



# Resilient Cities & Communities

Visionary People. Vibrant Places. Regenerative Futures.

4/2/2024

Senator Scott Dibble, Chair, Senate Transportation Committee  
Beth Ethier, Committee Administrator [beth.ethier@mnsenate.gov](mailto:beth.ethier@mnsenate.gov)  
MN Senate Transportation Committee, cc. Alex Will 651-296-4191 [alex.will@senate.mn](mailto:alex.will@senate.mn)  
Rep. Frank Hornstein 651-296-9281 [rep.frank.hornstein@house.mn](mailto:rep.frank.hornstein@house.mn)  
Rep. Samantha Sencer Mura 651-296-0173 [rep.samantha.sencer-mura@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.samantha.sencer-mura@house.mn.gov)

Dear Senator Dibble and Representatives, Hornstein and Sencer Mura,

On behalf of our Board and Members Resilient Cities and Communities is writing in support of (SF 4719) and (HF 4683) to establish the **Blue Line light rail transit extension anti-displacement community prosperity program**

Preserving naturally occurring affordable housing and affordable commercial space and constructing new affordable multifamily and condo housing and commercial space along the Blue Line Extension will be key to Hennepin County meeting its climate/GHG/VMT reduction goals while meeting Racial Disparity reduction goals and preventing the need for low density greenfield development.

RCC is grateful for the Legislature's excellent work in 2023 to fund transit expansion, including developing our metro area BRT and LRT corridors.

To make the most of these transit investments to expand affordable housing and commercial space and cut greenhouse gas emissions national studies emphasize the need to allow for more higher density mixed use development and complete neighborhoods

- RMI study <https://rmi.org/insight/urban-land-use-reform>
- RCC webinar with Michael Krantz, Metro Transit TOD office (key elements - transit access, mixed use/ higher density zoning, essential services nearby, walkability) <https://rccmn.co/benefits-of-tod/>

Passing the [Missing Middle Housing bill](#) will create the metro wide land use policy base to accelerate housing construction in commercial areas along BRT and LRT lines.

To ensure that new development includes affordable units and is net zero, additional incentives are needed to supplement federal affordable housing and EE tax credits and incentives. Ideally the legislature will be able to pass county-wide TIF for TOD to fund anti displacement and net zero new development.

To get started in 2024 RCC strongly supports the Senate and House to approve (SF 4719) and (HF 4683) to establish the **Blue Line light rail transit extension anti-displacement community prosperity program** to provide \$10 million per year starting in 2024 through 2030 to support a wide variety of anti-displacement and community prosperity strategies including:

- Preserving and enhancing affordable housing
- Small business support
- Job training and placement
- Economic vitality
- Community ownership and development

Thanks for your great work to pass this legislation in 2024! Sincerely,

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<https://rccmn.co/the-network/> *Visionary Leaders. Vibrant Places. Regenerative Futures.*

