



CITY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

Engineering Our Cities' Futures

February 29, 2024

Representative Frank Hornstein, Chair
House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee

RE: Support for HF 4168

Chair Hornstein and Committee Members:

On behalf of the City Engineers Association of Minnesota (CEAM) thank you for the opportunity to share our support of HF 4168 (Rehm) as amended.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation to adopt revisions to the Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MnMUTCD) regarding the criteria for traffic and engineering studies and investigations for setting speed limits.

CEAM recognizes that the new guidelines in the recently released 11th Edition of the federal MUTCD adds additional criteria to the factors to be considered when performing speed studies with the intent of establishing speed zones outside of statutory speed limits. The additional criteria include considering the context of the roadway as well as considering the 50th percentile speed in addition to the pace and 85th percentile speeds.

These guidelines have been used by local agencies in recent years since cities have been granted authority to establish speed limits on roadways within their jurisdiction and we recognize that incorporating this into state statutes now, even before this language is likely included in the Minnesota MUTCD, provides an opportunity for more uniformity in establishing speed limits which has always been our primary concern and goal.

CEAM would like to thank Representative Rehm for authoring HF4168 and we appreciate the opportunity to share our support for the bill.

Sincerely,

City Engineers Association of Minnesota Executive Committee



Minnesota County Engineers Association



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AFFILIATED WITH

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February 29, 2024

Rep. Frank Hornstein, Chair
House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee

Chair Hornstein and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota County Engineers Association (MCEA), we write in support of HF4168 (Rehm), which would require the Commissioner of Transportation to adopt revisions to the Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MnMUTCD) regarding the criteria for traffic and engineering studies and investigations for setting speed limits.

The safety of all roadway users is central to the mission of Minnesota's county engineers. MCEA has a long-standing platform position supporting the exclusive role of the Commissioner of Transportation in establishing speed zones on all roadways. We support the process established by Minnesota Statutes 169.14, Subd. 5 which ensures objective, uniform determination of speed limits by centralizing such authority with the Minnesota Commissioner of Transportation and oppose any statutory changes that result in a lack of consistency in how speed limits are determined across the State of Minnesota.

With the recent changes to the federal guidelines that pertain to traffic engineering studies and investigations for establishing or reevaluating speed limits within speed zones, MCEA supports the goals of HF4168 that would require Minnesota to adopt the new federal standards in Section 2B.21 now instead of waiting for the next full revision of the MnMUTCD, required within two years.

MCEA would like to thank Representative Rehm for authoring HF4168 and we appreciate the opportunity to share our support for the bill.

Sincerely,



Ryan Thilges, P.E.
Blue Earth County Engineer / Public Works Director
Secretary & Legislative Committee Co-Chair, MCEA