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Committees Branch
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
Room 251, 450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
Via email: committees@leg.gov.mb.ca

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), which represents Manitoba's 137 municipalities, I am writing to provide some comments regarding Bill 38: *The Building and Electrical Permitting Improvement Act*.

The AMM supports efforts to reduce red tape and streamline processes that benefit municipalities, particularly limiting the scope of possible appeals to code compliance. However, it is essential that any new processes do not delay growth projects in local communities and municipalities be consulted on customer service standards and timelines since they have yet to be determined.

Additionally, in regards to the proposed Permit Dispute Resolution process, the AMM encourages the Province of Manitoba to clarify how the adjudicator will assign costs for the dispute resolution hearing and how parties will be billed before this proposed legislation is enacted. As the process for calculating adjudicator costs has also not yet been determined, the AMM urges the Province of Manitoba to provide further clarification since provincially-appointed adjudicators will have authority to resolve disputes across the province. Without a clear framework, risks to the consistency and accuracy of decision-making may be created. Lastly, the AMM encourages the Province to allow for virtual hearings given the ongoing pandemic and desire to not create a scheduling backlog.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these brief comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denys Volkov", is written over a horizontal line.

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

cc: Minister Derek Johnson, Manitoba Municipal Relations

