



March 6, 2023

The Honorable Sandra Pappas, Chair
Senate Capital Investment Committee
Minnesota Senate Building 2113
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Karin Housley, Ranking Minority Leader
Senate Capital Investment Committee
Minnesota Senate Building 2213
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Pappas, Ranking Minority Leader Housley, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Greater Mankato Growth, the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Organization representing more than 900 members in the Greater Mankato region. I write in support of the \$1,150,000 bonding request of the City of Eagle Lake for their Water Treatment Facility (HF144/SF192). Fully funding this project would represent an important investment in a critical infrastructure project for one of the fastest growing cities in Minnesota.

The mission of Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) is to support and promote the economic growth and vitality of our members and the regional marketplace. As a growing, dynamic Greater Minnesota metro hub, this project represents the very foundation of our economic vitality which is the fundamental ability to provide clean, safe water and adequately treat wastewater. The Mankato-North Mankato Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Eagle Lake, has a labor shed of nearly 300,000 people and has grown by more than 21% since 2000. This project is a key priority for our members and will support our regional livability and promote economic growth.

Greater Mankato Growth is a proud partner in economic development as part of the Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) which includes the City of Eagle Lake and four additional cities along with Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties. In this partnership, we promote an atmosphere of cooperation, leveraging our unique strengths, and providing efficient and effective service delivery in order to facilitate continued economic prosperity of our region. The Eagle Lake Water Treatment Facility is a critical asset that will serve the existing needs of the community and support continued growth of Eagle Lake as a place “where opportunity soars!”

We urge you to fully fund HF144/SF192 for the City of Eagle Lake Water Treatment Facility for \$1,150,000.

Respectfully,

Andy Wilke
Director of Business Development and Public Affairs

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