

# Lyndon Carlson

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## CAPITOL UPDATE



### HOW TO REACH

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Representative  
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Dear Neighbors,

*I recently had the opportunity to learn about how easily our water supply is affected by human activity. More specifically, I had the chance to learn about what can be done to prevent groundwater contamination here in the northwest metro and all over the state. I had the chance to learn these things on a fact-finding trip with the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR). LCMR is a bi-partisan commission that recommends what environmental projects should be funded. I currently serve as a member of the LCMR and its executive committee. I would like to use this update to explain how LCMR works and how it is the source for a majority of our state's environmental investments.*

*It is a privilege to continue to represent you at the Capitol. As always, feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.*

Sincerely,

Rep. Lyndon Carlson

## LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES (LCMR)

### WHAT IS LCMR?

Created in 1963, LCMR is a bipartisan commission that makes funding recommendations to the Legislature for special environment and natural resource projects. Funding recommendations are typically for new, innovative, or accelerated projects designed to help sustain, enhance, and utilize Minnesota's natural resources. Since LCMR's creation, Minnesota has invested over \$560 million for approximately 1,260 projects recommended by the commission.

### WHO IS ON THE LCMR?

The LCMR is comprised of 20 members of the Minnesota House and Senate. At least three members each from the Senate and House must be from the minority caucus. The members elect their officers, rotating the chair between

the Senate and the House every two years. The LCMR employs four full-time nonpartisan professional and support staff. In addition, an 11-member Citizen Advisory Committee advises the LCMR, with at least one member from each congressional district.

## HOW DOES THE LCMR PROCESS WORK?

### ODD-NUMBERED YEARS

#### *Summer and Fall*

LCMR conducts site visits to public and private sector natural resources projects, talks with professionals, solicits input from citizens to assess the status of the state's natural resources, and identifies important issues and needs.

#### *Winter*

The Commission adopts a comprehensive strategic plan for funding priorities and issues a Request for Proposals (RFP).

### EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS

#### *February / March*

Proposals are due to the LCMR office.

#### *May / June*

LCMR and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) review and evaluate all proposals, then select the ones that best fit funding priorities.

#### *June / July*

A select number of proposal managers are invited to present their proposals before the LCMR and CAC members at a series of public hearings.

Projects that are recommended for funding are reviewed by the Legislature in the odd-numbered session for inclusion in legislation allocating funds. Projects with LCMR approved work programs can begin work on July 1 of the odd numbered years.

### WHAT GETS FUNDED?

Anyone may apply for funding from the Trust Fund provided that the proposal is consistent with public purposes.

Past recipients include:

- state agencies
- local governments
- colleges & universities
- nonprofit organizations
- school districts
- private individuals & companies