



**Ramsey
County
Trail
Proposal**

**A 100 mile
regional trail network
linking neighborhoods,
communities,
and counties**

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Ramsey County Regional Trail Network

The Vision

A network of regional trails that provide safe pedestrian and bicycle transportation routes linking communities and neighborhoods within and adjacent to Ramsey County.

Ramsey County's proposed comprehensive regional trail system includes connecting the existing 56 miles of trails with the proposed 44 new miles of trail to create a network that will:

- connect every city and township within the County
- extend beyond county borders into adjacent counties
- offer alternative modes of travel
- build exercise into daily life
- promote civic pride

The estimated cost of completing the remaining 44 miles is \$33 million.



Background

At the request of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and its Regional Rail Authority, the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department identified a comprehensive network of regional trails within the County. The trail network is based on the Metropolitan Council Regional Park System Plan - 2030 and Beyond.

The trail system includes existing local trails that function as arterials, the Gateway segment of the Willard Munger State Trail, and corridor trails within selected regional parks. Collectively this system encompasses 96 miles of paved trails that interconnect the municipalities within Ramsey County. Many of the trails extend beyond the borders of the County into Washington, Anoka, Dakota and Hennepin Counties.

In conjunction with the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit planning, Ramsey County will work with the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis to identify a bicycle/pedestrian trailway that promotes non-motorized movement within that corridor.

The **Union Depot intermodal transit hub** will support bicycle commuters.

The project also includes development of a GIS-based trail mapping system to guide users through the network.



Trail Partners

This regional trail system has been reviewed and endorsed by Ramsey County municipalities and the County's Parks and Recreation Commission.

Throughout the planning process, the shared responsibility for implementation of the trail system was recognized. Regional trails identified in the plan are owned and operated by Ramsey County, the State of Minnesota, and individual municipalities. This initiative focuses on connecting and coordinating funding efforts for the acquisition and development of the regional trail system. No change in ownership or operating authority for the trail segments is contemplated. The implementation of the trail corridors is a joint effort with Ramsey County and all the participating partners. Ramsey County will take the lead role in securing the appropriations and providing sub-grants. Once the trails are constructed, operations and maintenance for individual trail segments will remain the responsibility of the participating partner.

Request

Ramsey County, along with its municipal partners, requests \$33 million to plan, acquire, and develop the remaining 44 miles of regional trails throughout the County.





Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Jan Parker 651-266-8350
District 2, Legislative Chair

Commissioner Toni Carter 651-266-8366
District 4, Legislative Vice-Chair

Commissioner Tony Bennett 651-266-8350
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Commissioner Jim McDonough 651-266-8350
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Commissioner Rafael E. Ortega 651-266-8350
District 5, Regional Rail Authority Chair

Commissioner Janice Rettman 651-266-8360
District 3

Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt 651-266-8350
District 7

Ramsey County Manager
David Twa 651-266-8000

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation
Greg Mack, Director 651-748-2500

Intergovernmental Relations
Terry Speiker 651-266-8012
Cell: 612-759-1310

Nick Riley 651-266-8032
Cell: 651-485-7601

