

May 7, 2025

Dear Chair Pappas and Members, Senate Capital Investment Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on a specific provision included in the proposed spreadsheet for an omnibus capital investment bill.

Metro Cities supports and appreciates the capital appropriation of \$10 million in the bill, for metropolitan inflow-infiltration mitigation. This funding will assist many cities in the metropolitan area with repairing and replacing local wastewater infrastructure to alleviate excess levels of inflow and infiltration, which is clean water, from inadvertently entering the regional wastewater system. Once this clean water enters the system, through infrastructure that needs repair and replacement, it is automatically treated and uses capacity in the system intended for the treatment of wastewater.

Cities in the metropolitan area that are connected to the regional wastewater system and found to be contributing excess levels of clean water into the regional wastewater system, are compelled to make repairs to local infrastructure. This avoids overtaking the regional system and the need to build additional treatment capacity, which is inefficient and costly for the region. Managing inflow and infiltration at the local level is more cost effective but is also costly for cities. This funding, which would be locally matched, provides important support.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter as the committee advances an omnibus capital investment bill.

Sincerely,

Patricia Nauman Executive Director