



## For Immediate Release

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## ULI Minnesota's Regional Council of Mayors launches Housing Policy Tool Box

Minneapolis, MN (October 26, 2009): Partnering with the award-winning Center for Housing Policy, ULI Minnesota's Regional Council of Mayors (RCM) has created a Twin Cities focused Housing Policy Tool Box to expand a national web-based tool with local applications. The Minnesota-specific tool box, available at <http://minnesota.uli.org/>, is a component of the popular [HousingPolicy.org](http://HousingPolicy.org) website. The tool box provides state and local officials access to both local and national policies, tools, and actions to expand housing choices for Minnesotans.

"As [HousingPolicy.org](http://HousingPolicy.org)'s first metropolitan area focused tool box, we are proud to have partnered with ULI MN and RCM to offer this valuable set of solutions-based resources for policymakers and practitioners," said Jeffrey Lubell, executive director of the Center for Housing Policy. "Ultimately, this tool box will help in meeting the important goal of expanding the availability of affordable homes for Minnesota's working families. It also serves as a model for other states and localities nationwide looking to develop similar resources."

The site includes easily accessible information on a broad range policy tools, as well as guidance on how to put them together to form a comprehensive and effective housing strategy.

"The ULI MN/RCM Housing Tool Box will be a great resource for suburban cities to learn about the tools available locally to help implement community housing goals," notes Mayor Steve Lampi, City of Brooklyn Park. "In addition, providing application of the tools with local examples is very important to political leaders when making housing development and program decisions."

The tool box was created under the RCM's Housing Initiative, which supports a collaborative learning community among public and private stakeholders. The RCM Housing Initiative is financially supported by the Family Housing Fund with contributing funds from Minnesota Housing and Metropolitan Council.

**Urban Land Institute Minnesota** (ULI MN) actively engages public and private sector leaders in land use planning and real estate development to learn, network and join in meaningful, strategic action to create thriving, sustainable communities.

The nationally recognized **Regional Council of Mayors** (RCM) was formed in 2005 and is supported by the Urban Land Institute Minnesota. It includes Minneapolis, St. Paul and 34 municipalities in the developed and developing suburbs. This collaborative partnership provides a non-partisan platform focused on building action strategies to raise the region's overall economic competitiveness and quality of life.

HousingPolicy.org is an online guide to state and local housing policy developed and maintained by the [Center for Housing Policy](#), the research affiliate of the [National Housing Conference](#).

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