

March 16, 2023

Dear Chair Hornstein and Members of the House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee,

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports HF 1402-Hanson that provides statutory clarity on local infrastructure fees to serve new residential development.

New residential development increases demands on local infrastructure, and cities must assess the effects of a new development on local roads, parks, water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater capacities to ensure that additional needs for infrastructure are assumed by the new development and not current property taxpayers.

The legal interpretation stemming from Harstad v. City of Woodbury states that cities lack the statutory authority necessary to impose a fee for future street improvements, necessitating the need for this legislation.

Metro Cities strongly supports HF 1402 that provides the necessary statutory clarity for cities to be able to appropriately charge the fees required to cover infrastructure improvements that serve to connect new residential developments to city services.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Ania McDonnell

Government Relations Specialist

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Metro Cities