



April 14, 2021

Re: League of Minnesota Cities comments on House Omnibus Bonding Bill (HF 337)

Dear Chair Lee and members of the House Capital Investment Committee:

On behalf of our 835 member cities across the state, the League of Minnesota Cities appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the HF 337, the House Omnibus Bonding Bill. The League recognizes the need for a robust capital investment package to help position our communities to thrive. We are pleased that HF 337 includes capital investment resources that will help bolster local economic activity by creating and preserving jobs, address an array of infrastructure needs in our cities, and create new affordable housing opportunities.

Transportation: The League supports the inclusion of \$40 million for local roads and bridges. Capital investment resources are critical for making necessary improvements to local transportation infrastructure.

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure: The League supports the resources outlined in the bill to address critical water and wastewater infrastructure including \$15 million for Public Facilities Authority Water and Wastewater funding, \$15 million for Metro Inflow and Infiltration grants, and \$2 million for Flood Hazard Mitigation grants. State support for improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure is important to keep upgrades affordable for communities while improving public health and pollution control.

Housing: The League supports the authorization of \$100 million in General Obligation Bonds for public housing preservation and \$150 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds as well as the inclusion of \$50 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds to address unsheltered homelessness. This historic investment in housing will support efforts across the housing continuum and bolster local efforts to address locally identified housing needs.

Greater Minnesota Childcare: The League appreciates the inclusion of \$5 million in General Obligation Bonds to support childcare facilities in Greater Minnesota. Greater Minnesota communities are facing a substantial shortage in childcare availability and these resources will provide much needed support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Anne Finn'.

Anne Finn
League of Minnesota Cities

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Daniel Lightfoot'.

Daniel Lightfoot
League of Minnesota Cities

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Craig A. Johnson'.

Craig Johnson
League of Minnesota Cities