



February 21, 2022


Chair Newman and Senate Transportation Finance and Policy Members ~

On behalf of the Minnesota Small Cities (MAOSC), we write today to express our full support of S.F. 3086, which would dedicate sales tax revenue to small cities assistance and town road accounts, providing small cities with revenue for road infrastructure that they would otherwise not receive.

There are currently just over 700 Minnesota small cities, defined as having a population of under 5,000, that get no dedicated revenue for road infrastructure. Without a sustainable funding source, cities find it difficult to accurately budget for road maintenance and repairs, and fall behind on needed maintenance and upkeep efforts.

Over 11% of Minnesota's residents live in small cities, and are impacted on a daily basis by this lack of funding despite paying for transportation funding through other taxes. This legislation would provide a substantial and stable source of funding that small communities could plan on and use for transportation needs. It would end the current practice of some years it's funded and others it is not with no predictability.

S.F. 3086 would be the strongest focused investment into Minnesota's small cities in the last 20 years, with over \$35 million allocated annually. The revenue created in this legislation would help cities address a backlog of projects that have languished without funding and allow communities to better plan for the future. Passing S.F. 3086 will provide small cities the transportation support they have been needing for years.


Cap O'Rourke
Executive Director
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