

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item #6

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Amendment - Language for ML2026 / FY2027 OHF Appropriation Recommendation Bill

PRESENTER: LSOHC Staff

Suggested Motion:

Motion by XX to approve the inclusion of Minnesota Land Trust as a partner in the 5(n)/HA 17 – Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration, Phase 14 program.

No motion by the Council, or a motion with affirmative votes of fewer than nine councilmembers will result in no action.

Background:

The Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration - Phase 14 project is requesting to add Minnesota Land Trust back into the project due to the additional funding from the November forecast. Minnesota Land Trust was part of the original proposal but dropped out after the initial Council allocation amount wasn't enough to cover the costs of MLT's portion of the partnership and The Trust for Public Land's Wacouta Bay fee-title acquisition.

The Council unanimously approved the ML2026 funding recommendations bill at the December 9, 2025 meeting with the caveat that LSOHC staff could make technical edits as necessary. LSOHC staff feel adding a funding recipient and an additional activity is more than a technical edit to the Council's recommendation package and will require approval from the Council.

MN Statute 97A.056,

Subd. 3(a) states, "...The Council's recommendations shall be submitted no later than January 15 ..."

Subd. 3(e) states, "Recommendations of the council, including approval of recommendations for the outdoor heritage fund, require an affirmative vote of at least nine members of the council."

Attachments:

- Draft ML2026 Appropriation Bill Language
- Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration, Phase 14 – Draft Accomplishment Plan