



Three Rivers

PARK DISTRICT

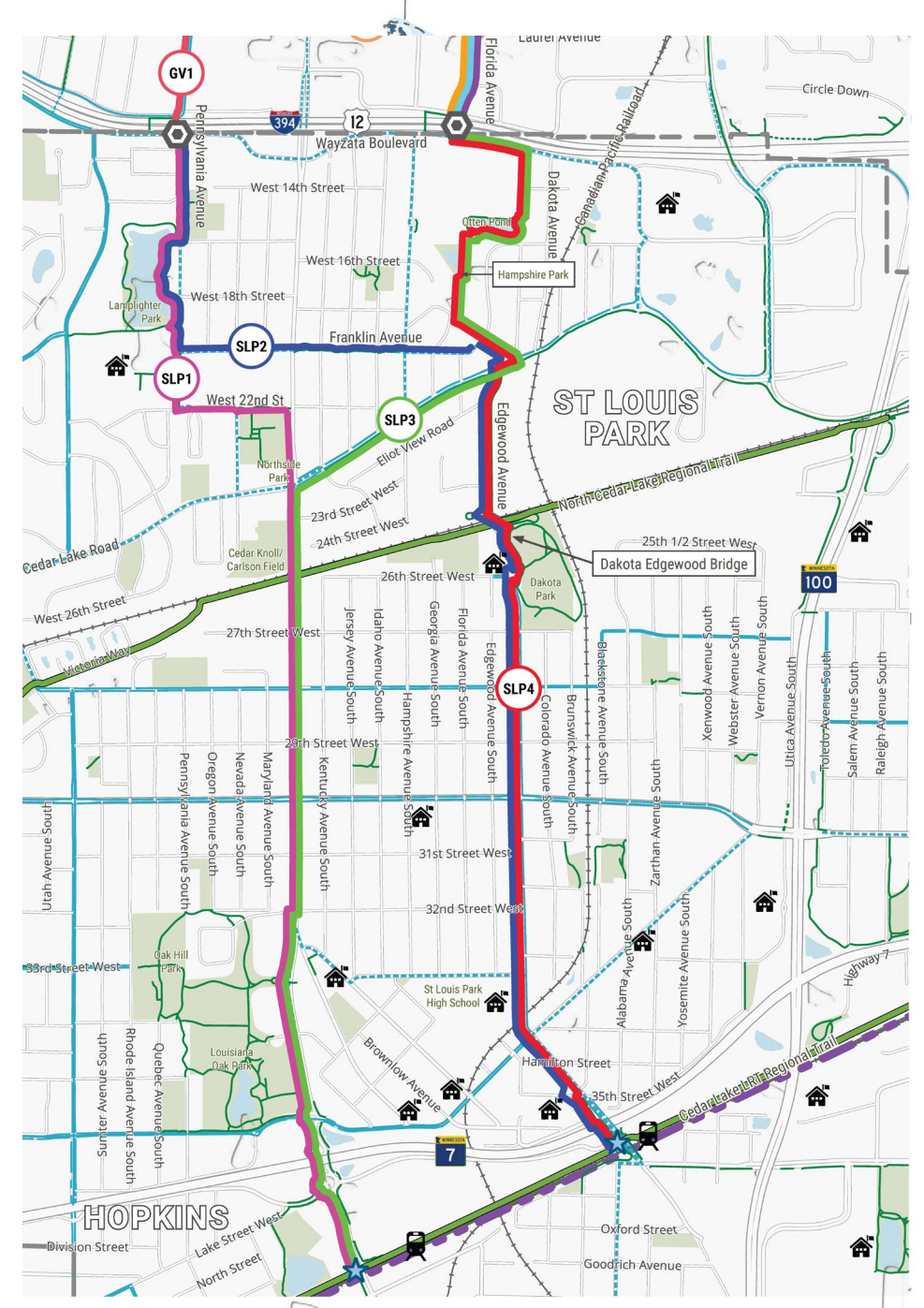


CP Rail Regional Trail Long-Range Plan
Route Approval - St. Louis Park

Long-Range Plan Goals and Vision:

Develop walk, bike, and rolling facilities which provide the safest, most comfortable option *and* serve the greatest number of people and widest range of abilities.

- Better connect the regional trail network to itself, specifically with new north-south corridors
- Support recreation and transportation uses
- Connect communities to each other and community members to regional and local destinations
- This is long-range plan, not an engineering/ construction project (7-12 years).
- Preliminary Route Identification of 4 routes that builds off existing plans and past planning work



Public Notification Efforts

Three Rivers Highlights:

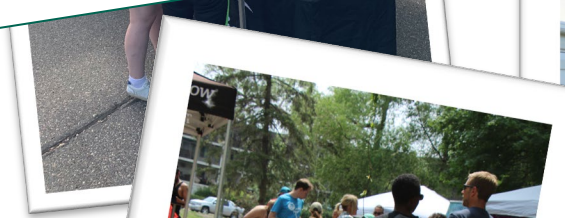
- 5000+ postcards in July and 4,000+ postcards in November 2023
- 280 flyers for neighborhood meetings
- 5 TRPD e-newsletters - 40,000 contacts across GV and SLP
- 8 TRPD social media posts
- 2 CCX Media reports

• Additional 4,000+ postcards and 3,400+ emails notifying SLP residents of this meeting

• Posters posted in community events

City Highlights:

- Website posts and social media posts
- SLP Area Rental Coalition (SPARC) newsletter
- Climate Action newsletter



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HELP PLAN THE NEXT REGIONAL TRAIL!

A new regional trail is being planned through Golden Valley and St. Louis Park.
Scan the QR code or go to the URL below to learn more and provide your input on the trail route.

www.letstalkthreerivers.org/CPRail_RT_GV_SLP

Icons: Person walking, Person pushing stroller, Person on bicycle, Person on wheelchair.



Ecotacular

Welcome to Ecotacular!

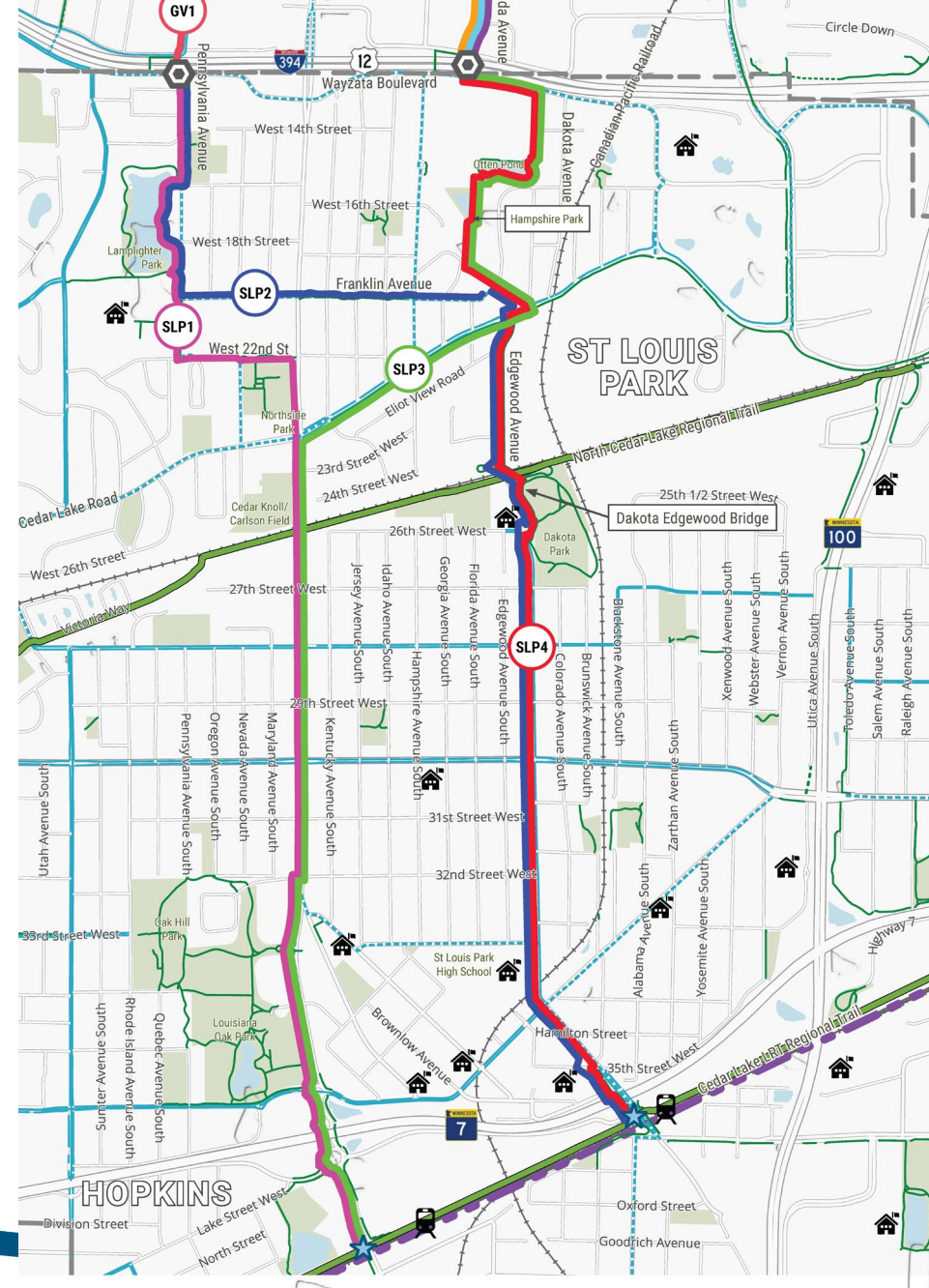
A greener planet is in YOUR hands!

Logos: St. Louis Park, ParkCenter

What we heard:

2700+ visits to the project website, engaged with over 575 people at in-person events

- Desire for a safe, off-road trail experience, away from traffic
- Desire to connect to parks, schools, retail, other regional trails, Dakota Park Bridge, and the LRT
- Preferred a more natural, park-like setting
- Concern regarding possible loss of trees and parking
- “Opportunity” to re-imagine Louisiana Ave street and RR bridge to improve safety for bikes/peds and vehicles
- Significant majority preferred route SLP4



CP Rail Regional Trail Route Review

- **November 13, 2023 – Public Hearing:** Reviewed engagement findings and analysis of route alternatives. Council received public comments.
- **April 24, 2024 - Study Session:** Reviewed additional analysis comparing Louisiana Avenue and Dakota Avenue routes.

St. Louis Park
MINNESOTA
Experience LIFE in the Park

Executive summary

Title: Three Rivers Canadian Pacific (CP) regional rail trail update
 Recommended action: No formal action at this time
 Policy consideration: There are two policy questions for council consideration:
 • Does the council support a north-south regional trail through St. Louis Park?
 • If yes, does the council support the trail route as recommended by Three Rivers Park District?
 • If no, does the council need additional information to help with this decision?

Summary: Three Rivers Park District has a long-range plan to create a 21-mile north-south regional trail that extends from Crystal to Bloomington called the Canadian Pacific rail regional trail. Three Rivers Park District staff began identifying preliminary routes through St. Louis Park in May of 2023 and has identified route SLP4 as their preferred route.
 Route SLP4 was brought to the council on Nov. 13, 2022, for a public testimony. The intent of the meeting was to gain council support for the recommended route through St. Louis Park. Three Rivers could then prepare a long-range plan document that focused on a recommended route through St. Louis Park and complete a federal solicitation funding application due in December 2023.
 Due to questions from the community and council, Three Rivers did not move forward with requesting council support or the funding application. Instead, Three Rivers and the community provided a [written report to council on Dec. 12, 2023](#) to address the questions. This report suggested that this topic be discussed during the connected infrastructure study. Prior to requesting council action on Three Rivers Park District's recommendation, there is no proposed date for the construction of the trail.
 To help inform the policy level questions, Three Rivers will be conducting a long-range planning study for the Dakota Avenue Corridor. This study will provide an overview of the process and study completed in the St. Louis Park area. The study will support their recommendation of route SLP4.
Financial or budget considerations: There are no budget concerns for the recommended route. Three Rivers Park District is currently funding the construction of the recommended route.
Strategic priority consideration: St. Louis Park is committed to supporting the construction of the recommended route. St. Louis Park is committed to making their way around the city comfortably.
Supporting documents: Discussion [Dec. 12, 2023 written report](#)
 Route map in St. Louis Park
 Three Rivers matrix

Prepared by: Jack Sullivan, engineering project manager
 Reviewed by: Debra Heiser, engineering director
 Approved by: Kim Keller, city manager

Meeting: Study session
 Meeting date: April 24, 2024
 Discussion Item: 1

Study session meeting of April 24, 2024 (Item No. 1)
 Title: Three Rivers Canadian Pacific (CP) regional rail trail update

Right of way

North:
 • No right of way is needed

Central:
 • Right of way is needed including 2 ft along the regular roadway and up to 19 ft at intersections where turn lanes are likely

South:
 • No right of way is needed

All:
 • No right of way is needed
 • Temporary construction easements are likely

Opportunity considerations

Connections (local & regional)
 • No direct connection to North Cedar Lake Regional Trail

Connects to:
 • Schools: St. Louis Park Middle School
 • Parks: Lamplighter Park, Northside Park, Louisiana Oaks Park, Walker Street
 • LRT: Louisiana Avenue Station

Direct connection to North Cedar Lake Regional Trail

Connects to:
 • Community Centers: Central Community Center
 • Schools: Peter Hobart Elementary, St. Louis Park High School
 • Retail Nodes: Hampshire Park, Otten Pond, Dakota Park Boulevard/ Dakota Avenue
 • LRT: Wooddale LRT Station
 • Dakota Avenue Station

Use existing multi use trail and bridge infrastructure

Public feedback
 • Trail in Lamplighter Park
 • Trail in Northside Park
 • Trail from 32nd Street through Hwy 7 roundabouts to connect to South Cedar Lake Regional Trail.
 • Limited support for this route. Concerns about people at SLP engagement.

Dakota Avenue Corridor Central Segment

28XX Dakota Avenue South (looking north)

Existing

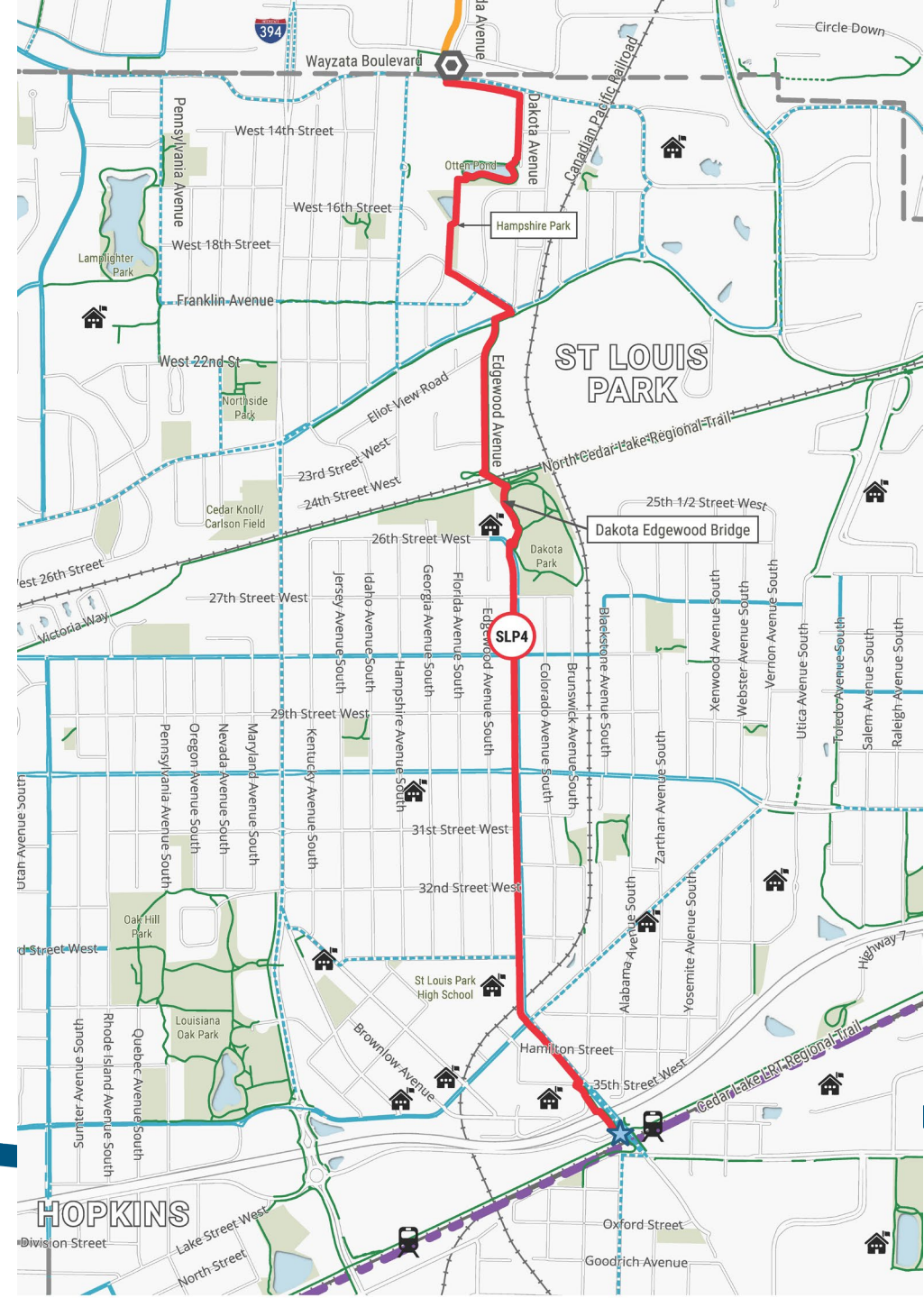
Option B - Parking on one side is removed, trees on both sides are preserved. Converts shared road bicycle facility to a separated bike facility.

Key Differences and Take-aways

	Louisiana Avenue Corridor	Dakota Avenue Corridor
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$27 million+, City responsible for ~2/3 cost • City-led project with Three River as partner • 15+ Years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6-7 million • Three Rivers-led standalone project • 7-12 Years
Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not connect directly to North Cedar Regional Trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connects to North Cedar Lake Regional Trail • Utilizes Dakota Edgewood Bike/Ped Bridge
Public Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited support • Viewed as too busy/unsafe for bikes/peds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highest level supported route option • Viewed as less congested/safer
Trees & Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal impacts to trees • Parking is eliminated or reduced to one side 	<p>Between 27th and Minnetonka Blvd:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact to trees if parking is reduced to one side • 33 trees impacted on one side if parking is retained on both sides
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9,800 to 18,000 ADT • Traffic lanes reduced from 4 to 2 	1,800 to 7,200 ADT
Right-of-way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2' to 19' anticipated need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No permanent easements anticipated

Staff Recommendation: SLP4 - Dakota Avenue Corridor Route

- Greatest public support
- Less congested, safer route
- Utilizes Dakota Park bridge
- Connects to North Cedar Lake Regional Trail
- No permanent easement anticipated
- Shorter timeframe and lower cost
- Supported by PRAC, Peter Hobart School and SLP HS



St. Louis Park Next Steps:

Council support for SLP 4 route

- **Tonight**– Council action for support of a preferred route.
- **Late 2024** – Review draft Long-Range Plan, 30-day public comment period and City Resolution of Support for the plan.
- **Late 2024 / Early 2025** – Long-Range Plan adoption from Met Council and TRPD Board (No other City approvals required).
- Upon final long-range plan approval, construction is anticipated 7-12 years out. Design/construction fully funded by Three Rivers. Final engineered design will be approved by the City.

