



**BOLTON
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March 16, 2026

Office of Tom Emmer
Otsego District Office
9201 Quaday Ave NE
Otsego, MN 55330

RE: Letter of Support for the Howard Lake Water Treatment Plant

To Whom It May Concern,

Bolton & Menk has worked closely with the City of Howard Lake to evaluate the condition and performance of its existing water treatment facility. Based on our engineering assessments, it is clear the current plant—almost 40 years old—can no longer reliably meet the community's operational, regulatory, or long-term capacity needs. A new water treatment plant is essential to ensure safe, dependable drinking water and to support future community growth.

This project has been formally recognized by the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for its urgency and readiness. It is ranked 199 on the Project Priority List and is the 5th project on Part A of the Intended Use Plan.

These rankings reflect both the critical need and the City's preparedness to move forward. Replacing the aging facility with a reliable treatment plant will significantly improve public health protection and long-term infrastructure resilience for Howard Lake.

Sincerely,

Bolton & Menk, Inc.

Jennifer Selchow, P.E.

Water/Wastewater Project Manager | Principal

RESOLUTION NO. 26-04
A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR A FY 2027 CONGRESSIONALLY
DIRECTED SPENDING REQUEST FOR THE
HOWARD LAKE WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Howard Lake operates and maintains a municipal water treatment plant that was constructed in 1988 and is now nearing the end of its operational life; and

WHEREAS, the existing water treatment facility contains outdated and discontinued control systems, aging mechanical equipment, and treatment limitations that threaten the reliability of the City's drinking water system; and

WHEREAS, engineering analysis has identified significant infrastructure deficiencies including aging pumps, deteriorating piping, inaccurate flow meters, treatment capacity limitations, and mechanical systems that are increasingly difficult to maintain; and

WHEREAS, the City of Howard Lake serves approximately 2,200 residents and functions as an employment and service center for surrounding rural communities in Wright County; and

WHEREAS, reliable drinking water infrastructure is essential to supporting local employers including manufacturing operations, agricultural processing businesses, logistics providers, schools, and small businesses that contribute to the regional economy; and

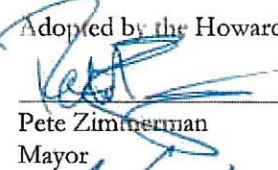
WHEREAS, the estimated cost of constructing a new water treatment plant is approximately \$25.6 million, a significant investment for a small rural community; and

WHEREAS, federal support through Congressionally Directed Spending would reduce the financial burden on local residents and utility ratepayers while helping ensure the continued delivery of safe and reliable drinking water;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Howard Lake, Minnesota, hereby expresses its full support for the City's request to United States Representative Tom Emmer for FY 2027 Congressionally Directed Spending assistance for the Howard Lake Water Treatment Plant Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes City staff to submit all required materials and documentation necessary to pursue federal funding assistance for this project.

Adopted by the Howard Lake City Council this 16th day of March, 2026.



Pete Zimmerman
Mayor



Nick Haggengriller
City Administrator