

Office of Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

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Governor Walz, Lieutenant Governor Flanagan Announce \$350 Million for Affordable Housing Development

[ST. PAUL, MN] – Governor Walz, Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, and Minnesota Housing today announced nearly \$350 million to preserve and build over 4,700 units of housing across Minnesota. With over \$1 billion in housing investments signed into law by Governor Tim Walz this year, this is the largest slate of development projects Minnesota Housing has ever approved.

"As one of the most basic human needs, housing provides a foundation for safety, stability, and economic growth," said Governor Tim Walz. "Through this historic slate of development projects, we're increasing the availability of affordable housing and investing in a better future for Minnesotans."

"We're taking important steps to expand and preserve affordable housing, make homeownership a reality for more Minnesotans, and ensure Minnesota housing meets the needs of families across the state," said Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. "The project selections announced today will soon become safe, stable homes thousands of children will grow up in. Their futures will be brighter because of what we accomplished together."

The total funding announcement is a compilation of project selections across the spectrum of housing: multifamily housing, single-family homeownership opportunities, and manufactured home communities.

Minnesota Housing selected 28 rental properties this year, with 13 located in the Twin Cities metro and 15 in Greater Minnesota. The multifamily rental selections support a total of 1,486 units. Most of the units will be new construction (875 units) and the rest are preservation of existing affordable properties (611 units). The state needs to build more housing and invest in existing properties to both improve the properties for the current residents and to maintain the affordability of the rental units for decades to come.

Many of the properties are for families with children. Some of the units are for specific populations, such as seniors (273 units), people with disabilities (138), and people who have experienced homelessness or need supportive services (474).

In the homeownership area, Minnesota Housing approved 78 projects supporting a total of 1,314 homes. Of these, 278 homes are new construction, and 598 will be rehabilitations of existing homes. The agency also provides funding to make homeownership more affordable for families who have sufficient income to become a homeowner. This year's selections are the highest ever for homeownership activities.

Minnesota Housing more than doubled its funding toward manufactured home community investments this year over 2022, with \$21.5 million allocated in selections. These funds can be used for infrastructure projects such as water and sewer upgrades, storm shelter construction or repairs, electrical work, and road and sidewalk improvements.

Between multifamily, single-family, and manufactured home communities, Minnesota Housing selected developments in every region of the state.

"This year we're seeing a lot of new collaborative partnerships among the developers," said Minnesota Housing Commissioner Jennifer Leimaile Ho. "It's exciting to see the industry open up to new women-owned businesses and firms led by people of color. And we're grateful to our many longstanding partners who helped advocate for this year's investments and continue to do great work in the community."

Highlights of developments selected:

• Single-family homes, rowhomes, and duplexes coming to Golden Valley: The City of Golden Valley Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is working with developers to build new, affordable homes across the city including Magnolia Homes, LLC, a Black-owned affordable housing developer, and Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC). The projects are part of Home Ownership Program for Equity (HOPE), a Golden Valley initiative to make public land available for the new construction of affordable homes. Many of the homes will be placed into the Homes Within Reach community land trust to ensure the units remain affordable long term.

- **Passive House meets affordable apartments:** Enhanced sustainability is among Minnesota Housing's priorities for its selections. Enclave Overlook, a new mixed-income rental development to be developed in Rockford by TTT Development, LLC, will use strategies to aggressively reduce energy usage. Doing so will reduce the building's environmental footprint and will save money for residents long-term.
- New storm shelter will accommodate all residents: Landfall Park Terrace in Washington County is a manufactured home community that houses 300 families. It has a community space that doubles as a storm shelter, but the space only fits about a third of the residents. The project will replace the storm shelter as well as address water and sewer system repair, street improvements and sidewalk repair, all common infrastructure needs in older manufactured home communities.

For more information about the 2023 selections, including complete project financing details and photos, visit Minnesota Housing at <u>www.mnhousing.gov</u>.

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