

***A Resolution Regarding the Minnetonka Boulevard Reconstruction Project***

Date: May 18, 2026

Motion: Moved by: Dave Carlson

Seconded by: Henrik Kowalkowski.

WHEREAS; Hennepin County will be reconstructing Minnetonka Boulevard (CSAH 5) from Vernon Avenue S to Xylon Avenue S beginning in 2028; and,

WHEREAS; During the April 20, 2026, Hennepin County ATC meeting a proposed corridor design was shown that includes 10-foot above-curb shared use paths on both sides, reduction of roadway profile to 1 through lane in each direction, pedestrian refuge medians, removal of shoulder space, and a widened boulevard; and,

WHEREAS; Although the placement of the proposed shared use path several feet away from the back of curb can provide an enhanced sense of separation from automobile traffic for trail users, and narrows the roadway to provide traffic calming benefits as well as providing space for the snow storage and placement of new trees to replace those lost as part of the proposed solution; and,

WHEREAS; Although the inclusion of paths on both sides enables path access without having to cross Minnetonka Boulevard, shared use paths increase conflicts between cyclists and other trail users regardless of age and ability, as well as between trail users and motorists making turning movements; and,

WHEREAS; However, one-way bikeways provide more consistent and predictable interactions between different travel modes and require less horizontal space than two-way paths; and,

WHEREAS; Retaining tree cover was one of the most highly requested and rated feedback topics during public engagement; and,

WHEREAS; Implementation of the proposed shared use paths will increase impact to trees throughout the corridor; and,

WHEREAS; Snow removal from up to 4 feet of bikeway immediately behind the curb is possible with current snow clearing equipment while simultaneously clearing snow from the roadway; and,

WHEREAS; Additional attention is required to ensure sufficient and desirable transit access; and,



WHEREAS; The Hennepin County Active Transportation Committee recognizes the complexity of providing a solution that best meets the needs of active transportation roadway users, and commends design staff for the functional solution they are proposing;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

That the Hennepin County Active Transportation Committee supports the inclusion of grade-separated one-way bikeways on both sides of Minnetonka Boulevard. Additionally, we ask the project team to consider the inclusion of 3-foot-wide shoulder spaces on both sides to accommodate cyclists who wish to avoid conflicts with other shared path users. If there are space considerations, the Hennepin County Active Transportation Committee recommends the removal of one or the narrowing of both of the proposed shared use paths. The Hennepin County Active Transportation Committee further requests that the project team give additional consideration to the location of transit stops so that comfortable and adequate transit access is afforded along the corridor.

Hennepin County Active Transportation Committee:

Tammy McLemore – District 1	Aye	Ryan Mckee – District 4	Aye
Nicole Armstrong – District 1	Aye	Henrik Kowalkowski – District 5	Aye
Seth Stattmiller – District 2	Aye	Lou Dzierzak – District 5	Aye
Billy Binder – District 2	Aye	Luke Van Santen – District 6	Aye
Dave Carlson – District 3	Aye	Scott Zerby – District 6	Absent
Ethan Kleinbaum – District 3	Aye	Greg Anderson – District 7	Absent
Sam Gallagher – District 4	Absent	Clara Sandberg – District 7	Aye