

Senate State and Local  
Government Committee  
Room 1200 Minnesota Senate Bldg.



Dear Chair Xiong and Members of the Committee,

May 1, 2025

The Minnesota Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) is an association of nonprofit community development organizations and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) committed to expanding the wealth and resources of communities through housing opportunities and economic development initiatives. MCCD's mission to build strong and stable communities can only be achieved by addressing the harms and inequities that have shaped housing and economic development policies at every level of government. These policies have prevented Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) and other communities from achieving housing stability, accessing capital, and building generational wealth.

**MCCD is writing in support of Senate File 2229, which will increase Minnesota's supply of affordable housing options.**

Minnesota is experiencing a severe housing shortage. We need to build more than 107,000 units of housing to meet demand, and we are nowhere near meeting this goal. This shortage is contributing to increasing costs for renters and homeowners and it is making it more difficult for individuals and families to achieve long-term housing stability. While there isn't one single solution to solve our state's housing crisis, there is a relatively simple way to solve our housing shortage: build more housing. We can do this by supporting bills like SF 2229 and by saying Yes to Homes.

The Minnesota Starter Home Act would make it easier to build smaller homes and duplexes in new developments and re-developments across our state. Owning a home allows families to build wealth and achieve financial stability and security. This bill will help ensure that when prospective homebuyers are in the market to buy their first home, there are affordable options available to them. By supporting this bill, the Increased Housing Options Act, the Multi-Family in Housing in Commercial Areas, and the People Over Parking Act we can better ensure that Minnesotans have access to housing that is both affordable and that fits their unique needs.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request to support new housing development in our state. Please reach out to Kelly Law, Senior Policy and Field Building Advisor at MCCD, 612-865-3170 or [klaw@mccdmn.org](mailto:klaw@mccdmn.org), should you need any further information now or throughout the legislative session.

Sincerely,

*Elena Gaarder*

Elena Gaarder  
Chief Executive Officer, MCCD