



February 6, 2025

Re: Support for capital investment resources to help address preservation of public housing in Minnesota cities.

Chair Port and members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities appreciates the opportunity to voice our support for legislation that provides much needed state capital investment resources to assist Minnesota cities in addressing critical capital improvements and rehabilitation to preserve public housing. The capital investment resources authorized in SF 915 (Mohamed) for General Obligation bonds for housing are crucial in bolstering the state-local partnership to preserve existing affordable housing options in cities across the state.

Cities are concerned about the lack of affordable housing opportunities across Minnesota and understand that the state and local governments as well as private entities all have a role to play in addressing housing needs in our communities. Minnesota cities are innovating and accomplishing much to address needs across the housing spectrum with the limited tools and resources at their disposal in response to challenges brought on by market forces outside of city control.

However, the need across the state for the creation and preservation of affordable housing opportunities necessitates an increase in state resources to build more housing and preserve existing housing. The \$100 million authorization of General Obligation Bonds called for in SF 915 will help fund capital improvements and support maintenance and rehabilitation efforts that will assist in preserving federal assisted public housing in communities across the state.

Please join us in support of SF 915. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Lightfoot". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Lightfoot
Intergovernmental Relations Representative
League of Minnesota Cities