



Housing Working Group Meeting Notes

Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, March 9th, 2022

9:00-10:30am

Attendance: Danielle, Kim, Lloyd, Bob, Cara, Julie, Mark, Caitlin, Rodney, Fred, Suzie, Peter, Lisa & Jody

Agenda items:

• Maxfield Housing Report

- Housing Report Update – Julie Siegert
 - In communication with Mary (Maxfield) and it's looking likely that we'll be able to move forward with the schedule outlined below.
- SCALE Tech Team Review - March 16th?

This team is comprised of the staff that provides data & projection insight that goes into the Maxfield study, and so this allows the entities that sit around this table an ability to review for accuracy purposes
- SCALE Presentation – June 10th?
 - Housing study would be completed first, and then the commercial/industrial study would be completed from there.
 - What would help us maximize the availability to meet with SCALE?
 - Personal stories
 - Handouts/something to take away – reference guide – to increase depth of content from video
 - Bullet points//items & links will be likely most preferable path for ensuring information is accessible to elected officials

• Education & Advocacy Next Steps

- Housing Video Production Presentation - Kevin Burkart
 - Working on story boards, hoping to have these completed by next month
 - Should we use the video prior to the SCALE Presentation?
 - Soft release during SCALE Presentation – we haven't seen the video yet... cautious about releasing it publicly without solicitation of feedback first

Where would it be helpful to place information (*video alludes to a website being available to review information*):

- [GreatScottCounty website](#)
 - Still in development stage
 - Likely to get more traffic
 - Easier to navigate & more sophisticated which allows for a greater level of engagement with the user
- [LLE Website](#)
 - No password requirement to access any of the pages
 - Unsure whether other 'Pillars' have an intention to use this page, which could impact use moving forward

Information Gathering (*information from video, public information & committee notes*)

- Housing Briefing – Southwest News Media - committee update, share video
 - Helpful to determine when to pursue this. Discussed the likelihood that staff from SNM would be present for SCALE, so needing to assess whether it would make sense to pursue prior to the presentation or immediately after. Discussion shifted into whether it would help if we had a solidified video to share alongside



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- **2022 Housing Committee Priorities**

Prairie Pointe Updates – Not selected for [most recent round of MHFA Selections](#)

Seeking to identify pathways for subsidizing deeply affordable units (project-based vouchers)

Anticipating that they'll seek to reapply during the next round

Mainstreet Lofts (Elko New Market) – Not selected either, but planning to reapply

[2021 Minnesota Housing Multifamily RFP Selections](#) with Supportive Housing Units: The Minnesota Housing Board approved the 2021 selections in February. These selections add 376 supportive housing units to the state's inventory (once they are built or rehabbed). There was 1 multifamily selection from the Suburban Metro Area Continuum of Care region (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Scott & Washington Counties), Horizon Heights (Burnsville). The Prairie Pointe Project was not selected. I would encourage folks to consider reviewing [Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative's response to this funding announcement](#), as it will likely align with their future action item opportunities.

Habitat for Humanity & Community Land Trust Funding received through recent tax credit selections
Seeing additional pathways to expanded funding opportunities for preservation, acquisition, expansion of homeownership programming, etc.

Legislative Updates – Metro Demo Expansion: Program geared towards assisting individuals with disabling conditions access a subsidy that would allow them to pay 30% of their income towards housing coupled with supportive housing services. Seeking to expand the number of allowable units and the communities that are able to administer the program

Areas of continued interest/future work:

- Can we create a document that would outline projects around housing and pathways to access next steps that could be circulated to support them?
- Affordability Periods – Reviewing properties that exist within the community to review the properties that have rent structures that are affordable for supporting preservation and retention.
- Local Housing Trust Fund – Matching dollars available at the state, could explore further as is identified within the blueprint
- Savage – Identified at last City Council meeting approved how they'll allocate ARPA funds. Dedicated \$800k towards acquisition/rehab of SFH, single housing grant programs or other assistance for unit development. Would like to partner with CDA
- County Board is not planning to put funding towards rehab opportunities with ARPA funds
- Seniors – Living in own housing, needing education to understand how to afford moving out of home and transition to senior living communities. Could we offer an educational program to seniors to support their decision around steps needed to transition to continuum of care communities.
190 units coming to the Savage community that will support seniors

How would we equitably outreach and allocate preservation funds?

Typically, outreach is done by the CDA to cities to inform them of the programs available

CDA is often the first point of contact for questions around

With the availability of rental licenses/rental registration, it offers a pathway to inform rental operators