

March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Chair Ann Rest 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Capitol, Room 328 St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce Letter of Support for the Renewal of the City of Rochester's Local Option Sales Tax

Chair Rest and the Senate Tax Committee:

On behalf of the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce, I write to express our support for the City of Rochester's renewal proposal to the legislative delegation for utilizing local option sales taxes to meet community development and infrastructure needs.

As the Rochester business community and region continue to grow and encounter workforce and infrastructure challenges, the continued investment through local option sales taxes are vital to support Rochester regional businesses and community in their ability to serve as a regional center in Greater Minnesota.

Historically, the support provided to the Rochester region through local option sales taxes has ensured area businesses and community are supported through investments in infrastructure and community development, enabling Rochester to be a center for health care in Minnesota and the nation, welcoming visitors from throughout the state, nation, and internationally. The continuation of the local option sales tax and the inclusion of key infrastructure and development investments will ensure Rochester can continue to be a hub for education, health care, and more in Greater Minnesota.

The Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce supports the City of Rochester's continued use of the local option sales tax. The opportunity to fund infrastructure and development through the local option sales taxes will support our ability to serve the region and state in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

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Ryan Parsons President, Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce