

Testimony in Favor of House Bill 1464
March 22, 2021
Senate Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill Wocken on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities

Good Morning Madame Chair and members of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee. For the record, my name is Bill Wocken and I am testifying today in favor of House Bill 1464 on behalf of the North Dakota League of Cities.

In 2016 the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute responded to a request from the North Dakota Department of Transportation and the League of Cities to study the transportation infrastructure needs of urban roadways. The 14 largest cities in North Dakota were studied and only streets designated as urban collectors or higher were tabulated. Residential streets were not included in this study, however bridges were included.

This analysis of urban roadway and bridged needs used a similar approach to that the Transportation Institute used for its analysis of county and township roads and bridges. The total mileage of roadways included in the study was 617 miles. Also included were 57 bridges. The study showed infrastructure needs of \$644.1 million over the next 20 years, using 2016 dollars.

The increase proposed in the gas tax would greatly help cities increase the repair and maintenance of their urban roadway systems since every city does receive some funding from the State Highway Tax Distribution Fund formula. This assistance is critical to the future of the urban transportation network.

The North Dakota League of Cities respectfully requests a DO PASS recommendation for House Bill 1464.