

From: [Nicholas Davies](#)
To: [Finance Committee](#)
Cc: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Capital budget: remove I90 interchanges
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Dear Finance Committee,

We all need to be on the lookout for expenses that are unnecessary, or worse, counterproductive.

Transportation's Executive Capital Budget includes a planned \$17 million for I90 interchanges at Hoepker Rd and Milwaukee St, expected to be spent in 2027 and 2029.

For one, these interchanges themselves are exclusively car infrastructure, and these millions in public funds would go towards incentivizing and subsidizing car travel over other modes. We would be facilitating the export of Madison tax revenue, housing, and jobs to the ever-receding suburban horizon, when we should instead be prioritizing infill development and transit ridership.

But more broadly, by paying for these interchanges, we would be supporting WisDOT's broader I90 widening project, in which they have discarded the city's input and priorities.

WisDOT wants to condemn a wider swathe of land through the city, and increase all types of pollution--air, water, light, sound--that Madison residents are exposed to, for the sake of moving interstate traffic through quicker. We will be the ones paying for it, in community division, in childhood, and climate impact, and the overall project will further impoverish the city's budget, by enabling people to export city wages to Deforest, or maybe by then, Portage.

Milwaukee tried to stop WisDOT's \$1 billion I94 expansion. This is our chance to stop this \$2 billion I90 expansion, by making it clear that we will not participate in it.

Thank you,

Nick Davies
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