

**COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
MEETING**

City Hall Council Chambers
May 12, 2025

AGENDA



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- 1. Call to Order - 6:00 p.m.**
 - 2. Council Miscellaneous Discussion Items**
 - a. A Resolution Urging the Minnesota Department of Transportation to Formally Reinststate Environmental Justice Considerations in the Highway 252/I-94 Project
 - 3. City Manager Miscellaneous Discussion Items**
 - 4. Adjournment**

Member

introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION URGING THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO FORMALLY REINSTATE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONSIDERATIONS IN THE HIGHWAY 252/I-94 PROJECT, AND ALL OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS ACROSS THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, THROUGH ADOPTION OF AN INTERIM GUIDELINE BASED ON FORMER FEDERAL STANDARDS

WHEREAS, the Highway 252/I-94 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process is one of the most significant infrastructure efforts impacting the City of Brooklyn Center and its residents, particularly those communities historically burdened by environmental and transportation-related inequities; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT has recently removed Environmental Justice as a formal evaluation criterion in the EIS process, following the rescission of related federal executive orders by the current federal administration; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota currently lacks a state-specific Environmental Justice policy framework that would otherwise provide guidance and accountability in the absence of federal standards; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT has verbally stated that equity and health will remain part of its project considerations, but has not issued any formal or written policy to ensure that these values are consistently applied; and

WHEREAS, the City of Brooklyn Center recognizes that developing a comprehensive Minnesota-specific Environmental Justice framework will take time, but that urgent interim action is necessary to restore public trust and uphold the commitments made to impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA:

1. That the City of Brooklyn Center urges the Minnesota Department of Transportation to formally adopt the former federal Environmental Justice guidelines as an interim administrative policy for the Highway 252/I-94 project and all other active transportation projects across the state;
2. That the City requests MnDOT to issue a publicly accessible memorandum or addendum outlining how equity and health will continue to guide project decisions during the EIS process, using the interim Environmental Justice criteria;
3. That the City of Brooklyn Center reaffirms its commitment to advancing racial equity, public health, and environmental justice in infrastructure planning, and encourages MnDOT to do the same through transparent, accountable practice;
4. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Commissioner of Transportation, the Governor of Minnesota, and members of the Minnesota Legislature responsible for transportation, environment, and equity policy.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Date

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member

and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.