

# Madison Area Cooperative Housing Alliance

Presentation for the Housing Strategies Committee Meeting
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### A Snapshot of Madison Housing Cooperative Statistics

23 group equity (rental) co-ops in Madison

11 Madison Community Cooperative (MCC)

12 Independent housing co-ops

2 student housing co-ops

1 apartment-style co-op

338 units total, housing about
 381 people



Syntropy Co-op

Phoenix Co-op

### A Snapshot of Madison Housing Cooperative Statistics

Average rent \$426/mn including utilities

Affordable to households earning 32% AMI.

 2011-16 avg development cost is \$182,498 per unit

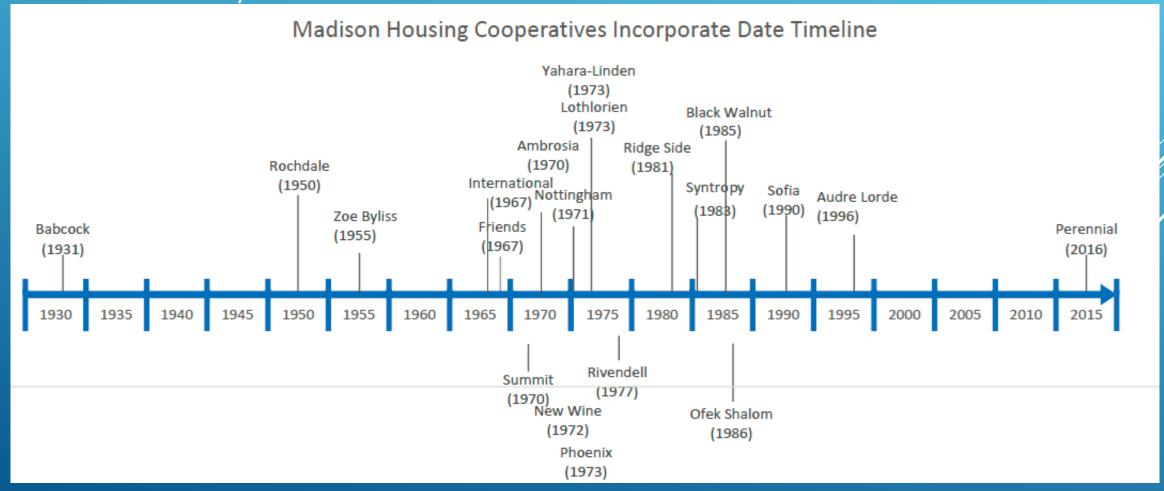
 338 units is equivalent to \$61.68M developed without subsidy !!!



**Ambrosia Co-op** 

### Historical View of Madison Housing Cooperatives

 90 years of history! Average Madison co-op age is 48 years old and they are still as affordable as ever!



### Comparison to Traditional Affordable Housing

- Compared to two expiring-use Madison LIHTC projects:
  - Rosewood Villas (30 year affordability period)
  - The Crossings (15 year affordability period)
- Have significant deferred maintenance, numerous building code violations, and police calls for service
- Change the incentive structure from profits to people! With residential control, there is strong/lasting incentive for quality safe, secure and affordable housing.

## Co-op Labor Holidays are Fun



# Resiliency of Madison Housing Cooperatives COVID and Beyond

Ability to support people through unemployment and illness:

 COVID Unemployment payments took up to 4 months to be received

### Co-op Solutions:

- Payment Plans
- House Savings
- Some co-ops nationally had rent holidays for several months



Not a dime in CARES assistance, co-ops are naturally resilient

### Challenges Faced by Madison Housing Cooperatives

- Barriers to developing new housing coops:
  - Zoning
  - Funding
  - Technical Assistance
- Property Management skills needed to effectively run a house.
  - Budgeting
  - Accounting
  - Fair housing
  - Maintenance
  - o Etc...



Perennial Co-op

### How MACHA is Striving to Meet These Challenges

- Our goal is to expand the natural resiliency from the house-level to the city-wide level
  - Resource and expertise-sharing (not reinventing the wheel)
  - Coordination among co-ops
  - Co-op Equity Fund
- Development of new MACHA Worker Co-op through MCDC Grant to provide property management services and technical support



### Call to Action

- Zoning Over the last 2 years, MACHA developed a zoning amendment in partnership with City staff.
  - Simplifies zoning to allow housing co-ops in all of TR-C4 district
  - Raises permitted occupancy level to 2x original number of bedrooms (goal to maintain the same density)
  - Ready for approval by Common Council but needs advocates within the City to move it forward
- Startup Funding and Support The City could create a project similar to MCDC but for housing co-ops
  - \$10,000 small grants for new housing co-op development/costs
  - Training and resource--sharing
- Extend the <u>Home-Buy American Dream</u> \$25k funding to Co-ops

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