Adopting a Sustainability Policy for City-supported one to three-unit new construction residential development.

Whereas, there is overwhelming scientific consensus that climate change is a real and major threat to human civilization and is caused primarily by the combustion of fossil fuels; and

Whereas, the City has adopted aggressive carbon emission reduction goals of 30% by 2025 and 80% by 2050, and has an adopted Climate Action Plan that lays out strategies to reach those goals; and

Whereas, buildings account for 71% of greenhouse gas emissions from Minneapolis; and

Whereas, Climate Action Plan includes a strategy to “Require City-financed projects to meet an energy efficiency standard”; and
Whereas, the fossil gas that is used for heating most buildings in Minneapolis is now the city's single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, and it is not possible to meet the City's carbon emission reduction goals without dramatically decreasing reliance on fossil gas for building heating; and

Whereas, the Council adopted a Social Cost of Carbon, based on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's adopted Social Cost of Carbon; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis adopts a Sustainability Policy for City-supported one to three-unit new construction residential development.

Be It Further Resolved that Community Planning and Economic Development staff are directed to implement the Sustainability Policy for City-supported one to three-unit new construction residential development projects through its Minneapolis Homes Financing program beginning in the year 2021.