



Public Works Facility

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Fast Facts

- ▲ To get to the facility, go seven miles west of I-494 on Minnesota Highway 55 and turn south on Arrowhead Drive.

What is the Public Works Facility?

Hennepin County's transportation functions operate out of the Hennepin County Public Works Facility located in Medina at 1600 Prairie Drive.

Green architecture

The facility is a prime example of "green" architecture in today's public buildings, making greater use of recycled and recyclable materials than any new public building in the State of Minnesota.

Some of the recycled building products include concrete, structural steel, brick, tile, paint, carpet, furniture fabrics, floor mats and millwork cabinet materials. Recycled glass and asphalt were used in much of the site's bituminous asphalt. All told, recycled content in excess of 15 percent is accounted for in building materials and finishes.

Location in western Hennepin County

The facility is located on a 146-acre site about 20 miles west of downtown Minneapolis. The 240,000-square-foot building is home to more than 210 employees in the county Transportation Department's administration, planning, design, construction, traffic and road & bridges operations. The complex also houses a warehouse, sign and signal shops, vehicle maintenance and storage areas, a testing lab and a permits office. Also located on the site is the Sheriff's Office 400-foot-high communications tower.

Public approaches to the building and yard areas are screened from public view by a large berm that extends along the exterior wall of the building and by natural and man-made topography and extensive vegetation.

Part of future Hennepin campus

The Public Works Facility is the first building that has been constructed on the large county complex in rural Medina. The site can be thought of as a Hennepin County campus – a planned unit development – which could, in the future, include additional buildings, such as a library or a licensing service center.