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Bloomington Burnsville Dakota County Elko New Market Hennepin County
Lakeville Minneapolis Richfield Savage Scott County

WHEREAS, *The 35W Solutions Alliance* is a Joint Powers Agreement whose members include the cities of Bloomington, Burnsville, Elko New Market, Lakeville, Minneapolis, Richfield, Savage and Dakota, Hennepin and Scott Counties. Ex-Officio members include the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit, and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Solutions Alliance supports efforts to facilitate traffic flow and capacity in the I-35W Corridor that includes funding, building, operating and maintaining a robust multimodal transportation system that reduces congestion, improves safety and promote economic growth; and

WHEREAS, METRO Orange Line BRT is planned on I-35W to enhance transit service frequency and access to both I-35W transit routes and crosstown local routes; and

WHEREAS, METRO Orange Line station location and routing have been closely integrated with MnDOT's I-494/35W Interchange Vision Layout process to advance and benefit both projects; and

WHEREAS, the Solutions Alliance has made both METRO Orange Line and the interchange top priorities; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Council has provided the draft Orange Line Project Plan Update for public comments; and

WHEREAS, receiving public comments on the Orange Line Project Plan provides an opportunity for Metro Transit and Metropolitan Council to better understand the preferences and needs for BRT in our communities; and

WHEREAS, after the comments are received and incorporated into the plan, it will be brought to the Metropolitan Council for review and adoption; and

WHEREAS, the finalized document will be used to support local and federal funding applications, help determine a path for environmental processes, and refine and update the Metropolitan Council's Regional Transportation Policy Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that *The 35W Solutions Alliance* hereby supports the METRO Orange Line BRT project as outlined in the Project Plan Update.