

## TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

### [RESPONDING TO HOUSING NEEDS IN UNCERTAIN TIMES;](#) [COMMISSIONER JENNIFER HO, MINNESOTA HOUSING](#)

Mayor Mike Maguire called the June 8, 2020 virtual RCM meeting to order.

- **Racial injustice/civil unrest – together, not apart**  
[LINK TO 8CAN'TWAIT](#)
  - Mayor Jacob Frey provided an overview of the events of George Floyd's murder and resulting civil unrest and potential next steps.
  - Mayors in attendance expressed their support, confirmed that cities in the region are in this together and provided support for Mayor Frey's leadership in navigating a difficult time in the city.
  - Mayor Hovland – The United States Conference of Mayors has assembled a new [Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group](#). Mayor Hovland will share a training video and other resources that emerge from this group.
  
- **July 13<sup>th</sup> RCM Meeting – RCM meeting with School Leaders**
  - July 13<sup>th</sup> will be the 3rd annual conversation with school leadership to focus on the achievement gap and a discussion on how education offers hope for a better future.
    - **Mayors - please invite your school leaders: Board Chairs and/or Superintendents.**  
The Zoom invitation will be shared with mayors by Caren Dewar and mayors are then asked to invite their school board leaders and/or superintendent.
  - Mayor Sandy Martin – this is a good time to discuss housing affordability with school leadership during the July RCM meeting.
  
- **Caren Dewar Update** – The ULI MN search team has decided to go forward with the search for ULI MN's next Executive Director. It has also been determined, in agreement with ULI MN's Governance Committee, that during this time it is important for Caren Dewar's leadership with the RCM to continue. Caren will be working under a contract with ULI MN to continue her role with the RCM and Minnesota Mayors Together.

# RESPONDING TO HOUSING NEEDS IN UNCERTAIN TIMES; COMMISSIONER JENNIFER HO, MINNESOTA HOUSING:

[LINK TO HOUSING AS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE – 2020 GOVERNOR’S LOCAL JOBS AND PROJECTS PLAN](#)  
[LINK TO EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE SUMMARY](#)

Commissioner Jennifer Ho, Minnesota Housing

- Whatever we thought was a big request before – we now need to go bigger. We cannot go back to ‘normal’. We need to double down on housing.
- Over last 12 weeks –a tremendous effort has been made to get people off the streets that live outside particularly with COVID and the need to social distance. The state, along with cities and homeless organizations are deconcentrating the shelters providing protective spaces for those that are most vulnerable and creating isolation spaces if there are COVID positive people.
- There will be a special legislative session with key topics for consideration to include:
  - Extending the eviction moratorium.
  - Expungement reform.
  - \$100 Million for Emergency Housing Assistance.
  - \$200 million – Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIB) – create and preserve more housing, will finance up to 1,800 homes.
  - \$60 million – Public Housing Infrastructure – for public housing rehabilitation, will improve up to 10,000 homes.
- Some Key Points:
  - Minnesota Housing has had a continuity of their operations and is and has been open for business during COVID, with majority of staff working from home. The RFP process, loan closings and bond sales are still occurring.
  - It is important for mayors and cities to hold up the affordable projects and the value of those affordable projects in their city to the legislature as they review funding support for housing during the special session.
  - Housing options and opportunities are critically important to stabilize people through the recovery.
  - Mayors noted the importance of new housing but also the focus on maintenance/rehabilitation of the existing housing stock – Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing; apartments and manufactured homes.

## OPEN FORUM DISCUSSION:

The RCM Mayors were welcome to participate or listen to an open forum discussion to discuss their city’s approaches to the recent events along with any follow up questions or comments for Commissioner Ho.

# ATTENDANCE

## MAYORS

James Hovland	City of Edina (co-chair)
Mike Maguire	City of Eagan (co-chair)
Marylee Abrams	City of Maplewood
Rita Albrecht	City of Bemidji
Doug Anderson	City of Lakeville
Tracy Bertram	City of Becker
Kurt Briggs	City of Prior Lake
Anne Burt	City of Woodbury
Tim Busse	City of Bloomington
Bill Droste	City of Rosemount
Sean Dowse	City of Red Wing
Jacob Frey	City of Minneapolis
Mary Gaasch	City of Lauderdale
Jason Gadd	City of Hopkins
Shep Harris	City of Golden Valley
Courtney Johnson	City of Carver
Marvin Johnson	City of Independence
John Keis	City of Little Canada
Chris Lund	City of Hamburg
Sandy Martin	City of Shoreview
Tim McNeil	City of Dayton
Rhonda Pownell	City of Northfield
Maria Regan Gonzales	City of Richfield
Jake Spano	City of St. Louis Park
Mark Steffenson	City of Maple Grove
Randy Stille	City of Saint Anthony
George Tourville	City of Inver Grove Heights
Brad Wiersum	City of Minnetonka
Ken Willcox	City of Wayzata
Jeff Wosje	City of Plymouth

## GUESTS

Ryan Baumtrog, Minnesota Housing Assistant Commissioner; Alfonso Cornish, Target; Molly Cummings, Metropolitan Council; Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County Commissioner; Chris Heineman, City Administrator for City of Little Canada; Jennifer Ho, Minnesota Housing Commissioner; Jessie Houlihan, Stahl Construction/ULI MN management Committee; Michael Huber, BCBSMN; Andrea Inouye, City of Minneapolis; Andrea Kajer, Comcast; Mark Kunkle, ULI MN Capital Markets Council Co-Chair; Jay Lindgren, Dorsey & Whitney; Josh Nguyen, Minnesota Housing; Jonathan Weinhagen, The Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce

## ULI MINNESOTA

Caren Dewar, Cathy Bennett, Rachel Keenan

# NEXT MEETING

Monday, July 13, 2020, 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Joint meeting with RCM and School Leaders  
Virtual Meeting using Zoom