



January 31, 2023

Re: Resources to support critical infrastructure necessary for housing development

Chair Port and members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities, Housing First Minnesota, Builders Association of Minnesota, and the Minnesota REALTORS appreciate the opportunity to jointly voice our support for SF 234 (Draheim), which would provide state resources to assist cities with preparing residential sites for development and help defray the costs for the public infrastructure necessary to support new housing development across the state.

While local communities across Minnesota are focusing on local efforts to attract development and encourage growth, the infrastructure necessary to support and accommodate new housing developments and the new residents that come with them can be a challenging and costly hurdle for both cities and the development community. Funding for infrastructure grants available to cities to assist with the cost of providing critical infrastructure will help ensure that residential sites are shovel ready for development and will pave the way for new housing construction that supports local economic growth and provide more housing opportunities for residents.

We thank Senator Draheim for authoring proposals that would provide housing infrastructure grants to support local government efforts in attracting development. The \$5 million appropriated in SF 234 for housing infrastructure grants will help support new housing developments across the state.

Thank you for your consideration and we encourage members to support SF 234.

Sincerely,

Daniel Lightfoot
League of Minnesota Cities

Mark Foster
Housing First Minnesota

Matthew Spellman
Minnesota REALTORS

Grace Keliher
Builders Association of Minnesota