



**BETTER AGENTS ♦ BETTER COMMUNITIES**  
SAINT PAUL AREA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The greater Twin Cities metropolitan region, an area including thirteen counties in central Minnesota and western Wisconsin, is consistently rated in national studies as one of the best places to live and work in America. At the same time our region faces mounting challenges to housing related “quality of life” issues.

REALTORS® Recognize and Support the following:

- Residents should be able to live where they desire as long as they can afford to do so.
- Transportation and transit are important components of regional growth planning. An efficient transportation system needs to include a combination of autos, buses, light and commuter rail transit; all are essential building blocks in the foundation of our regional economy. Minnesota must be mindful of transportation when engaged in regional planning.
- Demographic trends, housing studies, and citizen input indicate our communities need a variety of housing choices.
- Communities must support housing affordability, both rental and purchase, for low and median income buyers. Additionally, the move-up market is important in order to free up existing affordable housing units for first time buyers.
- Regulatory barriers and impact fees increase housing costs and reduce housing choices and affordability. Therefore, REALTORS® encourage incentives that provide housing opportunity rather than requirements that might stymie the local housing market.
- The Twin Cities is nationally recognized for public-private partnerships bringing the best elements from government and the private sector together to find meaningful solutions to regional issues. These partnerships, based on incentives rather than regulation, should be utilized whenever possible to solve issues of housing, transportation, and regional growth.
- All communities in the region have an integral role to play as the Twin Cities expands.
- Housing choices available in one community have an effect throughout the region. Local units of government are encouraged to consider regional growth when involved in local planning.

As active members of the communities in which they live, REALTORS® are committed to community involvement – from housing options and affordability, to growth and transportation.

The REALTOR® Association Regional Growth Policy Statement is a cooperative effort between the Minneapolis Area Association of REALTORS®, the North Metro REALTORS® Association, the Saint Paul Area Association of REALTORS®, and the Southern Twin Cities Association of REALTORS®. Combined they represent over 16,000 members involved in all aspects of the real estate industry.

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