



March 15, 2022

Chair Bill Ingebrigtsen
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee
3207 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Ingebrigtsen and Committee Members,

The Associated of General Contractors of Minnesota (AGC of MN) is a non-profit, construction industry trade association dedicated to promoting opportunity and excellence in the building and highway construction industries throughout Minnesota. Our 400+ members include general contractors, specialty contractors, and affiliated businesses who have a vested interest in these industries.

AGC of MN appreciates the opportunity to engage and advocate for SF 3751 (Ingebrigtsen) - Local Road Wetland Replacement \$10 million appropriation. One of AGC's goals at the legislature is to advocate for stable funding for roads, bridges, and transit to address unmet needs across the state. The Local Road Wetland Replacement Program is an important source of funding for transportation needs across the state of Minnesota.

The Program needs serious funding from the State to meet its obligation under Minn. Stat. § 103G.222 to assist in meeting the state and federal permit requirements. In recent years, the legislature has funded this program, but the funding levels have fallen short of the needs. The Program provides essential funding needed to keep the wetland mitigation program operating and avoid delay in much needed projects. Without additional funding, there likely will be delayed road safety projects, negative job and business impacts, and the potential for increased local property taxes.

AGC of MN asks that you consider funding this program at its highest level to maintain this important program for wetland mitigation and safe roads.

Sincerely,

Laura Ziegler
Director of Highway/Heavy and Government Affairs