



Regional Housing Strategy

DRCOG Board Update April 1, 2026



Agenda

- I. Stakeholder Process Update
- II. Refined Draft Pathways
- III. Regional Housing Strategy and Mobilization
- IV. Regional Housing Strategy Outline
- V. Upcoming Engagement & Project Look Ahead



Phased approach

Phase I: Discovery

- Environmental Scan
- Engagement Plan
- Regional Context Analysis

Phase II: Strategy Development

- Goal & Objectives
- Best Practice Research
- Strategy Development 

Phase III: Draft & Final Plan

- Implementation and Governance
- Draft and Final Plan

Engagement & Communications Strategy



Stakeholder Process Update

Advisory Group Meeting #4 - February 2026

- Emphasis on housing production and the importance of focusing on that across the region
- Tackle infrastructure & utility bottlenecks to help speed up development and align on where investments are needed
- Think regionally on funding & leverage philanthropic partnerships to close gaps
- Preservation IS production & should be prioritized & funded
- Align housing with transit & climate to maximize shared goals
- Shift the narrative with concrete data to align with public support for addressing housing challenges
- The current pathways reflect the discussions to date and are the right level to be applicable for all partners in the region

Steering Committee Meeting #4 - March 2026

- Remain focused on the need identified in the RHNA, even with recent slowdown of population growth, because of shifting household composition and existing underproduction
- Fast-track affordable projects and communicate project priorities to utility providers
- Collaborate, don't compete for funding so shovel-ready, priority projects are more likely to move forward
- Rethink boundaries for shared wins, recognizing that funding a neighboring city's project mutually benefits the wider system

Steering Committee Meeting #4 - March 2026

- Regional agreements should be flexible, protect local control and support capacity building in smaller communities. What are criteria that we can all operate under?
- County-level and cross-jurisdictional implementation allows for local flexibility to scale to regional impact with higher-level regional coordination and support
- Coordination and alignment at a regional level helps support consensus across jurisdictions about meeting housing need



Refined Draft Pathways



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.

DRAFT RHS Components

PURPOSE

Why regional collaboration?

The RHS explains why collaboration is essential to meeting the region's housing needs.



Increase & Diversify Housing Supply

Meet the region's housing needs across all income levels by expanding supply and increasing housing diversity.



Preserve & Stabilize Affordable Housing

Preserve and stabilize affordable housing across the region so that investments protect residents, maintain community culture, and prevent 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.



Strengthen Regional Coordination to Advance Housing and Infrastructure Goals

Strengthen regional coordination to advance housing and infrastructure goals that are more effectively addressed through shared planning, aligned investments, and collective action.



Expand & Align Funding Capacity Across Jurisdictions

Expand and align funding capacity across jurisdictions to support housing and infrastructure development.



Reframe Housing as a Regional Asset

Build public understanding and political will to reframe housing as a regional asset and create momentum for action.

Streamlined Pathways *(how we will get there)*

- 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.

Streamlined Pathways *(how we will get there)*

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.



Regional Housing Strategy & Mobilization

Discussion questions

- 1. What will be most important for mobilizing these pathways across the region?**
- 2. What year-one wins are a priority, and what are 1-2 strategies that will help get us there?**



**DRAFT: Regional Housing
Strategy Outline**

Four Key Sections of the RHS

- 1. About the Regional Housing Strategy**
- 2. A Vision and Pathways for Regional Action**
- 3. Implementation Actions**
- 4. Mobilization and Governance**



Look Ahead

- **March / April / May**
 - One-on-one conversations with key RHS implementers
 - Workshops with housing providers, affordable housing developers & local governments
 - “Go-to-them” meetings with electeds & housing professionals
- **May – June**
 - Full Draft RHS
- **July**
 - DRCOG Board Meeting