

Dear Transportation Finance and Policy Committee member,

My name is Alison Boerner, I live in the Lex-Ham neighborhood in St. Paul and I am a concerned constituent/supporter of the ReConnect Rondo project. I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF494, which would prohibit funding for this vital community initiative. As you know, ReConnect Rondo represents over 15 years of community-led planning, aimed at rectifying the historical harm caused by the construction of I-94. This project has garnered local, state, and national recognition, including from the White House, for its innovative approach to community restoration, economic development, and transportation solutions. It will generate substantial revenue, create hundreds of jobs, and serve as a hub for 21st-century careers.

I urge you to consider the significant impact that HF494 would have on the Rondo community and the broader region. Prohibiting funding for ReConnect Rondo undermines years of trust-building and equity-centered planning.

This project preserves the flow of traffic on I-94 while adding essential land for housing, small businesses, and community spaces. It directly addresses the social, economic, and environmental harms caused by the highway, making it eligible for state and federal funding. I implore you to reject HF494 and stand with the Rondo community in their vision to reclaim, reconnect, and revitalize their neighborhood. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alison M Boerner

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