Northeastern Regional ATV Joint Powers Board

Representative Rick Hansen Chair, House Environment & Natural Resources Finance & Policy Committee 407 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Foung Hawj Chair, Senate Environment, Climate & Legacy Committee 3231 Minnesota Senate Bldg. St. Paul, MN 55155

March 28th, 2023

Dear Chair Hansen & Chair Hawi,

On behalf of the Northeastern Regional ATV Joint Powers Board, thank you for including ATV Dedicated Account funding for the Prospector ATV (\$700,000) and Voyageur Country ATV (\$750,000) systems in your Omnibus Environment & Natural Resource bills.

The Northeastern Regional ATV Joint Powers Board is an organization made up of elected representatives from St. Louis, Lake, and Koochiching Counties, working to develop a world-class system of ATV trails across northeastern Minnesota. We appreciate the legislatures support of ATV trail development.

The Northeastern Regional ATV Joint Powers Board works closely with most of northeastern Minnesota's ATV clubs including the Voyageur Country ATV and Prospector ATV. The overall vision for these clubs is to connect all the trails in northern Minnesota. The connected trail system will run from International Falls to the Iron Range and on to Grand Marais on the Northshore of Lake Superior. Over 1,500 miles of connected trails will be available and will allow users to spend a week in our region and never access the same trail twice. This will be one of the top trail experiences in the United States. These trail systems also have a very positive economic impact on communities in northeastern Minnesota.

Your support of our ATV trail funding is very much appreciated, and we thank you for including this important funding in your bills.

Sincerely,

Paul McDonald

St. Louis County Commissioner, 4th District

St. Louis County | Lake County | Koochiching County