

---

**Sponsor:** Community & Economic Development

**Meeting Date:** 10/15/2024

**Title:** Acceptance of 2024 Local Affordable Housing Aid

**File Number:** 2024-463

---

**Background and Rationale:**

Local Affordable Housing Aid (LAHA) is a new funding source made available through the state of Minnesota to all metropolitan counties and some metropolitan cities. State statute dictates its eligible uses with a focus on affordable housing projects, programs by nonprofit housing providers and rental assistance. Ramsey County will receive \$6,011,349 in LAHA funds in 2024. The first payment of \$3,005,674 was received on July 9, 2024, and the second payment will arrive in December 2024.- The funding is source is a sales tax that is collected across the seven-county metropolitan area. The 2024 aid amount includes tax revenue collected between October 2023 and February 2024. Future aid amounts will collect revenue throughout the entire year.

Ramsey County plans to use its 2024 LAHA to invest in housing supply and homeless prevention programs. This direction was affirmed by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners at a board workshop on August 6, 2024. At this workshop, the Community and Economic Development (CED) department presented plans to support and stabilize existing affordable housing buildings, particularly permanent supportive housing units. The Housing Stability department (HSD) presented plans to focus on homeless prevention programs, diversion, and rental assistance. Approximately \$5,000,000 would go towards the stabilization of existing units and approximately \$1,000,000 would go towards housing stability programs and assistance.

CED and HSD will work with Finance and the County Attorney's Office to ensure that all uses of funding are allowable under state statute, that all county solicitation and procurement processes align with approved policies and procedures, and that all state reporting requirements are met.

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Accept the 2024 Local Affordable Housing Aid from the state of Minnesota in the amount of \$6,011,349.
2. Authorize the County Manager to establish a project for Local Affordable Housing Aid in the Community and Economic Development and Housing Stability Departments.
3. Authorize the County Manager to accept future Local Affordable Housing Aid amounts from the state of Minnesota.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Frethem, seconded by Commissioner McGuire. Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Frethem, McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

By:   
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board