



March 17, 2026

Chair Port and Members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee,

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area at the Legislature and Executive Branch, appreciates the opportunity to comment on the A-3 amendment for SF 4394 – Port. This amendment would extend the Local Affordable Housing Aid (LAHA) spending timeline by two years, requiring a city to commit funds to a project by the fifth year following the year the aid was received, and be spent by the sixth year following the year the aid was received.

Metro Cities policies support the extension of the LAHA spending timeline to support the ability for cities to accumulate additional funds for larger, locally determined projects that fill local housing gaps. This is particularly beneficial for cities receiving lower annual LAHA funding that have specific identified needs.

Metro Cities would further support having LAHA funds deposited in a local housing trust fund to be considered expended, which would help maximize these resources, and allowing a percentage of LAHA funds be put toward administrative costs.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ania McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ania McDonnell  
Government Relations Specialist