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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 3866

03/15/2018 Authored by Bernardy, Kunesh-Podein and Fischer
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital investment; appropriating money to replace the Rice Creek
1.3 railroad bridge in New Brighton.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. RICE CREEK RAILROAD BRIDGE.

1.6 \$1,550,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of transportation
1.7 for the rail service improvement program under Minnesota Statutes, section 222.50, for a
1.8 grant to Minnesota Commercial Railway Company to demolish the existing railroad bridge
1.9 over Rice Creek in New Brighton and to predesign, design, acquire any right-of-way needed,
1.10 engineer, construct, and equip a replacement railroad bridge to meet the needs of the railroad
1.11 operators that use the bridge. This appropriation is available when the commissioner of
1.12 management and budget determines that sufficient resources have been committed to
1.13 complete the project, as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.502. This appropriation
1.14 is available until the project is completed or abandoned subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
1.15 16A.642. This grant is contingent on:

1.16 (1) review and approval of the railway company's design, engineering, and plans for the
1.17 project by Ramsey County to ensure the project does not interfere with recreational use of
1.18 adjacent park property and Rice Creek, and by the Rice Creek Watershed District to ensure
1.19 that the project's impact on flows in the creek is in accordance with the watershed district's
1.20 adopted rules. These reviews and approvals are in addition to any other reviews, permits,
1.21 or approvals required for the project;

1.22 (2) Minnesota Commercial Railway Company removing all structures related to the
1.23 existing bridge from the Rice Creek stream bed as part of the demolition and removal of

2.1 the existing bridge, including any pilings, footings, or water control structures placed to
2.2 protect the existing bridge structures, except to the extent prohibited by a permitting authority,
2.3 including but not limited to the Department of Natural Resources and the United States
2.4 Army Corps of Engineers. The replacement bridge and structures will be the property of
2.5 the owner of the railroad right-of-way and railroad operator, as may be arranged between
2.6 them; and

2.7 (3) Minnesota Commercial Railway Company entering into an agreement with Ramsey
2.8 County that gives the company access for both construction and ongoing maintenance of
2.9 the bridge, and that provides for repair of the county trail damaged by railway maintenance
2.10 work in the two years before the effective date of this section as well as immediately
2.11 following construction and any subsequent maintenance activities.

2.12 In entering into a grant agreement with the commissioner of transportation, Minnesota
2.13 Commercial Railway Company is agreeing to cooperate with the city of New Brighton and
2.14 Ramsey County in development of crossings and trails in or near to the railway right-of-way
2.15 in the city.

2.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.