Representative [FULL NAME]

Centennial Office Building 658 Cedar St. Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative [LAST NAME],

I am a township officer serving the Township of [TOWNSHIP NAME], a member of the Minnesota Association of Townships. I am writing to express our strong support for HF 200 (Davids) / SF 877 (Nelson, Kupec, Weber, Frentz). Minnesota's 1,776 townships are the foundation of grassroots government, staffed largely by part-time elected officials and volunteers who serve their communities with dedication and fiscal responsibility. Townships typically operate with very limited budgets, raised directly from local taxpayers, and we do not have full-time employees.

Minnesota's townships play a vital role in the state's transportation infrastructure. Collectively, townships are responsible for maintaining approximately 41% of Minnesota's entire road system, totaling over 55,518 miles of roadways and approximately 6,000 bridges. For most townships, road and bridge maintenance represents the largest single expenditure, critical to supporting agriculture, local businesses, emergency services, school transportation, and the mobility of rural residents.

To address ongoing infrastructure needs and ensure that township roads and bridges remain safe and reliable, the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) strongly supports an appropriation of \$35 million in additional bonding for township road and bridge projects. These funds are essential for meeting rising construction costs, addressing aging infrastructure, and improving transportation safety in rural Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to reach out if you would like to discuss this matter further. We would welcome the opportunity to work with you to support our local communities.

Sincerely,

[Your Name] [Your Title] [Phone Number] [Email Address]