

Senate Capital Investment Tour

Northfield, Minnesota

November 5, 2019

Welcome

Senator Rich Draheim

Mayor Rhonda Pownell

Regional Transit Hub

Mayor Rhonda Pownell

Jan Hanson, *Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of St. Olaf College*

Alice Thomas, *Save the Northfield Depot*

Mill Towns State Trail

Erica Zweifel, *Chair of the Rice County Mill Towns Trail Joint Powers Board, Northfield City Councilor*

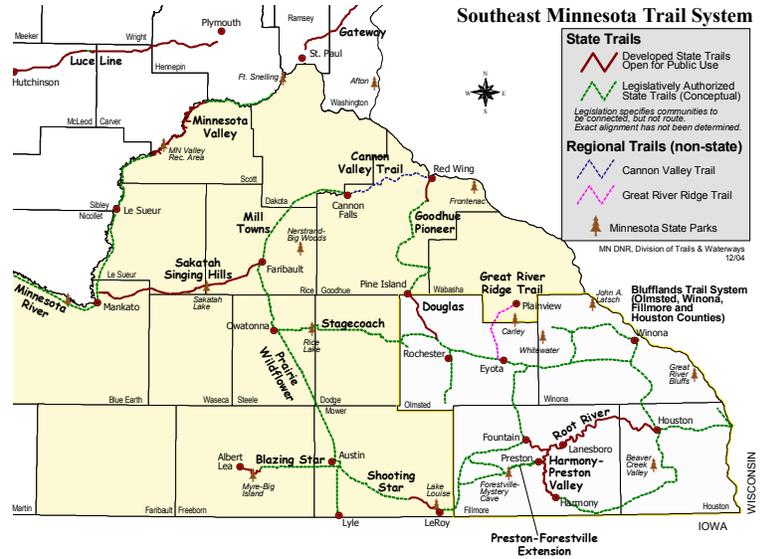
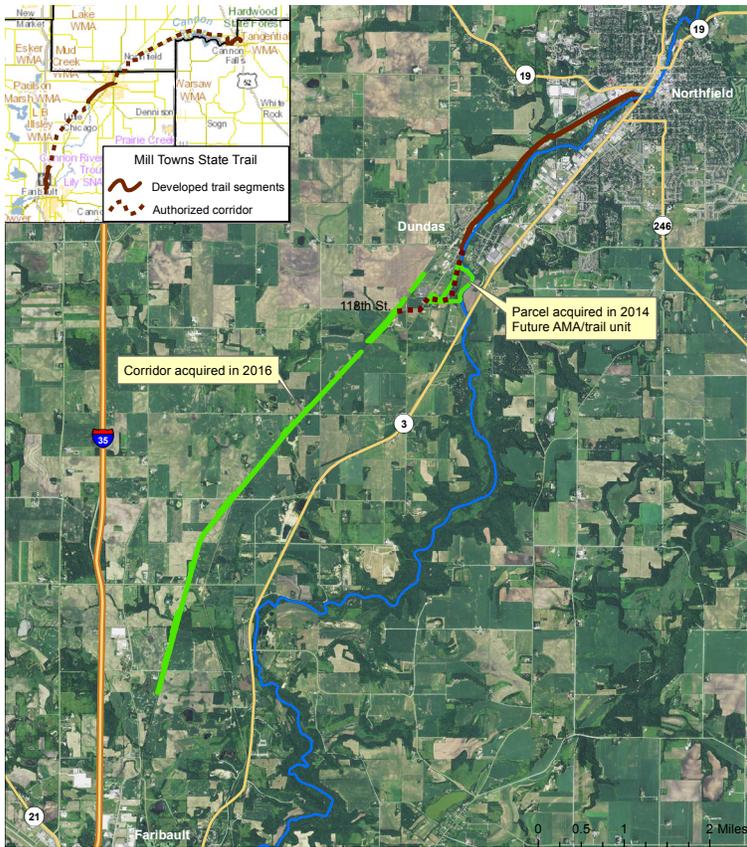
Peggy Prowe, *Friends of the Mill Towns Trail*

Lisa Peterson, *President of the Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism*

Closing Remarks

Mayor Rhonda Pownell

Mill Towns State Trail



What's in a name?
 The Cannon River between Faribault and Cannon Falls once supported as many as 30 mills. Hence, the name "Mill Towns Trail."

Project summary

- \$2.25 million request
- Construct connecting segment
- Rebuild existing parts where needed
- 3 miles of trail acquisition and development between Northfield and Dundas
- 1 mile of trail acquisition and development from Dundas to the west

Connecting the statewide trail system

- Connects the Sakatah Singing Hills State Trail and the Cannon Valley Trail
- Connects the cities of Faribault, Dundas, Northfield, Waterford, Randolph and Cannon Falls
- Provides more than 80 miles of seamless travel from Mankato to Red Wing

Highlighting local destinations

- Signs will direct users to local destinations such as stores, hotels and restaurants
- Signs will identify historic and environmental points of interest



Future Northfield Regional Transit Hub and Historic Northfield Depot



H.F 2295
\$2.5 million request

Project summary

The regional hub will include:

- Public bathrooms
- Waiting area
- 42 parking stalls
- Convenient pedestrian and bicycle access

Regional and statewide significance

- Hiawathaland Transit identified the station as a key priority in increasing bus ridership.
- Northfield Line bus company will use the station for their daily routes to the Twin Cities.
- Exploring future service with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) for commuter bus.
- Station identified for future passenger rail and site planning consideration in design
- Regional transportation hub for major employment
- Northfield identified as a regional center and local redevelopment area
- Project expected to spur new economic development



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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 2295

03/11/2019 Authored by Lippert
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital investment; appropriating money for the Northfield Regional
1.3 Transit Hub; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. NORTHFIELD; REGIONAL TRANSIT HUB.

1.6 Subdivision 1. Appropriation. \$2,500,000 is appropriated from the bond proceeds fund
1.7 to the commissioner of transportation for a grant to the city of Northfield to acquire real
1.8 property; prepare the site, including any environmental remediation; and predesign, design,
1.9 construct, furnish, and equip a regional transit hub. This appropriation does not require a
1.10 nonstate contribution.

1.11 Subd. 2. Bond sale. To provide the money appropriated in this section from the bond
1.12 proceeds fund, the commissioner of management and budget shall sell and issue bonds of
1.13 the state in an amount up to \$2,500,000 in the manner, upon the terms, and with the effect
1.14 prescribed by Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and by the Minnesota
1.15 Constitution, article XI, sections 4 to 7.

1.16 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 1493

02/21/2019 Authored by Hausman, Olson, Schultz and Huot
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital investment; appropriating money for development of passenger
1.3 rail infrastructure; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. PASSENGER RAIL.

1.6 Subdivision 1. Appropriations. (a) \$15,000,000 is appropriated from the bond proceeds
1.7 fund to the commissioner of transportation for intercity passenger rail implementation on
1.8 phase I corridors identified in the 2015 update to the state rail plan under Minnesota Statutes,
1.9 section 174.03, subdivision 1b. This appropriation is available for development of rail
1.10 investment performance measures, project cost estimating, feasibility studies, alternatives
1.11 analysis, program delivery, and capital projects, including but not limited to: design;
1.12 preliminary and final engineering; environmental analysis and mitigation; acquisition of
1.13 land and right-of-way; and construction. Projects include the Northern Lights Express service
1.14 between Minneapolis and St. Paul and Duluth, a second daily Amtrak train between
1.15 Minneapolis and St. Paul and Chicago, Twin Cities to Milwaukee high-speed passenger
1.16 rail service, and extension of the Northstar Commuter Rail service to St. Cloud.

1.17 (b) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2020 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
1.18 of transportation for a feasibility study and alternatives analysis of the corridor from the
1.19 Twin Cities metropolitan area to Northfield and Albert Lea.

1.20 (c) Money appropriated in this subdivision is available until the project is completed or
1.21 abandoned subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.642.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Bond sale.** To provide the money appropriated in this section from the bond
2.2 proceeds fund, the commissioner of management and budget shall sell and issue bonds of
2.3 the state in an amount up to \$15,000,000 in the manner, upon the terms, and with the effect
2.4 prescribed by Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and by the Minnesota
2.5 Constitution, article XI, sections 4 to 7.

2.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

THE AMTRAK SYSTEM



Amtrak Passenger Rail Network

South Central Minnesota Rail Corridor: a Phase One Passenger Rail Corridor in the Minnesota Statewide Rail Plan (2015); continues due south on existing (UP) rail line to connect with existing Amtrak service and cities including Mason City, Des Moines, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Dallas/Fort Worth, and San Antonio.

Mankato-Owatonna-Rochester-Winona: a Subsidiary Phase One Passenger Rail Corridor approved for study with the South Central MN Corridor; uses existing (formerly DME now CP) rail line across the southern tier of Minnesota, and connects with the South Central MN Corridor at Owatonna

Amtrak Connecting Thruway Bus Service

