

# OXFORD AND LOUISIANA AREA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Encouraging community connection, preventing pollution and promoting climate resiliency



Video: Experience driving this route

📍 APPLICANT:	City of St. Louis Park	📍 COUNTY WHERE PROJECT IS LOCATED:	Hennepin
📍 AREA:	Southwest St. Louis Park	💰 REQUESTED AWARD AMOUNT:	\$6,500,000
📍 CITY WHERE PROJECT IS LOCATED:	St. Louis Park	💰 TOTAL PROJECT COST:	\$13,300,000



This project is needed to repair existing infrastructure, remove barriers to active transportation and transit, and promote environmental sustainability and climate preparedness. This project will:

1. Increase transportation access to under-served populations
  - a. The area is home to over 1,000 affordable housing units
  - b. 27 percent of residents in area identified as people of color in the 2020 census. This is high when compared to 22.8 percent citywide
  - c. Sidewalk construction will fill in gaps in the network creating connections where none exist today
  - d. Sidewalk construction will connect over 12,000 employees in the area to transit, both transit route 612 and the future Metro Green Line Extension stop making it easier and more attractive to use transit
2. Improve neighborhood livability and community connection
  - a. Creates connections to homes, Cedar Lake regional trail, local businesses and parks.
  - b. New roundabout at the intersection estimated to reduce vehicle emissions by 25%.
  - c. Air quality will be improved by safer access to walking, biking, and transit

3. Reduce downstream pollution and promote climate resiliency
  - a. Minnehaha Creek discharges into the Mississippi River, which provides nearly 20 million people with drinking water and supports a diversity of wildlife
  - b. Currently, the area drains directly into Minnehaha Creek, untreated
  - c. New infrastructure would remove pollutants prior to discharge into the creek, creating safer drinking water and habitat for those downstream
  - d. Building regional flood protection to remove critical infrastructure out of the flood zone, including Methodist Hospital and public roadways

These roadways were last constructed in 1973 and have far exceeded their design life. Reconstruction is necessary because routine maintenance activities such as bituminous overlays and crack seals are no longer cost-effective.

The total project cost is \$13.3 million. The city is requesting 50% of the project cost in state funds and will match the remainder with local funds. This project is included in the city's capital improvement plan.

## Public purpose:

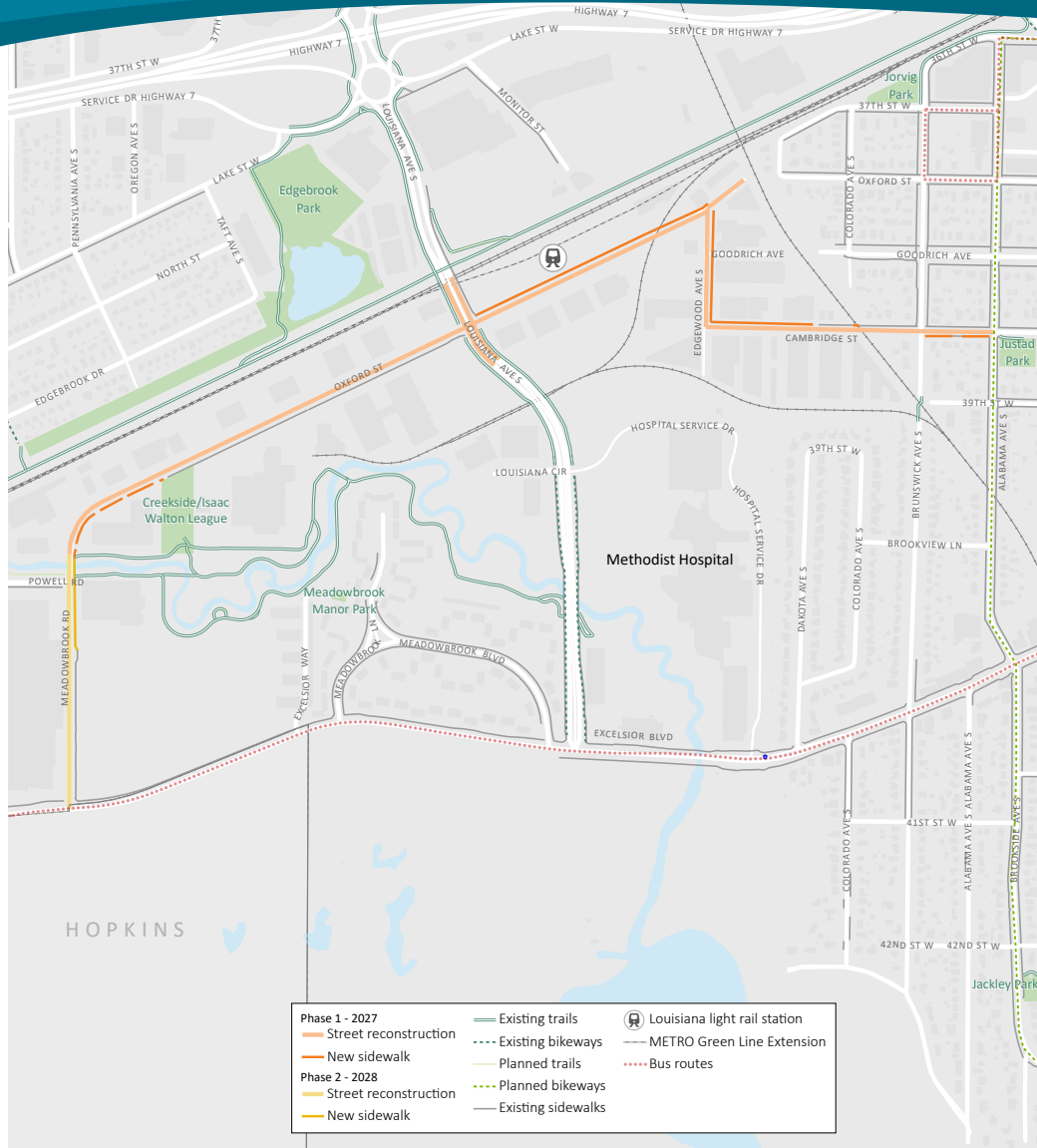
These roadways provide regional movement of goods and connections to commerce. They're currently used by almost 4,500 vehicles daily, with 83% of that traffic coming from outside of St. Louis Park. Providing local and regional connections to Highway 7 and Excelsior Boulevard. The project infrastructure reconstruction and improvements will significantly contribute to a state of good repair, reduce travel delays, create connections, and protect the environment.

## Project benefits:

- Repairs and modernizes roadways with regional and local significance.
- Enhances transit and pedestrian accessibility to Methodist Hospital, a major hospital serving the Minneapolis-St. Paul area located two blocks south of this project.
- New stormwater infrastructure would remove pollutants from stormwater.
- Provides flood storage, removing critical infrastructure out of the flood zone
- Removes barriers for sustainable, non-motorized transportation
- Supports equitable and affordable transportation alternatives
- Advances the city's goal of carbon neutrality by 2040
- Improves air quality for surrounding neighborhoods

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This area of the city is primarily zoned industrial, and planning for the redevelopment in preparation for light rail has been underway for the last ten years. Redevelopment of the private buildings will provide an economic benefit to area taxpayers along with a variety of housing options for people who would like to live in St. Louis Park. The new buildings will be more efficient, thus helping with the city's climate action goals. The road reconstruction and new sidewalk construction will help residents, employees, and visitors make their way around the city safely.

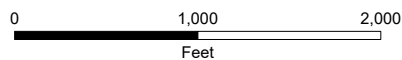


## Project improvements :

- Replacement of 1.67 miles of roadway pavement
- Construction of 0.75 miles of new sidewalk
- Construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Oxford St. and Louisiana Avenue
- Regional stormwater treatment and flood storage
- Crosswalk enhancements for people walking and rolling, including shorter crossing distances, raised pedestrian refuge islands, and pedestrian-actuated flashing beacons
- Operational and access management changes at intersections to improve efficiency and safety
- Modification of existing sidewalks to meet ADA requirements and operation needs
- Replacement of existing street lighting with new LED systems and enhanced lighting in conflict areas
- Public utility repair and replacement

## Roadway segments included :

- Meadowbrook Road from Excelsior Boulevard to the Meadowbrook bridge
- Redecking of the Meadowbrook bridge over Minnehaha Creek
- Oxford Street from Minnehaha Creek Bridge to Edgewood Avenue
- Edgewood Avenue from Oxford Street to Cambridge Street
- Cambridge Street from Edgewood Avenue to Alabama Avenue
- Louisiana Avenue from 100 ft north of the intersection with Oxford Street to 300 ft south of the intersection



Prepared by:



**St. Louis Park**  
MINNESOTA