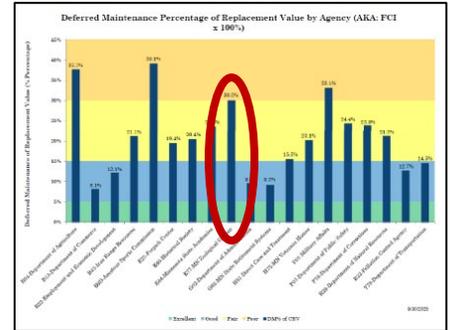




2026 Capital Investment Request: HF3628

Decades of Deferred Maintenance

- Deferred maintenance at Zoo facilities is among the worst of all state agencies according to data collected by the Department of Administration
- One-third of 125 buildings are in poor or crisis condition
- \$78M deferred maintenance for facilities, not including grounds
- Growing safety, regulatory, and operational risk for visitors, staff, and animals
- The Zoo has the worst incident rate of all state agencies according to MnSAFE FY26 Q1 results



Continuing to defer critically-needed maintenance leads to costly emergency repairs, operational disruption, and increased safety risks.

Governor’s Recommendation: \$4,000,000

This will go towards the highest-risk and emergency needs:

- Failing HVAC and life-support systems
- Roof, masonry, and pavement failures
- Decaying animal habitat and waste management infrastructure
- Code, safety, and regulatory compliance issues

Emergency Renovation: \$6,000,000

- A-Building, the oldest building on campus, must be renovated to support critical animal hospital staffing needs
- This will be used on the building envelope, building systems, asbestos abatement, workspace and code upgrades

Total Investment: \$10,000,000

- Ensures safety of guests, staff, and animals
- Prevents costly emergency spending
- Protects the state’s prior capital investments
- Maintains AZA accreditation and USDA/OSHA compliance



Questions? Contact Kayla Wallace, Director of Administration: 715-450-1840 or Kayla.Wallace@state.mn.us