

CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MN

**RESOLUTION 2020-024**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION  
AUTHORIZING INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT  
FEES**

- WHEREAS,** the City of Northfield's population is growing; and,
- WHEREAS,** the City of Northfield's existing street infrastructure is sufficient to support the current community population, workforce and commercial/industrial parks; and,
- WHEREAS,** developers, builders and new homeowners are driving the need for road improvements, street oversizing, street redesign, and street reconstruction; and
- WHEREAS,** municipal statutory authority appropriately exists for fees related to parks, sewer and water; and
- WHEREAS,** this municipal statutory authority does not exist for infrastructure development fees; and
- WHEREAS,** city streets are one of the four major types of infrastructure local government is responsible to provide to protect public safety and health; city streets represent a separate but integral piece of the network of roads supporting movement of people and goods; and
- WHEREAS,** existing funding mechanisms, such as Municipal State Aid (MSA), property taxes and special assessments, have limited applications, leaving cities under-equipped to address growing needs; and
- WHEREAS,** neighborhood streets are constructed according to city standards by developers; and
- WHEREAS,** funding sources for larger streets and intersections to support new developments have historically come from infrastructure development fees; and
- WHEREAS,** the infrastructure development fee mechanism is no longer allowed as a result of the *Harstad vs. Woodbury* court case; and
- WHEREAS,** costs of growth in the short term should not be supported by current residents through community tax and/or utility fee increases but rather by those that represent the growth; and
- WHEREAS,** the Council of the City of Northfield finds it is difficult to develop adequate funding systems to support the City's needed street improvements related to growth while complying with existing State statutes; and

**WHEREAS,** cities need flexible policies and greater resources in order to meet growing demands for street improvements.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA** that this Council supports legislation as authored by Senator(s) Pratt & Hoffman as [Senate File 2442](#) and by Representative(s) Tabke & Albright as [House File 2296](#) that would authorize cities to levy infrastructure development fees to fund municipal street improvements as a necessary component of growth.

PASSED and adopted by the Northfield City Council this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

VOTE:    \_\_\_ POWNELL    \_\_\_ DELONG    \_\_\_ GRABAU    \_\_\_ NAKASIAN  
          \_\_\_ NESS    \_\_\_ PETERSON WHITE    \_\_\_ ZWEIFEL

