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***A Resolution regarding the MnDOT I-494: Airport to Highway 169 study with consideration for pedestrian and bicyclist mobility***

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**DATE:** January 25, 2021

**Motion:** Moved by: Lou Miranda Seconded by: Tammy McLemore

WHEREAS; The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is studying I-494, a heavily used interstate highway that joins with I-694 to create a Loop around the Twin Cities Metro Area. The State of Minnesota has been working to develop a vision for how the freeway can increase capacity and better serve the growing multimodal needs of the community; and,

WHEREAS; Several county and local roadways bridge this freeway barrier providing limited north/south access for people bicycling, walking and rolling; and,

WHEREAS; The freeway crossings of Nicollet Ave (CSAH 52), Portland Ave (CSAH 35), 12<sup>th</sup> St and 82<sup>nd</sup> St have been identified by local, county and regional planning documents as providing important local and regional future bicycling, walking and rolling connections. These documents include The Richfield Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans, The Bloomington Alternative Transportation Plan, The Hennepin County 2040 Bicycle Transportation Plan, the Met Council Regional Bicycle Transportation Network and Regional Bicycle Barriers Study;

WHEREAS; MnDOT has an opportunity to improve comfort and safety for people bicycling, walking and rolling through the creation of fully separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities bridging freeway crossings on Nicollet Ave (CSAH 52), Portland Ave (CSAH 35), 12<sup>th</sup> St and 82<sup>nd</sup> St; and,

WHEREAS; Climate Change and Equity demand that the county prioritize bicycling, walking, and rolling connections over car-based transport; and

WHEREAS; The Hennepin County Bicycle Advisory Committee has reviewed the proposed concept and discussed its merits with County and MnDOT staff;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED;**

The Hennepin County Bicycle Advisory Committee, with the goal of creating a safe bicycling, walking and rolling routes across the freeway barriers of I-494 and I-35W strongly recommends that all freeway crossings should have dedicated bicycling, walking and rolling facilities on each side of the roadway; prioritizing bicycling, walking and rolling over car-based travel. All bicycling, walking and rolling facilities should span the freeway barrier and should extend beyond the immediate freeway bridge to connect to existing facilities that terminate north and south of the freeway barrier at 77th Street and American Boulevard. Although not within the scope of this project, other crossing of I-494 may also warrant future study and analysis for multimodal improvements, such as Lyndale Avenue.





**Hennepin County**  
Bicycle Advisory Committee

Hennepin County Bicycle Advisory Committee:

- Tammy McLemore – District 1 aye
- Gilbert Odonkor – (alternate) District 1 aye
- Kristel Porter – District 2 aye
- Billy Binder (alternate) – District 2 aye
- Dave Carlson – District 3 aye
- Erin Daly (alternate) – District 3 aye
- Jay Eidsness – District 4 aye
- Hokan (alternate) – District 4 abstain
- Judy Jones – District 5 aye
- David Gepner (alternate) – District 5 aye
- Vacant – District 6
- Lou Miranda (alternate) – District 6 aye
- Greg Anderson – District 7 aye
- Ron Uglow (alternate) – District 7 aye

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Attest:   
 Jordan Kocak, Hennepin County Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator

