

CITY ISSUE FACT SHEET: HOUSING, ZONING, AND LAND USE



How Cities Can Get Involved

- **Sharing community successes, challenges, and needs with legislators.**
- **Testifying at committee hearings.**
- **Partnering with the League of Minnesota Cities to shape housing policies.**

Housing, Zoning, and Land Use Priorities

Housing, zoning and land use remain top priorities for the Legislature in 2025, and cities play a crucial role in shaping state policies that impact their communities. The League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) continues to advocate for balanced policies that align state goals with local needs.

ADDRESSING THE HOUSING SHORTAGE:

- Cities have led efforts to remove barriers to development and foster public-private partnerships.
- Policies must allow flexibility for local governments to create tailored housing solutions.
- State intervention should enhance, not limit, local innovation and decision-making.

ADVOCATING FOR LOCAL DECISION-MAKING:

- LMC supports policies that preserve local decision-making over zoning and land use.
- If the state expands its role in zoning, policies must be scalable, adaptable, and sensitive to different regional needs.
- A one-size-fits-all approach does not work for Minnesota's diverse communities.



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Housing, Zoning, and Land Use Priorities (Continued)

VALUE LOCAL INPUT AND INNOVATION:

- Cities are already implementing successful zoning and land use reforms to support affordable housing.
- State policy should build on these efforts by providing funding, technical assistance, and incentives.
- Solutions must be practical and work at the community level, not just in legislative theory.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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What's Needed from State Involvement

- Allow cities to apply state frameworks in ways that suit metro, suburban, and rural areas.
- Ensure housing remains affordable at every level, especially for those most in need.
- Enable cities to set development requirements that reflect community priorities.
- Support existing city-led initiatives and build on local successes.