Spring 2011 Newsletter

Economic prosperity. Regional livability. Multi-sector partnerships. Many of the things that ULI Minnesota and our members work on every day are now more important than ever. Be part of the change!

INITIATIVES
ULI Minnesota and the Regional Council of Mayors have been actively engaged in four core initiatives: (1) Housing; (2) Environment; (3) Jobs and Economic Development; and (4) Transportation. You can keep up with all of our work at: http://minnesota.uli.org/. Our web site is updated regularly with summaries of recent activities, meeting notes, presentations and reports – check back often! Read on for initiative highlights from winter 2010/2011.

Housing Initiative
Through the generosity of the Family Housing Fund, ULI Minnesota/RCM has created a dynamic learning community to demonstrate the competitive advantage of a full range of housing choices in connected, livable communities. Along with our public and private sectors partners, we are implementing tools and strategies to raise awareness in municipalities about the importance of housing choice to economic prosperity.
We have implemented several strategic programs to apply best practices to specific suburban cities, corridors and counties – resulting in the expansion of tools and strategies that supports a full range of housing choices throughout the region. For more information about any of the resources or reports listed below, visit the ULI Minnesota web site.

**Opportunity City Program.** ULI Minnesota has completed the Opportunity City Program within seven suburban cities (Anoka, Brooklyn Park, Eagan, Minnetonka, Richfield, Rosemount and Shoreview) including the Housing Audit, Community Data and Site Evaluation, creating a new way of thinking about how housing is connected to and integrated within a community.

**Community Change Reports.** ULI Minnesota assisted with the creation of Community Change Reports profiling household demographic changes between 2004-09, with funding support from the Metropolitan Council and Minnesota Housing. The reports align new tools and policies to meet demographic changes for the development and preservation of senior, rental and ownership housing.

**Minnesota Housing Policy Toolbox.** Building on a national platform of tools to support affordable and workforce housing, ULI Minnesota and the Center for Housing Policy have prepared a Minnesota-specific web based toolbox that provides local tools, strategies and best practices in support of the development and preservation of housing choices. Check out the Tool Box or access its resources.

ULI Minnesota and the Family Housing Fund are also pleased to announce the publication of “Redevelopment in the Twin Cities: A Developers’ View” – a report compiled from private interviews with ten developers who routinely do redevelopment projects in the Twin Cities metro area. The developers were asked what they look for in determining which projects to pursue, as well as what incentives are important to them. Click here to read the full report.

**Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metropolitan Business Plan**

Minneapolis-Saint Paul is one of three regions in the United States piloting the metropolitan business planning approach, which adapts the discipline of private-sector business planning to the task of revitalizing regional development. The Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metropolitan Business Plan initiative is being led by a regional collaborative involving ULI Minnesota/Regional Council of Mayors, the Itasca Project, the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), and Target Corporation.

ULI Minnesota and its partners will soon release an Executive Summary of the Draft Metropolitan Business Plan. Please check the Jobs/Economic Development web page in April to review the draft and to obtain additional updates on the project.

**ULI IN THE NEWS**

**Regional Council of Mayors: a vacation from bitter partisanship**
*By Steve Berg | MinnPost Feb. 28, 2011*

After Jared Lee Loughner put a bullet through Gabrielle Giffords' head in Tucson last month, politicians, left and right, lined up to pledge a novel idea: civility in public discourse. My mind ran immediately to a remarkably cordial monthly gathering of mayors from around the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro working together on sticky issues. To watch them closely as I have for two years, I’d say it's nearly impossible to tell Republicans from Democrats. Read more...

**Aging boomers looking to downsize; young are seeking affordability, convenience**
*By Steve Berg | MinnPost Jan. 28, 2011*

It will be years before the housing market resembles its former self, and even then the dominant demographics and lifestyle patterns of the last half-century won't be coming back. Minneapolis-St. Paul's
next market will be pent-up and bipolar: aging baby boomers looking eagerly for smaller homes (if they can afford to unload their bigger ones); and young people, without the secure jobs of the past, looking for bargains and convenience.  Read more...

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 28: Lightening Our Footprint: Minnesota GreenStep Cities and The Regional Indicators
4:00 – 5:30 pm: Dorsey & Whitney
Presenters: Rick Carter, LHB Architects; Mayor Peter Lindstrom, Falcon Heights; and Dr. Carissa Schively Slotterback, University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs
Cities understand the value of sustainability and energy efficiency policy. However, determining and then prioritizing implementable actions can be overwhelming with limited staff and resources. Watch for an email notice in late March.

May 12: Inside the Leadership Studio with Mary Brainerd, President and CEO of Health Partners
3:45- 5:00 pm: McKnight Foundation Board Room
What happens when you bring a popular TV show format to the ULI Minnesota stage?  Answer: An exciting new platform for robust, enlightening discourse with regional leaders.  Come see what the buzz is all about! Registration begins in April 2011.

May 18-20: ULI 2011 Spring Council Forum
Phoenix, AZ
Learn more.

May 24: Third Annual Housing Initiative Conference
7:30 – 11:30 am: Dorsey & Whitney
Presenter: Christopher Leinberger, Visiting Fellow, Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program
Come hear one of America’s freshest thinkers describe the big changes taking place in our housing markets.  Christopher B. Leinberger, a land use strategist, teacher, developer, researcher and author, balances business realities with social and environmental issues. You won’t want to miss this session with one of the country’s "Top Urban Thinkers!" Registration begins April 2011.

Visit "Events" on our web site for more information about upcoming events.

PAST EVENTS

Kid-Friendly Cities: "Oh the places you’ll grow!"
March 10, 2011
The 4th Annual YLG Annual Program featured a robust dialogue centered on the question, “What makes a community great for kids and families?” Fueled by an enthusiastic panel and audience, the event delved into the issues of housing, public spaces, schools, safety, diversity, land use planning, transportation and more. Read more...

Reducing Risk and Creating Value through Design
February 10, 2011
Master developer Chris Frampton of East West Partners and urban planner Todd Johnson of Design Partners provided a comprehensive overview of Riverfront Park, their award-winning development located in the heart of downtown Denver, Colorado. Read more...

To read all about ULI Minnesota’s past programming, and access presentations and resources, visit "Event Recaps on our website."
ULI MINNESOTA WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERS

Advisory committee:
Ramsey County Commissioner Jim McDonough, Tom Lander, Mortenson

Regional Council of Mayors:
Dave Bartholomay, Circle Pines; Jerry Faust, St. Anthony; Mary Giuliani Stephens, Woodbury; David Grant, Arden Hills; Tim Hultmann, Long Lake; Sandra Krebsbach, Mendota Heights; Scott Lund, Fridley; Lili McMillian, Orono; Dan Roe, Roseville; Nancy Tyra Lukens, Eden Prairie

New members:
Mei-Ling Anderson, Becky Carlson St. Clair (YLG), Jonathan Fletcher (YLG), Jill Hutmacher, Daniel Jackson, B. Aaron Parker, Danyelle Pierquet (YLG), Carl Runck (YLG), Jon Sander, Alex Selke (YLG)

PEOPLE & IDEAS

People: Jay Lindgren to Serve as Chair of the ULI Infrastructure Initiative Advisory Group
Jay Lindgren has accepted an appointment from ULI Chair Jeremy Newsum and CEO Patrick Phillips to serve as Chair of the ULI Infrastructure Initiative Advisory Group for 2011-2013. In addition to providing a forum for peer-exchange among the country's top infrastructure experts and thinkers, the Advisory Group provides guidance on ULI's overall infrastructure program directions and shares insights on trends and issues to inform ULI's infrastructure work products. When fully formed, the Advisory Group will be made up of about 15 to 20 national and international infrastructure leaders and experts.

In response to the honor, Jay noted, "This is a great recognition of the infrastructure work we've done at ULI Minnesota. I'm excited to share our lessons with others nationally and internationally, and also to bring to the Twin Cities best practices from around the globe."

People: YLG Members Asked to Participate in Downtown 2025
Several members of ULI Minnesota's Young Leaders Group have been asked to participate in the visioning process for Downtown 2025, the latest 15-year plan for the City of Minneapolis. The initiative is being led by The Downtown Council, Downtown Improvement District, city and county staff, Metro Transit, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and downtown residents. More than a land-use plan, the vision is intended to include specific goals and steps for achieving them, evaluating topics like transportation, sports, marketing and green infrastructure.

Ideas: Urban Land Magazine: Housing and the 112th Congress
The pressure to reduce the federal deficit through spending cuts, uncertainty regarding federal housing finance systems, and dire fiscal straits faced by state and local governments could result in higher housing costs overall for home owners and renters. Watch a video featuring J. Ronald Terwilliger and read what the experts predicted at a workforce housing forum recently hosted by the ULI Terwilliger Center for Workforce Housing: http://urbanland.uli.org/Articles/2011/Mar/RiggsTerwilliger.

ULI BOOKSTORE: SUPPORT ULI MINNESOTA

Next time you order a book from the Bookstore, be sure to use the ULI Minnesota code "8117". Our district council will receive a share of the proceeds!

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On the web: www.minnesota.uli.org
Questions or problems with the ULI web site? Contact Jamie McAfee 202.624.7023. To learn more about ULI MN or to be added to our mailing list, please contact Pat Arnst.

Forward to a friend: click here.

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