

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator
SUBJECT: City Coalition Letter Retaining Local Zoning Authority
DATE: April 15, 2024

OVERVIEW:

Over the past couple of years there have been many legislative attempts by the State to restrict the zoning abilities that cities currently have. On the April 4, 2022 City Council meeting, St. Francis passed *Resolution 2022-18 Supporting Housing and Local Decision-Making authority*. It was our intent to support solutions instead of mandates from the State.

The Legislature continues to push for the removal of zoning controls from the City. This year additional bills have been introduced related to housing, road sizes, and zoning district rules to name a few. In an attempt to have municipal voices heard, the City of Ramsey is requesting that several cities join together to submit a letter to the Governor and legislative bodies. Ramsey has taken the lead and is asking for City participation. Staff recommends that we continue our work to ensure cities have local authority and sign on with Ramsey and other cities

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

Council to approve City participation in a joint letter to the Governor and Legislative bodies

Attachments:

- Drafted letter to Gov. Walz and State Legislators