

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of Wabasha and National Eagle Center to Receive \$8 Million in Bonding Funds

Wabasha, MN - The City of Wabasha and the National Eagle Center will receive \$8 million in funding under the bonding proposal signed today by Governor Dayton.

“Representative Barb Haley and Senator Mike Goggin have been our champions and we are grateful to them,” said Wabasha Mayor Rollin Hall.

Bonding funds will support a major expansion of the National Eagle Center to provide additional space for live eagles and accommodate demand for its hallmark educational programs.

The bonding provision also includes funding for the development of museum exhibit space for the world’s most comprehensive collection of eagle related art, historical and cultural artifacts and ephemera from the 18th century to the present day. The collection, amassed over 40 years by private collector Preston Cook, consists of more than 20,000 museum quality items representing the symbolism and significance of eagles in American culture. The collection was gifted to the National Eagle Center in 2016.

“We appreciate that the Governor and Legislature recognized the uniqueness of Wabasha and the economic opportunity and value an expanded National Eagle Center represents for the entire state,” said Rolf Thompson, Executive Director of the National Eagle Center.

This State of Minnesota bonding support is a portion of a \$16 million National Eagle Center expansion project. A capital campaign is underway to raise the remaining funds through private philanthropy.

The National Eagle Center is a world-class interpretive center located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Wabasha, Minnesota. The center has a reputation as the most comprehensive resource on bald and golden eagles in the world, has five live eagles in their care, and provides its visitors with a very rare learning experience. It is in the top 6% of museums in Minnesota and last year drew over 83,000 visitors from 50 states and 110 countries.

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