



March 24, 2021

Dear Rep. Alice Hausman, Chair, and Members of the House Housing Committee,

Metro Cities submits this letter in support of additional state funds that help to address locally identified housing needs in the metropolitan region, by specifically preserving naturally occurring affordable housing.

Preserving existing homes in cities across the region helps ensure that current and future residents live in quality, affordable homes. Cities have an interest in maintaining the supply and quality of existing housing stock. Community reinvestment funds can be difficult to obtain and HF 443 – Howard, makes a substantial investment in affordable housing preservation.

City officials recognize that a variety of housing opportunities are crucial to the economic and social well-being of individual communities and the region. The state funding in this bill can support local efforts, including local housing trust funds, that are modest and need state support to meet the full scope of needs.

Metro Cities encourages the legislature to include funding for NOAH preservation as well as significant housing dollars in its supplemental budget and capital investment bill this session.

Respectfully,

Charlie Vander Aarde
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