CITY OF ROSEVILLE SNELLING AVENUE PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE BRIDGE

DOCUMENTATION OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE





Figure 1



THE REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SNELLING AVENUE PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE BRIDGE



Pedestrian Bridge Concept 1
Regional Transportation Project Concept Design
City of Roseville

Figure 1

The City of Roseville, located in Ramsey County, is a first ring suburb of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Roseville is home to 36,254 residents, 15,554 households, and over 34,000 jobs within the community. Roseville shares borders with 10 different communities including St. Paul and Minneapolis and has the principal arterials of Hwy. 36 and I-35W corridors as well County Road minor arterials that traverse through the city. As a result of its location and amenities, Roseville is a regional destination for jobs, shopping, and recreation.

Snelling Ave, (Trunk Highway 51), runs down the middle of the City of Roseville providing a vital regional link through the heart of St Paul and up into Arden Hills and the ring road freeway system of Interstate 694. It provides a key "system to system" interchange at TH 36 which provides regional access to the Rosedale shopping center, Har Mar Mall and a link to the first Bus Rapid Transit line in Minnesota and ultimately the State Fair Grounds and Allianz Field, home of the Minnesota United professional soccer club.

Snelling Ave carries over 46,000 vehicles per day over TH 36. Given the amount of traffic on Snelling Ave and the vehicles that travel between Snelling and TH 36, this interchange was constructed as a "system to system" interchange with a full clover leaf interchange design. With the freeway style ramps and loops along Snelling Ave, there is no opportunity to provide

access for non-motorized traffic, such as pedestrians and bikes, along Snelling Ave as it crosses TH 36.

However, there is significant demand for pedestrian and bike access along this route. Rosedale Mall, a vital regional mall, is located in the northwest corner of the Snelling and 36 interchange area. Another regional retail and food destination is Har Mar Mall located in the southeast corner. Add to that significant high density developments on the south side of TH 36 and growing high density developments on the north side of TH 36, including over 500 units of affordable housing at County Road C which will be occupied over the next two years, and the potential of hundreds of multi-family housing units on the Rosedale Mall property, it is clear that there is demand for a trail crossing.

Currently, pedestrians and bicyclists must walk over half a mile east or west of Snelling to cross TH 36, and then return another half mile to get back to Snelling Ave. This distance does tempt people to cross TH 36 on Snelling, along the vehicle lanes, or in the narrow median area. Ultimately, they must cross the expressway traffic traveling at speeds of 50 mph or more, to get back to a sidewalk or trail.

As the City, County and State work to provide more pedestrian and bike facilities, as transit facilities grow and multi-use development around the area increases, more and more demand is created for a non-motorized crossing along Snelling Ave. The project is estimated to cost \$16 million, which includes project planning and design, easement and right-of-way acquisition and construction costs.

Roseville as a Regional Shopping Destination

Data received in a 2022 report by Evironics Analysis commissioned by the City of Roseville indicates that retail sales, including food and beverage sales, totals approximately \$1.33 billion annually. In its model, Envrionics show that overall sales are significantly more than what the demand by Roseville's residents for these goods were, making Roseville a major regional shopping destination. Rosedale Center alone has 1.3 million square feet of retail uses and has over 14 million visitors annually. There are 1.5 million people within fifteen miles of Roseville. Based on all of these factors, non-residents generate significant activity across all retail sectors and therefore Roseville has to provide infrastructure (utilities, local roads, traffic control, pathways) and service for these businesses that serve non-city residents with city resources.

Given the number of shoppers and consumers that come to Roseville on a daily basis, the pedestrian and bike bridge is a way that visitors, customers, and employees can access these uses through non-motorized travel options.

Employment in Roseville

US Census Data from 2019 shows that Roseville's nearly 1,500 businesses create 34,803 jobs in Roseville. Of that number, 33,246 (or 95%) were not residents of Roseville. This data shows

that Roseville is a major regional employment center, and that Roseville serves over 65,000 persons when combining daytime and nighttime populations.



Due to the high concentration of jobs in Roseville, many persons that work in Roseville utilize the City's trails and pathways for enjoyment and for access to stores, restaurants and transit services.

Regional Transportation Network in Roseville

A significant portion of traffic in Roseville originates from outside of its boundaries. The following table shows the current traffic volumes and those forecasted for 2040.

	Current ADT	2040
		Projected ADT
TH 36	91,000	96,000
I-35W	155,000	162,000
Snelling Ave (TH 51)	45,000	46,000
Lexington Ave (CSAH 50)	16,800	19,000
Rice Street (CSAH 49)	19,400	22,000
Fairview Ave (CSAH 48)	23,000	24,000

Roseville is served by 15 fixed and 6 express Metro Transit bus routes including the Bus Rapid Transit Route A along Snelling Ave and the Rosedale Transit Center.

Metro Transit bus routes bring in numerous non-residents to shop and work in Roseville. The construction of the Snelling Ave pedestrian and bicycle bridge will allow transit riders greater connection to shopping and employment areas and to other transit routes

Leisure and Recreation Opportunities in Roseville

The City of Roseville maintains and operates 32 parks that contain 679 acres of recreation and open space and 67 miles of trails and walkways. The City's Parks and Recreation Department offers more than 1,000 recreation programs and events that serve the greater Roseville area.

Pre-pandemic, the Roseville Parks and Recreation Department brought over 56,000 residents and non-residents together for community-wide events. The City's Cedarholm Golf Course has over 20,000 rounds of golf played annually. Over 30,000 people used our park building facilities either through rentals or recreational programming. The City's Harriet Alexander Nature Center and Muriel Sahlin Arboretum have over 20,000 visitors during the year that visit to enjoy the beauty of nature. The Guidant John Rose Minnesota OVAL is a facility that serves the entire state, provides public skating opportunities for over 20,000 people a year and hosts national and international speed skating and bandy competitive events.

The construction of the Snelling Ave pedestrian and bicycle bridge will provide residents and non-residents alike greater connectivity and access to city parks, facilities, and trails.