

Hennepin County 2040 Bicycle Transportation Plan

Appendix J. Three Rivers Park District priority trail crossing improvements

Three Rivers Park District Priority Trail Crossing Improvements

In 2013, the park district completed a comprehensive assessment of all locations where trails cross public roads or internal park roads. During that process, over 400 trail crossings were evaluated for safety, consistency, and maintenance. This evaluation was based on the “Guidance for Three River Park District Trail Crossings” document which was also completed as part of the study.

The comprehensive assessment identified several locations where small improvements would improve safety and consistency. These small improvements would also reduce the overall number of signs along trails and leave only those that are vital, therefore improving cyclist adherence to the remaining signs. These crossings improvements are scheduled for completion the summer of 2014.

The comprehensive assessment also identified a subset of crossings that require additional study due to the complexity of multiple risk factors such as obstructed sight lines, multiple lanes of traffic crossed, high vehicle volumes, history of crashes at the crossing, and lack of refuge islands. The park district anticipates studying the top ten intersections identified for additional engineering study over the next five years with the goal of implementing the recommended trail crossing safety improvements shortly thereafter. The park district will work collaboratively with local cities, the county, MnDOT, other public agencies, and interested partners during the engineering study phase with the ultimate goal of partnering with other entities to address trail crossing safety concerns through cost sharing agreements or other creative arrangements. Table X and map X show the crossings that were identified and recommended for engineering study.

Table 1. Regional Trail Crossings Recommended for Engineering Study

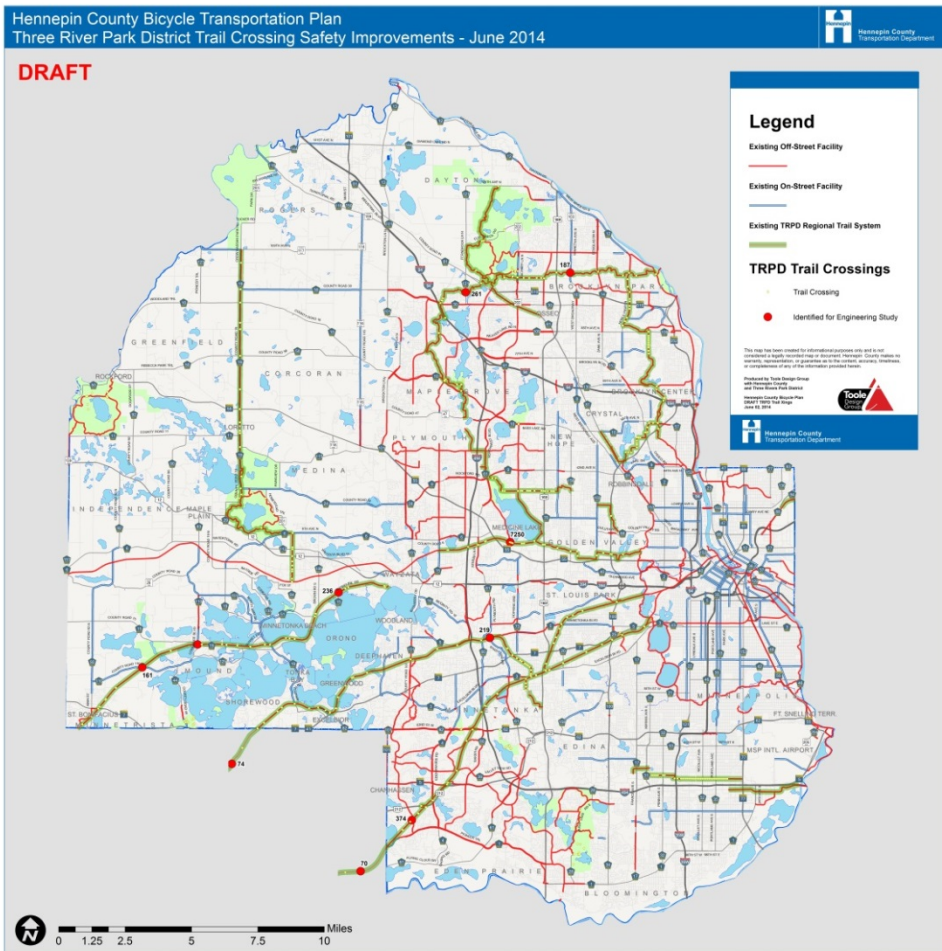
Crossing ID	Priority	Trail Name	Intersection Name	City	County
187	High	Rush Creek Regional Trail	Winnetka Ave No	Brooklyn Park	Hennepin
374	High	MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	Dell Road	Eden Prairie	Hennepin
7250	High	Luce Line Regional Trail	Medicine Lake Rd	Plymouth	Hennepin
74	Moderate	Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail	Rolling Acres Road	Victoria	Carver
161	Moderate	Dakota Rail Regional Trail	County Road 110	Minnetrista	Hennepin
170	Moderate	Dakota Rail Regional Trail	Commerce Blvd	Mound	Hennepin
175	Moderate	Lake Independence Regional Trail	Highway 6	Orono	Hennepin
219	Moderate	Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail	Shady Oak Road	Minnetonka	Hennepin
236	Moderate	Dakota Rail Regional Trail	Orono Orchard Road	Orono	Hennepin
261	Moderate	Medicine Lake Regional Trail	Fernbrook Ln N	Maple Grove	Hennepin

A crossing within Carver County has been identified for additional engineering study that extends beyond the five-year Park District implementation plan. The Park District will partner with Carver County and the City of Chanhassen to complete the engineering study and safety improvements in conjunction with Carver County plans to upgrade Great Plains Boulevard (CSAH 101).

Crossing ID	Priority	Trail Name	Intersection Name	City	County
70	High	MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	Great Plains Blvd	Chanhassen	Carver

Six crossings will be impacted by the Southwest LRT (SWLRT) project between Eden Prairie and Minneapolis. The engineering study, design, and construction of each crossing will be included in the SWLRT project.

Crossing ID	Priority	Trail Name	Intersection Name	City	County
432	High	MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	11 th Avenue South	Hopkins	Hennepin
155	Low	MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	8 th Avenue South	Hopkins	Hennepin
85	Low	MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	5 th Avenue South	Hopkins	Hennepin
260	High	Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail	Blake Road	Hopkins	Hennepin
433	Moderate	Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail	Wooddale Avenue South	St. Louis Park	Hennepin
189	Moderate	Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail	Beltline Boulevard	St. Louis Park	Hennepin



Map 1. Regional Trail Crossings Recommended for Engineering Study Map