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Kim Norton
State Representative

District 25B
Olmsted County

**Minnesota
House of
Representatives**

November 26, 2013

Susan Thornton, Director
Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
65 State Office Building
100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Director Thornton:

I have recently received communication from a constituent interested in seeing that the Zumbro Watershed project receives funding this year. I was disappointed to learn that the project did not make the final list of projects being forwarded to the legislature for approval.   I respectfully ask that the LCCMR reconsider at its December 10th meeting the application by the Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) proposal for the "Demonstration Water Quality Protection Practices on Zumbro River."

The ZWP proposes to create ten water quality educational learning stations along the watershed to tell its environmental story and promote water stewardship through awareness of appropriate, effective clean water practices, while encouraging civic and recreational participation. This is an outstanding proposal that links public involvement with responsible water management practices.

Lake Zumbro has had significant silt build up and water quality issues. The mitigation project was underfunded in the Bonding Bill passed by the Legislature two years ago, but significant work has occured recently to find funding so the project can finally move forward! The ZWP project submitted would serve to enhance that work and address some of the issues causing poor water quality in the watershed so that the mitigation can have a longer lasting effect.

Given its promising potential to positively impact and benefit not only communities along the watershed, but also future generations, I respectfully request that you reconsider and include the ZWP proposal in LCCMR funding in its current recommendations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Norton
State Representative

Cc: LCCMR Members

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