

From: Leigh Thiel

Sent: Sunday, March 6, 2022 5:36 PM

To: ward2

CC: mayor; Ward1@[REDACTED]; Ward3@[REDACTED]; Ward4@[REDACTED];
Ward5@[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Rush Line Vote Tonight

Hello Mayor and City Council,

I understand you will be voting on Tuesday regarding the "purple line". A couple of you are new to your office, please see below for a communication I sent in November regarding this project. As a brief refresh/overview - I have been lightly involved with the Rush link (AKA Purple line) since the beginning. Every question or concern I have raised has been dismissed as "...don't worry about it...the likelihood of this actually happening is slim....". I firmly believe that this has been pushed forward by people who want to have an 'accomplishment' on their resume, vs. believing this will impact the White Bear area in a positive way. And, I believe that the elected White Bear officials have gone along with it - and said/felt as though their (your) hands were tied and there isn't much you could do. But, the reality is, there are many in the community who are concerned about this and are not for this project. You were elected to be a voice to those people. I have heard the dissenters way more than I have heard voices advocating for. And, the voices who are advocating for it are advocating based on what seems to be idealistic standards, vs. reality of projected ridership numbers and impact on our community of 80+ daily buses.

here are plenty of reasons this project is not right for White Bear. But, then you also add on it it the challenges the Met Council are facing with the gross mismanagement of the Southwest line - and you should question if you want that organization to have as much sway on the future of White Bear Lake. <https://www.minnpost.com/state-government/2022/02/the-met-council-is-running-out-of-friends-at-the-minnesota-capitol/> Please vote to tell the Met Council that the city of White Bear Lake does not want this project. T

Thank you very much for reading/considering. And, thank you for your service to the community, regardless of your vote.

Leigh Thiel

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

On Sun, Nov 28, 2021 at 4:53 PM Leigh Thiel <[leigh.thiel@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:leigh.thiel@[REDACTED])> wrote:

Thank you very much for your detailed response Doug. I won't pretend to know much about the resolution you put forward - nor the "legislatively mandated study by the Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Minnesota". What I will focus on is what I do know and what your first paragraph reinforced. This project - has been a series of small decisions that seemingly are never the large decision. But, these small decisions add up and have now put you and the rest of the WB city council in a position