



February 9, 2023

Dear Chair Port and Members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee,

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports SF 609 (Baldon), which provides funding to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for grants to Local Housing Trust Funds (LHTFs).

Metro Cities' policies support a state match for local and regional housing trust fund investments.

Local Housing Trust Funds provide a flexible funding source for communities to address local housing needs. Common funding uses for LHTFs are homebuyer assistance, housing rehabilitation, gap financing for new development and redevelopment, increasing affordability, and housing stability and emergency housing assistance.

Providing additional funding to LHTFs will encourage local contributions, enhance existing funds, as well as incentivize more communities to establish LHTFs.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ania McDonnell'.

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist
Metro Cities