



Association of Minnesota Counties

April 3, 2024

Chair Dibble and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), we write in support of SF4267 (Dibble), a bill that would require the Metropolitan Council to design, construct, and fund aspects of bus rapid transit projects.

AMC is a voluntary association representing all of Minnesota's 87 counties. Our full membership voted in support of a new platform amendment this past December at our Annual Conference in support of amending Minn. Stat. 473.4485 to require the Metropolitan Council to fully scope all Bus Rapid Transit project work within its capital projects to align and collaborate with local governments and be transparent to all funding partners regarding the full cost to implement projects and improve safety and mobility along the corridors.

Additionally, AMC has had a longtime position in support of dedicated transit funding that is both adequate and predictable and provides the necessary revenue to support transportation options (including buses, bus rapid transit, light rail transit, passenger, and commuter rail) for transit-dependent and riders who choose to ride transit.

AMC supports the expansion of Arterial Bus Rapid Transit (ABRT) to advance regional goals and agrees with metro counties that regional success relies upon the planning and implementation of transit projects in a collaborative manner, including Metro Transit's engagement with local partners early in the development process to fully scope and fund these projects. We support their efforts in seeking a legislative change to achieve a more collaborative approach.

We want to thank Chair Dibble for authoring the bill and for the committee's consideration and support of SF4267.

Sincerely,



Emily Murray
Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Analyst
Association of Minnesota Counties