

Bonding Bill Key Messages

- Economic recovery from COVID-19 needs to be a top priority. With uncertainty around future construction and unemployment, the legislature needs to take action to create jobs and keep people working. State funding in the bonding bill will leverage additional local and federal funds to create tens of thousands of direct and indirect jobs that are desperately needed all across Minnesota.
- After months of hearings and negotiations, agreement has been reached on the size of the bill and the need to invest in Minnesota's public infrastructure. It's time for agreement on a bill that can pass in September. Projects are waiting for funding and work can begin right away on design and construction with significant benefits for the whole economy.
- Maintaining publicly-owned assets remains a core government function. This legislation is a necessity – not a nicety. Passage of this bill should not be used as a bargaining chip that is tied to other issues. Providing bond funds at a time of historically low interest rates in order to repair and maintain public infrastructure that will last for generations should be the main job for the legislature this year. It's time to get the job done.
- There will not be a bond sale in September so there is no reason – only excuses – for not passing a bonding bill during the September special session. Rather than holding a special session for a week or a few days, the legislature needs to stay in session during the month of September until the bonding bill is passed.
- Local communities are hurting. Local governments need state assistance to invest in needed infrastructure to keep their communities safe and economically sustainable. Taxpayers can't handle property tax increases at this time. The state needs to act. These projects will not go away, they will only become more expensive.
- The longer passage of the bonding bill is delayed, the more economic damage will be done. Some businesses will close permanently without action to help Minnesota's economy. Passing a bonding bill in September is critical for our future.