State Rep. Frank Horstein receives CGMC Legislator of Distinction Award

ST. PAUL—State Rep. Frank Horstein was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) July 25 during the Coalition’s three-day summer conference in Bemidji for his positive impact the state’s transportation policy.

Rep. Horstein, a Democrat from Minneapolis, is serving his ninth term in the Minnesota House. The Legislator of Distinction Award is given to legislators who played key roles in advancing CGMC’s policy during the preceding legislative session.

As chair of the House Transportation Committee, Rep. Horstein unveiled a comprehensive transportation package that recognized the needs of the entire state and made significant investments in Greater Minnesota. Although the Legislature failed to pass a transportation bill this session, Rep. Horstein advanced a plan that would have provided significant funding for the CGMC’s top transportation priorities, including the Corridors of Commerce program and city streets. His proposal also featured a new, permanent funding mechanism to provide state dollars for small-city streets, which would have a major positive impact on cities with populations under 5,000 since they do not receive any state funding for city streets under the current transportation funding formula.

“There was a lot talk about transportation this year, but Rep. Horstein’s bill was the only comprehensive plan that made meaningful investments in both Corridors of Commerce and city streets in cities of all sizes,” said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. “He showed strong leadership and creativity in developing a plan that would have made great strides in addressing the state’s tremendous transportation needs.”

CGMC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing 97 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

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