Minneapolis 2040: Increasing Housing Choice in Minneapolis

Lisa Bender

Minneapolis Council President
Minneapolis is a City with strong neighborhood identity
Minneapolis 2040

• Allows a minimum of up to three units of housing on any lot in the city (citywide)

• Supports new housing in all neighborhoods, focused near transit, and includes new requirements for affordable housing and goals for green building standards.

• 100 policies that are connected to 14 goals, including:
  • 22 policies for Affordable and Accessible Housing
  • 39 policies for Reduce Disparities
  • 21 for Complete Neighborhoods
  • 21 for Climate Change Resilience
Housing & Economic Context

• Our city is growing; Minneapolis is now a majority renter population
• Minneapolis has a 2-3% rental vacancy rate (it is hard to find housing)
Cost-burdened

Share of racial group that is cost burdened by owner renter status
Minneapolis, 2009-2013

Black or African-American: 45% (Owner), 59% (Renter)
American Indian or Alaska Native: 47% (Owner), 48% (Renter)
other (including multiple races): 31% (Owner), 52% (Renter)
Hispanic: 33% (Owner), 48% (Renter)
Asian: 32% (Owner), 48% (Renter)
White: 27% (Owner), 40% (Renter)
Racial Equity Context

TODAY, the Twin Cities has among the largest disparities among persons of color and indigenous peoples compared with white people in poverty rates, homeownership, employment, and level of education.

Minnesota ranked 2nd-Worst in U.S. for Racial Equity
- 24/7 Wall St.

Minnesota ranked last in 51 states in overall financial inequality in 2015
- Pew Research Center via Wall St. Journal

U.S. Census data show most Minnesota families of color now have median incomes about half those of their white counterparts.

U.S.
The Miracle of Minneapolis
No other place mixes affordability, opportunity, and wealth so well. What’s its secret?
Derek Thompson
March 2018 issue

Minneapolis's White Lie
Despite being applauded by many, the "miraculous" prosperity of the Twin Cities is only a reality for a certain slice of their population.
Jessica Nickrands
Feb 21, 2015

In August 1973, Time magazine ran a cover of Minnesota Governor Wendell Anderson proudly holding up a fish. The accompanying story called Minnesota a “state that works,” and promised “The Good Life in Minnesota.” More
History of racial exclusion in housing
Minneapolis 2040
Community Engagement

You told us
it can be difficult to
access jobs that are not
located nearby.

Currently,
more jobs are
accessible via a
30-minute car trip, than
via a 30-minute mass
transit trip.

Question 1 for today: What needs to change
about our city to make access to quality
housing happen? Be specific. #MplsBigIdeas
12:06 PM - 18 Apr 2017
3 Retweets
Messaging and Press Coverage

Why ‘fixing’ Minneapolis’ housing crisis is going to be lot harder than people think

By Greta Kaul and Jessica Lee | 08/23/2018

The fight over Minneapolis’ controversial comprehensive plan proposal, explained

By Jessica Lee | 07/24/2018
Supportive & Aligned Advocacy

One: We support the goals and priorities shaping the plan and feel it needs to go further

We support the general direction of the draft plan, and it’s important that city leaders hear it’s the right direction. It focuses on racial equity and sustainability. It explicitly welcomes more homes and the people who will live in them, and it creates more real transportation choices. The plan should go further to combat displacement. It should also go further to make walking, biking, and transit great, first-choice options in all parts of the city.

Two: We support the focus on more homes and complete neighborhoods

We support that the plan allows more housing be built in all parts of the city. That’s part of creating complete neighborhoods. Complete neighborhoods are places where everyone can meet their basic needs in their own neighborhoods without driving.
Process Strategy Take-Aways

• Approved an inclusive communications and engagement plan by Council vote
• Voted incrementally
  • Vison and Values
  • Goals
  • Policies and maps
• Compromised on details, held bigger goals in mind
• Final plan centered race equity + fighting climate change and passed 12-1
  • Adopted interim inclusionary zoning policy same day.
Implementation of 2040

- Zoning Code Updates underway
- Green building policy / energy use disclosure
- Transportation Action Plan update
- Renter protections
- Budget commitments
Thank you!

Lisa Bender
Minneapolis City Council President
Lisa.Bender@minneapolismn.gov
@lisabendermpls