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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Fair Housing Workgroup Update December 6, 2023



Today

- History of Fair Housing Act and Fair Housing Work Group
- 2018 Recommendations Status Update
- What's Next



FAIR HOUSING ACT

Fair Housing Act of 1968



Addressing disparate housing impacts in **homeownership**, **renting**, and **financing**

Protected classes: **Race**, **color**, **national origin**, **religion**, **sex**, **disability**, **familial status**, age, ancestry, creed, public assistance status, marital status, sexual or affectional orientation



FAIR HOUSING ACT

Two key fair housing concepts:

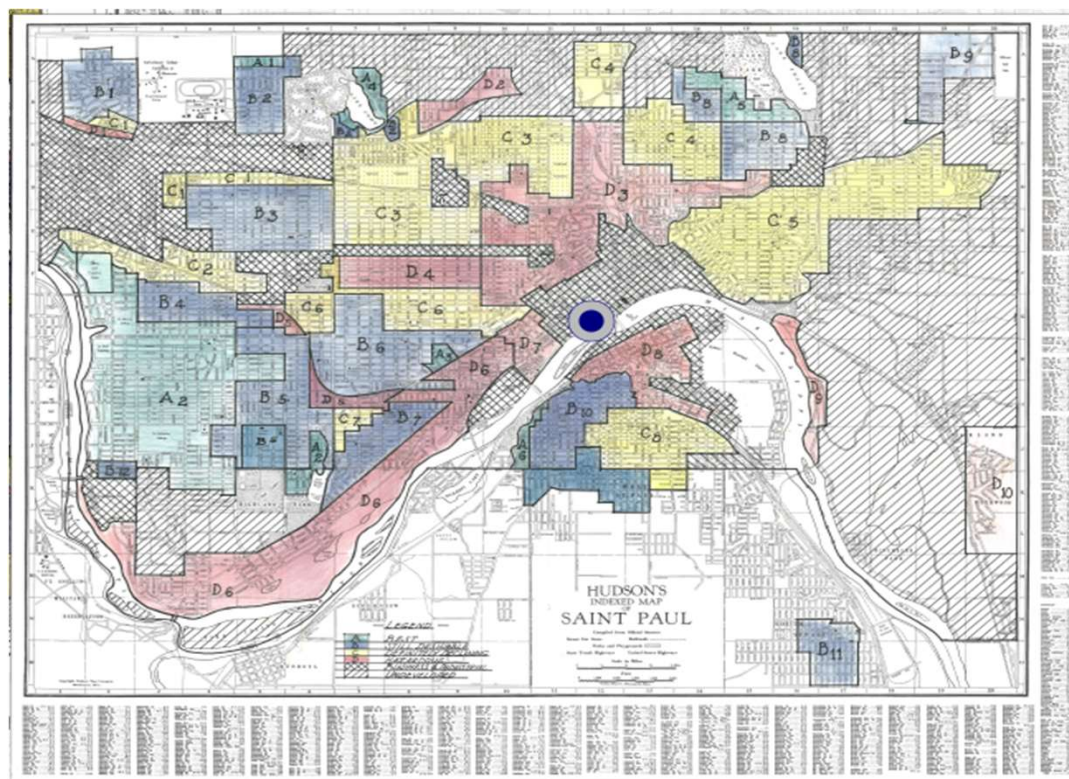
- **Disparate Impact** – Treating someone differently based on one of the protected classes
 - Ex. Refusing to rent to someone who has children or another protected class
- **Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing**

The City, as a recipient of federal HUD funding, is required to "take meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics."

<https://www.hud.gov/AFFH>



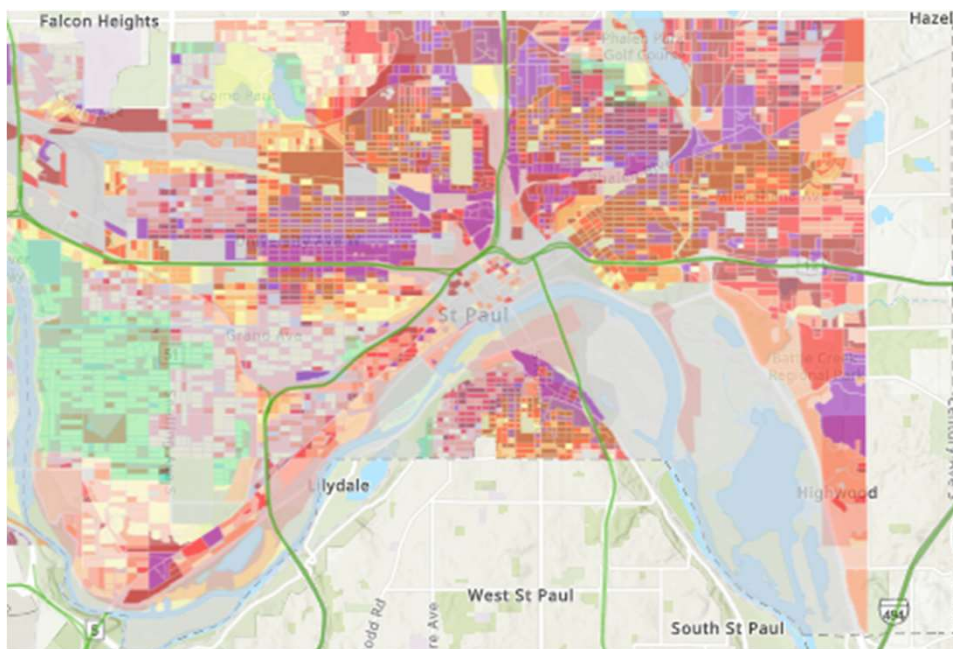
Federal government endorsed redlining



Redlining map in Saint Paul, Home Owners' Loan Corporation, 1934
Source: Redlining in New Deal America, University of Richmond



Historical legacies of redlining



2020 Census Racial Demographic by Block Group
Source: Redlining in New Deal America, University of Richmond

Mandate to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

History: Fair Housing Workgroup

2017 – Creation of the Fair Housing Workgroup by City Council resolution (Resolution 17-994)

2017 to 2018 – Multi-Departmental Workgroup meets to determine recommendations, chaired by Deputy Mayor Beckmann and then Deputy Mayor Tincher

April 2018 – Report to City Council

2018-2023 – Action on recommendations

Council/HRA updates:

- 8/7/2019 – Workgroup Report Update
- 4/14/2021 – Fair Housing Month Update
- 4/12/2023 – Fair Housing Month Update

2023 – Review of progress with Fair Housing work group departments

St. Paul's Fair Housing work group has its work cut out for it



Status Update: 2018 Fair Housing Workgroup Report Recommendations



Fair Housing Work Group

Status update and policy and program options in response to Resolution 17-2064.



Fair Housing Coordinator

- Created through the Office of Financial Empowerment in 2019 from the **2018 Fair Housing Workgroup recommendations**
- Works with city departments, city council, Mayor's Office, community partners and stakeholders to further fair housing



From Section 2.02 of the Administrative Code: *"Fair housing program. OFE may develop and administer a fair housing program related to economic justice and tenants' rights, and may collaborate with other city departments on fair housing strategies, policies and procedures..."*



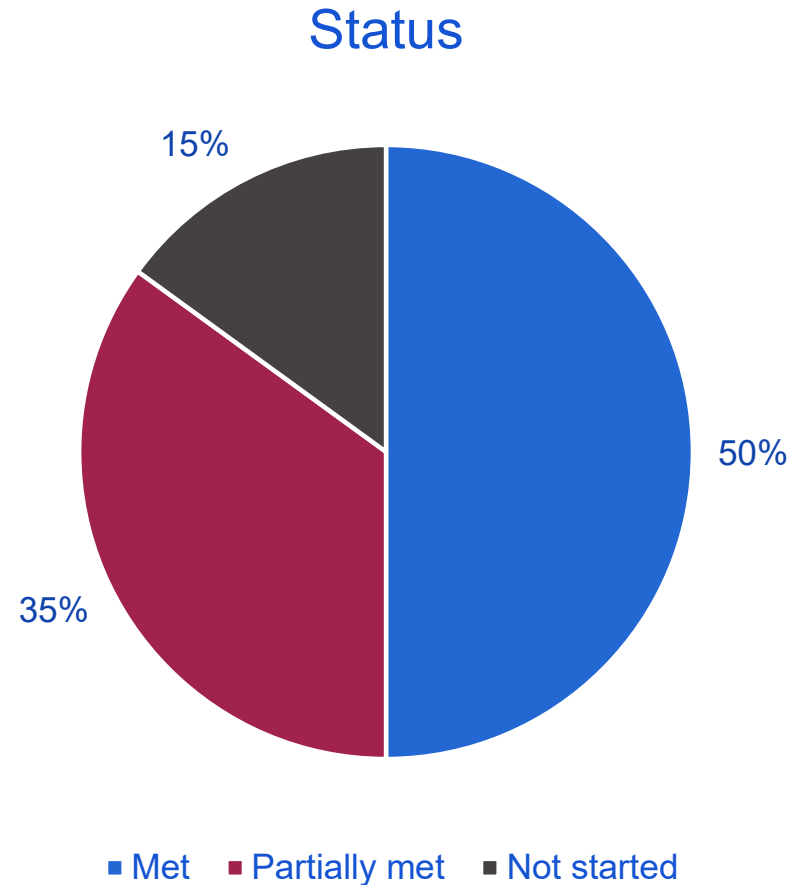
Status Update on 2018 Recommendations

- Significant action and progress was made on the 2018 Fair Housing recommendations from 2019-2023, with the City acting on 17 of 20 (85%) of the 2018 recommendations (see status update handout)
- Actionable items were taken across departments (PED, DSI, HREEO, OFE)
- The City has implemented additional activities above and beyond the 2018 recommendations to affirmatively further fair housing (see last page of the status update handout)



2018 Recommendations – Status Update

- Met: 10/20=50%
- Partially met: 7/20=35%
- Not started: 3/20=15%





Additional Actions to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

Actions	Department
30% AMI Deeply Affordable Housing Fund	PED
Rondo Inheritance Fund	PED
Families First Housing pilot	PED
Housing Trust Fund for Downpayment Assistance and Land Trust Financing	PED
Rent Stabilization	DSI
Just Deeds	CAO
Human Rights outreach – presentations and events	HREEO
Returning Home Saint Paul	OFE
Twin Cities Regional Fair Housing Implementation Council (FHIC)	OFE / PED



What's Next

- *Keep in Mind:* Revisions to the 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule will likely come in 2024 (<https://www.hud.gov/AFFH>) through Equity plan requirement on fair housing