

April 08, 2024

Senator Matt Klein
Chair of the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

Re: SF 4455 — Pappas: Requiring a license to sell copper metal

Dear Chair Klein and Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee members,

The City of Minneapolis is proud to join cities across Minnesota in support of SF 4455, which will reduce the market demand and reselling of copper wire in our state. The high cost of copper has led to an exponential increase in copper wire theft from private property, as well as streetlights, traffic signal lights, and other public infrastructure. This has reduced the safety of residents, increased the risk of property crimes, provided undue burden to city enterprises, and mitigated other efforts to provide alternative crime reduction efforts in Minneapolis.

Wire theft from light structures and other public infrastructure negatively impacts our communities by compromising the experience people expect while recreating and enjoying time in outdoor spaces. Stolen copper wire is sold to businesses that profit from selling recycled metal.

While our cities and partners continue to work as quickly as possible to replace and repair damaged streetlights, the lack of a long-term sustainable solution comes at a great cost to our municipalities and residents. SF 4455 helps to solve that problem.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this important legislation.

Yours truly,



Mayor Jacob Frey
City of Minneapolis