



Resolution No. 2020R-391

City of Minneapolis

File No. 2020-01259

Author: Gordon

Committee: TPW

Public Hearing: None

Passage: Dec 18, 2020

Publication: DEC 26 2020

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Bender	X			
Jenkins	X			
Johnson	X			
Gordon	X			
Reich	X			
Fletcher	X			
Cunningham	X			
Ellison	X			
Osman	X			
Goodman	X			
Cano	X			
Schroeder	X			
Palmisano	X			

MAYOR ACTION

APPROVED

VETOED

MAYOR FREY

DEC 22 2020
DATE

Certified an official action of the City Council

ATTEST:
CITY CLERK

Presented to Mayor: DEC 18 2020

Received from Mayor: DEC 22 2020

Expressing the City's priorities for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Rethinking I-94 Project.

Whereas, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is planning for the full reconstruction of I-94 between I-35W and I-35E in its Rethinking I-94 Project; and

Whereas, the condition of the roadway has deteriorated to the point where reconstruction or removal is required; and

Whereas, the completion of the Minneapolis portion of I-94 in 1968 destroyed businesses, homes, places of worship and other community assets, and physically divided neighborhoods all along the corridor; and

Whereas, the residents of neighborhoods adjacent to I-94 in the project corridor, including Elliott Park, Ventura Village, Cedar-Riverside, Seward, and Prospect Park are subject to noise and air pollution from the high volume of traffic on I-94; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has adopted the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan, a policy framework that prioritizes walking, bicycling, and transit, with goals of increasing equity in our transportation system, reducing carbon emissions, improving human health through improved air quality and increased active travel, and enabling the safe movement of people, goods, and services across the city; and

Whereas, transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota, and the City of Minneapolis set a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan has stated goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the city and support the Metropolitan Council's goal of doubling regional transit ridership by 2030; and

Whereas, low-carbon transportation modes are essential to providing transportation choices and accessibility while combating climate change and reducing economic disparities; and

Whereas, the vast majority of the vehicle trips originating in this corridor are short distance local trips; and

Whereas, the recent development of electric bicycles has made decarbonized private trips of three to five miles more accessible and affordable; and

Whereas, new mobility infrastructure such as bicycle highways and protected bicycle lanes create local travel opportunities that are inexpensive, safe, fast, and convenient, rendering many local trips by interstate highway unnecessary; and

Whereas, observed traffic in the study area ranges between 140,000 and 160,000 vehicles per day, emitting carbon emissions and generating air toxins and fine particulate pollution that drifts into communities within one-half mile on either side of the highway; and

Whereas, research shows exposure to pollution from traffic can result in fetal and newborn illnesses, asthma attacks among children and adults, plus impaired lung function, impaired cognitive function, cardiovascular illness, multiple cancers, and premature death; and

Whereas, childhood asthma is a significant cause of school absenteeism and, since I-94 runs through communities of color, contributes to educational disparities; and

Whereas, high-speed urban highways are an anomaly of post-World War II civil defense planning and have since been recognized as injurious to economic development, livability, and safety within the dense travel sheds they were intended to serve; and

Whereas, the proposed project area is a rich and diverse community wherein 42% of residents are people of color and 32.6% of residents live below the federal poverty threshold; and