



Minnesota Department of Transportation
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
2011 INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT APPLICATION



1. CONTACT INFORMATION
Refer to guidance

1A. Applicant:

1st Name Last
 Organization Title
 Address:
 City State Zip
 Phone Number Email

1B. Sponsor

1st Name Last
 Organization Title
 Address:
 City State Zip
 Phone Number Email

1C. MPO

1st Name Last
 Organization Title

2. BACKGROUND
Refer to guidance

2A. Location

City County Mn/DOT District

2B. Brief project description (infrastructure)

2C. Project Cost

SRTS Funding Request Total Project Cost

2D. School(s)

School Name	Student Pop	Grades	Students to Benefit
Ramsey Elementary	1,179	K-5	200

2E. Roadway Information

Roadway Name	Road Authority (town, city, county, state)	Contact Person
CSAH 5	Anoka County	Douglas Fischer
CSAH 57	Anoka County	Douglas Fischer



3. PROJECT INFORMATION

3A. Provide a brief description of the current condition and identify problems, risks and obstacles that impede safe travel to school. Explain how the problems were identified and summarize relevant supporting documents (relevant planning documents, maps, surveys, and/or crash data) that demonstrates need. Attach at least 1 map per location that identifies routes to school and problem areas.

The City of Ramsey, in partnership with Ramsey Elementary School and Anoka County Highway Department, is seeking to fill three gaps in the trail network serving the Ramsey Elementary School area. All three trail gaps are on high traffic arterial streets within a two-mile radius of the school property and in the area with the city's highest residential densities. This K-5 public school is located at 15000 Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5 in the southeastern portion of the community, approximately two miles north of U.S. Highways 10/169. For the 2010/2011 school year, Ramsey Elementary School reported 1,179 total students in grades K-5.

Ramsey Elementary School is located in a residential area with primarily single-family homes and townhomes surrounding the school in all directions. Since Ramsey has a typical suburban street pattern with limited through-streets, travel routes to Ramsey Elementary School are limited to just a few streets. The only street access to/from the school site is from Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5. All students walking and bicycling to the school must travel along Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5, which currently has two trail gaps to the south between Sunwood Drive NW and Saint Francis Blvd NW/Hwy 47. These two trail gaps are located between ½ mile and one mile from the school property. The highest priority trail gap is on the west side of Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5 beginning south of Sunwood Drive NW. The second trail gap is on the east side of Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5, north of the intersection with Saint Francis Blvd NW/Hwy 47. Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5, in addition to being a County Highway, is designated as an A Minor Arterial roadway. Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5's traffic count was 9,200 average annual daily trips (AADT) in 2009 and projected to grow to approximately 12,000 AADT by 2030. This trail segment would also connect to an existing traffic signal with a crosswalk at Saint Francis Blvd NW/Hwy 47 which had 22,600 AADT in 2009.

The third trail gap is located approximately 1.5 miles from the school property along Sunfish Lake Blvd NW/CSAH 57, south of its intersection with Sunwood Drive NW. Sunfish Lake Blvd NW/CSAH 57, in addition to being a County Highway, is designated as an A Minor Arterial roadway. Since this street is the only north-south through-street west of Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 57, it is an important north-south travel route to the school from the neighborhoods to the southwest. Sunfish Lake Blvd NW/CSAH 57's traffic count was 5,400 AADT in 2009 and projected to grow to approximately 11,000 AADT in 2030.

The City has gathered data regarding traffic accidents and citations occurring on Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5 in the vicinity of Ramsey Elementary School. From 2000-2007, the City recorded 72 accidents occurring between Alpine Drive NW/153rd Avenue (north) and Sunwood Drive NW (south). This number includes 16 traffic accidents reported for the street segment directly in front of the school property. From 2003-2007, the City recorded almost 400 traffic citations on Nowthen Boulevard/CSAH 5 between Alpine Drive NW/153rd Avenue (north) and Sunwood Drive NW (south). Essentially half of these citations were reported for the street segment directly in front of the school property.



3. PROJECT INFORMATION

3B. Describe the proposed infrastructure project and how it addresses the problems in question 3A. Provide information on the constructability of the infrastructure and provide any typical sections or plans if applicable.

In order to provide a safe travel route for students walking and biking to Ramsey Elementary School, this project seeks to construct new trails, ten feet in width and nearly one mile in length, which will fill three major trail gaps existing along important travel routes to the school. These new trail segments will be located along Nowthen Boulevard NW/CSAH 5 and Sunfish Lake Boulevard NW/CSAH 57. For both streets, there is sufficient existing public right-of-way to construct the new trail entirely within the public right-of-way.

The design of the trail will be in compliance with MNDOT, CSAH and ADA standards. The project will be in compliance with NEPA with minor impacts to the environment. Care will be taken to remove only necessary vegetation, including bending the trail if needed and feasible to avoid existing trees. All construction will be within existing public right-of-way and no water resources will be impacted. The contract will include sediment control during construction and all landscaping will be properly restored.

Since Ramsey has a typical suburban street pattern with limited through-streets, travel routes to Ramsey Elementary School are limited to just a few streets. Both of the north-south streets that are potential walking and biking routes to the school are high traffic arterial streets. Filling in these three proposed trail gaps along the only two north-south through-streets in the vicinity of the school will significantly improve the safety of students walking and biking to school. These three trail projects will complete the trail network for the neighborhoods south of the school and provide safe and convenient walking and biking routes for students living in these neighborhoods. Having complete, visible trail segments will reduce barriers for walking and biking, and encourage families to utilize non-motorized means of travel regularly to and from the school.

In addition to designing and constructing the new trail, the City of Ramsey will assume year-around maintenance of the new trail. Maintenance responsibilities include providing snow removal during winter months. The City's policy is to have snow cleared before children make their way to school within a two-mile walking zone around each school.

This sidewalk project is an example of the City's efforts to address the community's concerns about the safety and convenience of walking and biking in the community. The City of Ramsey completed a community survey in 2002 that found an increasing interest in trail usage. This finding led to changes in the Transportation and Park & Recreation elements of the Comprehensive Plan which established policies to promote on-going sidewalk and trail system planning and implementation as an alternative transportation option. In 2007, the City was awarded a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota to conduct a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) in conjunction with the City's 2008 update of its Comprehensive Plan. The HIA was completed in 2008 and the recommendations were used to develop many of the Goals and Strategies in the updated Comprehensive Plan in various chapters. A Housing Survey of residents was also recently completed and it found substantial support for increasing neighborhood walkability but concerns about traffic speed and pedestrian safety were raised.



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4. PARTNERSHIP

Information about SRTS partnerships. Who and what organizations are participating in the planning, coordinating, and monitoring of the project to ensure its success? Provide a letter of concurrence or agreement from each partner that describes their role and responsibilities.

1. City of Ramsey	5.
2. Anoka County	6.
3. Ramsey Elementary School	7.
4.	8.

5. PROJECT TIMELINE

Use the Project Authorization Guide to plan out the project timeline

Date	Milestone
10/21/2011	Submit Before - SRTS parent survey and in-class student tally*
	FHWA authorization to proceed with design (1-3 weeks)
	All NEPA requirements met (1-2 months)
	Prepare construction documents (hire professional assistance if necessary).
01/30/2012	Agreement between Mn/DOT and the Sponsor prepared(1-2 months)
03/31/2012	Obtain necessary permits.
04/15/2012	Submit construction documents to DSAE for approval.
	Plan approval by DSAE and SALT.
	FHWA authorization to proceed with construction. (1-3 weeks)
05/15/2012	Project let by competitive bid DCP process. (min 5 weeks)
	Award Contract
06/30/2012	Project work commences.
08/30/2012	Project work completed.
10/31/2012	Submit After - SRTS parent survey and in-class student tally*
11/30/2012	Project bills submitted to District State Aid Engineer
06/15/2013	Project inspected and closed out. (Completed by 12/31/2013)

*Parent survey and in-class student tally should be collected and submitted to the National Center for SRTS before any SRTS project activities take place and after the project is completed.

6. PROJECT COSTS

Use the form below to breakdown the major costs of the project and attach a document with detailed cost breakdowns. A sample is provided in the application guide.

Estimated Costs				
Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Requested SRTS Funds
Pre-Construction				
Preliminary Design	1.00	Lump Sum	27,227.00	27227.00
Planning	NA	NA	NA	0.00
All Other	1.00	Lump Sum	2,000.00	2000.00
Construction				
Construct Engineering	1.00	Lump Sum	24,752.00	24752.00
All Other	1.00	Estimate	247,521.00	247521.00

SRTS is a reimbursable program therefore funds requested must be available upfront for use on the project then reimbursed through invoices during the course of the project.

Total 301500.00



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7. EVALUATION

The school(s) benefiting from the program is(are) required to collect data before and after the SRTS program using the National Center for Safe Routes to School student travel tally and parent survey. Applicants will be disqualified if the school does not participate in the surveys. Please check the box below to indicate your intent.

- Yes, the school(s) understand and agree to conduct the surveys
- No, the school(s) will not agree to conduct the surveys

8. REQUIRED SIGNATURE

Signature

Applications must be signed and reviewed by an authorized representative of the applicant. By signing this document, the applicant affirms that the statements contained in the application package are true and complete to the best of the applicant's knowledge and assumes responsibility for securing the necessary permits and following all Federal, Mn/DOT, and State Aid design standards.

Applicant Signature (required)

Name

Date

Filing Instructions

The 2011 SRTS Application Form is a Formatta form and is designed to be completed on your local workstation. The procedure is to download the form and instructions from the Mn/DOT Safe Routes To School website <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/index.html> and save it to your local system. You will also need a small, free application called 'Filler' that allows you to open and complete the form. Filler is available here: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/stateaid/formatta/FillerSetupNR.exe>. As you download Filler, accept the License Agreement. Accept the Default Destination Location. After the software installs a blank Registration form appears. Ignore this form by clicking the X to close. You will only need to download and installed filler once for each workstation.

Please try to be brief and concise when completing the application. Do not include non-relevant information or attachments.

When the electronic application is completed please ensure that you have saved it to your local drive or server. Print the application and sign and date on the signature line above. Send the completed electronic application attached to an e-mail to SafeRoutes.DOT@state.mn.us

Use the US mail to send 5 copies of the printed application, maps, letters of concurrence, letters of support and other relevant attachments to:

Mao Yang
Mn/DOT State Aid Division
395 John Ireland Blvd, Mail Stop 500
St. Paul, MN 55155

Electronic and paper copies of the applications are due to Mn/DOT State Aid Division by June 15, 2011 at 4:30 PM CDT.

If you have questions about the program or application please submit them to:
SafeRoutes.DOT@state.mn.us
or call 651-366-3827



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Applicant Signature (required)

[Handwritten Signature]

14 June 2011

Name

Date

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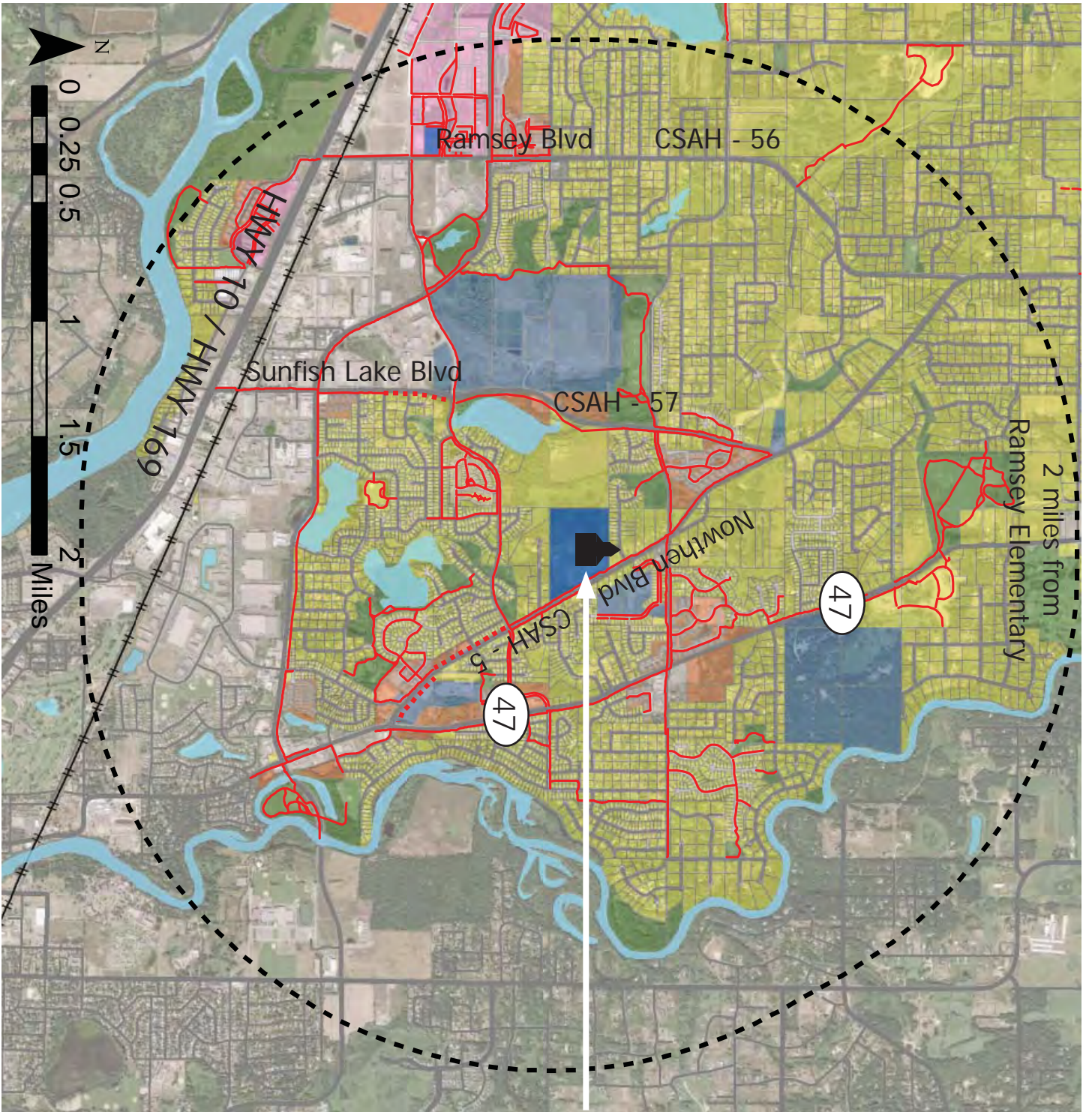
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Ramsey Elementary School Routes to School Grant Attachments

- Maps
 - Project Location
 - Site Maps - one for each segment
- Letters of Concurrence
 - City of Ramsey
 - Anoka County
 - Ramsey Elementary School
- Budget
- MPO Notification Letter



Ramsey Elementary

Safe Routes to School Ramsey School District - Ramsey, MN Ramsey Elementary School

- Legend**
- Trails & Sidewalks
 - Existing
 - Proposed
 - Planned Land Use**
 - Single Family Residential
 - Multi Family Residential
 - Mixed Use
 - Parks
 - Public (including schools)



- Legend**
- Trails & Sidewalks**
- Existing
 - - - Proposed
- Planned Land Use**
- Single Family Residential
 - Multi Family Residential
 - Mixed Use
 - Parks
 - Public (including schools)

Safe Routes to School

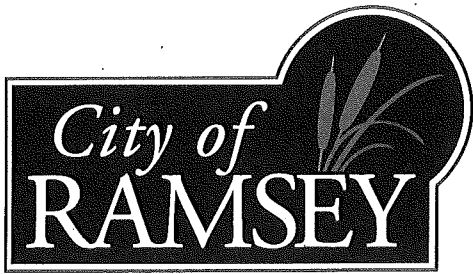
Ramsey School District - Ramsey, MN
 Ramsey Elementary School



- Legend**
- Trails & Sidewalks**
- Existing
 - - - Proposed
- Planned Land Use**
- Single Family Residential
 - Multi Family Residential
 - Mixed Use
 - Parks
 - Public (including schools)

Safe Routes to School

Ramsey School District - Ramsey, MN
 Ramsey Elementary School



7550 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, Minnesota 55303
City Hall: 763-427-1410 • Fax: 763-427-5543
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

June 7, 2011

Ms. Mao Yang
State Aid Division
Transportation Building
395 John Ireland Boulevard, Mail Stop 500
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. Yang,

Please accept this letter of concurrence as a demonstration of my support of the Safe Routes to School Grant being submitted by the City of Ramsey. As the Public Works Director for the City of Ramsey, those few missing segment of trail connections within the two mile area surrounding Ramsey Elementary School are of particular concern – and we appreciate this opportunity to truly provide Safe Routes to School.

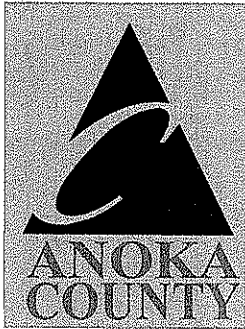
The City of Ramsey has taken the lead in the development of this application. The City has coordinated with Ramsey Elementary School and Anoka County Highway Department in the identification of the projects and preparing the cost estimates for each segment.

If our grant is selected, (or portions thereof), the City of Ramsey will take the lead in implementing the project. Ramsey will oversee the engineering, design and construction of the project. The City is also responsible for meeting all of the grant requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our grant. We look forward to improving the safety of children walking and biking to school. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 763-433-9825 or email at bolson@ci.ramsey.mn.us

Sincerely,

Brian Olson,
Public Works Director/Principal City Engineer



COUNTY OF ANOKA

Public Services Division

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1440 BUNKER LAKE BLVD. NW, ANDOVER, MINNESOTA 55304
(763) 862-4200 FAX (763) 862-4201

June 10, 2011

Mr. Brian Olson
Public Works Director
City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

This letter is being submitted by the Anoka County Highway Department in support of the City of Ramsey's application for the Safe Routes to School grant. The Highway Department recognizes the importance of getting children to and from their homes and their schools in a safe manner. The county also recognizes the public health implications of children not getting enough exercise.

The Highway Department will work with the school district and the city to make improvements to CSAH 5 and CSAH 57 in the vicinity of Ramsey Elementary School. The City of Ramsey has asked for input from the county on potential improvements along CSAH 5 and CSAH 57 as part of developing its grant application.

The proposed trail near Ramsey Elementary School in the City of Ramsey will be constructed near a high speed roadway and may cause an unsafe situation for users. Although the County supports this grant application, the city shall ensure that all applicable safety and design standards are used in designing and constructing this project.

We believe that the proposed improvements along CSAH 5 and CSAH 57 in the vicinity of Ramsey Elementary School will provide a better opportunity for students to walk to school. Unfortunately, budgets are tight, and projects are prioritized. A grant from the Safe Routes to School program for Ramsey Elementary would enable the county to address at least one of the locations where these signs may be successfully implemented.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Fischer, P.E.
Anoka County Engineer



RAMSEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BELIEVE! ACHIEVE! SUCCEED!

Jeff Clusiau, Principal

15000 Nowthen Boulevard Ramsey, MN 55303 763-506-4000 TTY: 763-506-4019 Fax: 763-506-4003 www.anoka.k12.mn.us/ramsey

June 7, 2011
Ms. Mao Yang
State Aid Division
Transportation Bldg
395 John Ireland Blvd.
Mail Stop 500
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. Yang,

I am writing to express my support of the Safe Routes to School Grant being submitted by the City of Ramsey. As the principal of Ramsey Elementary School in Anoka-Hennepin School District, I agree that the trail gaps being proposed to be addressed are significant safety concerns for children walking or biking to school.

While the City has taken the lead in the development of the application, both the school district's Director of Transportation and myself have been in multiple conversations with staff to discuss what changes would improve the safety for children walking or biking to school. The city of Ramsey is the appropriate lead agency for this grant application as the projects proposed are located along county or city right-of-way and not on school property.

If the project is selected for implementation, Ramsey Elementary School will conduct the pre- and post- surveys as required in the grant program and in the timeframe outlined in the application.

Thank you for your consideration of our grant. We look forward to improving the safety of children walking and biking to school. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 763-506-4001

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Clusiau

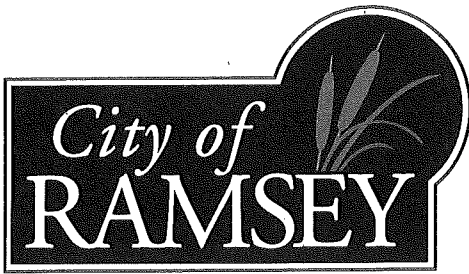
Ramsey Elementary Principal



ANOKA-HENNEPIN
SCHOOLS
A future without limit

**Safe Routes to School Detailed Budget
Ramsey Elementary School**

ITEM	UNIT	UNIT COST	PRIORITY SEGMENT 1 (CSAH 5 WEST)		PRIORITY SEGMENT 2 (CSAH 57)		PRIORITY SEGMENT 3 (CSAH 5 EAST)		TOTAL PROJECT COST
			QTY	COST	QTY	COST	QTY	COST	
Pre-Construction									
Preliminary Engineering	LS		1	\$ 8,491.01	1	\$ 8,075.73	1	\$ 10,660.61	\$ 27,227.35
Pre- and Post-Surveys	LS	\$ 2,000.00							\$ 2,000.00
Subtotal				\$ 8,491.01		\$ 8,075.73		\$ 10,660.61	\$ 29,227.35
Construction									
Mobilization (exact amount or approx. 5% of total cost)	LS		1	\$ 4,245.51	1	\$ 4,037.87	1	\$ 5,330.30	\$ 13,613.67
Removals (exact amount or approx. 5% of total cost)	LS		1	\$ 4,245.51	1	\$ 4,037.87	1	\$ 5,330.30	\$ 13,613.67
Traffic Control (for construction purposes)	EA	\$ 2,000.00	1	\$ 2,000.00	3	\$ 6,000.00	1	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Trail Construction	LF	\$ 24.00	1900	\$ 45,600.00	1530	\$ 36,720.00	1847	\$ 44,328.00	\$ 126,648.00
Retaining Walls	SF	\$ 22.00	0	\$ -	0	\$ -	1479	\$ 32,538.00	\$ 32,538.00
Site Restoration/Landscaping	LF	\$ 4.00	1900	\$ 7,600.00	1530	\$ 6,120.00	1847	\$ 7,388.00	\$ 21,108.00
ADA ped ramps	EA	\$ 1,500.00	4	\$ 6,000.00	6	\$ 9,000.00	0	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
Striping	EA	\$ 1,500.00	3	\$ 4,500.00	3	\$ 4,500.00	0	\$ -	\$ 9,000.00
Signing	EA	\$ 500.00	6	\$ 3,000.00	6	\$ 3,000.00	0	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00
Subtotal				\$ 77,191.01		\$ 73,415.73		\$ 96,914.61	\$ 247,521.35
Construction Administration				\$ 7,719.10		\$ 7,341.57		\$ 9,691.46	\$ 24,752.13
Construction totals				\$ 84,910.11		\$ 80,757.30		\$ 106,606.07	\$ 272,273.48
TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$ 93,401.12		\$ 88,833.03		\$ 117,266.67	\$ 301,500.83



7550 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, Minnesota 55303
City Hall: 763-427-1410 • Fax: 763-427-5543
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

June 13, 2011

Connie Kozlak
System Planning and Programming Manager
Metropolitan Planning Organization
390 N. Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Ms. Kozlak:

This letter is to notify you that the City of Ramsey is applying for an infrastructure grant from the federally funded Minnesota Safe Route to School Program. The purpose of this program is to:

1. Provide children, including those with disabilities, safer facilities to walk and bike to school
2. Encourage more children to walk and bike to school, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age
3. Facilitate the implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

The City of Ramsey is applying for this grant to implement infrastructure improvements around Ramsey Elementary School. These improvements will primarily involve the construction of additional trails and trail crossings on Sunfish Boulevard (CSAH 56), Nowthen Boulevard (CSAH 5), and Alpine Drive.

If you have any questions or concerns about this application, please do not hesitate to contact me at 763-238-1733.

Yours in Public Service,

Mark Riverblood,
Parks Supervisor

Bike rack at Ramsey Elementary School

