



April 3, 2024

The Honorable Senator Sandy Pappas
Minnesota State Senate Building
95 University Ave W
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Senator Pappas, Staff:

The City of Saint Paul's Business Review Council (BRC) writes to provide our support for the proposed legislation SF4455 to require a license to sell copper wire.

The BRC recognizes the widespread issue of copper wire theft impacting various cities and towns in Minnesota. The BRC also acknowledges the specific challenges this problem poses for the City of Saint Paul. In 2023, Saint Paul's staff allocated an extra \$1 million to improve staff and resources for repairing and replacing streetlights and signals damaged by wire theft. Unfortunately, the newly installed copper wire was stolen within hours. The City's operational infrastructure, such as streetlights and traffic signals, must be protected because it is crucial for public safety and quality of life in all Minnesota communities. It is imperative to incorporate SF4335 into legislation to uphold our commitment to our citizens.

Therefore, during the monthly Business Review meeting of April 3, 2024, our Council unanimously passed this motion:

"...That the Business Review Council support the proposed legislation in SF4455 to require a license to sell copper wire to prevent and deter copper wire theft."

Thank you for joining us in support of this preventative measure in Saint Paul and all of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

R. Lynn Pingol, Chair
Business Review Council