

February 24, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I write today to share the City of Minneapolis' support for HF64, which appropriates money to the Metropolitan Council for the purpose of an alternative analysis of transit service in the marked Trunk Highway 55 corridor from Medina to Minneapolis.

The City of Minneapolis supports bus rapid transit on Olson Memorial to serve Minneapolis and the western suburbs; it will efficiently connect residents along the corridor to significant job and activity centers and provide a valuable and much needed connection into a broader transit network.

This effort can be coordinated with ongoing discussions about the Blue Line Extension. Due to an inability to reach an agreement with BNSF Railway, the alignment of the Blue Line is being re-examined and likely will not serve Olson Memorial in the way previously anticipated. Yet, Minneapolis and Golden Valley have made substantial investments in anticipation of that project.

Significant planning has occurred with stakeholders in this corridor to identify how Olson Memorial can better serve all modes of transportation and provide an environment with the design elements and economic development that will encourage transit ridership.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership to deliver on those plans and commitments which will be a tremendous asset to a bus rapid transit project.

Sincerely,



Jacob Frey  
Mayor