County Aid to Municipalities

Through a program called County Aid to Municipalities (CAM), Hennepin County provides financial assistance for roadways in municipalities with populations under 5,000. The authority to distribute county funds for this function is contained in State Statutes 164.03, and 383B.608.

The primary purpose is to provide monetary assistance to municipalities that are not eligible for funding through the State Aid program due to their population. The county reimburses these smaller municipalities for eligible street project costs through the CAM program.

For eligibility, projects must qualify under these criteria:

- The project must reside at least in part within an eligible CAM municipality. Based on the 2020 census, these include:

  - Deephaven
  - Excelsior
  - Greenfield
  - Greenwood
  - Hanover
  - Independence
  - Long Lake
  - Loretto
  - Maple Plain
  - Medicine Lake
  - Minnetonka Beach
  - Osseo
  - Rockford
  - St. Bonifacius
  - Spring Park
  - Tonka Bay
  - Wayzata
  - Woodland

- The proposed project must be located on or along a municipal or local street identified on the approved CAM system map for that municipality, or on or along an existing county road.

- The improvements can include construction, activities for items such as street, bridge, trail or sidewalk construction. CAM can also be used for roadway preliminary or final design activities, as well as for corridor and traffic studies.

Contact

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CAM system maps

The streets in the CAM system should provide an integrated and coordinated system affording a network consistent with local traffic demand, and should connect to state highway, county roads, other CAM streets or major points of interest (e.g. schools, parks, public buildings, etc.).

The CAM network should be spaced at reasonable intervals consistent with existing or projected land use. Cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets are not normally eligible for inclusion unless they serve a major point of interest.

Each municipality needs to review and update its CAM street system map annually, showing any additions or deletions to the CAM street system. Hennepin County then reviews and approves the proposed CAM system changes. Submittals for projects on streets not identified as part of the CAM system will not receive funding approval.

Reimbursement process

1. Prior to construction or project initiation, proposed CAM system improvements should be submitted in an email to the Hennepin County Transportation Department for initial approval of eligibility. Submittals should include information on location, project scope and a cost estimate.

2. Once the improvement is submitted, county staff will check project eligibility and status of any deficient bridges within the jurisdiction. County policy requires that a municipality must program for the repair or replacement of structurally deficient municipal bridges before funding approval for road or street projects. Municipalities are notified of any deficient bridges within their jurisdiction as part of the annual CAM allocation notice.

3. The municipality receives email confirmation that the project is eligible for CAM reimbursement.

4. After project completion, reimbursement requests can be submitted to the county using the form provided as part of the annual information packet. The submittal should also include a final cost statement or invoice for the project.

5. The county will verify the construction work and confirm that eligible project costs were incurred.

6. The county will process a payment request and reimburse the city. Reimbursement is limited to the lesser of the project cost or the accrued allocation.

Municipalities are allowed to accrue up to three years of annual CAM allocations. Under special circumstances, such as funding needs for upcoming, programmed projects or difficulties with scheduling, a one or two year extension to the three year time period can be requested.