

April 11, 2025

House Transportation Committee
G3 Capitol
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

RE: Support for Greenhouse Gas Extension and Funding

Chairs Koegel, Koznick, and Committee Members –

Thank you for the time the committee devoted to hearing from stakeholders on the greenhouse gas (GHG)/vehicle miles traveled (VMT) assessment and mitigation issue. We appreciated the thoughtful conversation and ability to share our perspectives and uncertainties about the program's implementation.

While many of the changes we sought did not make it into the delete-all amendment, we are grateful that an initial funding source for mitigation has been identified and that we have an additional year to work with MnDOT's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on the mechanics of the program. The TAC has done a lot of good work, but there are still many questions it needs to address, such as:

- how to mitigate VMT if VMT reductions are not used as a tool for mitigating the GMG emissions;
- how a portfolio of projects is defined and whether mitigation projects outside of MnDOT's statewide transportation improvement program can automatically count as offset actions;
- who is responsible for coordinating offsets, especially those that fall outside of the area of local impact or the world of transportation (such as zoning density); and
- whether a credit bank should be created, and if so, figuring out the details and passing authorizing language to create one.

Again, we appreciate the additional year to work with the TAC and the Legislature on how to ensure the GHG/VMT program launches without a hitch, so it can support both our climate and an efficient and safe transportation network.

