Dear Chair Pappas and Members of the Senate Capital Investment Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on SF 1021 (Dibble). Metro Cities supports this bill.

Metro Cities supports a comprehensive transportation system as a vital component in planning for and meeting the physical, social, and economic needs of the state and metropolitan region. Adequate and stable sources of funding are necessary to ensure the development and maintenance of a high quality, efficient and safe transportation system that meets these needs and that will position the state and region to be economically competitive in the years ahead. Failure to maintain a functional transportation system will have adverse effects on the state's ability to attract and retain businesses and create jobs.

SF 1021 (Dibble) would provide \$150 million to the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) and \$200 million to the Local Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Account. Cities have a limited number of ways they can fund transportation projects. Investing in these programs will help cities maintain and improve their local transportation systems. These programs also provide important property tax relief for communities with otherwise constrained local budgets.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

March 27, 2023

Mike Lund

**Government Relations Specialist** 

Michael Lune

**Metro Cities**