

April 16, 2024

Chairman Senator Foungh Hawj
95 University Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hawj:

As the spokesperson for the Metropolitan Area Regional Parks and Trails Implementing Agencies during the 2024 legislative session, I'm writing to communicate our collective support for SF5116.

As our agencies work to implement the 25-year long-range parks and trails legacy plan these funds are essential to support the four pillars of the parks and trails legacy fund which include:

- 1) Restoring, protecting, and enhancing Minnesota wildlife populations.
- 2) Restoring and protecting clean water.
- 3) Supporting parks and trails.
- 4) Preserving Minnesota's history and cultural heritage through arts and cultural programs.

The Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System was established by the legislature in 1974, to preserve and protect the last great places for outdoor recreation in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The funding provided through the parks and trails legacy fund helps to ensure that these spaces will be well maintained and accessible for generations of Minnesotans now and into the future.

We thank you for past support of the Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Mark McCabe".

Mark McCabe
2024 Legislative Spokesperson
Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails Agencies
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