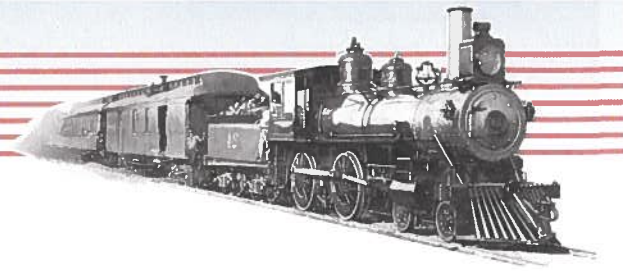


St. Louis & Lake Counties REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY



Representative Aisha Gomez, Chair, House Tax Committee
Representative Dave Lislegard, Chair, House Property Tax Division
Senator Ann Rest, Chair, Senate Tax Committee
Senator Grant Hauschild
Minnesota State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

April 16, 2024

Dear Chair Gomez, Chair Rest, Chair Lislegard and Senator Hauschild:

I am writing today to express my appreciation to Rep. Lislegard and Sen. Hauschild for including funding for the Mesabi Trail – Aurora to Hoyt Lakes Spur – in House File 5198 and Senate File 5435. This grant will help us construct this much needed spur to the very popular Mesabi Trail.

The Mesabi Trail stretches from the Mississippi River in Grand Rapids to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness near Ely. Currently over 150 miles are finished. When totally complete, it will be a 165 mile long, continuously paved bicycle and walking trail, linking 28 communities.

This part of the project is in St. Louis County and consists of the construction of approximately 5.5 miles of paved bike trail connecting the communities of Aurora and Hoyt Lakes. The Mesabi Trail already has a paved spur route to the City of Aurora.

We appreciate these mining tax dollars being reinvested into our local communities and appreciate Rep. Lislegard and Sen. Hauschild for introducing this legislation.

Respectfully,

Bill Dahl
Deputy Director
St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

CC: Iron Range Delegation

