

FRESHWATER

March 10, 2025

Chair Sandra L. Pappas
Capital Investment Committee
2113 Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for Water Infrastructure Funding

Chair Pappas and committee members,

At Freshwater, we believe that all Minnesotans should have access to clean water and safe drinking water – regardless of whether that water comes from metropolitan water systems, rural and community water systems, or from private drinking water wells.

This session's capital improvement bill is an opportunity to make important strides toward providing needed water infrastructure and safeguarding groundwater for millions of people across the state.

As you consider funding for water infrastructure, please keep the following in mind:

- There is a significant and growing backlog of water infrastructure projects across the state.
- Well-functioning water systems are critical to both public health and economic development.
- Costs for infrastructure projects are increasing. The longer we wait to fund necessary projects, the more expensive they will be.
- Support for infrastructure is not partisan and is something all Minnesotans can agree on.
- In the 2022 ASCE [report card for Minnesota](#), Wastewater has a C grade, while Drinking Water has a C- grade. Most of our water infrastructure is over 50 years old with some of it much older and at the end of its lifespan. Many systems need urgent help.

Thank you for making water a priority in this year's capital improvement bill, and we appreciate your work on behalf of Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Michelle Stockness, PE
Executive Director, Freshwater

2550 University Ave Suite 212N | St. Paul, MN 55114 | 651.313.5800 | freshwater.org

Freshwater is a nonprofit organization working to inspire and empower people to value and preserve water.