Housing Access measure by accessing the database at <https://www.housinglink.org/streams/> and panning/zooming the map to the project area (STREAMS also allows the user to search by city, property name, or street address). Additional information can be collected and summarized using the Minnesota Compass “Build Your Own Profiles” tool that is available at <https://www.mncompass.org/>. The applicant should also note any planned or proposed affordable housing units that will be within one half mile of the proposed project.

Once these properties are identified, the applicant should provide a description and a map (in PDF form) of all affordable housing units within a half mile of the proposed project area. The applicant should note the development stage, number of units, number of bedrooms per unit, and level of affordability using the 2019 affordability limits. The applicant should also indicate if affordability is guaranteed through funding restrictions (e.g. LIHTC, 4d) or is unsubsidized; if housing choice vouchers are or will be accepted; and if there is a fair housing marketing plan required or in place. The STREAMS database provides this information by clicking on specific properties on the map, which directs the user to a page with additional details.

Scoring will be based on how the proposed project will benefit accessibility of residents of these affordable housing units, with additional points being awarded to projects that benefit non-automobile users. Emphasis should be placed on how developments within ½ mile of the project area have access to the proposed project. Please note that a description of the public engagement undertaken by project sponsors is encouraged.



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

Follow us on:
twitter.com/metcouncilnews
facebook.com/MetropolitanCouncil
youtube.com/MetropolitanCouncil