

City Hall 350 Fifth St. S. Room 130 Minneapolis, MN 55415 612-673-3000

February 2, 2021

Chair Mariani and Members of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Committee,

The City of Minneapolis appreciates the opportunity to express its support for HF 445. The creation of the Safe Aid for Emergency (SAFE) Account would be an important assurance to local governments that providing mutual aid to neighboring communities will not have negative financial impacts on local budgets.

The Minneapolis Police Department will need mutual aid support in the instance of extreme circumstances surrounding the visibility and significance of the March trial of the former Minneapolis Police officer. Mutual aid support will go a long way to assuring Hennepin County that its trial process will go on unimpeded and assuring other law enforcement agencies and local jurisdictions that their cost will be reimbursed through this account.

The inclusion of \$35 million in funding is important to ensure local governments can feel confident that if the need should arise, and all other financial avenues have been exhausted, funding will be available.

I look forward to working with the Legislature to ensure that this important legislation is successful.

Sincerely,

Chief Medaria Arradondo

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