

More Places to Call Home: Investing in Minnesota's Future

Goals and Recommendations



COMMIT TO HOMES AS A PRIORITY

Create a broader and stronger public commitment to the urgent need for more homes that are more affordable to more Minnesotans.



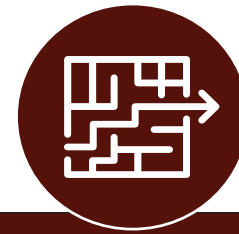
PRESERVE THE HOMES WE HAVE

Keep the homes we already have, especially those that are most affordable.



BUILD MORE HOMES

Build 300,000 new homes by 2030, across all types, prices, and locations to stabilize prices and meet demand.



INCREASE HOME STABILITY

Assist twice as many people at risk of losing their homes because of rent increases, evictions, and heavy cost burdens.



LINK HOMES AND SERVICES

Build stronger links between where we live and the services we may need to live stable lives.



SUPPORT & STRENGTHEN HOMEOWNERSHIP

Create pathways to sustainable homeownership, with a focus on removing barriers for households of color.

Like roads and bridges, homes are building blocks—assets that will be around for decades. By investing in our homes, we improve outcomes in education, health, and economic opportunity. Homes are our starting place.

Let's begin by securing our existing assets. The most cost-effective way to provide homes that are affordable for Minnesotans is to maintain and preserve the homes and apartments we already have.

Minnesota has built a reputation of livability and opportunity, with homes people can afford as a key ingredient. To ensure our neighborhoods and communities remain strong and healthy, we need to use all the tools and innovation at our disposal to enable the private sector to build to meet the demand.

When you lose your home, you lose your community—and the consequences of this major life disruption can last for decades. By doubling our investment in rental assistance, promoting voucher acceptance, preventing displacement, and improving protections for renters, we can reverse this trend, so kids learn, parents earn, and communities grow stronger.

At some point in our lives, most of us will need a helping hand. Many of us will be seniors who require assistance to stay in the place we've long called home. Other Minnesotans have experienced trauma or need health services. We can achieve better outcomes in a more cost-effective way when we coordinate services to meet people where they live.

Our wealth and our retirement savings are concentrated in our homes. Most Minnesotans want to own a home, and everyone who can sustain homeownership should be offered the tools, coaching, and access to financing they need to make this investment in their own future and in our communities.

- 1.1 Launch a **public-private partnership** to forecast demand, set goals and measure progress.
- 1.2 Create **dedicated, permanent funding sources** for affordable homes in addition to current funding sources.
- 1.3 Invite all Minnesotans to **recognize** homes as a central and critical part of the economic and social well-being of all residents and communities in Minnesota.

- 2.1 Expand and streamline existing **rental rehabilitation** programs to preserve critical rental assets.
- 2.2 **Incentivize** private-market owners to keep rental units affordable to low-wage families by using targeted support from local and state government.
- 2.3 Support and expand existing **home-rehabilitation** tools and programs at the state and local levels to serve more homeowners who need to make improvements.
- 2.4 Substantially increase support for **rehabilitation of public housing**, much of which is experiencing notable deterioration.

- 3.1 Position Minnesota as a **national leader** in the advancement of housing innovation and technology.
- 3.2 Grow the **pool of talent** in Minnesota's building trades to enable the sector to meet current and future demand.
- 3.3 Increase the capacity of local leaders to implement tools and solutions to **address the home-affordability needs** of their communities.
- 3.4 Expand the **range of housing** types across Minnesota communities.
- 3.5 Create a statewide review panel to **evaluate regulations** related to building standards, land use, and environmental stewardship for their impact on housing affordability.

- 4.1 Enhance and expand state and local **rental assistance** programs to complement federal programs that are too small to meet the need.
- 4.2 Define and crack down on **predatory rental practices**, including excessive evictions and poor condition of rental units.
- 4.3 Strengthen **protections for renters** in the private market.
- 4.4 Increase the speed and flexibility of emergency resources to prevent people from losing their homes.
- 4.5 Expand and enhance programs that help people **navigate the systems** to find homes and vital housing resources.
- 4.6 Incentivize the **acceptance of rental assistance vouchers** by the private market.
- 4.7 Prioritize investments needed to achieve the goals in **Heading Home Together**: Minnesota's Action Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

- 5.1 Provide a **dependable stream of funding** for social services that help households maintain stable homes.
- 5.2 Provide access to a full range of services for families and individuals **transitioning** into stable homes before, during, and after the transition.
- 5.3 Improve health outcomes and reduce costs for tenants by developing better **partnerships between health care and housing** providers.
- 5.4 Advance the Housing Supports program for residents with disabilities by **identifying gaps** and potential program enhancements to ensure statewide coverage.
- 5.5 Expand programs and providers who **assist** individuals in finding, securing, and retaining affordable rental homes.

- 6.1 Focus on increasing access to homeownership resources for the large number of **income-ready households of color** who want to buy.
- 6.2 Promote **alternative models** of building wealth through homeownership, such as community land trusts, cooperatively owned housing and manufactured home parks.
- 6.3 Encourage **employers and foundations** to support home purchases.
- 6.4 Increase funding for **financial education and counseling programs** that expand the capacity of households to pursue homeownership.
- 6.5 Expand **mortgage products** and provide extra support to local community banks to expand financing options.
- 6.6 Expand available **down-payment assistance** programs.