

23rd Annual

Duluth & St. Louis County

AT THE
CAPITOL

MARCH 18 & 19, 2020



Celebrating the
Strength and Significance
of Duluth and St. Louis County, Minnesota



ROBERT J. COLLIER TROPHY WINNER



The Cirrus Aircraft Vision® Jet was awarded the 103rd Robert J. Collier Trophy – the most prestigious award in aviation – for developing the world's first single-engine Personal Jet™ with the Cirrus Airframe Parachute System® (CAPS®).





MEET US AT THE GRAND RECEPTION

for a taste of Duluth and St. Louis County.
Meet our community and business leaders,
visit vendor booths, and enjoy some of our
favorite local eats and drinks.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

4:30 - 8:00 PM

InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront Hotel

11 E. Kellogg Blvd

Free to attend

Free shuttle: 4:00pm-8:00pm, pick up and drop off in front of
State Capitol Building and State Office Building



GREETINGS FROM ST. LOUIS COUNTY!

Lake Superior and the Lift Bridge, the Iron Range, Lake Vermilion, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Bentleyville, Grandma's Marathon and endless miles of ATV trails. Across the state, people may not immediately recognize the name St. Louis County, but they know the wonderful things we are blessed to have in our backyard.

We are so much more than a vacation destination. We are mining, timber, shipping, education, aviation and healthcare, just to name a few of the industries that contribute to our great state.

St. Louis County is also about people. It is my honor to chair the County Board, serving our 200,000 residents.

We come to St. Paul excited by the opportunities to partner with the state. Our legislative priorities are not just about seeking bonding dollars. Rather, they are about investments that will deliver strong return – for our region and for the entire state.

We thank you for your continued support, and look forward to meeting with you in St. Paul. We also encourage you to visit us at any time.



Mike Jugovich
Chair,
St. Louis County Board

GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF DULUTH!

From Phase II of the Superior Street Reconstruction Project being completed to improving and repairing the Lakewalk; from once empty storefronts in Lincoln Park to full-on neighborhood activation; from improving economic development strategies to breaking ground on the new and improved Medical District, 2019 was an incredible year of investing in our community with the help of our legislators and supporters like you.

It makes me so excited about what's ahead for Duluth in 2020.

The success of these projects and strategies has hinged on our ability to rally support, work with stakeholders and think big. The very same qualities that make Duluth & St Louis County Days at the Capitol special. This is our time to share our strengths and move forward to improve our region.

On behalf of the City of Duluth, thank you for the work that you do to support Duluth, St. Louis County, the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce, and the state of Minnesota. Together, we are a better team, and we will continue to do all that we can to provide the tools and resources that you need to thrive.



Emily Larson
Mayor,
City of Duluth

HEAR FROM OUR STAKEHOLDERS

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42	Duluth & St. Louis County at the Capitol Stakeholders



Making communities stronger

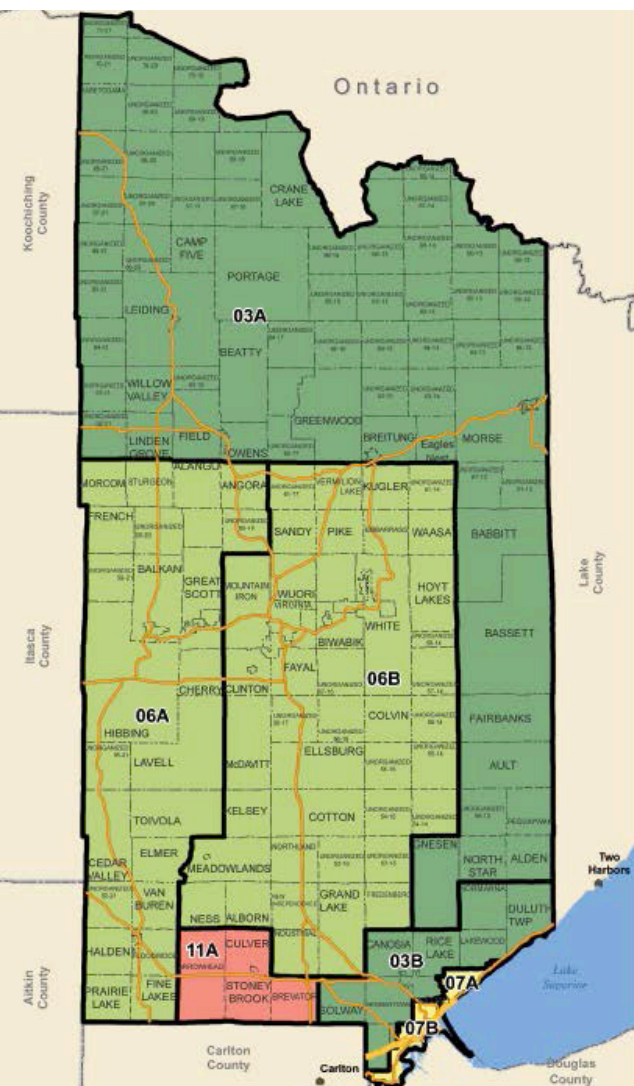
To us, communities aren't just places on a map — they're the places we call home. Where we grew up, where we live and work. Where we feel safe, welcome, and like we're part of something special.

They're part of who we are, and we're proud to support the Duluth community.



bremer.com

Member FDIC



Duluth and St. Louis County

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

MINNESOTA SENATE



District 03
Sen. Thomas M. Bakk
2221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-8881



District 06
Sen. David Tomassoni
2235 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-8017



District 07
Sen. Erik Simonson
2417 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-4188



District 11
Sen. Jason Rarick
3411 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-1508

MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



District 03A
Rep. Rob Ecklund
409 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-2190



District 06A
Rep. Julie Sandstede
 411 State Office Bldg.
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 (651) 296-0172



District 07A
Rep. Jennifer Schultz
473 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-2228



District 03B
Rep. Mary Murphy
343 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-2676



District 06B
Rep. Dave Lislegard
 413 State Office Bldg.
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 (651) 296-0170



District 07B
Rep. Liz Olson
471 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-4246



District 11A
Rep. Mike Sundin
417 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-4308

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS. STRENGTH IN RESOURCES.

What's so significant about St. Louis County?

Here are just a few statistics to consider:



#1 in size – covering 7,000 square miles, we are the largest county in Minnesota. Yes, our northern border is Canada, but our county seat is in Duluth.

900,000 – acres of county-managed public lands (almost the size of Rhode Island!) These are tax forfeited lands that the county maintains for the state. For the most part, this land is open to the public for hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and other forms of recreation.



1,000,000 – tree seedlings planted annually. And that's just on the tax forfeited land we manage. It's part of why timber remains one of our major industries.



#6 in population – with 200,000 people, we have the most residents of any county outside the Twin Cities metro area.



#1 in lakes – of Minnesota's 10,000 lakes, 890 of them are in St. Louis County. Compared to other counties, we have the second highest number of watercraft trailer launches and the highest number of watercraft trailer parking spaces. *Enjoy the water!*



85% of the country's domestic iron – comes from Minnesota mines, the majority of which are located in St. Louis County. *State of mine!*



The people and industries of St. Louis County proudly and responsibly make the most of the resources in our region. And the state is better for it.

stlouiscountymn.gov



ST. LOUIS COUNTY: RICH HISTORY, BRIGHT FUTURE

What do our natural resources, buildings and people all have in common? Great potential. We are investing in all of these areas and seek state support to help us realize this potential and strengthen northeast Minnesota.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY HERITAGE & ARTS CENTER (THE DEPOT)

Significant capital improvements are needed to address safety issues, preserve the integrity of the structure, protect the artifacts within, enhance the train exhibit space, and provide regional educational opportunities. \$8.25 million is requested (with a \$4.25 million local match) for the 125+ year-old Depot.



BRIDGE BONDING

In partnership with MnDOT, our Public Works staff applied for a “Bridge Bundling” Federal grant - a program designed to promote greater efficiency and cost savings. Our application included 21 bridges with deteriorating structural conditions totaling \$14 million. We were awarded \$10.2 million. We are seeking \$5 million in state bonding to fill the gap and fund additional relevant projects.



CLARITY PROJECT – MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER

The need for comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder care in this region is no secret. Last session we received \$3.7 million of a \$5 million request. We now are seeking the remaining \$1.3 million to help people in crisis.

ADDITIONAL BONDING REQUESTS:

Northeast Regional Corrections Center
Northern Lights Express
St. Louis County Fairgrounds
Voyageur County ATV Trail

In St. Louis County, we have a proud history, and an even brighter tomorrow. The potential is here and with it comes new energy. You’ll see this in several of our bonding requests – for the Depot, NLX, and the Fairgrounds in Chisholm – all projects that build on our past with an eye to the future. And it’s not just our future. It’s the future of the region and the entire state.

Kevin Z. Gray
St. Louis County Administrator





THINKING BIGGER TOGETHER

We have sustained storms together, invested in roads together, are building a medical district together, and have much more to do in 2020 together.



“Our top 2020 legislative priority is to secure essential state support to reconstruct the coastal infrastructure that, at once, protects Duluth from the battering of Lake Superior and provides world-class public access to our famous waterfront. We aren’t simply rebuilding these critical structures, we are redesigning them to withstand the more frequent and severe storms caused by climate change. I am proud to support these projects and the incredible work that staff has put into them.



Thank you to legislators in the House and Senate, and to Governor Walz’s administration and Commissioner Frans for taking time to visit Duluth and see these projects firsthand.”

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a dot, representing the name Emily Larson.

Emily Larson
Mayor, City of Duluth

The City of Duluth is seeking \$13.5 million in state bonding funds to reconstruct parts of the City’s coastal infrastructure that include the seawalls behind the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC), and the Lakewalk. This request to the legislature ensures that the public has access to the lake from Downtown and Canal Park all the way to Brighton Beach.

Lake Superior is our biggest asset, so taking care of the infrastructure around it is a natural fit for this year’s top legislative priority. Over the past four years, some of Duluth’s most famous assets have taken a beating from intense, natural storms. Restoring these areas is not only important for Duluth’s economy but also crucial for our way of life in creating a better experience connecting with the lake and the harbor.

The City of Duluth is grateful to Governor Walz for including this request as a part of one of his bonding bill packages. The message that this sends confirms the importance of this request not only to our community but statewide.



At St. Luke's, our commitment to putting the patient above all else is what sets us apart. Our employees go above and beyond every day, creating moments of compassion and human connection that transform the patient experience from health care to health caring.

ChooseStLukes.com

THE PATIENT.
ABOVE ALL ELSE.®





PUTTING THE PATIENT ABOVE ALL ELSE.



Nearly 140 years ago, a modest space was set aside in a blacksmith's shop to help the victims of a raging typhoid epidemic. With this, Duluth had its first hospital: St. Luke's. While the epidemic faded away, the compassionate community of caregivers has stayed.

From those humble beginnings, St. Luke's has grown into a regional healthcare system. We are thankful for the ongoing help from our legislators in addressing the gap between state and federal healthcare payment rates and the actual costs of health care. Relying on employers, individuals and other payers to make up for the shortfall from government programs will only become less sustainable.



St. Luke's is also excited to partner with the delegation and the community to continue our mission of service and address the many needs in our region. We know that we can accomplish even more by collaborating with others who share a common goal of improving people's overall health and well-being. We are focusing on being good stewards of our community's resources by continuing our journey to a high-value healthcare organization focused on access, quality and safety.

OUR VISION IS TO SUPPORT PEOPLE IN THEIR WELL-BEING.

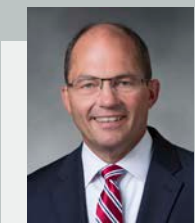
Health starts where we live, work, learn and play. Health Care accounts for only about 20 percent of a person's health and well-being. The other 80 percent is driven by the individual's socioeconomic factors, physical environment and health behaviors. We are proud to support and advocate for broader community improvements such as affordable housing, job creation, education, community health and mental health needs. During the past year, St. Luke's provided more than \$100 million in community benefit, which includes charitable care.

Though we have been in the community for almost 140 years, there is much more to be achieved. As you review this year's proposals, we encourage you to focus on supporting the health of the Northland, our community initiatives such as mental health, and the infrastructure that helps to keep it all going and makes our region a great place to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Nokels'.

Kevin Nokels, FACHE
St. Luke's President & CEO





Preparing tomorrow's workforce • lsc.edu

LAKE SUPERIOR COLLEGE: OUR COMMUNITY'S COLLEGE

Lake Superior College (LSC) is a comprehensive two-year community and technical college, recently ranked among the Top 20 Community Colleges in the Nation, offering more than 90 programs including liberal arts and science courses for transfer, technical and trades programs, allied health-care and nursing programs, and continuing education and customized training for business and industry.

2020 BONDING REQUEST:

LSC Integrated Manufacturing Workforce Labs Predesign Bonding Project

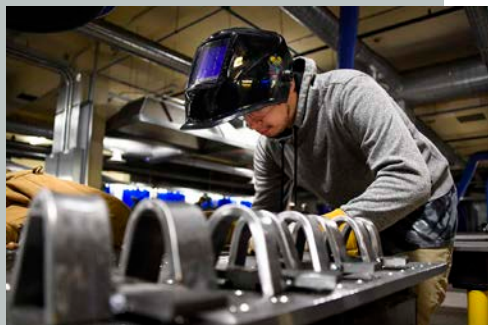
Enrollment in LSC's manufacturing related programs has been steadily increasing since 2013 and space is becoming limited at the current, leased manufacturing campus downtown Duluth. While LSC is committed to maintaining a presence downtown, our goal is to move the manufacturing labs back to main campus in order to enhance the program with modernized space and equipment, better serve students with improved connections to support services, relinquish leased space downtown saving the college \$165,000 annually in operating costs as well as at least \$2.5M in deferred maintenance, and recruit and retain an increased number of manufacturing students in order to continue to address regional workforce shortages.

Project Details: Renovate 27,900 of square feet into state-of-the-art manufacturing, welding and electronic labs. Add 12,360 square feet for machine tool lab. Predesign bonding request of approximately \$1M.

Need: Manufacturing remains a growing industry in Northeast Minnesota. DEED data shows 2.5% job growth since 2010 and expects at least 3% growth in the next five years. Job placement among LSC grads in most manufacturing related programs is at or near 100%.

By relocating the current downtown manufacturing campus to main campus, we enhance the academic experience for students in the program by providing better access to services such as the library, tutoring and learning center, student life activities, and auxiliary services which are all located on the main campus. With a private-development housing project in the works near campus, this would also help with transportation, parking and recruitment.

For more information on LSC's bonding request, please visit:
www.lsc.edu/2020bonding



Our goal is to ensure Lake Superior College, and the northland, remains the premier manufacturing training destination for the region so that we can continue to help address workforce needs. Our bonding request would allow us to start the process of creating an updated, state-of-the-art learning environment for machine tool, welding, electronics, civic technologies, and CAD programs. What an exciting time for LSC, our students and our region.

Dr. Patricia L. Rogers
President of Lake Superior College





Harnessing Energy from Wastewater



WLSSD's Combined Heat and Power System

WLSSD already produces enough methane-rich biogas to generate about 50% of the electricity needed to power its large regional wastewater treatment plant. WLSSD uses some gas for heating, but unused gas is wasted.

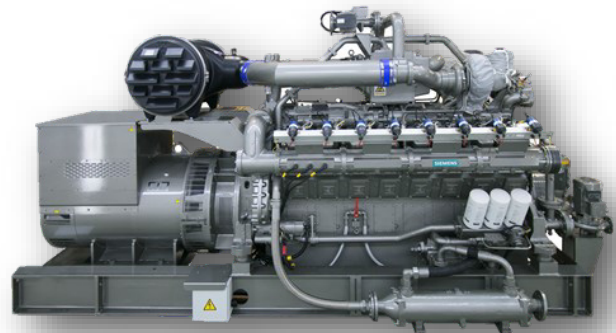
With generators, WLSSD can use renewable biogas to generate electricity for use in the treatment plant. Heat from the generators can also be recovered and reused.

Good for the Region

Good for the Environment

Good for the Economy

Good for Minnesota



874kW engine generator



Clear Answers for Clean Water™

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District



Clear Answers for Clean Water™



recover. recapture. renew

HARNESSING ENERGY FROM WASTEWATER

WLSSD envisions an energy neutral future by generating 100% of the electricity needed to operate its large regional wastewater treatment plant. At about a third operating costs, electricity is one of WLSSD's largest expenses. The rising cost of energy remains WLSSD's biggest challenge to stabilize rates.

WLSSD already produces enough methane-rich biogas to generate about 50% of the electricity needed to power its large regional wastewater treatment plant. Some gas can be used for heating, but unused gas is currently being wasted. With generators, WLSSD can use renewable biogas to generate electricity for use in the plant.

ENGINE GENERATORS:

Install engine generators to generate electricity from renewable biogas and recover heat from the process for on-site use. The generators will produce electricity to meet 50% of WLSSD's treatment plant energy needs using the biogas WLSSD already produces every day.

WLSSD COMBINED HEAT AND POWER SYSTEM

Engine Generators: 2020-2021	Total Costs	\$13,500,000
	WLSSD Investment	\$ 6,750,000
		\$ 6,750,000

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST

Energy System Progress:

- Successful production of methane-rich biogas in our anaerobic digestion facility since 2001.
- Reduced electricity usage by 18%.
- 2015: Greatly improved heating efficiency through installation of modular boilers and system conversion from steam to hot water.
- 2018-19: Electrical distribution modifications in preparation for generators.

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District provides wastewater and solid waste services to 140,000 residents in 16 communities and 4 large industrial facilities in northeastern Minnesota. A special purpose subdivision of the State of Minnesota, WLSSD treats nearly 14 billion gallons of wastewater each year from its 530-square-mile service area.

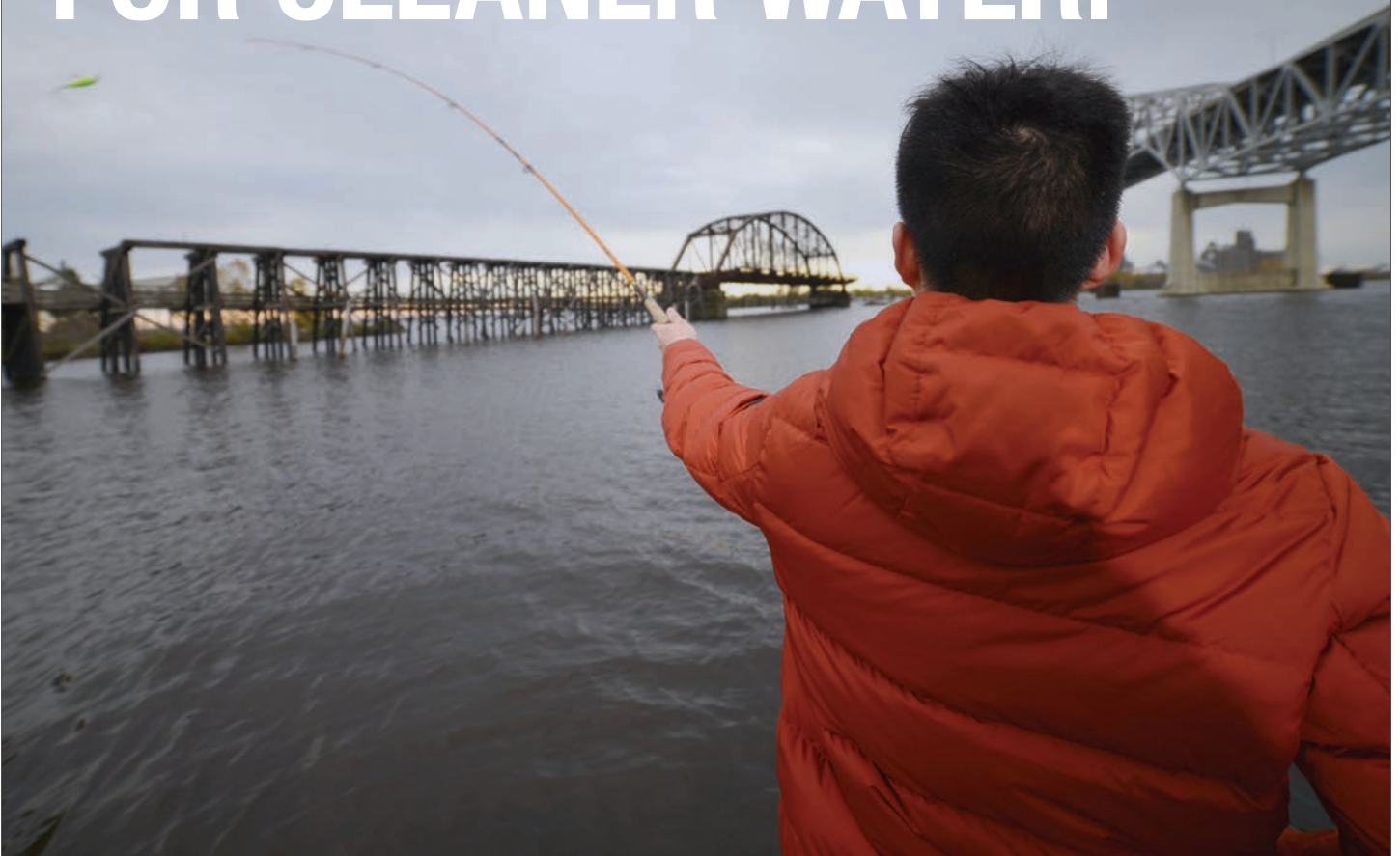


Along with clean water, WLSSD's regional wastewater treatment facility can produce clean, renewable energy. WLSSD's Combined Heat and Power Energy system will allow WLSSD to stabilize rates by maximizing the use of existing resources and decreasing energy costs—all while reducing emissions. That's good for Minnesota, good for the environment, good for WLSSD's 140,000 residents, and good for the region's employers who depend on affordable utility costs to successfully compete in the global economy.

Marianne Bohren
WLSSD Executive Director



RESEARCH. FOR CLEANER WATER.



LEAD-FREE LURES

A resilient community needs a balanced environment. Making sure that environment endures takes research.

Researchers at the University of Minnesota Duluth are doing just that. Developing the process to take lead out of our lakes one fishing lure at a time.

d.umn.edu/research

UMD

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH
Driven to Discover



Our campus is fortunate to have strong legislative advocates in the Capitol supporting UMD and education as a whole. Thank you. We continue to build new innovative programs, such as professional sales and advanced materials science, that fit the needs of Minnesota's workforce and prepare our students to be active members of their diverse communities.

Dr. Lendley C. "Lynn" Black
Chancellor
University of Minnesota Duluth



SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING

From research with statewide impact, to graduates prepared to enter the workforce, from students who volunteer thousands of hours throughout the community, to scholar-athletes who engage in exciting competitions, UMD elevates our region and the state of Minnesota.

To ensure we provide the best learning environment for our students, it is important that we keep our facilities updated.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S \$317.2 MILLION CAPITAL REQUEST, WHICH INCLUDES:

\$200 million for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement projects systemwide. This funding is used to maximize the effectiveness and life of our current facilities. For UMD, this request includes \$17.9 million for projects in the old Chemistry Building, Humanities, and Natural Resources Research Institute.

\$4.4 million in state funding for much needed renovations in A.B. Anderson Hall. The project will modernize 35,000 square feet of heavily-used teaching space for more than 4,500 students on the Duluth campus.



A.B. Anderson Hall, completed in 1970

UMD BY THE NUMBERS:

- 10,858 students Fall 2019
- 96% of graduates are working or continuing their education
- \$500 million regional annual economic impact
- 85% of students are from MN
- 50,484 alumni throughout MN
- 84 undergraduate majors and 26 graduate programs

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE

A COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY

Inspired by the pride and resilience we see around us, we do our best to make life better here.

Together with our community partners, we are investing in the Central Hillside neighborhood of Duluth. We are battling the rapid rise in vaping among teens, and we continue to support those struggling with addiction and mental illness. We're proud of our colleagues who volunteered more than 21,000 hours last year for causes that matter.

Because when we come together, we do great things.



Essentia Health

THE POWER OF STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

The power of strong partnerships is evident in downtown Duluth where Essentia Health has begun construction on an \$800 million project to build a new hospital and clinic space.

Thanks to you and your fellow legislators, the City of Duluth is improving parking, roads, sewers and utilities in the new downtown medical district. The Minnesota Legislature's \$97.7 million investment in public infrastructure supports Essentia Health's goal of providing the highest level of health care to our patients in state-of-the-art medical facilities.

We thank Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan for supporting last year's medical district bill. We also thank Duluth and Iron Range legislators who shepherded the bill, including its sponsors: Sen. Erik Simonson, DFL-Duluth; Sen. Thomas Bakk, DFL-Cook; Sen. David Tomassoni, DFL-Chisholm; Sen. Kent Eken, DFL-Twin Valley; Rep. Jennifer Schultz, DFL-Duluth; Rep. Liz Olson, DFL-Duluth; Rep. Mary Murphy, DFL-Hermantown; and Rep. Mike Sundin, DFL-Esko. We also thank Duluth Mayor Emily Larson for her leadership and her administration's dedicated work.

By working together, this important public investment in infrastructure supports not only Essentia Health's private investment but also encourages other economic development and jobs.

Essentia Health serves communities across northern Minnesota so we believe in investing in services that support our patients and ensure access to care in rural communities. This includes:

- Expanding broadband services to support access to telemedicine.
- Increasing state funding for the Duluth Family Medicine Residency Program.
- Funding and partnerships to expand behavioral and mental health services.
- Funding to address Minnesota's opioid crisis and vaping epidemic.

As one of Minnesota's largest health care systems, Essentia Health is committed to working with you and others to build the healthy, vital communities our citizens want and deserve.



“Minnesotans can look to Duluth to see what working together can accomplish. Essentia Health's Vision Northland is moving forward thanks to support from state, county and local government leaders. This partnership will help bring better health to people we are privileged to serve.”

Dr. David C. Herman
Essentia Health CEO



thank you



Thank you, Minnesota legislators, for helping our students fulfill their dreams.

Last year, with the help of Minnesota State Grants, 912 of 3,906 students were able to attend The College of St. Scholastica.

Our students are future educators, caregivers, health care professionals, artists, business and thought leaders who will go on to make a difference in their communities.

css.edu



The College of
St. Scholastica

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES THROUGH VALUES-BASED HIGHER EDUCATION

The College of St. Scholastica's Catholic Benedictine heritage insures that graduates have a sense of social responsibility and ethical clarity to complement their first-rate professional skills.

The positive effects are felt statewide. St. Scholastica offers programs in Duluth, the Twin Cities, St. Cloud and Grand Rapids, among other sites. Bachelor's, master's and doctoral-level education is available in a variety of traditional, accelerated, hybrid and fully online modalities. And graduates fare well – independent research ranks St. Scholastica as Minnesota's top college for the economic mobility of its students.

Throughout its 108-year history, St. Scholastica has helped students who face barriers to higher education. This is evident in current demographics: 35% of undergraduates have family incomes below \$50,000, and nearly one-third of undergraduates are first-generation college students. In 2019, the College was honored as one of only 80 colleges nationally to be named a "First Forward" institution for its commitment to first-in-family college students.

St. Scholastica has a significant role in Minnesota's workforce development. It is a major provider of healthcare workers, with the largest private nursing program in the state as well as growing health science programs. The College's School of Nursing recently celebrated two major grants, the first to address primary care workforce shortages in rural and under-served communities and the second to upgrade learning spaces to promote state-of-the-art, hands-on educational experiences for students. Also in 2019, the College graduated the first class from its new Physician Assistant program.

St. Scholastica is nationally recognized for quality and value. U.S. News & World Report includes it on its Best National Universities and Top Performers on Social Mobility lists. The College is ranked on Money magazine's "Best Colleges for your Money" list, Princeton Review's 2020 list of Best Midwestern Colleges, and Forbes' Top Colleges list.

Learn more at css.edu.



Many graduates of St. Scholastica's Physician Assistant program choose to serve in rural or under-served communities.

I am grateful to Gov. Tim Walz and our state legislators for helping keep college accessible to Minnesota's low- and middle-income students by supporting the State Grant program. This wise investment increases the number of students who can afford to attend college at both private and public institutions. Thank you for this vital support!

Barbara McDonald
President
The College of St. Scholastica



50% Renewable by 2021



AN ALLETE COMPANY

EnergyForward



mnpower.com/EnergyForward // [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [You Tube](#) [in](#)



EnergyForward



We're moving *EnergyForward* further and faster, with a higher percentage of renewable energy in our mix than any other Minnesota utility. Here are five things to know about how we're continuing to provide **safe and reliable** electricity while building a cleaner energy future.

1. We're reducing carbon emissions.

We closed seven of our nine coal units in the past decade, added more renewable energy, including wind and solar, and helped our customers exceed state energy conservation goals for nine consecutive years. We expect to reduce carbon emissions by 50 percent by 2021 compared with 2005 levels.

2. We're strengthening the reliability and resiliency of the energy grid.

We have invested more than \$500 million since 2009 to replace aging infrastructure, add transmission lines, enhance resiliency and security, prepare for outages caused by extreme weather, and support the integration of more renewable resources.

3. We keep costs down and help customers save more.

Our residential rates are the lowest in Minnesota and we have the 13th lowest retail rates in the nation according to a 2018 survey by the Edison Electric Institute. Our energy efficiency and conservation programs provide homeowners, businesses and communities with the tools they need to save energy and money.

4. We're adding cleaner sources of energy.

In 2020, we expect to add 250 megawatts of hydropower from Canada via our new Great Northern Transmission Line, 250 megawatts of wind energy, and 10 megawatts of solar energy.

5. We rely on a balanced energy mix.

Using a mix of renewable fuels, natural gas and baseload coal to generate electricity ensures customers will have the power they need, when they need it, at a reasonable cost.

mnpower.com/EnergyForward //     



Some see a job well done. We see people *living well.*

Essentia Wellness Center in Hermantown

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

McGough is proud to be involved with making St. Louis County thrive through creating jobs and building a healthy 2020 and beyond.



McGough

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Celebrating 55 years of service to Northeast Minnesota

- Serving over 36,000 individuals a year.
- Providing school readiness skills to 446 young children.
- Supporting 3,500 individuals in achieving education and work goals.
- Assisting nearly 10,000 seniors in maintaining an independent living situation.
- Aiding 11,000 households in home energy improvements and utility payments.
- Delivering over 870,000 bus rides and gas or ride vouchers.

www.aeo.org
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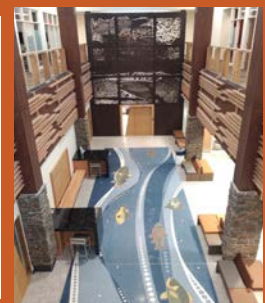


Duluth Affordable
Housing Coalition

**PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE STATEWIDE 2020
HOMES FOR ALL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA,
ADVOCATING FOR \$500M IN HOUSING BONDS
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION
OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**



ARCHITECTURE
enriching communities



ST. LOUIS COUNTY GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER, VIRGINIA
GRAND OPENING SUMMER 2020



218-727-2626

WWW.DSGW.COM



McGOUGH

DEVELOP | BUILD | OPERATE



McGough is a well-respected developer, general contractor and construction management firm that brings six generations of experience completing high-profile, unique and complex construction projects. Our Duluth regional office serves Duluth and St. Louis County areas as well as northern Minnesota. We are committed to the Duluth and St. Louis County region and appreciate the investments the city, county and state have made in this region.

McGough would like to thank the State for its support of the **Medical District project**. Tax incentives as well as infrastructure spending in exchange for significant private investment will assure that Duluth has the highest level of healthcare and state-of-the-art medical facilities.

This project will enhance both the patient and staff experience while improving the availability, affordability and quality of healthcare for Duluth and the region. This facility will boost Duluth and St. Louis County's economy and attract and retain top talent as well as serve as a catalyst for other investments and economic development.



Essentia Health Vision Northland

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SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
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waters in Minnesota.

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**32,000 jobs and a \$9.1 billion
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Photos from during pipeline construction in 2017 and after Enbridge's Line 3 replacement in Wisconsin in 2018.



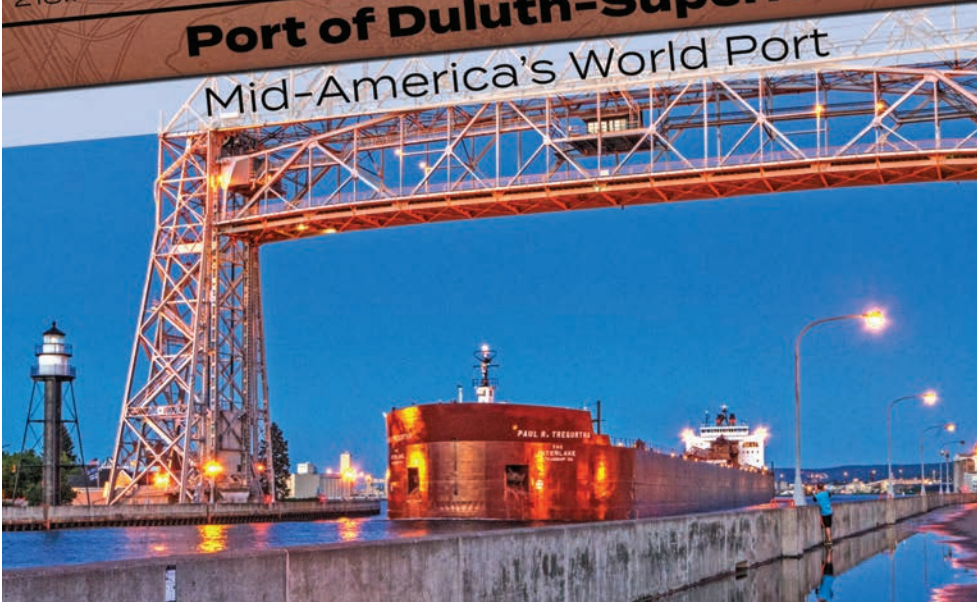
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Lorraine Little
Director Community Engagement US
Enbridge Energy Company



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Major construction coming to Duluth this summer
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DULUTH PORT: MID-AMERICA'S GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

Duluth has a history of perseverance. When frozen gravel halted excavation of our ship canal, a second keg of gunpowder was added to complete the job. Buildings shook and windows shattered, but Duluth had its canal.

This will be the canal's 150th shipping season and the Port of Duluth-Superior remains a powerful economic engine. Approximately 35 million tons of cargo move through the port annually, creating \$1.4 billion in economic activity, keeping nearly 8,000 people employed and generating \$240 million in tax revenues.

The largest port on the Great Lakes by tonnage, Duluth-Superior links North America's heartland to world markets through the St. Lawrence Seaway. Our interconnected network of road, rail and marine corridors enables producers to compete successfully in markets across the country and around the world. Yet our transportation infrastructure is in need of improvement and repair. MnDOT's Port Development Assistance Program (PDAP) is absolutely critical for these purposes.

Since 2015, we have invested more than \$25 million in expansion and improvement of the Clure Public Marine Terminal, leveraged by \$4.3 million in PDAP funding. This includes modernizing a 26-acre dock, which in turn allowed us to open the region's first intermodal rail-served terminal, connecting producers to the East, West and Gulf Coasts for import and export of containerized cargo.

These kinds of investments reduce freight costs and incentivize businesses to expand and relocate here. They also elevate the port's stature worldwide, making it a more attractive choice in the world of global shipping. In fact, Duluth Cargo Connect, the partnership between the Duluth Seaway Port Authority and our terminal agent, Lake Superior Warehousing, was named Port/Terminal Operator of the Year by an international panel of judges in October 2019. PDAP support helps create these business-fortifying victories for the region and for Minnesota as a whole.

“Transportation drives economic growth in Duluth and across Minnesota. We are grateful for the Legislature's commitment to funding the Port Development Assistance Program at increased levels. PDAP funds are critical to leveraging public/private dollars to upgrade aging infrastructure and expand freight handling capacity to help customers compete in the global marketplace.”

Deb DeLuca
Executive Director
Duluth Seaway Port Authority





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**Our region's Essentia Wellness Center project;
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hermantownmn.com



The expectation is big investments take the longest to pay off. **THE EXCEPTION MAY BE HERMANTOWN.**



In October, the journey from community-gathering space idea to 70,000+ square-foot health and wellness facility was finalized with the opening of the Essentia Wellness Center (EWC). A partnership between Hermantown, the school district, the region's largest employer, and the local branch of a respected national organization came together to meet multiple community needs.

At the EWC, Essentia Health is tackling needs in lifestyle medicine, physical and occupational therapy, mental health, and more. St. Louis County recently ranked 80 of 87 Minnesota counties in health outcomes, now Hermantown has taken a healthy stand at the EWC.

The Duluth Area Family YMCA planned for 450 new members in the EWC's first year, while adding critically-needed child care options to the region. The additional child care proved immediately successful and the EWC's YMCA surpassed five-year membership goals of nearly 5,000 members within five months. Rather than an immediate impact on hundreds of lives, the EWC has provided exponential success.

The project, primarily funded through sales tax and a state bonding grant, is the largest investment in Hermantown's history. The hope was the long-term investment would pay off someday. That someday is now.

The next step is to maximize the health impact of Hermantown's sales tax. Hermantown is requesting a one-half percent sales tax increase to add to a regional trail system, as well as reimagining youth and community recreation and sports complexes.

The impact of these projects is greater than just increased access to recreation opportunities though trails, fields, and rinks. Paired with the EWC, it is about creating more options for the entire community.

With a healthy return on Hermantown's initial sales tax investment, there is optimism this will further improve regional health beyond the EWC.



“We have experienced success in growing the level of health and wellness in southern St. Louis County with the Essentia Wellness Center. We believe that continued evolution is possible through a greater accessible trail system and increased opportunities for recreation and sports. Increasing our investment in adult and youth recreational facilities will multiply the positive impact of sales tax on the health of the entire region.”

Mayor Wayne Boucher
City of Hermantown



PRESERVING OUR FUTURE

THROUGH SMART PLANNING

Rice Lake governmental body, celebrating 150 years this November, has been a City since 2015 and has been working to balance our rural lifestyle with economic development, in order to provide additional services to our community. With the addition of Kwik Trip in the fall of 2018 and the proposed opening of Boomtown Brewery in spring of 2020, Rice Lake is poised for commercial development along the Rice Lake Road Commercial Corridor. By working with St. Louis County, the State, and other organizations, Rice Lake is putting together an infrastructure package to promote development while protecting the rural character in the rest of the community.

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Rice Lake Memorial

The City of Rice Lake looks to continue working with our Legislative Leaders and the Governor's Office in advancing the needs of both the city's infrastructure and municipal projects as well as always being cognizant of the fact that we are one small piece of the Head of the Lakes Region. We have made great strides in this partnership in opening doors financially, legislatively, and cooperatively with both county and state governance and look forward to continued collaboration.

Mayor John Werner
City of Rice Lake



CITY OF RICE LAKE: PRESERVING OUR FUTURE

Since Rice Lake incorporated as a city in 2015, we have been working at leaving behind the township mentality and moving towards city priorities. Rice Lake is updating our Comprehensive Plan with the theme of Preserving our Future through smart planning. Our citizens have shown overwhelming support of remaining rural in character while providing a few additional services and amenities to our community. We have been working with St. Louis County and the Metropolitan Interstate Council to create a transportation plan for the Rice Lake Commercial Corridor which will allow for additional commercial growth within our community.

UTILITY WATER LOOP AND EXTENSION

Rice Lake is requesting approximately \$2 million from the State for a water loop extension from our Public Works Building on Martin Rd. to our existing water main on Howard Gnesen Rd. and sewer and water extension on Rice Lake Rd. These projects would serve the two main purposes of Preserving our Future. The first by completing a water loop between two existing water mains in an area of the City which is rural in character and doesn't have many homes along the proposed extension. The second by getting the City poised for development along the Rice Lake Commercial Corridor thus allowing for additional services and amenities in our community and creating a larger commercial tax base to help alleviate the tax burden on our homeowners.

BECOMING BROADBAND READY

Rice Lake also suffers from slow, unreliable internet throughout much of the community. We have partnered with the Blandin Foundation and CTC to perform an engineering study for preliminary costs of providing Fiber-to-the-Home. We hope to use this study to seek additional funding to construct the fiber network. Please support funding for the Border-to-Border grant program to help communities like Rice Lake provide high speed internet to its residents and businesses.



Wild Rice Lake

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TOURISM: AN ECONOMIC DRIVER



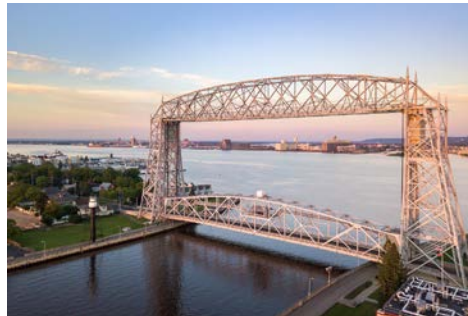
Visit Duluth's mission is to attract the maximum number of visitors to experience our beautiful city and all it has to offer. Duluth's expanding trail system and abundance of outdoor experiences centered around Lake Superior and the St. Louis River Corridor are drawing a new demographic of silent sports enthusiasts. Unique attractions, local dining, world class lodging accommodations and waterfront convention center appeal to families, meeting attendees and business travelers.

WHY TOURISM MATTERS:

- 6.7 million visitors annually
- 17,000 industry jobs
- \$957 million economic impact
- 66% of visitors are from the Twin Cities
- Residents have access to amenities year-round

Tourism is thriving in Duluth. Visit Duluth's expanded marketing efforts, coupled with targeted new initiatives, are drawing more visitors to our city than ever before. Duluth's image as a popular meeting, vacation and recreation destination bolsters economic development and entices a skilled workforce. Aligning tourism with key business initiatives keeps Duluth moving forward toward an exciting future.

Anna Tanski
President of Visit Duluth





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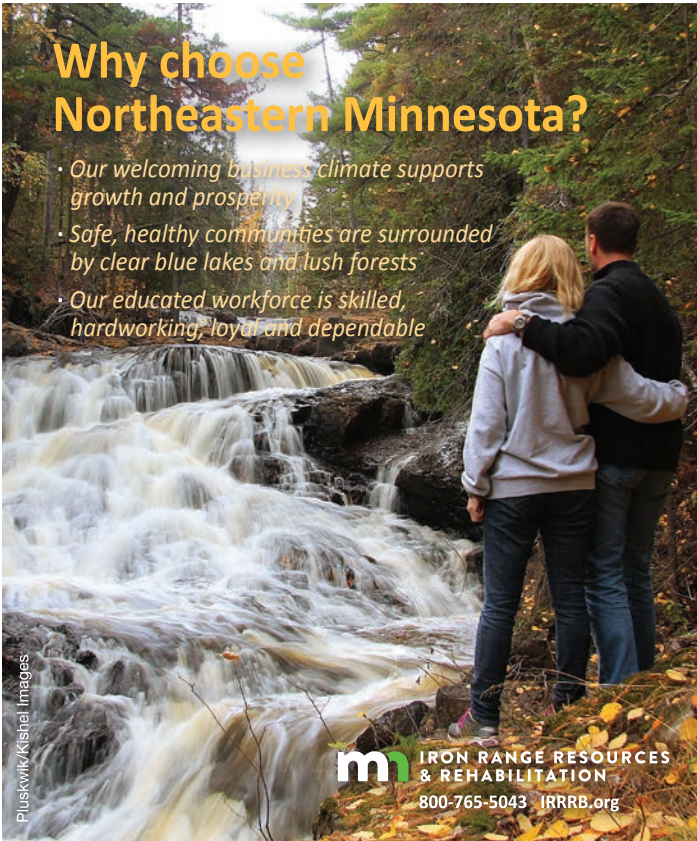
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St. Louis County Key Stakeholders,
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The Duluth Area Chamber is pleased and proud to assist in coordinating this ambitious and energizing event, Duluth & St. Louis County at the Capitol.



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