

RESOLUTION #_____

A Model Resolution Supporting Infrastructure Accountability

WHEREAS, populations in Minnesota cities are growing statewide; and

WHEREAS, the development and construction associated with that growth are driving the need for road improvements, street oversizing, street redesign, and street reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, municipal statutory authority appropriately exists for fees to support added need for parks, sewer, and water; and

WHEREAS, this municipal authority does not exist for infrastructure development fees; and

WHEREAS, city streets are one of the four major types of infrastructure local government is responsible to provide to protect public safety and health, and city streets represent a separate but integral piece of the network of roads supporting movement of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, existing funding mechanisms, such as Municipal State Aid (MSA), property taxes, and special assessments have limited applications, leaving cities under-equipped to address growing needs; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood streets are constructed according to city standards by developers; and

WHEREAS, funding sources for larger streets and intersections to support new developments have historically come from infrastructure development fees; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Supreme Court found in *Harstad v. City of Woodbury* that no statutory authority existed for these infrastructure development fees; and

WHEREAS, cities should not be forced to make current residents and businesses pay for costs of growth through local taxes but rather by those that are responsible for the growth; and

WHEREAS, cities are finding it difficult to develop adequate funding systems to support needed infrastructure development related to growth while complying with existing state statutes; and

WHEREAS, cities need flexible policies and greater resources in order to meet growing demands for street improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF

_____ that this Council supports legislation that would authorize cities to collect infrastructure development fees to fund municipal street improvements as a necessary component of growth.

ADOPTED by the _____ City Council this ____ day of _____, 2021.