



# CAPITAL CORE

# CREATE A DOWNTOWN WORKFORCE HOUSING PLAN

- Downtown growth
- Regional growth



# SCOPE

- Understand market-wide housing dynamics
- Estimate future workforce housing demand
- Assess Downtown's current and future role in addressing housing needs.



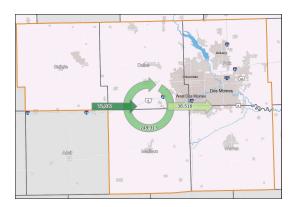
# **PARTNERS**

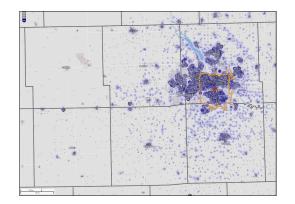
- Virginia Center for Housing Research
- Polk County Housing Trust Fund
- Des Moines Area MPO
- City of Des Moines
- City of Ankeny
- City of Clive
- City of Norwalk
- City of Urbandale
- City of West Des Moines

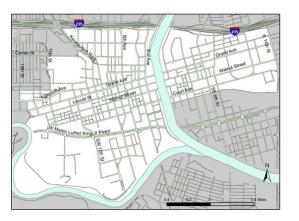


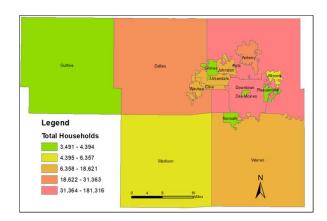
# STUDY AREA

- The MSA
- Polk County
- Des Moines
- Downtown









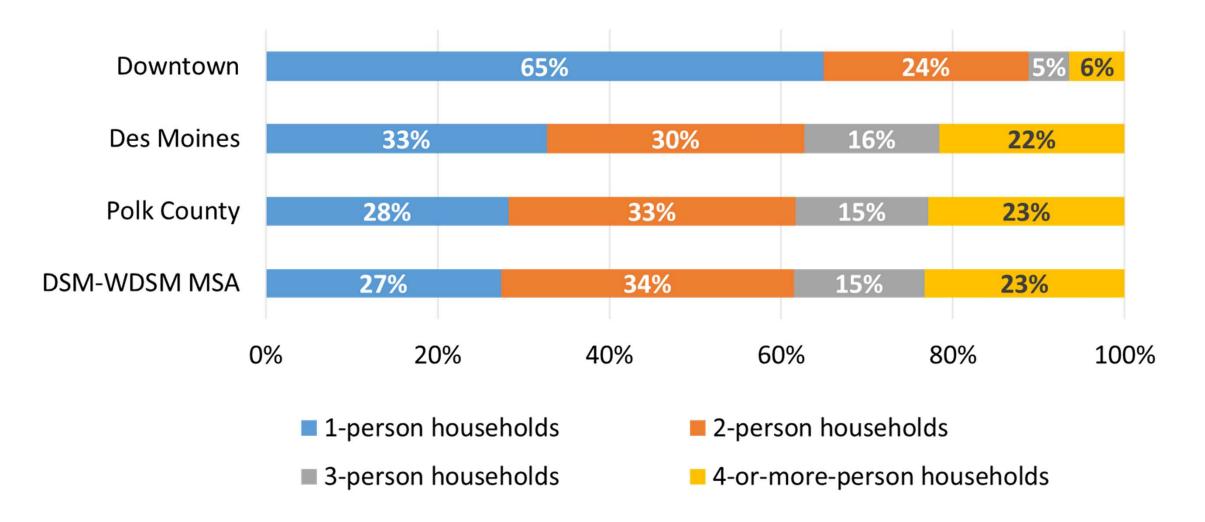


# **DOWNTOWN LANDSCAPE**

- 80% of Downtown households are non-family
  - 40% higher than MSA
- Almost half of Downtown householders are under the age of 34
- 92% of Downtown households rent
- The number of workers living and working Downtown has increased by 50% since 2012



# **DOWNTOWN LANDSCAPE**





# **DOWNTOWN LANDSCAPE**

- Households with 4 or more people have little to no opportunity to find a unit Downtown
- Downtown's abundance of small rental units has primarily attracted younger, non-family households
- Without opportunities to upgrade, many of these households may leave as incomes increase and they make longer-term housing choices
- Downtown needs a variety of housing units and ownership opportunities



# **HOUSING COSTS**

 HUD defines cost-burdened families as those who pay more than 30% of their income for housing and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation, and medical care.



# **HOUSING NEEDS**

- 612,000 people comprise 237,500 households in the MSA
- 58,000 households in the Des Moines MSA are cost-burdened
  - 40% of renters
- More than 41,000 workers cannot afford to pay rent alone, even when earning in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile
- Workers in 4 of the top 10 occupations cannot afford the median rent in any part of the MSA without sharing costs with another worker.



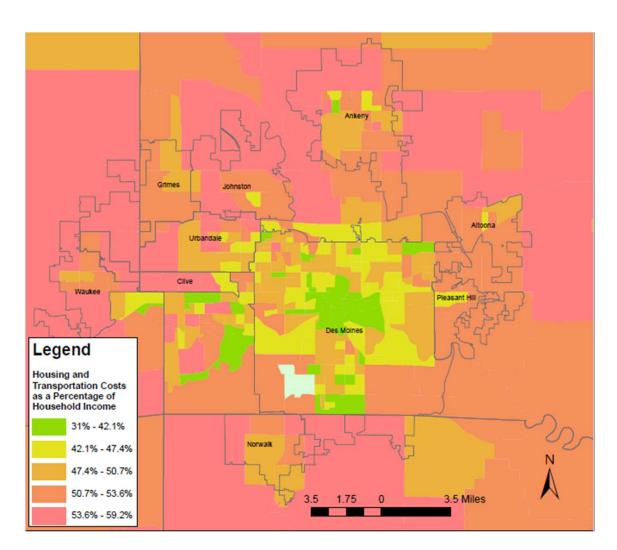
# HOUSING NEEDS AMONGST WORKERS

- More than 4,000 workers Downtown earn less than \$15,000 annually in their primary job
  - Maximum affordable housing cost by occupation
    - Retail Sales: \$569/mo.
    - Cashiers: \$531/mo.
    - Wait Staff: \$515/mo.
    - Food Prep: \$486/mo.
  - Hospitality and Sales Occupations have seen the least wage growth 2010-2017



# **HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION TRADE-OFF**

- Higher rates of cost burden in the city may be related to households accepting higher housing costs to save on transportation, resulting in an overall more affordable living situation.
- Location efficiency is a primary reason to plan for more housing in the core of Des Moines as the region grows.

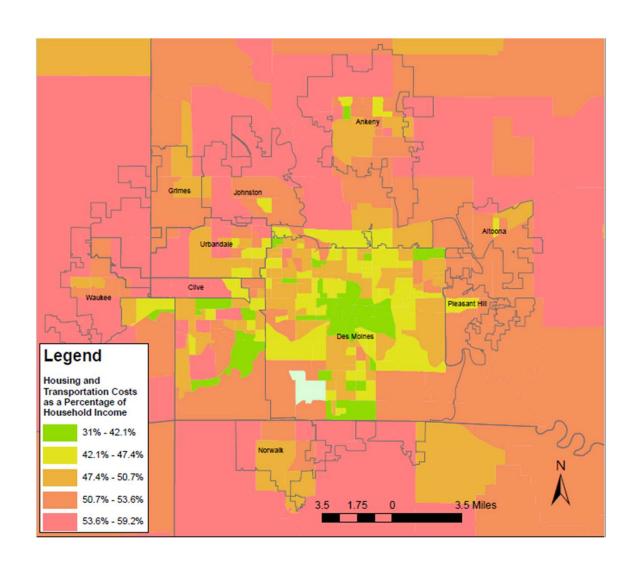




# **HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION TRADE-OFF**

#### Complex commuting patterns:

- 4,000 low-wage workers commute into downtown
- 8,700 low-wage workers commute into West Des Moines
- 10,000 low-wage workers commute OUT of Des Moines





- Employment-driven housing demand forecasts include only housing needed in Polk County for net new workers in the Des Moines MSA
  - do not include the demand for housing from individuals not in the labor force (e.g., retirees, persons with disabilities, and students who do not work).
  - do not include housing needed for replacement workers—workers who
    move to Des Moines to take an existing job being vacated by someone who
    is retiring or otherwise leaving a job in the region but not leaving his or her
    home.
  - do not attempt to quantify the housing needed to close current housing gaps in Polk County



# **JOBS FORECAST**

- Polk County is expected to add **102,325 net new jobs** between 2018 and 2038 (27% increase).
- The rest of the Des Moines region is expected to add 48,629 net new jobs over the same period (51% increase).
- Highest Growth Sectors in Polk County
  - Health Care and Social Assistance: home health aides, personal care aides, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, physical therapist assistants, and genetic counselors
  - Finance and Insurance: insurance sales agents, accountants and auditors, and financial services agents



# | JOBS FORECAST

 70% of new working households added to the MSA will have annual incomes below \$75,000

|                 | Single-Family |        | Multi-Family |        |        |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------|
|                 | Owner         | Renter | Owner        | Renter | Total  |
| <\$25,000       | 2,867         | 1,117  | 522          | 4,009  | 8,514  |
| \$25,000–49,999 | 12,623        | 3,631  | 1,343        | 9,508  | 27,105 |
| \$50,000–74,999 | 7,895         | 1,060  | 562          | 2,815  | 12,332 |
| \$75,000–99,999 | 3,663         | 342    | -1           | 351    | 4,354  |
| \$100,000+      | 3,854         | 158    | 265          | 588    | 4,864  |
|                 |               |        |              |        |        |
| Total           | 30,902        | 6,308  | 2,690        | 17,270 | 57,170 |



- Polk County will need to add 57,170 net new housing units between 2018 and 2038 simply to accommodate net new workers in the region
- This does not include the gap already identified or replacement workers.



- Polk County will need to add a total of 33,592 new owneroccupied units
  - More than half of the demand for owner-occupied homes is for homes priced below \$175,000
  - Only 12 percent of the owner-occupied housing demand is for homes priced at \$350,000 or more



- Polk County will need to add a total of 23,577 new rental units
  - 77.5% of units will need to have monthly rental rates **below \$1,250**
  - Only 3% of forecasted rental demand is for units with a monthly rent of \$2,500 or more



# **CONCLUSIONS: DOWNTOWN**

- Catch up by ensuring that households who want to live downtown can access affordable, appropriate housing
- Keep up by creating a variety of housing types so that workers at all income levels and of all household types (size/tenure choice) can find appropriate, affordable, and desirable housing in the neighborhood



# **CONCLUSIONS: MARKETWIDE**

- Catch up by providing a more affordable housing in jobs centers.
  - 58,000 households need more affordable housing that is appropriate and well-located. Providing affordable housing near jobs centers, both downtown and in other market jobs/retail/service centers will help preserve affordability as the region grows.



# **CONCLUSIONS: MARKETWIDE**

- Keep up by planning for and delivering
  - Housing near job centers that reflects the job and wage mixes in those areas
  - Housing where people may want to live, but face an existing gap in appropriateness (size, tenure, accessibility) or affordability
  - Prioritize income diversity everywhere to avoid negative impacts of income segregation
  - Regional commitment



# **NEXT STEPS**

- Strategy development
  - Capital Crossroads, Polk County Housing Trust Fund, regional jurisdictions
  - Employers, developers, non-profits
- Strategy scope
  - Setting goals
  - Identifying measurable outcomes that help track progress toward goals
  - Identifying activities and resources to achieve goals



# **QUESTIONS**

