



CITY OF HOWARD LAKE

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March 7, 2023

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Representative Dave Lislegard
c/o Property Tax Committee
451 State Office Building
St. Paul MN 55155

Representative Lislegard,

Please accept this letter of support for HF. 1049 being heard in committee this week.

The City of Howard Lake is a small, rural community of 2,200 residents located in southeast Wright County approximately 40 miles west of the Minneapolis Metro Area.

The City of Howard Lake has a draft preliminary engineering study (PER) which identifies an estimated \$36 Million in necessary street reconstruction inclusive of all utilities as well as needed wells, transmission lines, water tower and water treatment plant. The estimated price tag more than doubles the City's current debt load and does not include non-infrastructure related projects and priorities also outstanding within the community.

The City of Howard Lake has a below average median income, small tax base as well as an above average debt per capita, tax rate and utility fees. Collectively, as we move forward with these much-needed infrastructure projects, any and all funding opportunities will be necessary to ensure the long term vitality of our community.

For these reasons, the City wholeheartedly supports Representative Jeff Brand on his efforts with HF. 1049. We would be happy to speak to any pertinent local matter that would assist the passage of this bill.

For the City,



Peter Zimmerman
Mayor