

May 13, 2026

*Transmitted electronically*

Governor Tim Walz  
Speaker Lisa Demuth  
Leader Zach Stephenson  
Representative Mary Franson, Co-Chair  
Representative Fue Lee, Co-Chair  
Capital Investment Committee

Senate Majority Leader Erin Murphy  
Senate Minority Leader Mark Johnson  
Senator Sandy Pappas, Chair  
Capital Investment Committee  
Senator Karin Housley, Ranking Minority Member  
Capital Investment Committee

Dear Governor Walz and Legislative Leaders:

The members of the Building Jobs Coalition represent more than **1,700 businesses** and over **90,000 workers** across Minnesota. We write today to strongly urge you to reach agreement and pass a robust capital investment bill in the final days of the 2026 legislative session.

Minnesota's infrastructure needs are not slowing down. Roads, bridges, water systems, higher education facilities, public safety infrastructure, flood mitigation projects, housing infrastructure, and asset preservation investments continue to grow in urgency and cost. A strong bonding bill is one of the most bipartisan and economically impactful actions the Legislature can take this year.

Minnesota has historically recognized the importance of making meaningful investments in public infrastructure. However, it is critical to understand that today's dollars do not go nearly as far as they once did. Adjusted for inflation using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI calculator, the state's \$956 million general obligation bonding bill passed **20 years ago in 2006 would equal nearly \$1.56 billion today**, while the total 2006 capital budget of \$1.145 billion would equal approximately \$1.87 billion in today's dollars. Construction inflation has exceeded general inflation in many sectors, meaning the real purchasing power of bonding bills has eroded even more significantly.

Minnesota is in a strong position, particularly with the change from the November 2025 to February 2026 forecast, to invest in our infrastructure. With an AAA bond rating for the fourth consecutive year, we remain **one of only 16 states nationwide to hold an AAA rating** from all three agencies. Now is the time to make investments that will pay off and further strengthen the state's economy. Delaying projects only increases future costs and creates greater burdens for taxpayers and local governments down the road. Minnesota's architectural, engineering, and construction industry stands ready to deliver these projects efficiently and responsibly.

We stand united in urging legislative leadership to finish the job and pass a robust bonding bill in the next few days. **We cannot afford inaction** on investing in clean water, asset preservation, roads, bridges, and other local infrastructure for Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

The Building Jobs Coalition

# BUILDING **JOBS** COALITION

## **COALITION CO-CHAIRS**

American Institute of Architects Minnesota  
Associated General Contractors of Minnesota  
Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council

## **COALITION MEMBERS**

American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota  
American Institute of Architects Minnesota  
Associated General Contractors of Minnesota  
Association of Women Contractors  
Builders Association of Minnesota  
IUOE Local 49  
LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota  
Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council  
Minnesota Electrical Association  
Minnesota Historical Society  
Minnesota Laborers-Employers Cooperation & Education Trust (LECET)  
Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association  
Minnesota Pipe Trades Association  
Minnesota Subcontractors Association  
Rethos  
The Minnesota Transportation Alliance