From: Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 7:23 PM
To: traherncrews
Cc: Renae Petersen; Veronica Burt; Janie Vang
Subject: RE: Presentation

Chair, Crews, (Trahern)

Thank you for sharing that a “solid selection process” has been “vetted and approved” and now is in place. Given the significant role and influence of the Commission—and the responsibility it carries on behalf of the community—I want to respectfully highlight the importance of approaching this process with care, discernment, and integrity.

The community has placed its trust in this body to uphold the highest standards of accountability and public stewardship. The decisions made here have the potential to set a powerful tone and inspire confidence, while advancing the spirit of equity, restoration, and renewal that this work represents.

It’s also important that both the City Council and the broader community are fully informed, and that the process presented is clear, transparent, and aligned with the Commission’s commitment to legacy-led leadership and meaningful community voice. A process that reflects thoughtful engagement and due diligence will help ensure that both the Commission and Council are well-positioned to move forward together in shared purpose.

In that spirit, I would be grateful for any information available regarding:

- The composition of the selection committee (including names, if appropriate)
- The expertise represented on the committee
- The extent of community representation—excluding staff and Commission members

In reviewing the process, it appears that a staff committee will be reviewing proposals against the RFP criteria and scoring them accordingly. Following that, a selection committee may conduct interviews. If accurate, I want to gently raise that this structure and process may not currently include legacy community members—whose lived experience and historical connection are central to the Commission’s purpose. Including those voices meaningfully in the process could further strengthen community trust and alignment with the Commission’s values.

In my humble opinion the community would be best served by a selection committee that is robust in its inclusion of community voice, technical expertise, and scholarly understanding of the subject matter. Such a composition would reflect the depth and complexity of the work ahead and ensure that the process is both credible and responsive to the community’s aspirations.

Lastly, if there is any uncertainty among Commission members or the public regarding the purpose, process, responsibilities, or expected deliverables, I believe it’s always worthwhile to pause and seek clarity together. Taking the time to build shared understanding and confidence will only enhance the integrity and impact of this important work.

Thank you again for your leadership and dedication to this transformative effort. I look forward to continued collaboration in service of our shared vision.

Warm regards,

KEITH Baker
Executive Director

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BUILD A BRIDGE TO BETTER

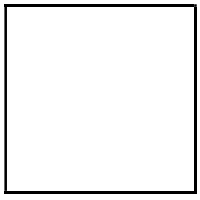
From: trahern crews <traherncrews@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 4:18 PM
To: Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com>
Cc: Renae Petersen <renaep@reconnectrondo.com>; Veronica Burt <veronica.burt@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Vang, Janie (CI-StPaul) <janie.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Re: Presentation

Hello Mr. Baker,
Yes we have a solid selection process that has been vetted and approved. I am not on the selection committee but we did get a community member who is a commissioner and understands what the commission is looking for on the selection committee. Once the researcher is announced they and the commission will be working closely with organizations like yours , Hallie Q Brown the NAACP and others to complete the Harm Report.

Thank you

Trahern Crews

On Tue, Nov 4, 2025, 2:01 PM Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com> wrote:

> Hi Trahern,
>
> Appreciated being able to present at the Commission's meeting a couple of weeks ago. This email is follow-up to the above subject Harms Study RFP and next steps for the subsequent Selection Committee make-up and Selection Process. I spoke to CM Bowie and want to be of assistance, having designed and administered procurement programs and have overseen and facilitated these types of processes. I am hoping to connect via zoom later today, if convenient to gauge clarity for possible next steps.
>
> Please let me know what could possibly work for us to connect.
>
> **KEITH Baker**
>
> **Executive Director**
>
> 

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Keithb@reconnectrondo.com

BUILD A BRIDGE TO BETTER

From: trahern crews <traherncrews@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 9:50 PM
To: Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com>
Cc: Renae Petersen <renaep@reconnectrondo.com>; Veronica Burt <veronica.burt@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Vang, Janie (CI-StPaul) <janie.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Re: Presentation

Hello Keith,

If you need more time to present, we can accommodate that tomorrow. I know the city sent out an email saying Rondo Reconnect will be presenting at tomorrow's meeting, so I know some folks are looking forward to it. Let's talk more in the morning.

763 260 4233

Thank you

Trahern Crews

On Tue, Oct 21, 2025 at 7:53 PM Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com> wrote:

A quick follow up to let you know that another date is likely more appropriate. I spoke to Eric and Veronica at the listening session last night about a date change.

Please find time to call me or provide a phone number for me to reach out to you to discuss.

Thx in advance for your flexibility.

KEITH Baker

Executive Director

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Keithb@reconnectrondo.com

BUILD A BRIDGE TO BETTER

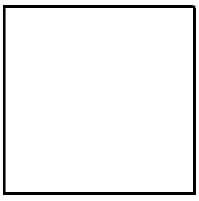
From: trahern crews <traherncrews@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 4:26:00 PM
To: Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com>
Cc: Renae Petersen <renaep@reconnectrondo.com>; Veronica Burt <veronica.burt@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Vang, Janie (CI-StPaul) <janie.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Re: Presentation

Will do.

Thank you

Trahern Crews

On Mon, Oct 20, 2025, 1:43 PM Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com> wrote:

> Hi Trahern,
>
> I just saw the agenda and looking forward to presenting. I will state up front that I am vacillating about whether this is the best date to present.
>
> I see that Our Streets is schedule also to present. Please call when able to talk so that I can best hear your thoughts and share experiences that brings forward my hesitation. Call me when you are able.
>
> 6515008877.
>
> Thx.
>
> **KEITH Baker**
>
> **Executive Director**
>
> 
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> 651.644.4926 (Answer Connect Service)
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> Keithb@reconnectrondo.com

BUILD A BRIDGE TO BETTER

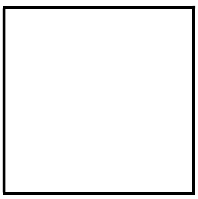
From: trahern crews <traherncrews@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 18, 2025 9:00 AM
To: Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com>
Subject: Re: Presentation

This is great! Yes it is in person and if you have a presentation please let me know so we can get it to Veronica before the meeting. We greatly appreciate you and Rondo Reconnect.

Thank you

Trahern Crews

On Sat, Oct 18, 2025, 9:51 AM Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com> wrote:

> Hi Trahern,
>
> Yes, it was good to see you as well. Happy to join the meeting Wednesday to present the work of ReConnect Rondo. Let me know if it is in-person or virtual – a lot time on the agenda including Q&A. I am looping Renae into this reply. If needed, she can follow up with any details.
>
> Thx.
>
> **KEITH Baker**
>
> **Executive Director**
>
> 

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Keithb@reconnectrondo.com

BUILD A BRIDGE TO BETTER

From: trahern crews <traherncrews@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 12:25 PM
To: Keith Baker <keithb@reconnectrondo.com>
Subject: Presentation

Hello Mr. Baker,

It was great seeing you at the Rondo leadership convening. I was reaching out to see if you or a representative from Rondo Reconnect could give a presentation at our Saint Paul Recovery Act Community meeting this Wednesday at 6pm.

Thank you

Trahern Crews