

ML 2025 / FY 2026 LSOHC Member Allocation - Comments

By Order of Proposal

Project ID	Suzanne Baird	Dudley Edmondson	Kristin Eggerling	David Hartwell	Sen. Fong-Hawj	Mark Holsten	Rep. Leon Lillie	Ron Schara	Jamie Swenson
PA01				Unspent funds in the last two years is concerning.					
PA02					a lot of unspent \$			Unspent money is a problem	
PA03					need this \$ -- will be at zero \$'s by next year if they don't get funding this year				
PA04	A lot of unspent funding from 2021 and 2022								
PA05									
PA06				Hold off until they have spent funds from prior appropriations	a lot of unspent \$ from prior years - seem to want extra \$ in the bank? Do they really need the \$ this year?			Spend the money already appropriated	
PA07									
PA08									
PRE01				????					
PRE02									

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FA01	Need to reduce the easement management cost			Cost is \$376 vs \$640 per acre to do much of the same enhancement work by DNR in FRE01	David Hartwell raised issue of overly high estimate of easement			Too many questions. Confusing proposal. USFS???	
FA02					not scalable				Full amount, minus Personnel + Contracts. One transaction, county match for these services instead.
FA03		Community based planning and management of public lands is a great proposal and the kind of forward thinking projects we should be encouraging. This type of commitment by an entire community gives them a sense of ownership and responsibility while adding to Minnesota's natural heritage.	Consider CPL.	Don't believe the appraisal will be above our threshold of \$500k given the house, access and agricultural area will reduce the value from the asking price (\$700k apx) significantly. I also question the sustainability of the organization given the disorganization of the proposal - perphas it would be better if Wolf Ridge purchased the property and leased it to this group.	very new org		reach out to LCCMR please or staff for suggestions	Access to land? Over valued swamp??/?/ Apply to Cpl or ask Wolf Ridge to purchase 110 acres.	
FA04									
FA05					no public access			Limited public value; no access;	
FA06									
FRE01				Cost is \$640 per acre vs \$376 to do much of the same enhancement work by TNC in FA01					
FRE02	Total fund request reduced by \$54,300 per Council discussion.			CPL seems like a better fit	CPL instead?		please apply for cpl	Total fund request reduced by \$54,300 per Council discussion.	
WA01	A lot of money still on the table - urgency is not as great								
WA02									

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WA03					RIM is BWSR's flagship program; have spent almost all \$, they're not holding on to funds				
WA04									
WRE01					is this more of a flood control project?				
WRE02									
WRE03	Needs to show more progress on funding spent.			Very concerned about the amount of unspent funds from prior appropriations. I remain unconvinced that there is a need to completely remove the old ditch material. Seems like it would be far less expensive to breach the piles selectively to allow water to flow and create islands surrounded by water. Only fund ditch restoration work.				Unspent money is a problem	
WRE04	A lot of unspent funding from last 3 cycles			Reread proposal - Wetland staff vs projects - not interested in providing 5 years of staff cost. No more than 2 years.				Unspent money is a problem	
HA01		I agree with Sen. Lang that there are a lot of unspent funds that really should be spent before asking for another large amount of funds.			neonic issue - how will they ensure Neonic seeds or pesticides are not used?				
HA02		Their matching funds prove their commitment			local \$ leveraged				
HA03		allocation request this year is up by 158% according to presenter. the increase is said to be due to the fact that landowners have larger tracts of land that need restoration. personnel dollars amount makes up 20% of their budget.			will impact some EJ areas around St. Cloud; factored prevailing wage into their budget; neonic issue; significant jump in amount requested from prior years				
HA04		phase 1 and 2 of funds are nearly all spent and should be committed before the end of the year.			2022 and 2023 funds are hardly spent				

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HA05									
HA06		Not much for leverage		No leverage - generally no net gain of trails	no local dollars leveraged; trails issue raised by Hartwell (no net gain)			No leverage is a big problem!!	
HA07		area not necessarily open to the public			holding a lot of cash in reserves; not open for public use				
HA08								Unspent money is a problem/ Priority question??	
HA09		this is a multi agency project and somewhat justifies the allocation request.				focus on protection			
HA10	Total fund request reduced by \$1,000,000 per Council discussion.		Total fund request reduced by \$1,000,000 per Council discussion.	\$1M pulled from request - 3 projects that were on BWSR easements	new project			Total fund request reduced by \$1,000,000 per Council discussion.	
HA11		organization has spent down its remains funds since application deadline		Come back when they have spent prior funds				Unspent money is a problem	
HA12	A lot of money still on the table - urgency is not as great			Says not scaleable but when testifying, they indicated it was					
HA13					not scalable?				
HA14									

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HA15	A lot of money still on the table - urgency is not as great								
HRE01					no acquisition, only restoration				
HRE02									
HRE03									
HRE04				tie staffing only to accomplishment plan approved projects	\$14M federal fund match?; personnel issue - would DNR staff be working on more than those projects?				Funding allocated to staff time on LSOHC funded projects ONLY.
HRE05				Cannot believe Minneapolis staff would not come to the meeting in person. It looks like they said the project was scaleable in the past but they decided not to do it until they came back and got additional funding. Suggest they find other funding.	final phase - not scalable		Apply CPL		
HRE06									
HRE07									
O1									over a 17% increase from last year for 5.5 FTE. No approval for additional 0.5 FTE requested. Allocation is 4.5% cost of living increase from last year (consistent w/MN Rates)

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O2									Variable, 1/10th of 1% max
O3									Do not support allocating more funds to DNR administration, instead, reduce/eliminate DNR requirements to streamline process
O4							\$5,000,000		
CPL									allocated funds to other projects, support 100% funding.