

We live in a world of an increasing diversity of households, each with their own specific needs and desires for housing. This variety of households contributes to a diverse labor pool, and adds to the vitality and sustainability of cities. Ensuring that diverse and affordable housing is available long-term is essential to keep our cities vital.

## Common Concerns

### Integration of affordable and market-rate housing

### Household unit types and sizes

## Design Solutions and Suggestions

- Affordable housing need not be segregated or formally distinguished from market-rate housing. An increasing number of examples exist—both locally and nationally—which demonstrate that housing can be successfully mixed at the scale of the building, the site, the block, and the neighborhood.
- A mix of household unit types and sizes will attract and serve a variety of types of households.
- A good mix of housing options includes “lifecycle housing,” which allows residents to go through the stages of life and age in place, in one neighborhood.

### References

Fader, Steven. 2000. *Density by Design: New Directions in Residential Development*. Washington D.C.: Urban Land Institute.  
Haughey, Richard M. 2003. *The Case for Multifamily Housing*, Second Edition. Washington D.C.: Urban Land Institute.

## Local Design Solutions: Diversity



Heritage Park (Minneapolis)

Mix of public housing, rental assistance units, market-rate rental units and for-sale units provides housing options for a variety of people and incomes

Good access to local amenities and transportation

Houses are organized around open spaces and pedestrian paths



East Village (Minneapolis)

Mixed-use development places local amenities and services within walking distance of housing

Rowhouses and apartments are mixed together to provide a variety of housing types

Local restaurants and coffee shops give residents places to meet and socialize



East Village (Minneapolis)

High quality finishes and careful design mean that affordable units fit in with market-rate units

*\* Not all of the developments included are located on corridors; they were chosen as local examples that illustrate solutions and suggestions for designing for diversity.*