



CITY OF CANNON FALLS

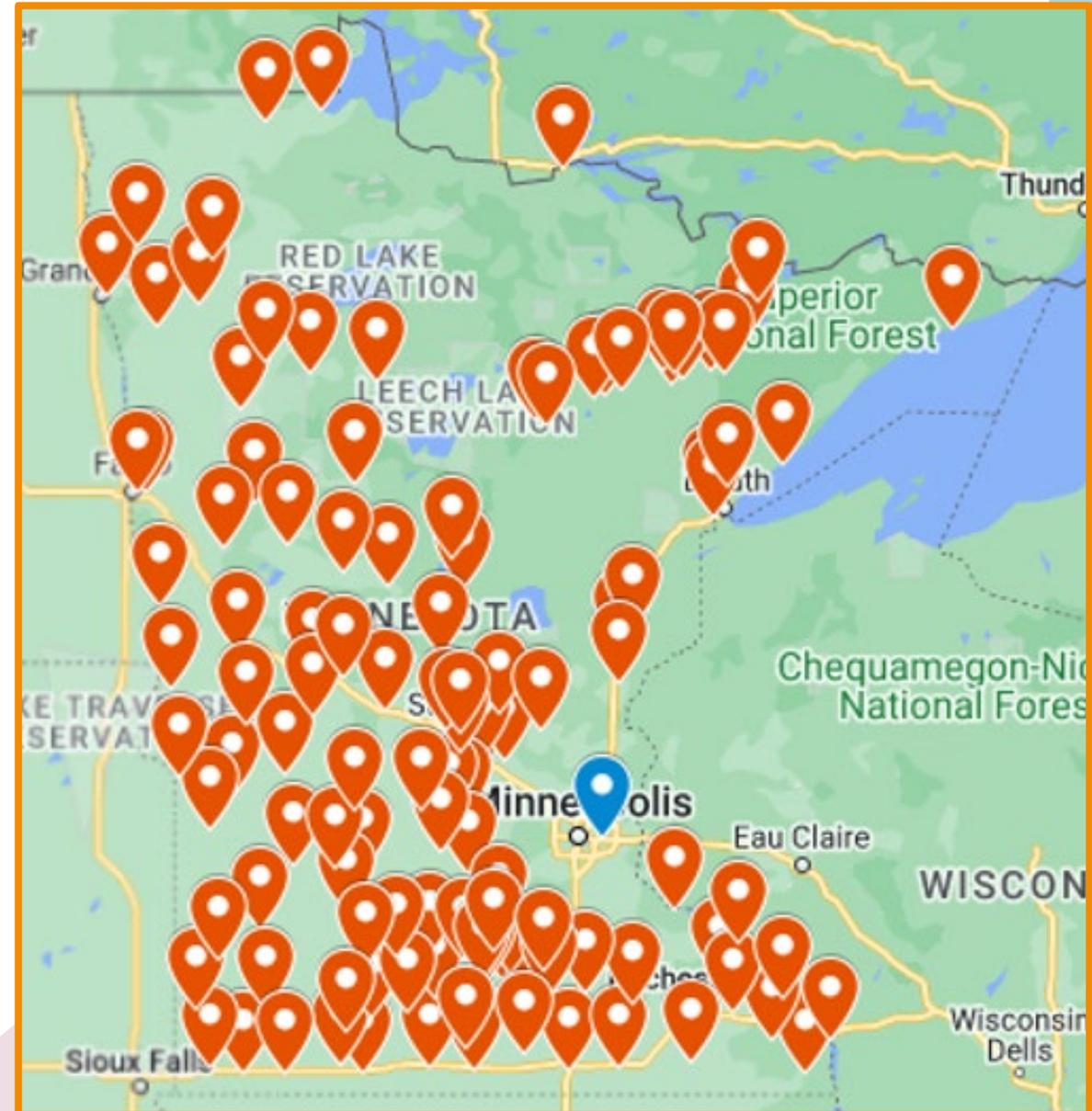


September 2, 2025

CGMC:

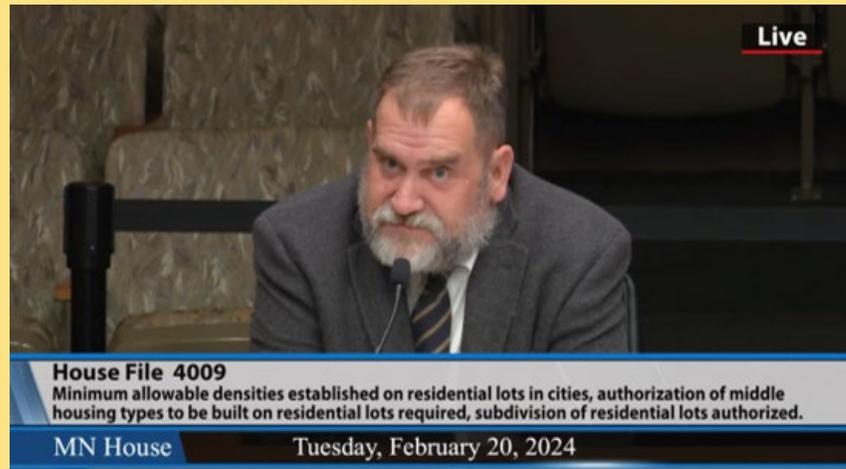
MORE THAN 100 CITIES ACROSS THE STATE WORKING TOGETHER

- Local Government Aid (LGA)/Property Taxes
- Environment and Energy
- Economic Development
- Transportation
- Annexation and Land Use
- Labor and Employment
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)



CGMC IS GREATER MINNESOTA'S VOICE

- Policy discussions need all voices at the table. The CGMC is a strong, collective advocate for Greater MN cities. The Twin Cities metro area spares no expense in bringing their voice to the Capitol through Metro Cities, Met Council, individual city lobbyists, and other organizations that represent metro or suburban interests. The CGMC works tirelessly to bring balance to the scale.
- The CGMC is a constant presence at the Capitol because it's not always possible or feasible for our members to be.



CGMC Executive Director Bradley Peterson testifies before the House Housing Committee to express the CGMC's reservations about H.F. 4009



CGMC lobbyist Elizabeth Wefel urges the House Capital Investment Committee to include Greater Minnesota priorities in their bonding proposal

MEMBER-DRIVEN ADVOCACY

- The CGMC works on the bread-and-butter issues that help cities meet their basic needs. We get involved in new issues based on feedback and input from our members: EMS, child care, housing.
- Our members are involved in every step of our advocacy, from serving on policy committees and working groups to testifying at the legislature.

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES & SUPPORT

- The CGMC produces high-quality, accurate research to help identify problems and solutions we can bring to lawmakers.
- Our Environmental Action Fund (EAF) and Labor and Employment Action Program (LEAP) allow the CGMC to provide legal action and/or direct funding for issues with significant implications for other member cities.
- We conduct individualized outreach, small and large-scale events, and help members advocate for their communities and build connections with policymakers and leaders throughout the state.



Hibbing Mayor Pete Hyduke testifies before the Senate Tax Committee in support of the CGMC's \$120M EMS aid bill



Governor Walz speaks to CGMC members at 2025 CGMC Legislative Action Day

YOUR TEAM AT THE CAPITOL



Darielle Dannen
Senior Attorney/Lobbyist
Economic Development



Darrin Lee
Lobbyist
Transportation



Derrick Miedaner
Director of Policy Research
& Analytics



Emma Nelson
Coordinator



Bradley Peterson
CGMC Executive Director
LGA/Property Tax



Marty Seifert
Senior Lobbyist



Elizabeth Wefel
Shareholder Attorney/Lobbyist
Environment; Annexation &
Land Use



Alex Wildfang
Media & Communications



Shane Zahrt
Shareholder Attorney/Lobbyist
Transportation

CGMC MESSAGING FOR 2026

FOCUS ON THE BASICS

- Pass a bonding bill
- Property tax relief (LGA)
- Fund programs with broad appeal and reach

NARROW THE AGENDA

- Don't get distracted by proposals that have no chance of passage
- Work from the perspective of statewide benefit, rather than partisan priorities

DIVISION AT THE CAPITOL: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR GREATER MINNESOTA?

- In the House:
 - 67-67 tie means everything is a negotiation
 - DFL & GOP committee co-chairs
 - Evenly split committee membership
 - Pending special election for Speaker Hortman Seat, potential special election in Woodbury
- In the Senate:
 - Started session with one-seat DFL Majority
 - Woodbury special election will determine who controls the Senate
- Tight budget means intense competition for state dollars
- The CGMC is working hard to make sure Greater MN priorities are protected including LGA, water and wastewater programs, economic development programs
- 2026 election will be critical for educating members on Greater MN issues

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE WITH CGMC

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN:

- 2025 CGMC Fall Conference – November 13-14, Grand Rapids

MORE INFO COMING SOON:

- 2026 CGMC Legislative Action Day – March 25, 2026, St. Paul
- 2026 CGMC Summer Conference – July 22-24, 2026, New Ulm

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



greatermncities.org



[@greatermncities](https://twitter.com/greatermncities)



youtube.com/GreaterMNCities



QUESTIONS?

CONTACT:

Bradley Peterson

bmpeterson@flaherty-hood.com

Office: 651-225-8840

Cell: 651-357-7369

Emma Nelson

ennelson@flaherty-hood.com

Office: 651-259-1936

Cell: 651-315-4376

THANK YOU!

