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March 13, 2024

Dear Chair Hornstein and Members of the House Transportation Committee,

The Minnesota Asphalt Pavement Association (MAPA) is a trade association representing asphalt pavement contractors, who do work spanning projects from driveways to freeways, since its establishment in 1941.

Ensuring workzone safety stands as our association's paramount concern, deeply ingrained in our values and operations. However, the challenge of insufficient and untimely information regarding utilities has emerged as a pressing issue, hampering both safety and project efficiency.

In this regard, we firmly endorse HF 2717/SF2723 for its proactive approach in fostering effective communication and collaboration between excavators and utilities on job sites. The time has come for these statutes to undergo necessary updates to meet the evolving needs of our industry and to safeguard the wellbeing of our workforce, including those in the utility, highway, and commercial construction sectors.

We would like to thank Rep Kraft for his leadership on this issue, and for finding a workable solution.

Sincerely,

Abigail Bryduck

Executive Director, MAPA