

May 20, 2021

To: LCCMR Committee Members

From: John Bruggeman—PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Re: Ranier projects – Boat launch, parking lot and cleaning station on Rainy River and Pier/Safe Harbor/Transient Dock/Marina on Rainy Lake

I am writing in regard to the above Ranier projects. Two years ago I submitted written testimony to the Committee but it is my understanding that it was not received in time but may still be part of the record.

I am very concerned about these projects since much larger boats, faster boats, jet skis and more houseboats are likely to crowd Sand Bay where the marina/pier project is suppose to be located. Half of this bay is located in Canada. This is not a large area and the proposed area is surrounded by residents and close to the Ranier beach which receives high use by both adults and children. The Ranier City Council has stated they would like a marina similar to the one located in Bayfield, WI on Lake Superior. Rainy Lake is no Lake Superior. This area is already very congested and this will significantly increase an already overcrowded area. In addition I have many environmental concerns regarding the impact on our water and shoreline on both Rainy Lake and Rainy River.

There have been no public hearings and no opportunities for residents to have an impact on the plans being formulated by the steering committee and the City Council. As taxpayers and residents --- we have the right to have some say in projects that will affect our daily lives and how our taxes will be used. It is disturbing that the LCCMR has approved funding for projects when there has been no input from residents. Indeed Ranier's Mayor Dennis Wagner, when asked asked multiple times whether Ranier would comply with its own Zoning Ordinance, would not give that assurance.

Please give consideration to these concerns. Thank you.

John Bruggeman
PO Box 134
Ranier, MN 56668
jrbrugge@gmail.com
219-240-1434