



TO: House Transportation Committee

FROM: Erik Sartorius

Date: February 17, 2015

RE: HB 2255

I want to thank Chairman Proehl and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to testify in opposition to HB 22255. We do not believe the revolving loan funds contained in the bill should be discontinued.

The League has heard from several members who have utilized these programs in past years, particularly the revolving fund for transportation projects. The existence of this program has meant participating cities could complete important projects more quickly.

The City of Marysville described one of the projects they accomplished via this program as “one of the best improvements Marysville has ever seen.” In addition to providing a better route between two shops of a major, local employer, it also spurred development of an assisted living facility for the area. Residents in the north part of Marysville also gained an alternate path for traveling east.

Junction City has used the program on seven occasions, primarily for much-needed improvements when they were preparing to increase Fort Riley. It was used both for building new roads in new subdivisions as well as to maintain existing streets. Other cities experiencing above average growth have also seen the revolving loans as a way to meet spikes in transportation needs.

Rose Hill utilized the transportation revolving fund for at least three arterial projects. The City of Riley, Kansas, shared that they had also expressed an interest in utilizing this program for street work.

The League feels the revolving loan programs at the Kansas Department of Transportation have a track record of success. Our member cities see the transportation revolving loan program as a way to address transportation needs in an orderly manner, and do not wish to see this program ended. We ask that the committee not pass HB 2255 favorably for passage.