

Housing Forward Cities

Update for Committee of the Whole



August 19, 2026

Two grants, one program

\$9M total awards

FY2023: \$4M, 2024-2029

- Policy & planning staff and consultants
- Direct grants for communities throughout the region
- Sub-grant to Ramsey County for 30% AMI development
- **Received partial award with invitation to reapply**

FY2024: \$5M, 2025-2030

- Policy & planning staff and consultants
- Direct grants for communities
- **Builds on full vision and momentum from first award**



The Housing Forward Cities moment



Alignment with Imagine 2050

Local plans updated by 2028



Unprecedented local revenue for housing

\$44M to cities, \$87M to counties in region annually via \$0.25 metro sales tax



Momentum for housing & land use policies

Best practices emerging in cities throughout the region



Maximizing the moment for housing

Housing Forward Cities

- **Boosts** local housing planning and implementation in the Imagine 2050 cycle
- **Complements** Livable Communities incentives and implementation funding

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Housing Forward Cities (first grant)						
	Housing Forward Cities (second grant)					
	Imagine 2050		Local plans		Implementation	
Livable Communities grant rounds (2x/year)						

Housing Forward Cities

➤ Policy & Program Development grants

- Awarded \$600,000 directly to 8 cities in 2025 and 2026; up to 36 additional grants will be available from 2026-2027
 - Arden Hills
 - Blaine
 - Edina
 - Hopkins
 - New Brighton
 - Richfield
 - Rogers
 - St Louis Park

➤ Regional collaboration for housing & land use policies

- Housing Forward Cities Missing Middle Project launching soon
- Additional peer learning, planning assistance, toolkit development, model ordinances through 2029

➤ Support for building/preserving deeply affordable homes

- Sub-grant from FY2023 award to Ramsey County to address greatest affordable housing needs in the region



Discussion

Questions

- Where do you see opportunities for communities in your district to lead the way on housing policy innovation?
- What are you hearing from communities about their housing challenges, going into the current planning cycle?





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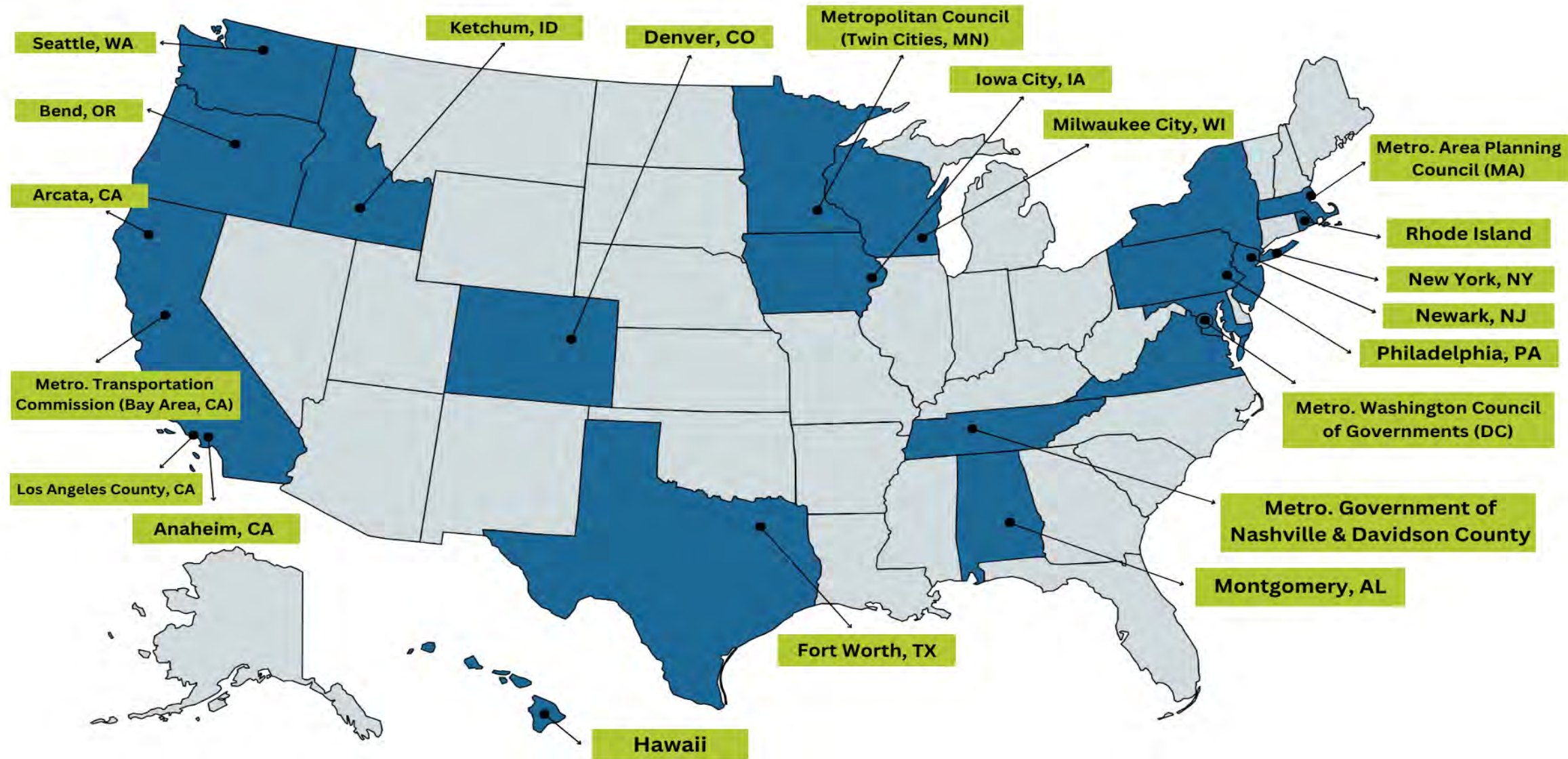
metro council.org



Appendix



FY23 PRO Housing Winners



FY24 PRO Housing Winners

FY 2024 Awards

City and County of San Francisco	CA
City of Austin	TX
City of Cincinnati	OH
City of Detroit	MI
City of Evanston	IL
City of Norman	OK
City of Oakland	CA
City of Portland, Oregon	OR
City of St. Louis	MO
City of Toledo	OH
City of Tucson	AZ
County of Dane	WI
County of Sacramento	CA
Lake Worth Beach Community Redevelopment Agency	FL
Louisville-Jefferson County Metro Government	KY
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development	MD
Metropolitan Council (Twin Cities, MN)	MN
State of Montana Department of Commerce	MT
