THE WALZ-FLANAGAN BUDGET TO MOVE MINNESOTA FORWARD

INVESTING IN LOCAL JOBS AND PROJECTS

In 2020, Governor Tim Walz signed into law the largest bonding bill in state history. Now in 2022, Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan are looking to build on that success by investing in more needed local jobs and projects across the state. The 2022 Local Jobs and Projects Plan is a $2.7 billion overall investment in Minnesota, driven by $2 billion in general obligation bonds.

Whether it’s expanding access to safe and affordable housing, building safer roads and bridges, repairing critical water systems, or upgrading higher education facilities, Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan know the importance of investing in infrastructure and taking care of the property taxpayers already own.

ASSET PRESERVATION

Maintaining and renewing existing assets is an important part of a safe, healthy, and fiscally responsible state budget. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor know that when you take care of the property you have, it will last for generations to come. That’s why their 2022 Local Jobs and Projects Plan includes more than $1 billion in funding to maintain and renew the property that taxpayers own and rely on every day. The plan includes $260 million to repair and replace buildings in the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State systems across the state and $111 million for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to repair the buildings, roads, trails, public water accesses, bridges, and recreational facilities that make Minnesota a great place to live.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Our state’s infrastructure protects Minnesotans’ health and safety while ensuring the vitality of communities. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor’s 2022 Local Jobs and Projects Plan invests more than $560 million in infrastructure projects across the state. The plan includes $120 million for local bridge replacements, $90 million for local road improvement projects, and $200 million in local water infrastructure grants and loans—which are an important investment of state funds to match federal infrastructure dollars.
Every Minnesotan deserves access to a safe and affordable place to call home. Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan’s 2022 Local Jobs and Projects Plan includes more than $450 million in safe and affordable housing projects, including a historic $250 million investment in Housing Infrastructure Bonds to provide supportive housing for Minnesotans across the state. Additionally, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor’s plan makes investments to repair existing shelters for the most vulnerable Minnesotans.

Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan are also focused on caring for our veterans, and their 2022 Local Jobs and Project Plan includes significant investments to address housing for veterans. Their plan includes more than $70 million in needed renovations and replacements at Minnesota’s veterans homes in Hastings, Preston, Montevideo, and Bemidji and covers the cost of replacing buildings that are more than 100 years old at the veterans home in Hastings.

All Minnesotans deserve to live in a thriving community, regardless of their zip code. Minnesota is the best place in the country to grow up in because we invest in our small towns as well as our big cities. Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan propose investing nearly $400 million to support projects across the state that build thriving communities. This includes a $100 million focus on equity in bonding to ensure projects reach communities that have been traditionally excluded from capital investments. These investments will help communities grow and prosper, from renovating community centers and libraries to replacing outdated fire stations.

Preserving our environment and mitigating the effects of climate change creates more resilient communities today and protects our state’s natural resources for the generations of tomorrow. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor propose investing more than $262 million in environmental stewardship projects across the state. The plan includes $20 million in flood hazard mitigation grants to local governments, $13.8 million in statewide electric vehicle charging infrastructure, $60 million in capital improvements to bus rapid transit, more than $20 million for local government stormwater construction grants, and $8 million in dam safety repair and reconstruction.

In total, in projects across the full recommendation, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor’s 2022 Local Jobs and Projects Plan includes $190 million in projects that will help our state prevent and adapt to our changing climate and an additional $750 million in projects for climate mitigation.