



REQUEST FOR ACTION

Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning and Demonstration Grant Application

MEETING DATE:

May 18, 2026

ORIGINATING DEPT:

Public Works

AGENDA SECTION:

Consent Agenda

PRESENTER:

Dillon Dombrovski

Action Requested:

Approving the submittal to the US Department of Transportation of a Safe Streets and Roads for All planning and demonstration grant application for a demonstration project along three corridors: 4th St SE, 3rd Ave SE, and 11th Ave SW/NW.

Report Narrative:

The Rochester-Olmsted Council of Governments recently completed a Safety Action Plan funded by the SS4A grant program through the USDOT. The completion of a Safety Action Plan is a requirement to be able to submit for SS4A planning or implementation grants.

Previously, the City was awarded an Active Transportation Grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation to study walking and biking along 3rd Ave SE, 4th St SE, and 11th Ave NW/SW. The purpose of that study was to prepare an action-oriented plan to improve safe, comfortable walking, biking, and rolling connections to the LINK bus rapid transit project. Each of these three corridors are planned for eventual reconstruction projects over varying time horizons. The team didn't feel that it would be prudent to jump into a full implementation project until each of these three corridors are needing reconstruction. Therefore, a planning and demonstration grant will allow us to:

- Test Safe System corridor treatments in real conditions (from ROCOG Safety Action Plan) along each corridor
- Build on existing planning work rather than start over
- Generate before/after learning that can inform future CIP decisions on when/how these corridors are reconstructed
- Strengthen future requests for permanent implementation funding if we have results from this demonstration grant

The corridor limits along 3rd Avenue SE are from 6th St SE to 12th St SE, along 4th St SE from Broadway to 19th Ave SE, and along 11th Ave NW/SW from 14th St NW to 2nd St SW. The team is still working on final cost estimates, but it is anticipated to be a \$4-5M grant application that will be submitted by the deadline of May 26, 2026.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Transformational Capital Projects

Policy Considerations & DEI Impact:

This planning effort would identify improvements that support multimodal travel, reconnect neighborhoods, modernize infrastructure to accommodate growth, and better integrate with major transportation investments such as Link BRT. The proposed planning work would lay the groundwork for future capital improvements that enhance safety, calm traffic, reduce crashes and emissions, expand economic opportunity, improve access to jobs and services, and advance transportation equity across the community in working towards the City's mode shift goals. All work would be completed in accordance with the City's Complete Streets Policy.

Prior Legislative Actions & Community Engagement:

The previous MnDOT Active Transportation grant included walk audits and bicycle audits along the three corridors that involved a number of community members. The project also included an open house and workshop at Washington Elementary that specifically focused on the 11th Avenue NW/SW Corridor.

Fiscal & Resource Impact:

This is a planning and demonstration grant, which requires no local match through the SS4A program.

Alternative Action(s):

No alternative actions are suggested at this time.

Prepared By:

Dillon Dombrovski

Attachments:

[Cover Page](#)

[Summary of Corridors](#)