

CEDAR LAKE ROAD and LOUISIANA AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

Project History and Description:

Since 2013, the City of St. Louis Park has been implementing the Connect the Park initiative. This comprehensive Active Transportation Plan is aimed at making more livable neighborhoods by providing convenient, safe, equitable, and environment-focused ways for people to move around the City on a network of bikeways, sidewalks, and trails. Cedar Lake Road and Louisiana Avenue are the most critical and complicated links remaining in the City's long-term vision.

Both roadways are A-minor arterials, serving the entire northwest quadrant of the City, including at least 600 affordable housing units. They are used by over 25,000 vehicles daily since they intersect with three major freeways within the metropolitan area, 56-67% of the traffic is from outside of St. Louis Park. Thus, both roadway corridors are unique in that they provide regional movement of goods and connections to commerce, but also provide local connections to homes, schools, places of worship, and parks. Both Cedar Lake Road and Louisiana Avenue need modernization to provide equitable opportunities for transportation to underserved populations, improve neighborhood livability, and replace existing facilities at the end of their useful life.

An extensive public engagement process began in January 2022 to gather input and make decisions about a preferred alternative. Non traditional engagement approaches were taken to connect with underserved populations and community members that don't typically attend open houses. In total 600 comments were received and considered, resulting in selection of a preferred alternative.

The preferred alternative includes the replacement of aging pavements, new sidewalks, dedicated bicycle facilities, ADA accommodations, new bus pullouts, new LED street lighting, enhanced pedestrian crossings, modifications to existing traffic signals, and watermain replacement. A roundabout is proposed at the intersection of Cedar Lake Road and Louisiana Avenue. Additionally, proven traffic calming strategies such as raised medians, curb extensions, and streetscaping, will be introduced to manage vehicle speeds and to improve the experience for residents, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The infrastructure reconstruction and safety improvements included in these corridors will benefit all users; vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists, for years to come.

Project Benefits:

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- Roundabout at Cedar Lake Road/Louisiana Avenue promotes cleaner air by reducing vehicle emissions and delay
- Improved pedestrian safety, comfort, and transit access by providing sidewalks along both sides of roadway
- Provides enhanced pedestrian/ bicycle crossings at strategic intersections to improve their crossing comfort and safety

- Creates dedicated bicycle facilities for all ages and abilities; removing barriers and comfortably connecting people to common destinations and the region
- Provides ADA-compliant bus loading areas at all transit stops so riders don't wait in the roadway, improving safety and promoting transit use
- Provides bus pull-outs to improve corridor efficiency for vehicles and buses

- Addresses substandard lane merges and lane configurations resulting in vehicle crashes
- Provides ADA-compliant signals and necessary upgrades that improve pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle safety
- New LED roadway lighting will reduce energy use, improve driving conditions and promote visibility for all modes of transportation at night

APPLICANT: City of St. Louis Park	REQUESTED AWARD AMOUNT: \$16.6M
ROUTE: Cedar Lake Rd. and Louisiana Ave.	TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$29.1M
CITY WHERE PROJECT IS LOCATED: St. Louis Park	LOCAL MATCH: \$12.5M
COUNTY WHERE PROJECT IS LOCATED: Hennepin	



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PROJECT AREA MAP

