

March 25, 2022

Chair Frank Hornstein  
House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee  
545 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hornstein,

I am writing to express strong support for HF 2994, which appropriates \$50 million for the active transportation program. The need to create safe and accessible biking, walking and rolling routes for all Minnesotans is great, as evidenced by the number of planned but unfunded bicycle and pedestrian routes across the entire state. If MnDOT were to build out all the district bicycle plans and identified priority areas for walking safety and access improvements, the cost would total just over \$110 million annually over the course of ten years. This number seems staggering, but illustrates how little we have invested in our active transportation infrastructure to date. The investments made in HF 2994 are an excellent start to the buildout of a statewide biking, walking and rolling network, and can commence programming to help Minnesotans use this network.

Higher gas prices, combined with more and more employers requesting their workers return to office, presents a timely opportunity to encourage Minnesotans to use active transportation routes to save money, improve safety and congestion, encourage physical activity, and decrease climate pollution. It is time to address these challenges through strategic investments and operational improvements. As gas prices continue to increase, so will the need. Please support HF 2994 to ensure uninterrupted mobility for all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Sobotka  
Director of Policy and Research, Move Minnesota

