

March 4, 2024

Senator Zaynab Mohamed Representative Samantha Sencer-Mura

RE: SF 3526/HF 3594--All cities authorized to designate lands for pedestrian malls on city rights-of-way

Dear Senator Mohamed and Representative Sencer-Mura,

The League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) is an association serving 838 of Minnesota's 855 cities through advocacy, education and training, policy development, risk management and other services.

Thank you for authoring SF 3526/HF 3594, permissive legislation that would allow cities, by council resolution, to designate lands to be acquired, improved, and operated for pedestrian malls. This bill supports the authority of city councils to make zoning and land use decisions that are in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the communities they serve. The League supports this legislation.

Sincerely,

Anne Finn

Intergovernmental Relations Director

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March 18, 2024

Dear Chair Hornstein and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports HF 3594 (Sencer-Mura), which is being heard in the Transportation Committee on Tuesday.

To serve their local citizens and communities, city officials must have sufficient local control and decision-making authority. HF 3594 authorizes any city to adopt a pedestrian mall ordinance within the city's right-of-way. The choice to establish a pedestrian mall will be community and context dependent. The passage of this legislation would provide cities an optional tool as they continue to design, construct, and maintain their local transportation systems in a manner that maximizes livability and safety for all modes of travel.

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

Sincerely,

Mike Lund

Government Relations Specialist

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Metro Cities