Deciding Who Has the Right to Our City
The Role and Impact of the Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED)

With a nearly $2 billion budget and 4,000 employees, the City of Minneapolis wields immense power in shaping the lives and opportunities of its residents. But when it comes to housing, those resources aren’t focused on building up our greatest asset, serving the diverse and vibrant households that call Minneapolis home. Instead, the city department charged with Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) is set up to cater to big developers and property owners, and put renters and communities of color at the back of the line.

Mission:
“To grow a vibrant, livable, safely built city for everyone”

Goals:
Leverage CPED investments and resources to foster economic development and revitalization in challenged areas.
Plan, design and develop sustainable, healthy, livable, high performance and resource efficient communities.
Strengthen CPED’s role as leader, innovator and key driver of the city’s regional competitiveness.

David Frank
Director, $174,500 salary

$131 Million
2020 Budget

252 Employees
Current Staff

4 Divisions
Housing Development & Policy
Economic Development & Policy
Development Services
Long Range Planning

119 staff: Majority in construction code services
Responsible for managing zoning administration, land use, design and preservation review, construction code service
Most relevant activity: approving more than $1 billion in construction permits in 2019

71 staff: 3 dedicated to small business
Responsible for supporting investment that grows business, jobs and city’s tax base, ensuring MPLS residents are competitive for jobs
Most relevant activity: business licensing, employment training, fostering economic development in “challenged areas”

36 staff: Majority are project managers for rental or single-family development projects
Responsible for establishing housing policy, financing and redeveloping single and multi-family real estate to stimulate private investment, increase the tax base and sustain a healthy housing market
Most relevant activity: tenant screening ordinance, Affordable Housing Trust Fund, homeownership programs, developing vacant lots into affordable homeownership

12 staff: Majority are planners
Responsible for determining the big picture rules that guide long-term growth
Most relevant activity: leading process and development of the Minneapolis 2040 comprehensive plan