



April 14, 2020

Chair David Senjem
3401 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Mary Murphy
343 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chairs Senjem and Murphy,

On behalf of the 70,000 union construction professionals in Minnesota, we appreciate your leadership and focus on the health and safety of all Minnesotans during this difficult time.

As the end of the 2020 Minnesota Legislative Session draws near, we encourage you to develop a bonding bill that can serve as part of an economic recovery plan for Minnesota. In February, the State seemed poised to embrace the opportunity to bond to meet Minnesota's infrastructure needs for public construction projects. Now, in April, a strong bonding bill is critical to helping our State recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and to jump start our economy. Funding needed asset preservation, community development, energy efficiency, clean water, and safe roads, bridges, and transit systems will serve Minnesota communities and businesses and help get goods to market and put Minnesotans to work.

There are over \$5.2B in unmet need for over 500 public construction projects across our State. Even conservative estimates indicate that this level of economic investment can put tens of thousands of Minnesotans to work. A balanced approach to funding building, water and road infrastructure, and prioritizing shovel-ready projects will allow the state to maximize its bonding power to provide on-going economic stimulus to the areas of our State that will need it most.

Again, we want to thank you for your leadership during these difficult times. Please do not hesitate to contact us if Minnesota's Building Trades unions can be of any assistance to ensuring the health, safety, and economic success of our State.

Sincerely,

Harry Melander
President

Craig Olson
Secretary Treasurer

Jessica Looman
Executive Director

