



January 21, 2021

City of Minneapolis  
350 S. 5th St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

**RE: REALTORS® Support Accessory Dwelling Units ‘Owner Occupancy’ Requirement Elimination**

Dear Mr. Mayor, President and Members of the City Council:

The Minneapolis Area REALTORS® (“MAR”) is a professional association representing more than 9,000 REALTORS® who live and work throughout the Twin Cities. Many of our members are residents of Minneapolis, and many more work with clients who buy and sell homes in the community. Our overall goal is to support the healthy growth of the Twin Cities’ real estate market and help consumers make informed real estate decisions.

Minneapolis Area REALTORS® recognizes current conditions in both the for sale and rental housing markets. Both markets are being impacted by issues of Affordability, Availability, and Access. Demand is outpacing supply of homes especially in the first two starter home price brackets. The lack of supply is creating imbalance in the marketplace and decreasing affordability. Innovative solutions are required, and periodic review of housing ordinances are timely and prudent. Minneapolis Area REALTORS® has supported Accessory Dwelling Unit (“ADU”) ordinances in Minneapolis and elsewhere. We recently supported the ADU Height change. Minneapolis Area REALTORS® supports the elimination of provisions that require ‘owner-occupancy’ in one unit or the other on a property where an ADU exists and operates. Minneapolis Area REALTORS® supports an Accessory Dwelling Unit policy that promotes and effectuates the development of these units. ADU benefits include:

1. Provides much needed affordable housing options.
2. Provides owners with additional flexibility.
3. Gives renters more stability and access.
4. Appeals to energy-conscious tenants.

Thank you for your attention to this important housing issue. Please feel free to reach out to us regarding other Minneapolis real estate and housing issues.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Myers, Director of Government Affairs  
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