



Metro HRA

Administrative Plan Revision – Waiting List Preference



Community Development Committee 2/18/25

Metro HRA Administrative Plan



2024 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Approved by Metropolitan Council:

September 25, 2024
October 11, 2023
October 12, 2022
September 22, 2021
September 23, 2020
February 12, 2020
September 25, 2019

Required by US Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Establishes operational policies for the Housing Choice Voucher program
- Updated each year as part of the Annual Plan process and as policy revisions are proposed
- Must be approved by the Council

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Waiting List Placement and Selection

- Describes the method for how applicants are placed on and selected from the waiting list.
- HUD allows establishing local preferences – give priority to people who meet certain criteria.

American Indian Advisory Council (AIAC)



American Indian Advisory Council Recommendations

- AIAC recommended organization-wide changes related to Tribal relations:
 - Parks And Trails
 - Water
 - Environmental Justice
 - Transportation
 - Housing

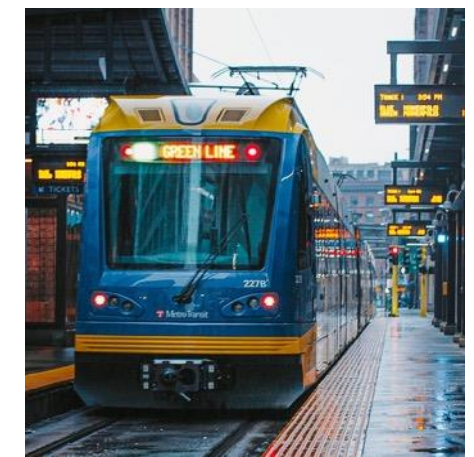
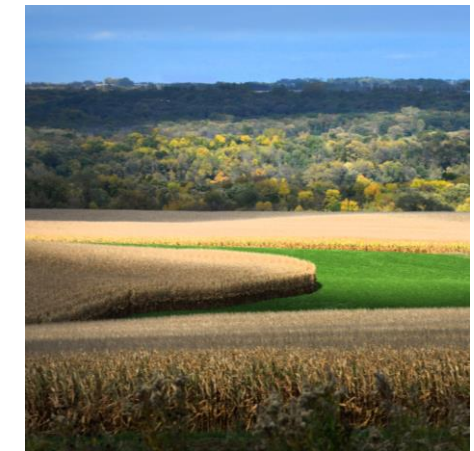


"The Council will update its housing voucher programs and selection process to begin reconciling the historic racism and relocation that creates unsheltered American Indian people on their homelands."

- American Indian Advisory Council

AIAC Housing Policy Recommendations

- “The Council will update its Administrative Plan in preparation for opening the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list in 2025 to set aside a percentage of waiting list placements for households that identify as American Indian.
 - The Council will engage with the American Indian community to determine to appropriate set-aside percentage.
 - The Council will share the process and outcomes of this policy change with other HRAs in the region.”



Engagement Activities



Invitation to Current Voucher Holders

- Invited 298 current voucher holders who identify as American Indian
- 59 voucher holders RSVPd to attend one of two in-person sessions (Brookdale Library and Maplewood Library) and one virtual session
- 18 current voucher holders attended
- Gift card compensation available to all attendees
- Additional engagement - conversations with consultants with lived experience in homelessness

Engagement Activities



Resources and Connections

Sessions attended by Met Council staff from:

- Metro HRA Outreach Team
- Tribal Liaison, Allison Waukau
- Metro Transit's Transit Assistance Program (TAP)
- Metro Transit Police, Metro Transit Homeless Action Team
- Community Development's Park Division
- Environmental Services
- Community Engagement Artist, Witt Siasoco

What Did We Hear?

Waitlist percentage set aside for AI applicants?

- General agreement preference was important
- No consensus on %, ranged from 10% to 75%
- Match waitlist percentage to percent of AI homeless population
- 2024 Point in Time (PIT) count reported AI represent 9% people experiencing homelessness

How to help more AI households apply?

- Prior waiting list openings in 2015, 2019, and 2022 – 3% of applicants identified as AI
- Publicize waitlist opening earlier and more often
- Connect with trusted community resources
- Establish a consistent and memorable date for waitlist opening

Experience, connection to culture in suburbs

- Appreciate housing diversity for large families, safety for children
- Concerns of racism, lack of diversity, lack of acknowledgement of Native land and peoples
- Less access to community, relatives and transportation

Proposed Waiting List Preference



- The PHA will offer a preference for 10% of waiting list placements to households whose head identifies as American Indian.
- The PHA will complete a random drawing for waiting list placement, awarding 95% of remaining waiting list placements to applicants who reside, work or have been hired to work or got to school full-time in the seven-county metro area. The remaining 5% of waiting list placements will be awarded to any other applicant.

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