

City of Waconia

March 21, 2023

Representative Jim Nash 349 State Office Building 100 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd St. Paul, MN 55055-1298

Dear Representative Nash,

I am writing on behalf of the City Council in support of House File 385, and the bonding support for continued development by Carver County of the Lake Waconia Regional Park. The support sought, and if provided, will continue to build out one of the most significant regional assets in the west metropolitan area.

Lake Waconia draws tens of thousands of visitors for year-round recreation and interaction with area natural resources. The master plan developed seeks to create a space that makes this natural resource available to more people and put them closer with the outdoors and the social and health benefits it provides.

Increased visits to our community for recreation will also open up all our community has to offer from shopping and dining and would impact our community positively economically. Visitors also can learn about the rich history of the lake, from early indigenous people who settled on its shores and that of Coney Island, which is a registered historical landmark.

Support for House File 385 will continue progress on the master plan that was thoughtfully completed by Carver County with immense public support and engagement.

Regards,

Shane Fineran City Administrator