

Regional snapshot

Dakota County

December 2009

Transit and Transportation

Significant progress has been made in several key corridors throughout the region, including the opening of commuter service on the Northstar Line into downtown Minneapolis.

In addition, the region is beginning to experience its first bus-rapid transit project along Cedar Avenue and I-35W from Lakeville into downtown Minneapolis. The project is part of congestion relief efforts under the federal Urban Partnership Agreement, which brought \$133 million in federal funds for improvements along I-35W, including a high-occupancy toll and transit lane. New express bus service from Lakeville, provided by the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) and Metro Transit, began earlier this fall.

MVTA provides a significant portion of transit service in Dakota County.

Projects in several transit corridors throughout the region are also moving forward. The Central Corridor project is moving into the final design phase and is expected to begin construction in 2010, with revenue service

At a Glance

Total population	385,971
Median age	35.6
Population under age 5	27,503
Adult population	280,961
Population age 65 and older	31,555
Total housing units	153,326
Owner-occupied homes	177,077
Average household size	2.61
Average family size	3.11
Population in the labor force	226,241
Mean travel time to work, in minutes	23.5
Median annual household income	\$72,393

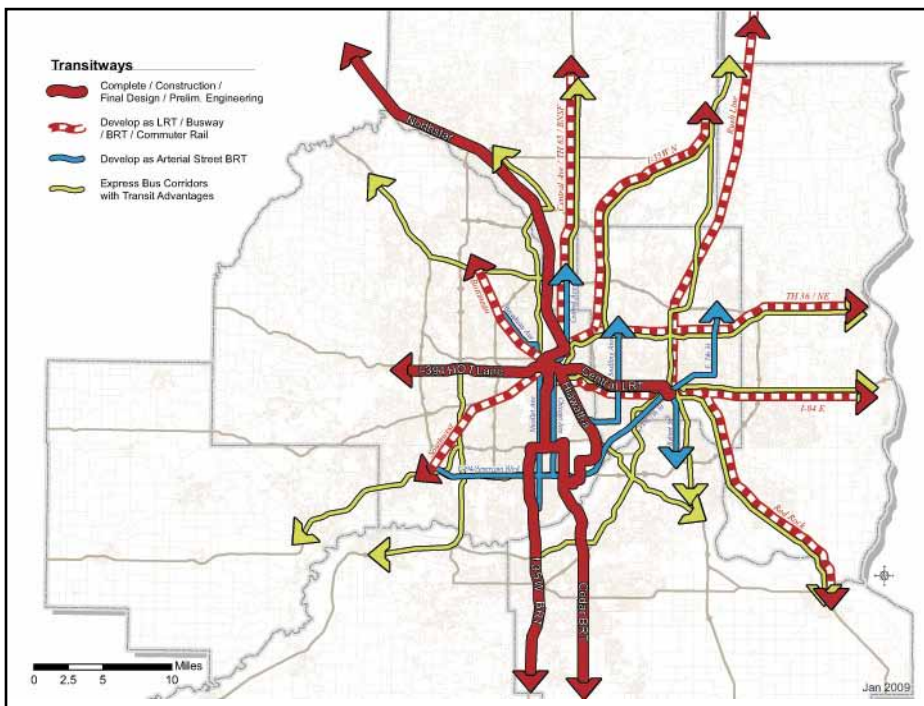
Source: American Community Survey 3-year estimates, 2005-2007, U.S. Census Bureau

beginning in 2014. Hennepin County has chosen a preferred route for the Southwest light-rail transit line, which will next be considered by the Metropolitan Council. Several other corridor studies are also underway throughout the region.

Other transit corridors identified in the area include Highway 52 and the Red Rock corridor, Robert St., I-35E, Highway 55, and Highway 13.

Regional Parks

Minnesota Land and Legacy Amendment funding included \$904,000 from the Parks and Trails fund to construct 5.2 miles of the Mississippi River Regional Trail (from South St. Paul to Hastings) and 1.1 mile of the North Urban Regional Trail (connecting Lilydale, Mendota Heights, West St. Paul, and South St. Paul). These funds will leverage \$2.7 million in federal grants and \$845,000 from Dakota County for these projects.



Metropolitan Council Representatives – Dakota County

- Rick Aguilar**, District 13 (Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Sunfish Lake, West St. Paul, and portions of St. Paul)
- Dan Wolter**, District 15 (Burnsville, Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul, and the northernmost three-quarters of Eagan)
- Wendy Wulff**, District 16 (the remaining Dakota County communities not in Districts 13 or 15)

Metropolitan Council District Dialogues

Community Development

Communities throughout the region submitted their 2030 comprehensive plan updates in 2008, and the Council is reviewing those plans throughout this year.

Reviewed by Council

- Apple Valley
- Castle Rock Twp
- Dakota County
- Douglas Twp
- Empire Twp
- Farmington
- Greenvale Twp
- Hampton
- Hampton Twp
- Lakeville
- Marshen Twp
- Miesville
- Nininger Twp
- Randolph Twp
- Ravenna Twp
- Rosemount
- Sunfish Lake
- Vermillion
- Waterford Twp
- West St. Paul

Review Process Underway

- Burnsville
- Eagan
- Eureka Twp
- Hastings
- Inver Grove Heights
- Mendota
- Randolph
- South St. Paul
- Vermillion Twp

Livable Communities Grants

Communities throughout the seven-county metropolitan area have received funds through one of several Livable Communities grant programs. These programs provide funding for new developments or redevelopment projects that provide affordable housing, link housing with nearby jobs and services, help preserve affordable housing, and clean up polluted land for redevelopment.

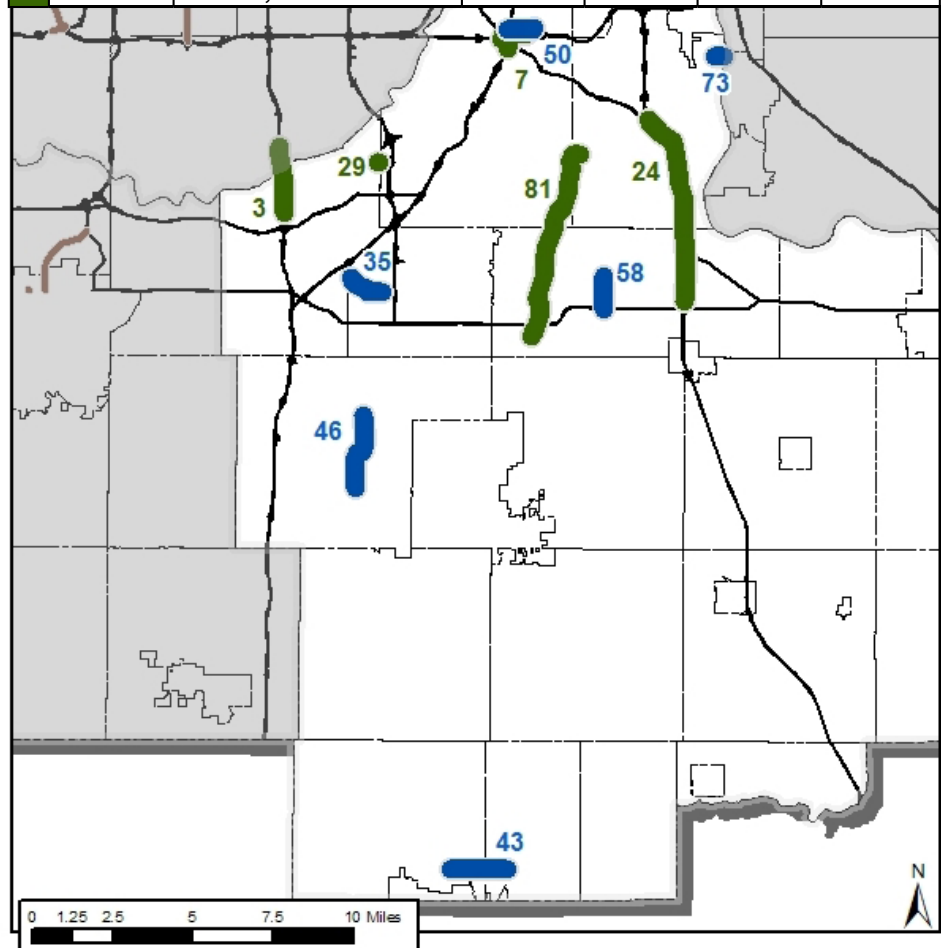
Since 1996, the Council has granted 54 Livable Communities awards, worth more than \$20 million, to Dakota County communities.

Community	Grants	Total
Apple Valley	8 awards	\$4,214,078
Burnsville	5 awards	\$4,582,317
Farmington	4 awards	\$1,290,030
Hastings	8 awards	\$1,551,126
Inver Grove Heights	1 award	\$195,900
Lakeville	6 awards	\$1,712,717
Mendota Heights	4 awards	\$1,523,400
Rosemount	4 awards	\$1,805,500
South St. Paul	9 awards	\$1,617,680
West St. Paul	5 awards	\$1,636,750

Recovery Act Transportation Projects

Projects in Dakota County will receive nearly \$19 million in regional and state funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

ID	Location	Project	Total Cost	State ARRA	Region ARRA	Other Funds
3	Burnsville & Bloomington	I-35W – Rebuild lighting system from Cliff Rd to 106th St	\$481,500	\$481,500	\$0	\$0
7	Eagan	I-494 – modify interchange on eastbound and westbound ramps to southbound I-35E	\$1,284,000	\$1,284,000	\$0	\$0
24	Inver Grove Heights & Rosemount	Hwy 52 – concrete rehabilitation and road resurfacing from County Rd 42 north to Hwy 55	\$6,232,530	\$6,232,530	\$0	\$0
29	Eagan	Hwy 13 – rebuild traffic signal at County Rd 30	\$285,000	\$285,000	\$0	\$0
35	Apple Valley	140th St W – road resurfacing from 134th St to Guild Ave/ Gardenview	\$701,250	\$0	\$561,000	\$140,250
43	Greenvale & Waterford Twps	County Rd 96 – reconstruct from Eveleth Ave to Hwy 3, intersection improvements at County Rd 23, railroad crossing improvements	\$2,403,019	\$0	\$1,890,214	\$512,802
46	Lakeville	Holyoke/ Highview Ave – road resurfacing from Heritage Dr to Dodd Blvd	\$948,000	\$0	\$853,200	\$94,800
50	Mendota Heights	Mendota Heights Rd – construct intersection control at Lake Dr and Visitation Dr	\$400,000	\$0	\$310,000	\$90,000
58	Rosemount	Akron Ave – reconstruct road from County Rd 42 to Bonaire Path	\$3,700,000	\$0	\$2,960,000	\$740,000
73	Inver Grove Heights	Rock Island Swing Bridge – structure enhancement over Mississippi	\$1,300,000	\$0	\$1,300,000	\$0
81	Inver Grove Heights & Rosemount	Hwy 3 – road resurfacing and guardrail, shoulder and drainage improvements south of County Rd 42 and Hwy 149	\$3,135,100	\$3,135,100	\$0	\$0



■ State ARRA Funded Projects
 ■ Regional ARRA Funded Projects
 ■ State and Regional ARRA Projects
 ■ Projects outside Dakota County