



Fair Housing Policy

1. Purpose and Vision

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Act of 1988, establishes federal policy for providing fair housing throughout the United States. The intent of Title VIII is to ensure equal housing opportunities for all citizens. Furthermore, the City of Bloomington as a recipient of federal community development funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, is obligated to certify that it will affirmatively further fair housing. The City acts in coordination with and through its Housing Redevelopment Authority in and for the City of Bloomington (HRA) and Port Authority of the City of Bloomington (Port) (City, HRA and Port collectively the “City”).

The City works to advance racial equity, inclusion, and belonging through this Fair Housing Policy to further the mission of cultivating an enduring and remarkable community where people want to be.

2. Policy Statement

It is the policy and commitment of the City of Bloomington to ensure that fair and equal housing opportunities are available to all persons in all housing opportunities and development activities funded by the City regardless of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, gender identity, status with regard to public assistance, creed, familial status, national origin, or disability. City policies will provide meaningful access to all individuals as well as fair housing information and referral services and through internal practices and procedures that promote fair housing and support the City’s equity and inclusion goals.

3. External Practices

a. Referral

The City of Bloomington has designated the Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer of the Office of Racial Equity Inclusion and Belonging (OREIB) or its designee as the responsible authority for the referral of all fair housing complaints. Fair housing complaints and the referrals and information given will be fully documented.

b. Meaningful Access

i. **Online Information.** The City of Bloomington will provide information about fair housing prominently on its website. The website will include links to various fair housing resources, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid, and others as well as links to state and federal fair housing complaint forms. In addition, the City will post the following documents on its website:

1. Reasonable Accommodation Policy;
2. Language Access Plan;
3. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy regarding access to City services; and
4. The State of Minnesota's Olmstead Plan.

ii. **In-Person Information.** The City of Bloomington will provide in-person fair housing information including:

1. Information available on the City website;
2. A list of fair housing enforcement agencies;
3. Frequently asked questions regarding fair housing law; and
4. Fair housing complaint forms for enforcement agencies.

c. **Languages.** The City of Bloomington is committed to providing information in the five most common languages of its residents. The City of Bloomington will

provide information in languages other than English as described in its Language Access Plan.

4. Internal Practices

The City of Bloomington commits to the following steps to promote awareness and competency regarding fair housing issues in all of its government functions.

- a. Staff and Officials Training.** The City will train its staff and officials on fair housing considerations.
- b. Housing Analysis.** The City will review its housing periodically to examine the affordability of both rental and owner-occupied housing to inform future City decision making.
- c. Code Analysis.** The City will review its municipal code periodically to ensure its ordinances align with this Policy.
- d. Project Planning and Analysis.** City planning functions and development review will consider housing issues to ensure alignment with this Policy.
- e. Community Engagement.** The City will intentionally seek input from all individuals, including those historically underrepresented populations in the community.
- f. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.** As a recipient of federal funds, the City agrees to participate in the Regional Analysis of Impediments, as organized by the regional Fair Housing Implementation Council (FHIC), an ad hoc coalition of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement jurisdictions and others working together to affirmatively further fair housing. The City will review the recommendations from the analysis for potential integration into City

planning documents, including the Consolidated Plan, the Comprehensive Plan,
and other related documents.

Adopted by the City Council on August 6, 2018

Revised and adopted by the City Council on November 27, 2023