



April 18, 2024

Dear Chair Dibble and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on SF 5284 (Dibble), as amended by the DE amendment.

Corridors of Commerce – Metro Cities supports the additional \$15 million for the Corridors of Commerce program. This key transportation program spurs economic growth, job creation, and increases the efficiency of transporting goods in and out of the metropolitan region.

Small Cities Assistance – Metro Cities appreciates and supports the \$10 million appropriated from the general fund for the small cities assistance account and further supports the payment being made this July. This appropriation gives small cities a portion of the funding they anticipated following the passage of the 2023 omnibus transportation bill.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact Assessment – Metro Cities would like to thank Chair Dibble and Sen. Morrison for including changes to the greenhouse gas emissions requirements passed in 2023, including the move to a portfolio-based assessment and creation of a Technical Advisory Committee. Successful implementation of this law will require continued engagement with local governments and other transportation stakeholders.

Traffic Safety Camera System Pilot Program – Metro Cities policy supports authorizing local governments to use traffic safety camera systems for the enforcement of traffic laws. Metro Cities will monitor the pilot program being established in the bill to ensure that this technology can also be successfully implemented in other jurisdictions.

Local Authority for Pedestrian Malls – To serve their local citizens, city officials must have sufficient local decision-making authority. The choice to establish a pedestrian mall will be community and context dependent. The passage of this provision will provide cities an optional tool in managing local transportation systems to maximize livability and safety.

Zero-Emission Buses – Metro Cities supports efforts to transition the fleets of transit providers in the metropolitan region to zero emission buses and the use of equity and environmental criteria within zero emission bus plans to help agencies prioritize the deployment of these vehicles. While transit agencies in the metropolitan region are best equipped to comment on specific requirements included in the DE, Metro Cities supports the goals of the zero emission bus provisions being considered.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael Lund'.

Mike Lund, Government Relations Specialist, Metro Cities