



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Minnesota

Minnesota's consulting engineers are integral in shaping our communities and our world - designing highways, bridges, tunnels and transit systems; stadiums, high-rises, schools and hospitals; energy-efficient mechanical, electrical and fire safety systems; power plants and energy grid infrastructure, and water and wastewater treatment plants. We are licensed professionals in the private sector who provide design services and expertise to public and private entities.

In addition to design services, consulting engineers provide feasibility studies, environmental impact studies, supervision and inspection of construction work, and technical advice and assistance. Consulting engineers make engineering their business. The competitive environment in which we operate requires innovative thinking, flexibility and efficiency that ultimately benefits our clients.

Transportation Investment

We support a comprehensive transportation funding package that is:

- **LONG-TERM**, to ensure planning, design, and construction of our infrastructure is completed effectively and efficiently.
- **DEDICATED**, with funds for transportation purposes only.
- **COMPREHENSIVE** and **BALANCED**, to address the demanding needs for all modes of transportation across the state, in both urban and rural areas.

Bonding

We support a robust bonding bill that utilizes as much of the State's available bonding capacity as possible.

Bonding is an important economic development tool that has long range positive effects for Minnesota's economy. Current low interest rates make money borrowed today as inexpensive as it has even been and there is a huge demand for bonding projects throughout the state. These investments bring incalculable rewards to the state through improved educational facilities; water, energy and transportation investments; care for our elderly; and protection of existing state infrastructure.

Energy Infrastructure

We supports a holistic approach to our energy production needs and the effective, efficient and environmentally responsible utilization of energy resources.

We also encourage the development of new and alternative energy resources that address future needs safely, reliably and cost effectively.

Workforce Shortage

We support increased investments in educational programs that address the critical shortage of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) graduates.

The Legislature should invest in programs that create opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to pursue careers in these fields. Minnesota must also invest in infrastructure and social amenities to make the state competitive with other parts of the country to draw our future workforce to Minnesota.

Water Infrastructure & Resources

We strongly support increased funding to address Minnesota's water infrastructure needs and statutory changes that will allow higher grant levels for these projects.

More than 1300 wastewater and collection system projects need funding - in some areas clean drinking water is threatened or in short supply. Increasing bonding and grant spending would give all communities the financial capability the ability to address these needs.

Workplace Mandates

We encourage the legislature to establish statewide workplace standards that are fair to employees but reflect the needs of businesses in keeping costs competitive with other regions.

Infrastructure ratings from American Society of Civil Engineers:



* **ASCE Minnesota
Infrastructure 2018 Report
Card GPA – C**
(<http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/Minnesota>)