



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)

Construct six-foot concrete sidewalks on Bunker Lake Boulevard (CSAH 116) and Ramsey Boulevard (CSAH 56) to serve students of PACT Charter Schooo.

2C. Project Cost

SRTS Funding Request Total Project Cost

2D. School(s)

School Name	Student Pop	Grades	Students to Benefit
PACT Charter School	446	K-8	75

2E. Roadway Information

Roadway Name	Road Authority (town, city, county, state)	Contact Person
CSAH 116	Anoka County	Douglas Fischer
CSAH 56	Anoka County	Douglas Fischer



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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 PACT Charter School and Anoka County Highway Department, is seeking to fill a major gap in the sidewalk network serving the PACT Charter School area. This K-12 public school is located at the intersection of East Ramsey Parkway and Ramsey Boulevard NW/CSAH 56, approximately 1/2 mile north of U.S. Highway 10/169. For the 2010/2011 school year, PACT Charter School had 446 of students in grades K-8 with another 200 students in grades 9-12.. The school moved to this site in 2004 when it opened its new building. PACT is currently working with the City's Planning Department on a significant expansion intended to be open for the 2011-2012 school year.

The school is located in The COR ("Center of Ramsey"), a planned mixed-use, multi-modal area that is designed to become Ramsey's urban center. The COR is a 410-acre development that will be the location of additional retail, restaurants, service and office space, outdoor entertainment/parks, community amenities and housing. Because a significant portion of The COR is still undeveloped and the school is located at the edge of the development, the planned sidewalk and trail system has not been completed. Due to present and anticipated market realities, the vacant land at the corner of Bunker Lake Boulevard NW/CSAH 116 and Ramsey Boulevard NW/CSAH 56 may not be developed for years. Typically, the City would delay a this type of sidewalk project until development of the adjacent property occurs. However, as this missing gap is so important to the integrity of the sidewalk and trail system in the vicinity of a school, the City is seeking this SRTS grant so the construction can be expedited and a safe route to school can be provided for PACT students.

Direct street access to/from the school is from East Ramsey Parkway (north) and Peridot Street NW (west). Based upon an earlier mapping analysis by PACT, students walking and bicycling to the school primarily live north of the school. The primary route to the school includes travel along Bunker Lake Boulevard NW/CSAH 116 and Ramsey Boulevard NW/CSAH 56, which is where the critical sidewalk gap exists. The sidewalk gap is located less than 700' feet from the school property, exists along portions of both Bunker Lake Blvd NW and Ramsey Blvd NW (southwest corner of the intersection), and is approximately 1,000 feet in length. The sidewalk gap exists along a large undeveloped property. In addition, without this sidewalk, students do not have a safe route between the school and the traffic controlled intersection at Ramsey Blvd/Bunker Blvd that is the primary and safest street crossing for walkers and bicyclists travelling to the school.

Ramsey Boulevard NW/CSAH 56 and Bunker Lake Boulevard NW/CSAH 116, in addition to being County roads, are both designated as A Minor Arterial roadways. Ramsey Boulevard NW/CSAH 56's traffic count was 7,000 average annual daily trips (AADT) in 2009 and projected to grow to 18,000-23,000 AADT by 2030. Bunker Lake Boulevard NW/CSAH 116's traffic count was 2,800 AADT in 2009 and projected to grow to over 22,000 AADT in 2030. Both of these streets are anticipated to have traffic capacity deficiencies by 2030 and proposed to be widened to four lanes. Additionally, Bunker Lake Boulevard is being extended 3/4 mile west of CSAH 83 (one mile west of PACT) to serve the new private school (K-12 student capacity 1,400-1,500) that is being built there.



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 PACT Charter School, this project seeks to construct a concrete sidewalk, six feet in width and approximately 1,000 feet in length, which will fill this major sidewalk gap located approximately 500 feet from the school's property. This new sidewalk will extend approximately 700 feet along the south side of Bunker Lake Boulevard NW/CSAH 116 and approximately 300 feet along the west side of Ramsey Boulevard NW/CSAH 56. As these are the only arterial roads near the school, there is no alternative trail route that will serve walking and biking needs as safely or efficiently.

On both streets, there is sufficient existing public right-of-way to construct the new sidewalk entirely within the public right-of-way. The design of the sidewalk will be in compliance with MNDOT, CSAH and ADA standards. Project will be in compliance with NEPA with minor impacts to the environment. 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 the street boulevard will be restored.

The City of Ramsey and PACT Charter School are seeking a Safe Routes to School Grant for the costs of the sidewalk installation only. The City of Ramsey will be responsible for costs associated with design, preliminary engineering, construction administration, and grading for the project. This contribution is estimated to be \$21,895 above the grant amount requested.

Since most of the residential areas within the two-mile radius of PACT Charter School are located north of the school, this project will fill a sidewalk gap that will be used by a large portion of the students walking or biking to the school. In addition to filling a major gap in the sidewalk system, this project will also provide a safer travel route to the Ramsey Blvd/Bunker Lake Blvd intersection and its traffic signal controlled crossings for walkers and bicyclists.

In addition to designing and constructing the new sidewalk, the City of Ramsey will assume year-round maintenance of the new sidewalk. 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. PACT Charter 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	NA	NA	NA	0.00
Planning	1,000.00	Each	0.50	500.00
All Other	NA	NA	NA	NA
Construction				
Construct Engineering	NA	NA	NA	0.00
All Other	41,420.00	Estimate	Estimate	41420.00

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 41920.00



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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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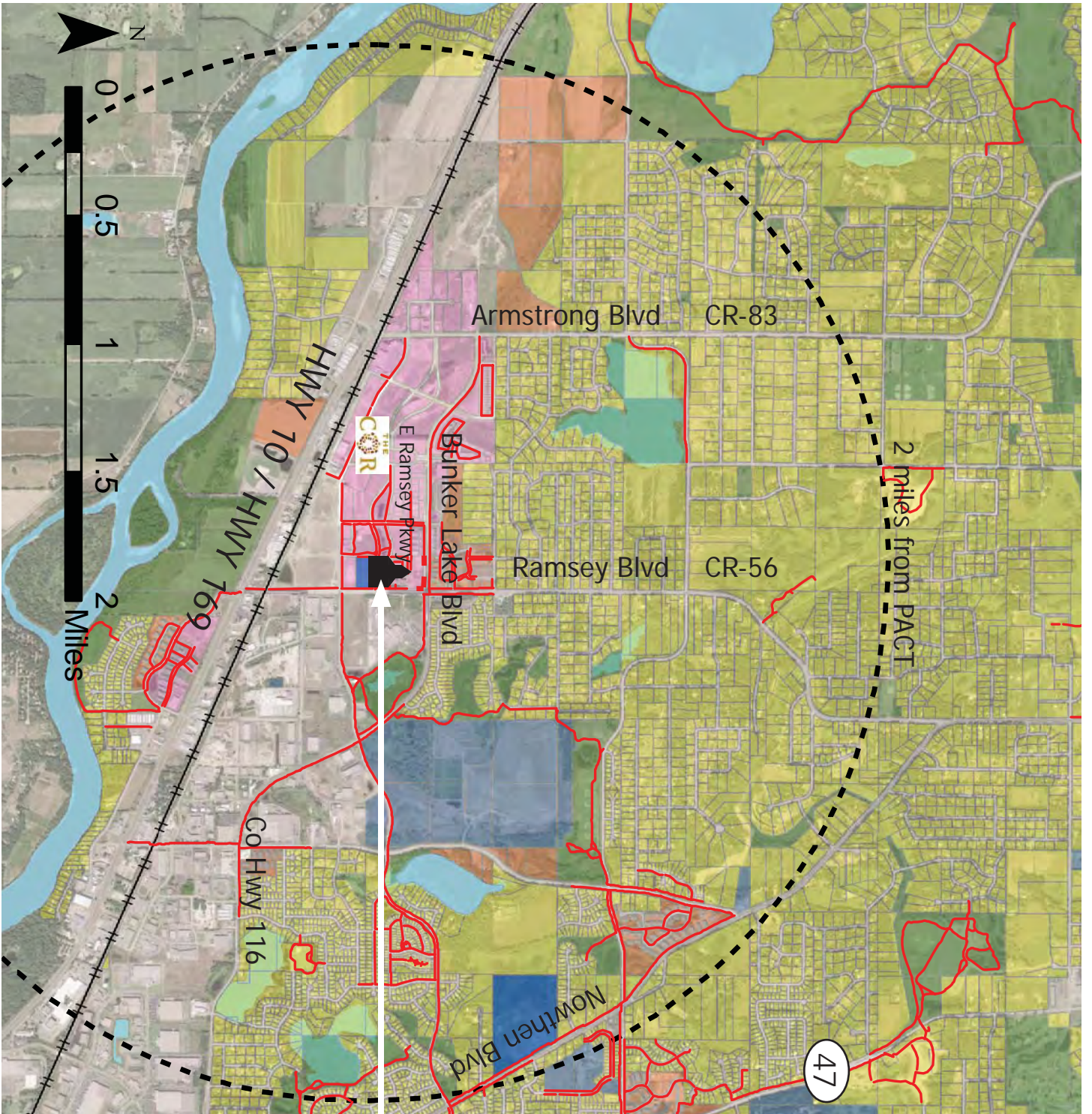
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**Ramsey PACT
Safe Routes to School Grant
Attachments**

- Maps
 - Project Location
 - Site Map
 - Proposed Grading Exhibit
- Letters of Concurrence
 - City of Ramsey
 - Anoka County
 - PACT Charter School
- Budget
- MPO Notification Letter



PACT Charter School

Legend

Trails & Sidewalks

Existing

Proposed

Planned Land Use

Single Family Residential

Multi Family Residential

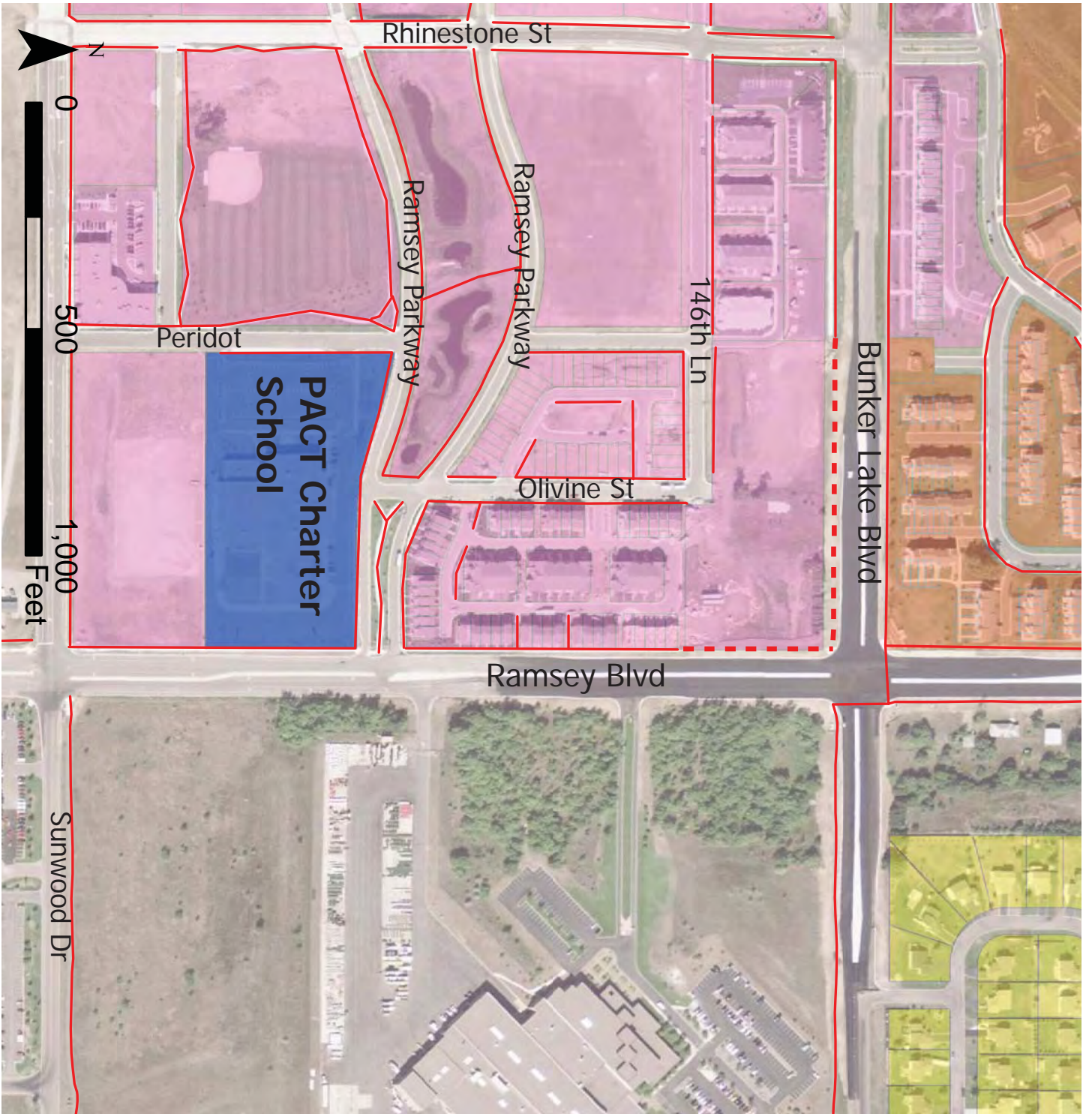
Mixed Use

Parks

Public (including schools)

Safe Routes to School

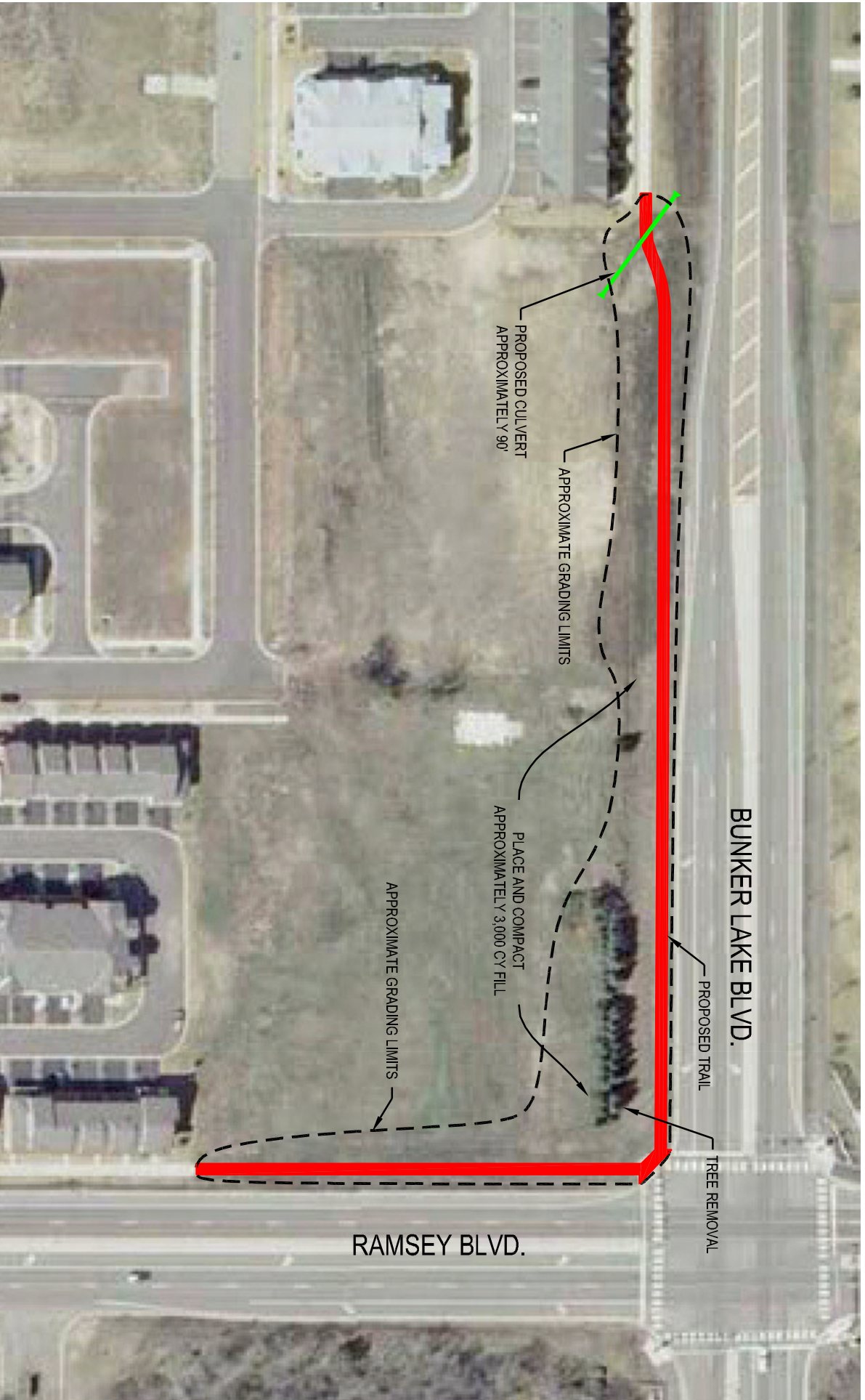
PACT Charter School - Ramsey, MN



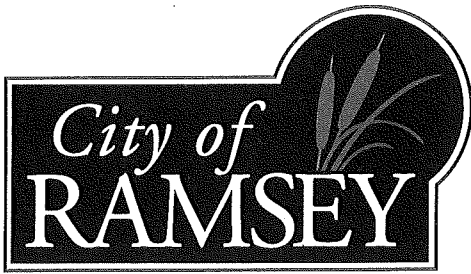
- Legend**
- Trails & Sidewalks**
- Existing
 - - - Proposed
- Planned Land Use**
- Single Family Residential
 - Multi Family Residential
 - Mixed Use
 - Parks
 - Public (including schools)

Safe Routes to School

PACT Charter School - Ramsey, MN



Proposed Importation of Fill and Grading Plan



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 Bldg
395 John Ireland Blvd, 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, the missing sidewalk connection adjacent to PACT Charter School are of particular concern – and we appreciate this opportunity to complete this Safe Route to School.

The City of Ramsey has taken the lead in the development of this application. The City has coordinated with PACT and Anoka County Highway Department in the identification of the project and preparing the cost estimate.

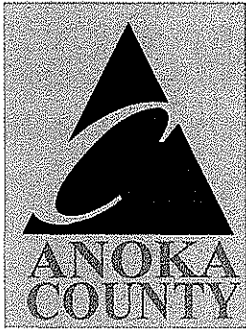
If our grant is selected, the City of Ramsey will take the lead in implementing the project. Ramsey will oversee the engineering, design and construction of the project. The City is also responsible for meeting all of the grant requirements.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Olson", is written over a horizontal line.

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
Director of Public Works
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 116 and CSAH 56 in the vicinity of PACT School. The City of Ramsey has asked for input from the county on potential improvements along CSAH 116 and CSAH 56 as part of developing its grant application.

The proposed sidewalk near the PACT 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 116 and CSAH 56 in the vicinity of the PACT 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 the PACT School 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



Parents Allied with Children and Teachers

◆7250 East Ramsey Parkway, Ramsey, MN 55303 ◆Office: (763) 712-4200 ◆Fax: (763) 712-4201

June 7th, 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 pleased to extend my support to the Safe Routes to School Grant being submitted by the City of Ramsey. As the administrator of PACT Charter School in the City of Ramsey (specifically in the COR), I see first hand the need for additional trail connections around our facility to expand the number of students who walk or bike to school. Additionally, both our faculty and students have expressed concerns about the precise sidewalk that the grant would provide.

We have appreciated the leadership the City has taken in the development of the application, as we have been extremely busy with the end of the school year. If the project is selected we will be responsible for conducting the pre- and post-surveys and tallies as required. We understand that the City will lead the sidewalk trail construction, as it is located on public right-of-way.

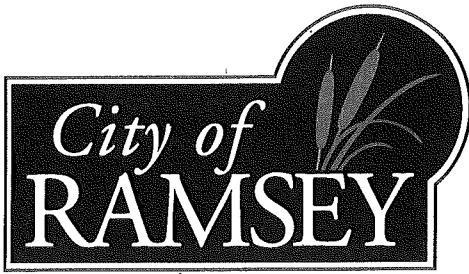
Thank you for your consideration of the grant. We look forward to improving the safety of our students and staff walking and biking to school. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me (763) 712-4200 x106.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel A. DeBruyn".

Administrator

PACT Charter School



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 PACT Charter School. These improvements will primarily involve the construction of additional sidewalks on Ramsey Boulevard (CSAH 56) and Bunker Lake Boulevard (CSAH 116). These sidewalks will fill important gaps in the sidewalk network around the school.

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,
Park Supervisor