



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 2018 – 2019 ACTION AGENDA

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

The Housing and Community Development Committee works to develop policies and programs that will assist municipalities in addressing local housing challenges. The H+CD Committee is the only body in the Chicago region that convenes to develop a shared municipal voice on housing issues.

Our membership consists of regional mayors seeking to provide leadership, build interjurisdictional capacity, and advance new policies around housing and community development issues. Mayors may elect to send staff as a designated representative.

The Committee meets every other month on the morning of the fourth Wednesday at 9:30 AM.

AN INTERJURISDICTIONAL HOUSING AGENDA

The Committee works collaboratively to advance policies and programs that align with the [Northeastern Illinois Housing Endorsement Criteria](#), which it adopted in 2002. The Criteria supports housing that:

- Promotes Economic Development and Workforce Housing;
- Encourages Balance and Choice For Housing Options Across the Region
- Supports Innovative Community Development and Design;
- Provides for Mixed Uses within Neighborhoods;
- Minimizes Costs for Public Services;
- Promotes the Use of Public Transit; and
- Encourages Sustainability and Livability.

When it comes to housing, one size does not fit all for every community. Recognizing this, the Committee works collaboratively as peers to share resources, discuss strategies, and develop ideas to help each community meet its unique needs. The MMC Housing Director works at the direction of the Committee to maintain this peer environment, facilitate technical assistance, and build interjurisdictional capacity to advance housing that aligns with the goals of the Criteria.

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee advances the Criteria using the following strategies:

Interjurisdictional Cooperation: Collaboration across municipal borders helps communities address shared housing and community development challenges. Working jointly, communities can build their capacity to leverage resources and develop cost-effective solutions to housing. MMC currently supports two formal housing collaboratives, the Chicago Southland Housing and Community Development Collaborative (CSHCDC) and the Northwest Suburban Housing Collaborative (NWSHC), as well as a third collaborative of towns focused on housing issues in the Round Lakes area. MMC advances their efforts through facilitation, technical assistance, and capacity building via grant writing and program design.

Individual Technical Assistance: MMC provides specialized technical assistance (TA) to help municipalities plan and implement housing initiatives. These initiatives include partnerships with CMAP and MPC for the Homes for a Changing Region initiative and Regional Housing Solutions website. MMC will continue to offer TA to new communities and offer implementation support to previous recipients.

Shared Learning: The Committee meets regularly to discuss topics, policy strategies, and available resources to advance housing development in line with the Endorsement Criteria. This year, the H+CD Committee will revisit successes from prior Homes for a Changing Region plans and tour best practice developments that have resulted from MMC's work.

Workshops and Trainings on Emerging Issues: At the direction of the Committee, MMC identifies emerging topics and partners to help communities address various housing issues. Depending on the issue, MMC will develop technical assistance in the form of a written guidebook, workshop or training, or peer discussion. Any Committee member may propose a topic where technical assistance or best practices would be helpful. In 2018, MMC has identified aging in place, the re-use of retail as housing, standardization of building codes, and community education as four potential emerging topics.

Unified Voice On Housing Issues: The Committee is the region's only body of municipalities that meets to discuss housing issues. As such, it is a critical voice to ensure that regional planning, housing policy, and state and federal legislation reflect the shared voice of municipalities. MMC's Housing Director represents the views of the Committee as a liaison to other groups, such as CMAP's Housing Committee.

Capacity Building: The Committee and Housing Director work together to explore or implement topics of interest according to the above strategies. These activities includes grant writing, the formation of new partnerships with external organizations, and the on-going cultivation of new leaders to sit on the Committee.

The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Housing and Community Development Committee is chaired by Mayor Jeffrey Sherwin of Northlake and Mayor Arlene Juracek of Mt. Prospect. Questions about this Action Agenda should be directed to the Caucus' Director of Housing Initiatives, Kyle Smith, at ksmith@mayorscaucus.org or (312) 201-4507.