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March 22, 2023

Representative Frank Hornstein, Chair
House Transportation Committee
563 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Hornstein and House Transportation Committee Members:

The Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) represents fifteen of Minnesota's larger and faster growing counties, including four suburban and 11 Greater MN counties.

Minnesota counties have jurisdiction of more than 44,589 of our State's 141,956 miles of roads and highways, and local governments oversee 16,017 bridges or 80% of all bridges in the state. Those roads and bridges move millions of people and goods and services, and are essential for public safety, attracting and sustaining economic investment, reaching regional, national, and international markets, and accessing education, health care, and recreation.

However, an estimated \$1.2 billion is needed to repair and replace those roads and bridges, far greater than revenues anticipated from current revenue streams.

We support the new revenues proposed by HF580 (Koegel) by imposing a fee on the delivery of tangible personal property.

Our Association has long supported and prioritized the need for increased, ongoing transportation revenues for county governments and partner transportation and transit systems. New revenues such those proposed in HF580 – along with other dedicated revenue streams and/or new revenues — are necessary if we are to address unsafe and deficient road and bridge conditions.

Thank you to Representative Koegel for authoring this legislation, and Chair Hornstein for the opportunity to comment on the bill and engage with county governments as the committee works to develop a comprehensive transportation and transit financing package.

Sincerely,



Matt Massman, Executive Director
Minnesota Inter-County Association