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City of Duluth Communications Office

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SUBJECT: City of Duluth to receive \$13.5 Million from Bonding Bill for Coastal Rehabilitation Projects

BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer

City of Duluth to receive \$13.5 Million from Bonding Bill for Coastal Rehabilitation Projects

[Duluth, MN] The City of Duluth will receive \$13.5 million for the Lakewalk and seawall improvements thanks to the bonding bill that was passed by the state legislature.

The coastal rehabilitation projects were the top legislative priority that the City Council supported through a resolution at the beginning of the year and later supported by Governor Walz. The project will remove a large stretch of aging seawall infrastructure from behind the DECC to Pier B Resort while enhancing green space behind it. The funding will also be used to repair damages along sections of the Lakewalk and shoreline infrastructure.

"We have been very happy with the design and the feedback of the Lakewalk Reconstruction Project," said Jim Filby-Williams, Director of Properties, Parks and Libraries. "Continuing to build to the highest coastal engineering standards ensures that anyone, regardless of ability, can come to the Lakewalk and enjoy the beautiful sights of Lake Superior, and all of the amenities that Duluth has to offer."

"I am thrilled that the bonding bill passed the House and Senate, which is incredible news for Duluth, the Northland, and Minnesota," Mayor Emily Larson said. "Duluth will receive \$13.5 million dollars for coastal rehabilitation along our seawalls and Lakewalk – assets that support our international shipping port, economic development, residents, and visitors. That's on top of \$100 million for new affordable housing, \$16 million for Public Housing rehabilitation, and \$125+ million in projects across the region also included in the bill. My deepest gratitude to everyone who worked on this across five special sessions, during a pandemic, to get this done – our staff, Governor Tim Walz, our Minnesota State Legislature, and their respective staff as well."

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