

BRUCE VENTO REGIONAL TRAIL EXTENSION

PHASE 1 – Buerkle Road to Hoffman Road/Highway 61

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project name:

Phase 1 Bruce Vento Regional Trail Extension – Buerkle Road to Hoffman Road/Highway 61

Total project cost:

\$10,000,000

Requested state bond amount:

\$5,000,000

Requested Ramsey County funds:

\$1,000,000

Approved federal funds (FY 25):

\$4,000,000



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Bruce Vento Regional Trail corridor is thirteen miles in length and extends from the east side of downtown Saint Paul to the north county line in White Bear Township. The southern seven-mile segment of the regional trail was completed in 2005 from downtown Saint Paul to Buerkle Road in White Bear Lake on former Burlington Northern Santa Fe railway. The remaining six miles of trail is still undeveloped due to active rail use.

This project will construct a 2.7-mile extension of the Bruce Vento Regional Trail between Buerkle Road and the intersection of Hoffman Road/Highway 61 in White Bear Lake. This project provides an alternate trail alignment in an active railway corridor, completes approximately one-half of a major gap in both the Regional Bike Transportation Network and National US Bike Route 41, and extends through the cities of Gem Lake, White Bear Lake, White Bear Township and Vadnais Heights.

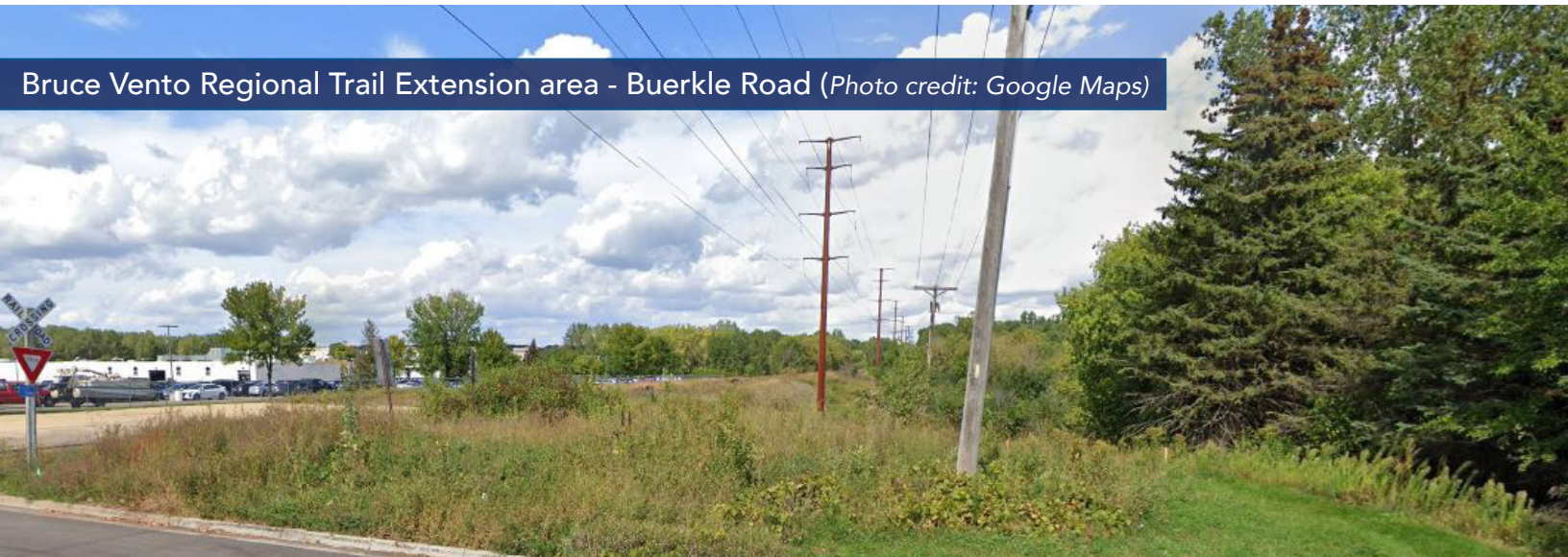
Significant access barriers will be eliminated from industrial areas and major vehicular transportation routes, providing a new multi-modal trail. The trail will provide connections to other regional and local trails such as the Highway 96 Regional Trail, Lakes Links Regional Trail, Gateway Regional Trail, planned South Shore Trail, and future connection to the proposed Hardwood Creek Regional Trail extension in Washington County at County Road J. In addition, the trail will connect populations near the southern Saint Paul segment of the existing Bruce Vento Trail which extends through highly urban and concentrated areas of poverty making it a regionally important connection that will directly benefit diverse populations.

BENEFITS OF THE TRAIL EXTENSION

- Completes approximately three miles of a six-mile gap in the regional and national trail system.
- Eliminates several barriers and provides north-south multi-use trail and pedestrian facilities in an area that does not have facilities.
- Connects two areas – both with racially diverse populations and poverty, with substantial concentrations of youth, elderly, and residents with disabilities – for increased access to multi-modal transportation facilities.
- Provides connections to other local and regional trail systems.
- Reduces the risk of crashes and conflicts between ped/bikes and vehicles.
- Increased access to multi-modal transportation facilities, schools, places of work, shopping and local/regional park and trail facilities.



Bruce Vento Regional Trail Extension area - Buerkle Road (Photo credit: Google Maps)



JENNIFER O'ROURKE

Director of Government Relations

651-724-3461 • jennifer.orourke@ramseycounty.us

MARK MCCABE

Director of Parks & Recreation

651-363-3777 • mark.mccabe@ramseycounty.us