

February 6, 2023

Dear Chair Hornstein and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports HF 246 – Hanson, which is being heard in the Transportation Committee on Tuesdsay.

Generally, Metro Cities opposes the imposition of legislative moratoriums on the study, planning, design, or construction of specific transit projects.

Metro Cities recognizes the need for a multi-modal regional transit system as part of a comprehensive transportation strategy, with a system composed of a mix of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes, a network of bike and pedestrian trails, bus rapid transit, express and regular route bus service, exclusive transit ways, light rail transit, streetcars, and commuter rail corridors designed to connect residential, employment, retail, and entertainment centers.

Metro Cities' policies recognize the interest of including all potential options in the pursuit of a regionally balanced transit system, and supports language in the bill that repeals the gag order on the Dan Patch Commuter Rail Line.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Lund

Government Relations Specialist

Michael Lune

Metro Cities