



March 17, 2023

The Honorable Fue Lee, Chair  
House Capital Investment Committee  
485 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Dean Urdahl, Ranking Minority Leader  
House Capital Investment Committee  
279 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Lee, Ranking Minority Leader Urdahl, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Greater Mankato Growth, the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Organization representing more than 900 members in the Greater Mankato region. I write in support of the \$10,000,000 bonding request of the city of North Mankato for the Caswell Regional Sporting Complex (HF97/SF2348). Fully funding this project would represent an important investment in a critical regional recreation facility that will help ensure our region has the amenities needed to support regional livability as well as talent growth, retention, and attraction.

The mission of Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) is to support and promote the economic growth and vitality of our members and the regional marketplace. As a growing, dynamic Greater Minnesota metro hub, this project represents the very foundation of our economic vitality which is the fundamental ability to provide clean, safe water and adequately treat wastewater. The Mankato-North Mankato Metropolitan Statistical Area has a labor shed of nearly 300,000 people and has grown by more than 21% since 2000. This project is a key priority for our members and will support our regional livability and promote economic growth.

Greater Mankato Growth is a proud partner in economic development as part of the Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) which includes the city of North Mankato and four additional cities along with Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties. In this partnership, we promote an atmosphere of cooperation, leveraging our unique strengths, and providing efficient and effective service delivery in order to facilitate continued economic prosperity of our region. The North Mankato Caswell Regional Sporting Complex will fill a critical need to resolve inequities across youth sporting facilities and provides an asset that can be leveraged for decades for the prosperity of the region.

We urge you to fully fund HF97/SF2348 for the city of North Mankato Caswell Regional Sporting Complex for \$10,000,000.

Respectfully,

Andy Wilke  
Director of Business Development and Public Affairs

info@greatermankato.com

3 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 100  
Mankato, MN 56001

507.385.6640

greatermankato.com