

NOTE: Seaton Peters Revnew will host a **Responsible Contractor Law Seminar**, Tuesday, February 17th 7:30 AM – 10 AM at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 7800 Normandale Blvd, Bloomington. Cost \$25.00 For more information and to register, click [here](#).

URGENT! Business Day NOT at the Capitol – Wed., March 3rd 9 AM – 5:30 PM! MUCA will participate in the MN Chamber's Business Day NOT at the Capitol, hosted at the Crown Plaza St. Paul-Riverfront. They are bringing the Legislators to us! **WE HAVE RESERVED A TABLE AND HAVE FOUR SPOTS AVAILABLE** – Contact [Stephanie](#) immediately to reserve your spot and to secure your meeting with your legislators!

MUCA Members:

It was another quiet week at the State Capitol as committees continued with budget and department overviews following the release of Governor Mark Dayton's Budget proposal last week. The quiet days have been great for MUCA the last two weeks as we have been able to meet with a number of committee chairs. This past week was no different as we were able to get some time with the following legislators: Senator David Tomassoni (DFL-Chisholm)- Chair of the Senate Environment, Econ Development and Agriculture Budget Division; Senator Dan Sparks (DFL-Austin)- Chair of the Senate Jobs, Agriculture and Rural Development Committee; and Representative Tim Kelly (R-Red Wing)- Chair of the House Transportation Policy and Finance Committee. Like the meetings help before the goal of these meetings was to do some introductions with the legislators to let them know who MUCA is, what we are working on this session and to serve as a resource to them, their colleagues and their committees.

Throughout this session we have been discussing for main topics of concern: 1) Infrastructure Investment (Transportation and Water Infrastructure). 2) Repeal or Amend the Responsible Contractor Law. 3) Lack of an Incoming Workforce-Construction Workforce Development. 4) Reform of Prevailing Wage for Greater MN. A copy of the 2015 Platform for MUCA will be on the website. Please feel free to use the points or document and share with your elected officials. While it is important that they hear from us this session, it is even more important that they hear from you. Constituents back in their districts have the biggest voice when issues come before them.

Hearings this Week

On Monday, the Senate Environment, Economic Development and Agriculture Budget Division will hear an overview of the Governor's Budget Recommendations for the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) at 12pm in room 107 of the State Capitol. Later that day the House Veterans Affairs committee will be hearing [HF141](#) (Dettmer) which deals with Veteran-owned small business certification modified for purposes of state procurement, contract bid preference required for veteran-owned small businesses in situations involving capital investment projects, and money appropriated. That hearing will take place at 12:45pm in room 200 of the State Office Building.

The House Government Operations Committee on Tuesday will be hearing HF531 (Swedzinski) which would exempt certain construction materials for contractors. The hearing is at 12:45pm in the basement hearing room of the State Office Building.

The House Transportation Committee will hear an overview of Gov. Dayton's Transportation budget by Commissioner Charles Zelle on Wednesday at 12:45pm in the basement hearing room of the State Office Building. A copy of the plan can be found here

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/comm/docs/9be8b546-3ae7-4e44-a1bc-683a71cca2f2.pdf>

MUCA Meetings this Week

On Tuesday we will be meeting with Rep. Bob Gunther (R-Fairmont) who is chair of the House Greater MN Economic and Workforce Development Policy Committee at 3:45pm. If you are a constituent of Rep. Gunther and would like to attend please let us know.

On Thursday we will be meeting Rep. Denny McNamara (R-Hastings) who is chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance Committee at 11am. If you are a constituent of Rep. McNamara and would like to attend please let us know.

Key Bills Introduced Last Week

[HF 508](#) (Bly) Land owners provided option to require a pipeline proposing to locate on that land to purchase any amount of the owner's contiguous land, fees and penalties modified, disposition of abandoned pipelines provided, report required, and change in rules required.

[HF 616](#) (Fabian) Legislative approval of water quality standards and rules required, water quality standards cost-benefit analysis required, and money appropriated.

Dayton Budget Proposal

As mentioned above, Gov. Dayton unveiled his budget proposal last week. Details regarding specific areas of the proposal can be found here <http://mn.gov/governor/toolkit/> Over the next few months the House, Senate and Governor will all try to work together to try and craft the state's budget for 2016-17. Over that time we will be hearing about a number of projects, priorities and how to pay for it all. The Governor's budget proposal is the first step of this process. Now each chamber will work on their own budget priorities. At the end of the month, the state will get its last economic report. From those numbers the House and Senate will begin to craft their budgets.

Key Areas Outlines in the Dayton Proposal

- **Governor Dayton's Transportation Plan.** Governor Dayton's plan would invest \$6 billion over the next ten years to address the state's highway funding deficit, invest \$2.356 billion in local government transportation projects, and provide \$2.92 billion for transit systems across Minnesota. The Governor's proposal would create an estimated 119,000 new jobs, and build the infrastructure necessary to meet the demands of a growing population and an expanding state economy.
- **Investing in Roads and Bridges.** Under the Governor's proposal, communities across Minnesota would receive a transportation funding increase of nearly 30 percent, using Municipal State Aid and County State Aid funds constitutionally-dedicated for repairing our roads and bridges. Under the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Municipal State Aid goes to cities with populations of 5,000 or more residents.
- **21st Century Economic Development.** During the last four years, Governor Dayton and the Legislature made economic development and workforce training a major priority – investing \$1.5 billion in economic development initiatives to support job creation and

grow our economy. These efforts are projected to create an estimated 126,760 jobs, and leverage \$8.5 billion in additional private investment in the state's economy. This year, the Governor's proposed budget would build on these initiatives by investing in broadband internet and job training initiatives, which will help Minnesotans successfully compete in the global marketplace.

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