

# ADVISORY COMMUNICATION



Item No. IX. C.

**To:** City Council

**From:** Human Rights and Relations Commission

**Date:** July 7, 2015

**Subject:** Resolutions of the Edina Human Rights and Relations Commission on Affordable Housing in Edina

**Attachments:** None.

**Action Requested:**

None.

**Situation:**

The HRRC Affordable Housing Expanding Opportunity Committee has been tracking the Edina Housing Foundation affordable housing policy as part of the HRRC's 2015 Work Plan.

**Background:**

1. The Mission and Purpose of the Edina Human Rights & Relations Commission (HRRC) is to advise and assist the City Council in carrying out the public policy of securing for all residents of the community freedom from discrimination in connection with employment, housing, real property, public accommodations, public services, credit, business, and education. Additionally, the HRRC shall support and improve the human relations climate in the community.
2. The City, Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA), and the Edina Housing Foundation have worked together in seeking implementation of affordable housing goals for the City including the goal of creating 212 new affordable housing units in Edina by the year 2020. The term "affordable housing" as uniformly used has been defined by the MHFA.
3. The City Council has requested that the Edina Housing Foundation recommend an affordable housing policy for the City. The City Council has approved the HRRC's initiative included in its current Work Plan to consider affordable housing in Edina from the human rights and relations perspective. The HRRC formed the Affordable Housing Expanding Opportunity Committee for this purpose.

**Assessment:**

Based upon this Background, discussions with the City Development Director and the City Planning Staff, and the HRRC's Committee on Affordable Housing's Reports, the following Resolutions have been adopted by the HRRC for transmission to the City Council to be a part of its consideration of an Affordable Housing Policy for the City.

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## **Recommendation/**

### **Resolutions:**

**RESOLVED:** That as a matter of City of Edina policy, the City will require that at least 20% of the total of all units in new multi-family housing developments requiring rezoning or variance(s) be sold or rented at an affordable price, as defined from time to time by the MHFA(Affordable Housing).

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That, if requested, the City will consider Tax Increment Financing for projects that include at least 20% of all units designated for Affordable Housing.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That Affordable Housing in the rental market shall remain so for a minimum of 15 years, as memorialized by a Land Use Restrictive Covenant for all such developments.

**RESOLVED FURTHER:** That the actions, plans, and goals of the Edina Housing Foundation are endorsed by the HRRC, as these goals also accomplish the HRRC goals to improve the socio-economic and cultural diversity of this community, thereby building a stronger, more vibrant environment for all citizens who live, work, or learn in Edina or who wish to do so.