



April 13, 2026

Capital Investment Committee
Minnesota State Senate
2113 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Pappas, Vice Chair Pha, and members of the Senate Capital Investment Committee,

I would like to thank the Governor and Minnesota DNR for including \$9 million for the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program in SF5005. The Metro Flood Diversion Authority, along with our member entities, the City of Moorhead and Clay County, support the DNR's preliminary agency request of \$45 million, or more, to cover the significant funding needs for flood infrastructure. The Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion alone has requested funding of \$64.1 million for Minnesota projects to mitigate flooding for the City of Moorhead, Clay County, and communities within the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District.

Our request for \$64.1 million will be used toward levees, stormwater lift stations and county road raises that are necessary for permitting from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and to complete critical project component to needed for the FEMA remapping of Moorhead. The entire project must be completed for FEMA to complete the letter of map revision process, which would allow thousands of Minnesotans and North Dakotans to drop their costly annual flood insurance premiums.

I respectfully ask that you support appropriating additional funding for the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program in SF5005. This additional funding will significantly benefit the flood mitigation needs of communities around Minnesota and within the Red River Basin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jason P. Benson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Jason' being more prominent.

Jason Benson
Executive Director
Metro Flood Diversion Authority