



April 2, 2025

Members of the Minnesota House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee,

In 2023, the Legislature approved a law to dedicate a portion of the new regional sales tax for the seven-county region to active transportation projects. In 2024, the first wave of distributions, roughly \$19 million, funded 17 projects across six of the seven metro counties through the Active Transportation Grant Program. This program remains to be a significant opportunity to build out the non-motorized system in the region to support the state as a whole in meeting our vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.

The intended purpose of the sales tax was to improve our region's walking, biking, and rolling infrastructure and its connection to transit, which has experienced chronic under-investment. City Engineers across the metro cite gaps in their multimodal networks. Investments in active transportation, such as multi-use trails, pedestrian facilities, and Safe Routes to School projects, can increase safety, reduce fatal & serious injury crashes, create more Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant designs, and provide connectivity within and to project sites. Safe, comfortable, and continuously active transportation networks work in small-scale, large-scale, urban, suburban, and rural settings alike.

HF 2234 directly undermines these efforts by undercutting allocated investments in walking, biking, and rolling—which functionally undercuts investments in public safety, public health, disability access, and connected communities. Minnesota is a leader in the nation in integrating all modes of travel. Repurposing the intent behind the Active Transportation Grant Program would be detrimental to our progress in cleaning the air we breathe, incorporating physical activity into our daily routines, and promoting public health. This is especially harmful when our residents desire more community cohesion and equitable connectivity for people of all abilities.

We must defend our ability to support active transportation initiatives and reject disinvesting in biking, walking, and rolling infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota  
ISAIAH  
MN350  
Minnesota Environmental Partnership

Move Minnesota & Move Minnesota Action  
Our Streets  
Sierra Club North Star Chapter