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Minneapolis Rejects Tighter Condo Rules

What: On a 7-6 vote, the Minneapolis City Council on Friday narrowly rejected a proposal to strengthen condo-conversion ordinances.

The proposed changes: Would have enhanced tenants' rights with relocation money, would have required developers to contribute to reserve funds and would have required developers to provide detailed condo-conversion information to help the city track the loss of affordable housing.

Opponents: Those voting against the new rules argued that the wave of conversions is subsiding after more than 3,200 city apartments have been turned into condos since 2000.

Supporters: Those who backed the tighter rules insist that such patterns are cyclical and that condo conversions will rise again in the metro area's core and the suburbs as well, gobbling up affordable rental units.

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