

## Northfield's Fair Housing Statement

The City of Northfield is an open, safe, and welcoming community.

The City and its Housing and Redevelopment Authority and Economic Development Authority is committed to being an inclusive community for all. This statement affirms a commitment to further fair housing and to promote appropriate activities by private and public entities to provide and advocate for equal housing opportunities for all residents and prospective residents of the City of Northfield.

The federal Fair Housing Act (1968)<sup>1</sup> makes it illegal to consider race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, or family status in rental, sales, or lending decisions.<sup>2</sup> The Minnesota Human Rights Law also makes it illegal to discriminate based on creed, sexual or affectional orientation, marital status or receipt of public assistance. Fair housing means fair housing for all.

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<sup>1</sup> The Fair Housing Act is codified at 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601–19.

<sup>2</sup> The Act uses the term “handicap” instead of “disability.” Both terms have the same legal meaning. See *Bragdon v. Abbott*, 524 U.S. 624, 631 (1998) (noting that the definition of “disability” in the Americans with Disabilities Act is drawn almost verbatim “from the definition of ‘handicap’ contained in the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988”). This document uses the term “disability,” which is more generally accepted.