FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

(NAME OF CITY) City Council approves transportation funding resolution

At its meeting held on (DATE), the (CITY) City Council approved a resolution drafted by the League of Minnesota Cities that calls for the state legislature to adopt a comprehensive and balanced transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation. The League believes that cities need greater resources and flexible policies to meet growing demands for street improvements and maintenance.

(IF APPLICABLE) Because the City of (NAME) is one of 700+ cities in Minnesota that has a population of less than 5,000, it is ineligible for dedicated Highway User tax Distribution Fund dollars, and currently relies on local property taxes and other income sources such as a small cities assistance fund for street maintenance and repair.

(*QUOTE FROM MAYOR OR COUNCILMEMBER HERE, perhaps mention some specific challenges to your area related to lack of transportation funding impacting economic development, specific road maintenance projects, or lack of transit impacting residents, etc.)*

Currently, Minnesota contains over 141,000 miles of roadway with more than 22,500 miles—or 16 percent—owned and maintained by the state’s 853 cities. Adequately funded city streets are essential to mobility and economic vitality in each of those communities.

The League is encouraging all member cities to pass resolutions during this legislative session because existing funding mechanisms have limited applications, leaving many cities under-equipped to address growing needs of residents and visitors.

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