



Regional Housing Strategy

DRCOG Board | October 21, 2026

Agenda

1. The Regional Housing Strategy
2. Governance and Implementation
3. Working as a Region
4. Look Ahead
 - Thank you!



We have a Regional Housing Strategy

- **What it is:** A shared regional framework to help partners coordinate on housing issues, align resources, and support implementation across jurisdictions.
- **What it does not do:** It does not replace local authority, mandate local land use decisions, or require every community to use the same tools.
- **Who it is for:** Local governments, counties, DRCOG, housing authorities, funders, developers, service providers, community organizations, and other implementation partners.
- **How it can be used:** As a guide for identifying where regional, subregional, and local partners can collaborate, lead, support, or adapt strategies based on their roles and capacity.
- **What authority it has:** It is not a regulatory document. Its influence comes from shared commitment, coordination, and implementation by participating partners.

Why have a Regional Strategy



Our region needs more than 500,000 homes by 2050.



There are many barriers to housing development.



No single community can overcome these barriers alone.



The Regional Housing Strategy is a call to action on a critical shared priority.



Working together we can develop more effective local solutions.



What's in the Strategy?

The Regional Housing Strategy is organized around four core components:

- **Vision**
- **Goals**
- **Pathways**
- **Implementation Strategies**



VISION

What is the strategy working towards?
What does long-term success look-like?



GOALS

What outcomes do we want to achieve?
Goals move us toward the vision and set direction for action. They describe success in practice.



PATHWAYS

What do we do?
Initiatives that advance the goals of the Regional Housing Strategy.



IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

How do we do it?
The structures, processes, and supports that make actions feasible, scalable, and sustainable.



An Increased & Diversified Housing Supply

The region has sufficient housing supply across all income levels, with a diverse range of housing types available to meet community needs.



Preserved & Stabilized Affordable Housing

Affordable housing across the region is preserved and stabilized, with investments protecting residents, maintaining community culture, and preventing displacement.



GOALS

What outcomes do we want to achieve? Goals move us toward the vision and set direction for action. They describe success in practice.



Strong & Sustained Regional Coordination to Advance Housing & Infrastructure Goals

Regional coordination is strong and sustained, enabling housing and infrastructure goals to be effectively addressed through shared planning, aligned investments, and collective action.



Expanded & Aligned Funding Capacity Across Jurisdictions

Funding capacity is expanded and aligned across jurisdictions to support housing and infrastructure development across the region.



Housing is Reframed as a Regional Asset

Housing is widely understood and supported as a regional asset, with strong public understanding and political will that sustain momentum for action.



PATHWAYS

Initiatives that advance the
Regional Housing Strategy **Goals**



1. Make it easier and faster to build housing.

Improve the predictability and efficiency of housing approvals and construction, especially for affordable housing.

2. Work as a region to fund housing.

Collaborate to increase funding and align investments for diverse housing that meets all income needs, including the preservation of existing affordable housing.

3. Leverage investments to achieve shared goals.

Coordinate across jurisdictions to expand housing options in areas served by existing and planned transit and infrastructure, including in existing neighborhoods.

4. Partner to strengthen community stability.

Work across sectors to coordinate planning, action, and investment to preserve housing and deliver services that can help households and communities stay in place and thrive.

5. Build regional support for housing.

Work together to educate residents and decision makers about why housing matters for our communities and region.

Implementation Strategies

Make it easier and faster to build housing.

- Create regional and subregional coordination forums to advance policy coordination that accelerates housing production.
- Bolster regional housing technical assistance and capacity-building through programs and initiatives that support local communities.
- Build regional capacity to deliver housing types that meet changing demographic and income needs at scale.

Implementation Strategies

Work as a region to fund housing.

- Expand and align countywide and cross-jurisdiction investment and collaboration models.
- Support new sources of funding for affordable housing development across the region.
- Coordinate funding and processes to preserve existing affordable housing across the region.
- Advance more flexible housing funding policies.

Implementation Strategies

Leverage investments to achieve shared housing goals.

- Integrate housing growth assumptions into regional infrastructure and utility analysis.
- Align transportation and housing investments to support livable communities.

Partner to strengthen community stability.

- Embed displacement risk considerations early into planning and development processes.
- Improve coordination and access across housing navigation and stabilization systems.

Implementation Strategies

Build regional support for shared housing goals.

- Advance and embed a shared regional narrative about housing and community prosperity.
- Build the capacity of regional and community leaders with new tools to communicate about housing.
- Establish a regional agreement around housing to build consensus, direction, and cohesion around shared housing goals.



From Ideas to Action!

Mobilization structure





Regional coordination

Regional Housing Advisory Committee

Purpose/Role



- Guides the Regional Housing Strategy
- Serves as central coordination body for the Regional Housing Strategy
- Convenes regional partners
- Monitors progress and advises implementation actions across the region
- Emphasis on content/thought leadership, not representation from all partners across the region

Potential Membership



- Local government staff, housing authorities, DRCOG staff
- Reps from DRCOG Board (elected officials)
- Reps from state agencies (CHFA, DOLA, etc.)
- Private-sector partners (developers, builders)
- Philanthropic partners
- CBOs and service providers



Regional capacity building

Purpose



- Focus on technical assistance, peer learning, and operational coordination across jurisdictions.
- Support information sharing and collective learning.
- Provide forums for ongoing coordination across local government staff.
- Identify common implementation barriers, resource gaps, and opportunities for collaboration.

Structure



- Convened, facilitated, and supported by DRCOG.
- Flexible participation based on implementation topics and regional priorities.
- May include focused technical working groups around specific issues.



Subregional collaboration

Purpose



- Groups of jurisdictions and partners working at a subregional scale.
- Coordinate resources across boundaries.
- Coordinate project delivery.
- Implement strategies at a more granular level, where regional alignment alone is insufficient.

Potential Membership



- Can and will take many different forms.
- They can be a coalition of counties and cities within a county, groups of cities across county boundaries that work together, or cross-county collaboratives.
- Subregional collaboratives define geography and who is at the table to coordinate on housing issues.

It's all about partnership

- **DRCOG** will continue to convene, provide data and analysis, coordinate funding, and work to strengthen the regional conditions for housing.
- **Local governments** will continue to be the nexus of planning and action.
- **Local and regional partners** will bring their expertise, priorities, and implementation capacity.



An ongoing effort

- **The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA)** will continue to track housing trends, needs, and outcomes.
- **Metro Vision and related planning efforts** will show how housing connects to growth, transportation, infrastructure, and access to opportunity.



Contact information

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