

# FRESHWATER

May 14, 2026

Governor Walz  
130 State Capitol, 75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

## **Re: Support for Lead Service Line Replacement Funding**

Governor Walz,

As organizations focused on safe drinking water, we are closely following the removal of lead service lines in the state. The removal of lead and the availability of safe drinking water is essential for healthy communities and vibrant economies across all of Minnesota.

We urge you to support a minimum of \$100M in funding for lead service line replacements as outlined in SF4122 and HF3748, which had strong bipartisan support during this year's session.

Minnesota made a public commitment to replace all lead service lines in the state by 2037. Currently, the state has secured one-third of the total required for these replacements. If no additional funding is secured, resources will be spent by 2027, causing construction projects and crews to stop, which will affect residents, jobs, and businesses throughout both urban and rural regions of the state. Replacement of all remaining lead service lines is expected to require \$1 billion over the next 10 years.

In 2023, the state showed strong leadership with a bipartisan commitment to funding lead service line replacements for safe drinking water. We hope you will continue that commitment again this session by approving lead service line replacement funding with the maximum amount available.

Thank you for supporting safe drinking water.

Michelle Stockness, Executive Director  
Freshwater Society

Lori Blair, Executive Director  
Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA)

Scott Anderson, Section Chair  
American Water Works Association, Minnesota Section (AWWA MN)

Matt Leonard, President  
City Engineers Association of Minnesota (CEAM)

Mark Hansen, President  
American Public Works Association, Minnesota Chapter (APWA MN)

Riley Dvorak, President  
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Freshwater is a nonprofit organization working to inspire and empower people to value and preserve freshwater resources.