



April 9, 2023

Dear Chair Fue Lee and Members of the Capital Investment committee,

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) is the largest statewide association of nonprofits in the country, representing over 2,300 member organizations across the state. Through MCN, nonprofits join together across interest areas to work on issues of common interest to all. MCN works to inform, promote, connect, and strengthen individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector.

We write in support of HF 1133, authored by Chair Lee, which would create capacity at Minnesota Management and Budget to assist nonprofit organizations with understanding the capital investment process, and to coordinate with state agencies about the administration of such projects. We would particularly like to see this capacity used to work with nonprofits run by and for people of color, small nonprofits, and nonprofits in rural communities, all of which have traditionally not participated in the state's capital investment process.

MCN applauds the state for including general fund dollars for nonprofit projects in capital investment projects over the past few years. As you all know, capital investment projects and requests require a lot of resources and planning. The process is long, and even great projects often need advocacy over multiple capital investment cycles.

If these projects have dedicated capacity at MMB, it will make legislators' work easier, because the proposals will be in better shape when they get to you, and make the nonprofit project sponsors' work easier, because they will have the information they need to create their proposal.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your service to our great state.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Marie Ellis in cursive.

Marie Ellis
Public Policy Director

Handwritten signature of Ileana Mejia in cursive.

Ileana Mejia
Public Policy Advocate