

Detours Ahead:

I-494 CONSTRUCTION
THROUGH 2030

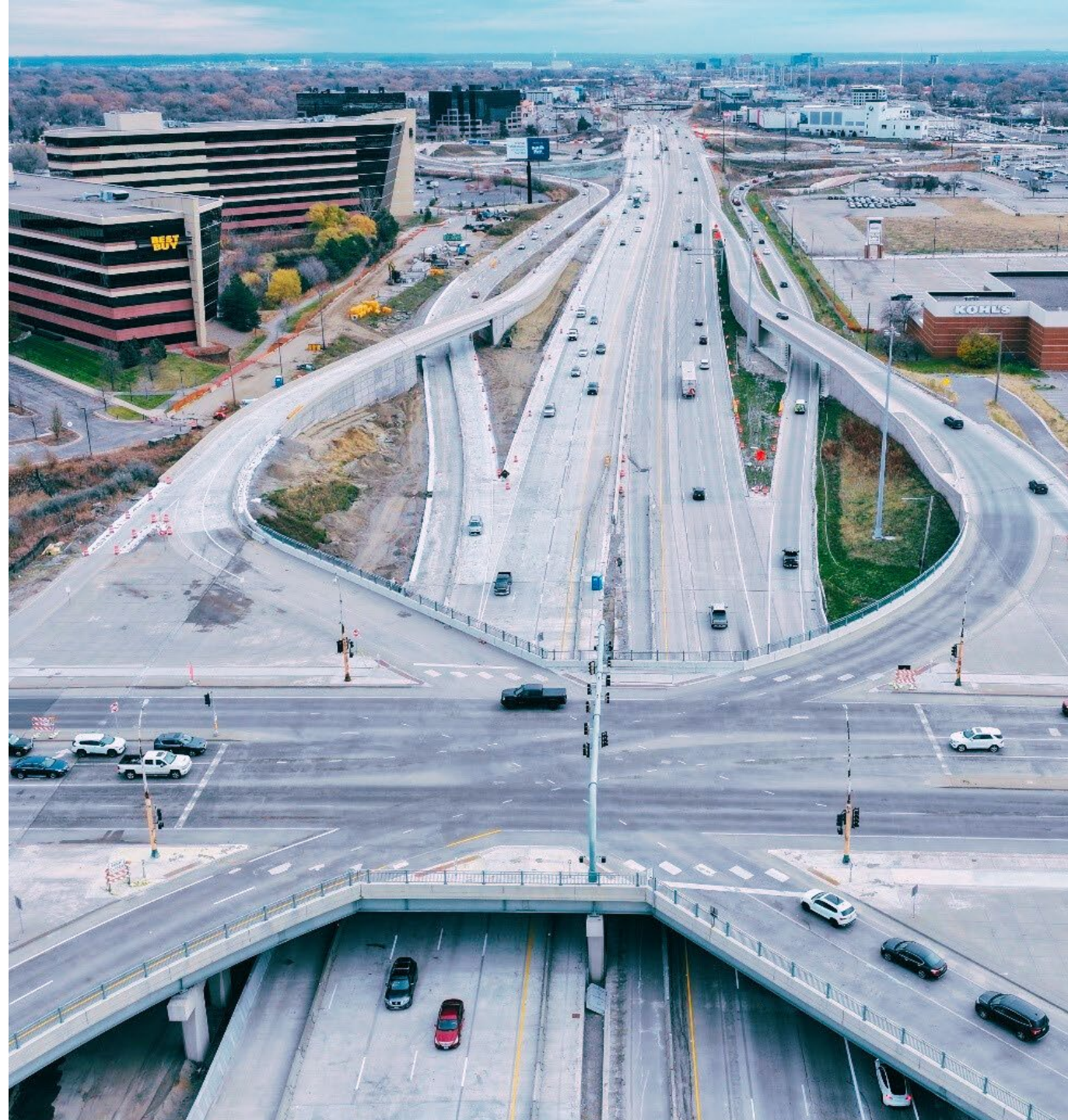
Tuesday, April 14

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Commuter
Services**



commuter.org



Your questions, our answers

- A recording of this webinar and the slides will be emailed to all attendees within 10 days
- Questions will be answered at the end of each presentation
- To submit questions please:
 - Use the Q&A tool on Zoom to enter your written question
 - Email questions after the webinar to Kate Meredith at kate@494corridor.org
- Please refrain from using the Chat option to submit questions



Commuter Services is the outreach program of the I-494 Corridor Commission

The I-494 Corridor Commission is a joint powers organization established in 1986 to address concerns about increasing traffic congestion along the I-494 corridor. Member cities include Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina, Minnetonka, and Richfield.

In fact:

- There are **more** jobs in this section of the I-494 corridor than both of the two downtowns - Minneapolis and St. Paul, combined.
- According the Metropolitan Council, people from 85 of the state's 87 counties travel this section of I-494 **every day**.



About our presenters

Rachel Broughton

Rachel Broughton is one of the MnDOT Construction Managers overseeing the bridges, walls, and other structural elements on the I-494 Design Build Project.

Rachel is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. She has worked at the county, state, and federal level in various roles including design, project management, and program management.

Kate Meredith

Kate Meredith is Vice President of Commuter Services, leading the employer outreach program.

She holds a B.A. in Women's Studies from the University of Minnesota.

She is a long-standing member of the Association of Commuter Transportation.

I-494 Construction Project Updates

Commuter Services Webinar
April 14, 2026

Agenda

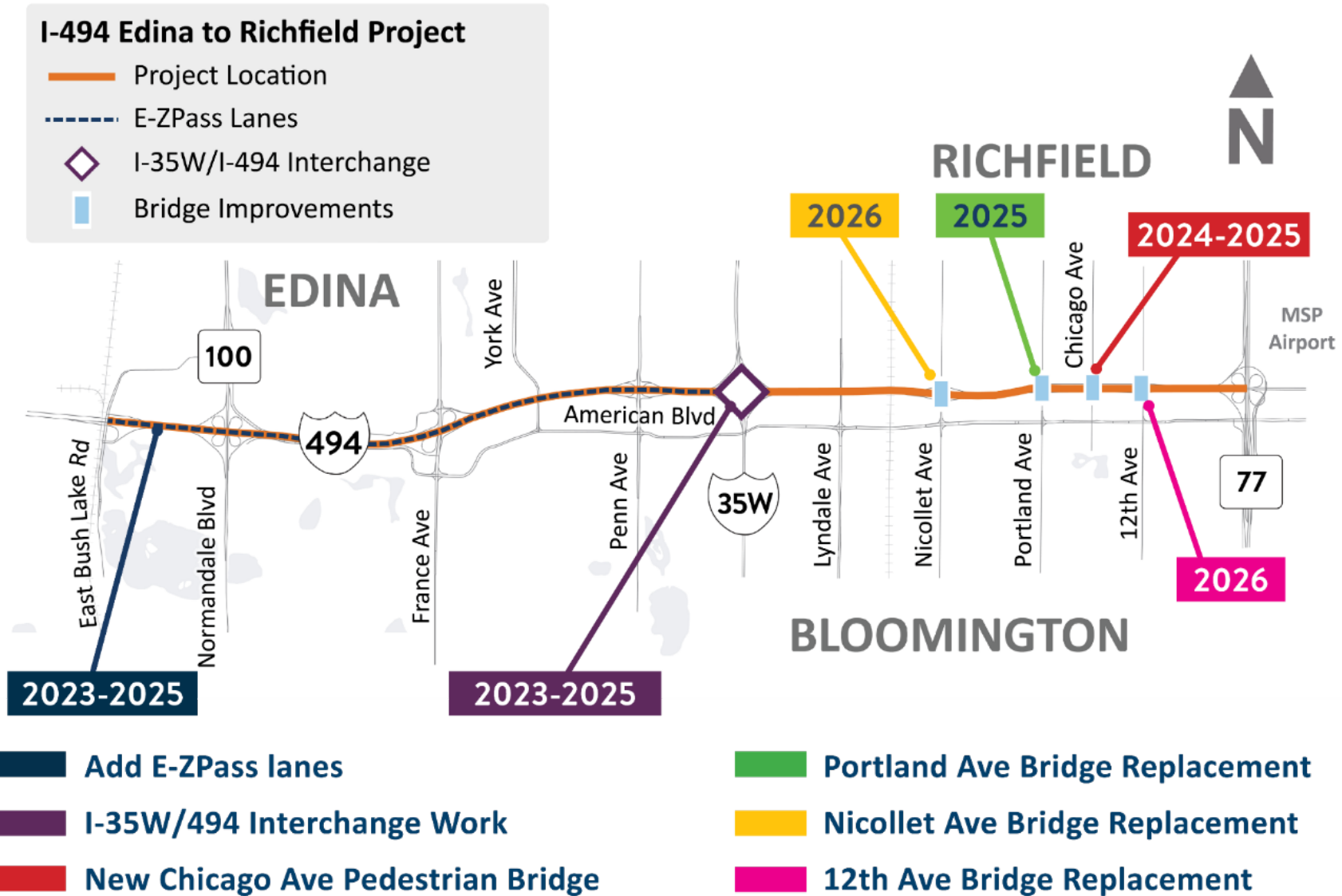
- Project 1 2026 Construction Work
- Project 2 Update
- I-494 River Bridge Project Update
- Project Contacts / Communication



An aerial photograph of a multi-lane highway, I-494, with visible construction work on the right side. The highway is surrounded by urban buildings and parking lots. A billboard is visible on the left side of the highway. The image has a blue tint and a dark blue overlay at the top and bottom.

I-494 Edina, Bloomington, & Richfield Project Update

I-494 Design Build Project 1



I-494 Edina, Bloomington, and Richfield – Project Benefits



Improved safety



Improved traffic
flow and reduced
congestion



Smoother road
surface and
extended
pavement life



Improved
drainage



Improved bicycle
and pedestrian
accessibility



Construction Progress

Completed Work

- Added new E-ZPass lanes and replaced mainline pavement in both directions
 - East Bush Lake Rd. to I-35W
- Modified interchange at Penn Ave. And 82nd St
- Repaired bridges at France and Penn avenues
- Constructed pedestrian bridge near Chicago Ave
- Replaced bridge and built new interchange at Portland Ave.
 - Support traffic flow by removing congestion-causing ramps at Nicollet and 12th avenues
- Rebuilt the I-35W/I-494 interchange
 - Improve safety and enhance traffic flow

2026 Construction

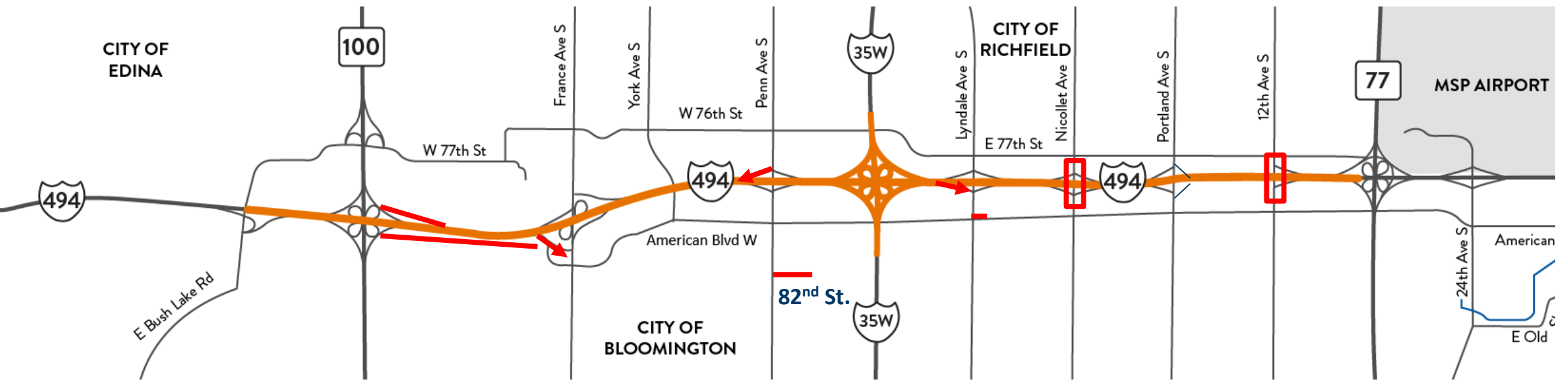
- Replace Nicollet Ave. bridge
- Replace 12th Ave. bridge
- Complete reconstruction of the intersections of Portland Ave. and American Blvd. and 77th St.
- Construction of right turn lane on westbound American Blvd. to northbound Lyndale Ave.
- Complete reconstruction of American Blvd. between Hwy 100 and France Ave.
- Complete work on East Bloomington Fwy.
- Complete work on West 78th St. Near Computer Ave.





I-494 Traffic Impacts

2026 Traffic Impacts



- Frequent lane and ramp closures, weekend or overnight closures of I-494 and I-35W
- Limited nighttime “noisy” work – mostly “regular” construction noise
- Nicollet and 12th avenues will be closed through fall

- **Ramp closures**

- **April 20 for 1-2 weeks**

- Penn Ave. ramp to westbound I-494 is closed

- **April 20 for 2-3 weeks**

- I-494 to EB France Ave. is closed

- **Road closures**

- **Fri, April 24 through Mon, April 27**

- American Blvd. is closed at Nicollet Ave.

- **Early May for about 4 weeks**

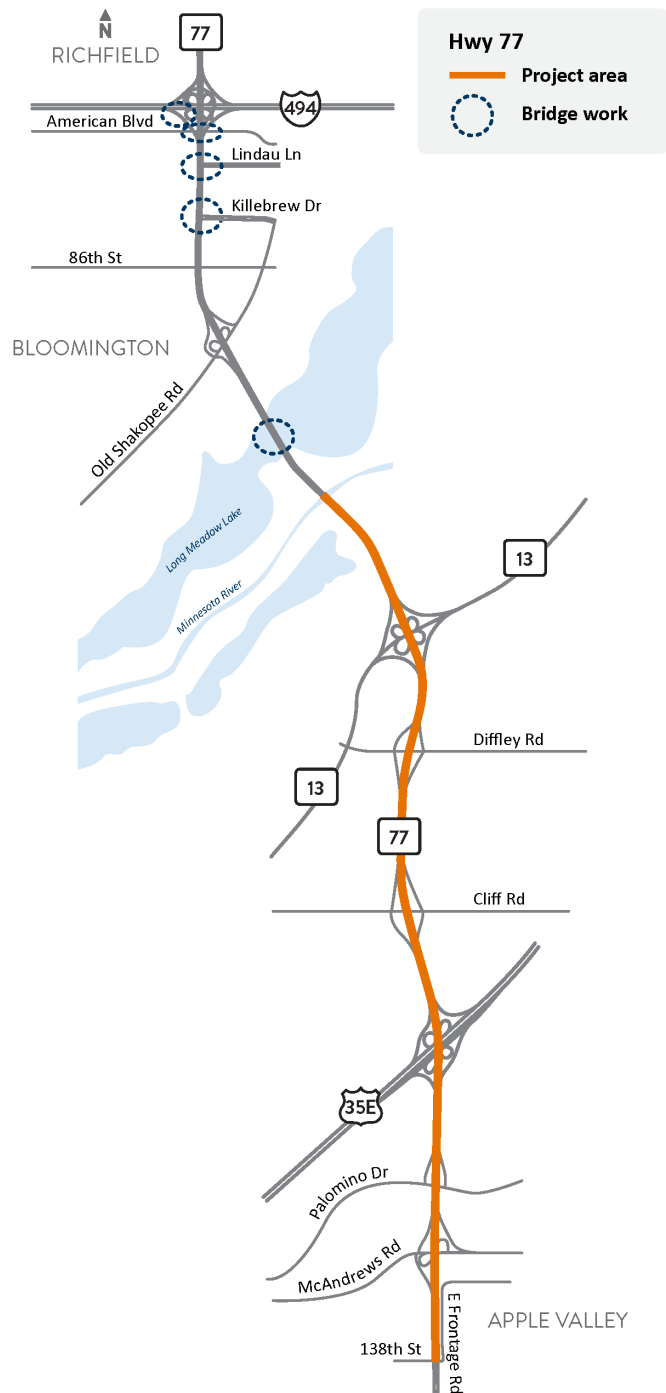
- 82nd St. just east of Penn Ave.

Project 2: Spring 2027 through 2030

- Finish E-ZPass lanes
 - Both directions on I-494 from I-35W to Hwy 77 & from Hwy 169 to Hwy 100
- Reconstruct interchanges and replace bridges at 82nd St., railroad bridge, and Hwy 77
- Improve drainage, update landscaping, lighting, etc.
- Pavement replacement on I-494 and I-35W



Highway 77/Cedar Avenue: Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan & Richfield



- Hwy 77 construction will start summer 2026
- Summary of work
 - Repair and resurface Hwy 77 between 138th St. West and the Minnesota River bridge
 - Repair ten bridges:
 - Eastbound I-494 ramp to southbound Hwy 77 over American Blvd.
 - Northbound Hwy 77 ramps to eastbound I-494 over American Blvd.
 - 81st St. ramp to northbound Hwy 77 over 81st St.
 - Killebrew Dr. ramps to/from southbound Hwy 77
 - Lindau Ln. ramps to/from southbound Hwy 77
 - [Accessibility](#) improvements
 - Update drainage
 - Widening of ramps



I-494 MN River Bridge Update

I-494 MN River Bridge – Project Benefits



Improved safety &
accessibility



Repair and extend life
of bridges



Provide smoother
road surfaces &
extend pavement life



Improved drainage

I-494 MN River Bridge – 2026 construction

- Final year
- Minimal traffic impacts
 - Overnight ramp closures for restriping the roadway in late April and early May
 - Ramp closures:
 - 24th Ave. S/77th St. to eastbound I-494
 - Eastbound I-494 to 34th Ave.
 - 34th Ave. to eastbound I-494
 - Westbound I-494 to Hwy 5/34th Ave.
 - 34th Ave. to westbound I-494
 - Westbound I-494 to 24th Ave.

Public Information Hotline

info@i494Construction.com

651-583-6435

Visit the project websites

- mndot.gov/metro/projects/i494edina-richfield/index.html (I-494 mainline construction)
- mndot.gov/metro/projects/i494mnrivierbridge (bridge construction)

Sign up for project email updates (bottom right of page)

511mn.org (traveler information)

Questions?

Free Sustainable Commute Resources



Strategies and Commute Resources for Employers

- Host a Commuter Fair, e-Fair, Lunch and Learn or seminar
- Promote Try It campaigns through Commuter Services such as Bike Month this May
- Promotion of commute options in a company newsletter, intranet posts, blogs or direct email
- Provide commute resources to new hires
- Sign up for our quarterly employer newsletter
- Sign up for our monthly commuter newsletter
- Display of commute resource materials with bus schedules



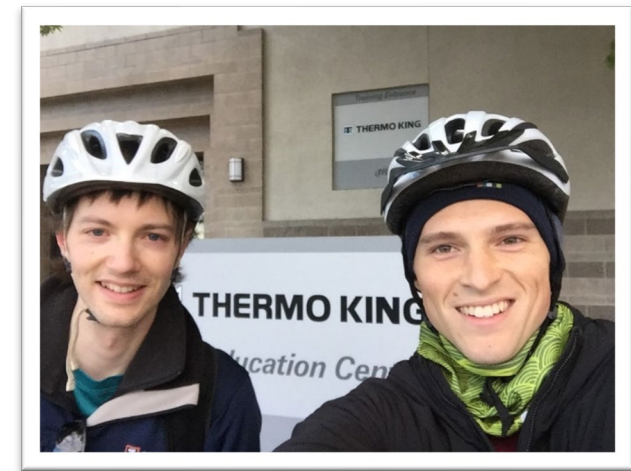
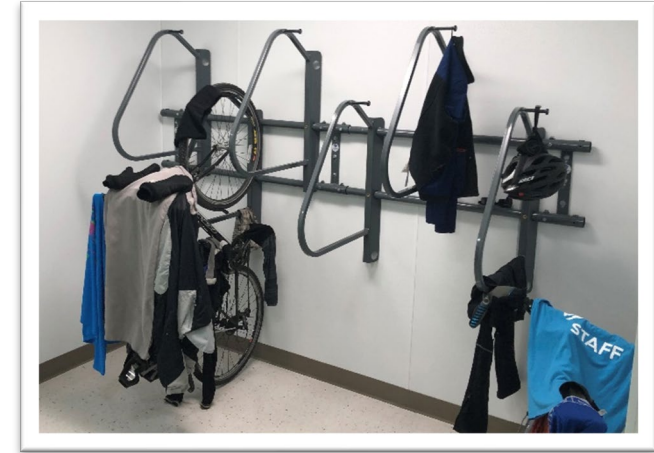
Bicycle commuting resources and strategies for employers

Employers can:

- Hold an on-site bicycle safety check
- Offer a Lunch and Learn or webinar on how to bike to work
- Provide showers and lockers
- Provide indoor or covered bike parking
- Offer bike repair materials: tire pump, patch kits, tools for fixing minor issues
- Purchase bicycles employees can use over lunch for errands or exercise

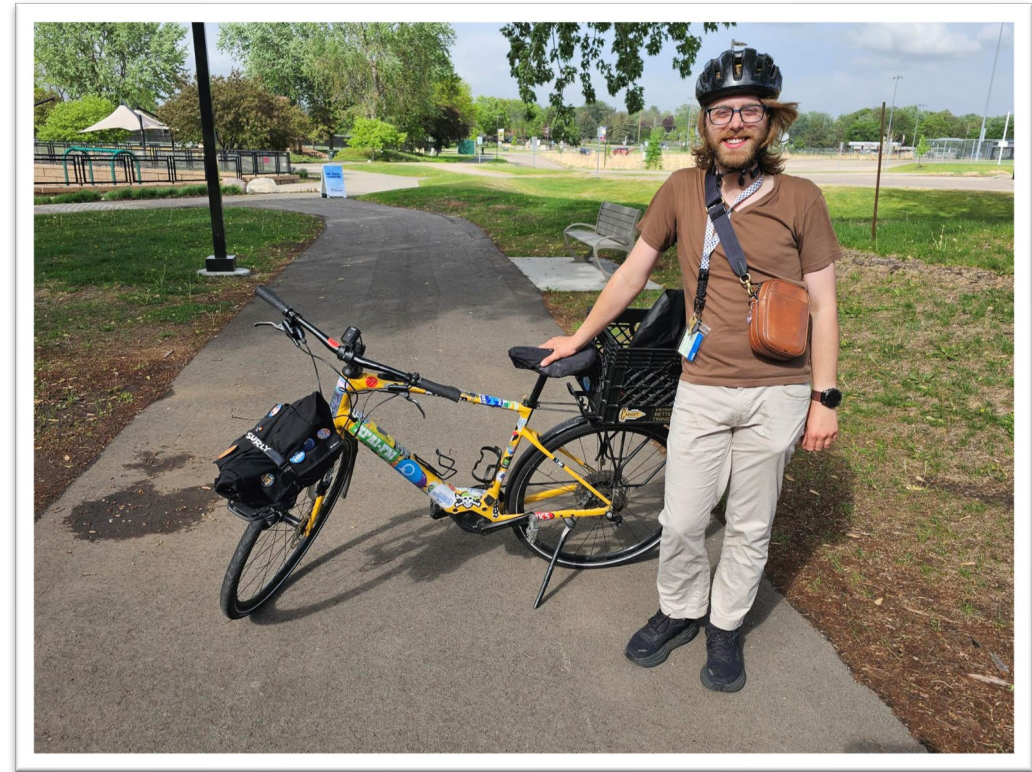
Commuter Services can help you:

- Provide free bicycle commute resources and bike trail updates
- Use our demonstration bus bike rack so employees can learn how to place a bicycle on a bus bike rack in a no-stress environment



Bicycle commuting resources for commuters

- Sign up for Bike Trail Updates (email)
- Watch on-demand bike to work commuting webinars
- Ask for a demonstration on how to put your bike on transit
- Request free resources:
 - Bicycle commuting guide with tips for riding in traffic
 - Hennepin County Bike Map
 - Clothing recommendations
 - Winter Bike Commuting Guide
 - And more!



Transit resources for employers

- Offer Metropass a discounted transit pass with unlimited rides
- Transit information tailored for the needs of your worksite
 - Bus and train schedules
 - Transit system maps
 - Fares and Frequency brochures
 - Riders Guide in multiple languages
 - Metro micro information (Bloomington)



Transit resources for commuters

- Customized bus/train route itinerary with schedules plus **two free ride passes**
- Transit Assistance Program (TAP) information
 - Available in multiple languages
- METRO System Brochure
- Transit system map
- Text for Safety
- Reloadable passes



Commuter information for residential properties

- Free commuter resources, tailored to fit your multifamily property's needs
 - Transit Assistance Program (TAP)
 - Free displays, maps and more
 - Resources in multiple languages
- Great addition to resident events with resources and swag for free
- Quarterly residential newsletter with downloadable resources for resident portals, newsletters, and flyers
- For information, contact Michelle Leonard at MLEonard@494corridor.org



Carpool assistance for employers

- Assist with formation of carpools and vanpools
- Create maps for employees to see how many people live near them for ride matching
- Conduct meetings to gather employees by home location to help form carpools and vanpools
- Provide carpool and vanpool preferred parking signs; we manage program for you
- Carpool information available in multiple languages



Carpooling for commuters

- Tips on how to set up a successful carpool
- Free carpool matching program
- Many employers offer preferential parking for carpools
- Other advantages:
 - Use HOV lane for free during peak hours with two or more riders
 - Save money on gas



Metro Vanpool: Employer advantages

- Commuter Services assists employers in setting up a vanpool program
- Metropolitan Council provides 50 percent subsidy on each vanpool
- Employers can choose to subsize
- Tax benefits



Metro Vanpool for commuters

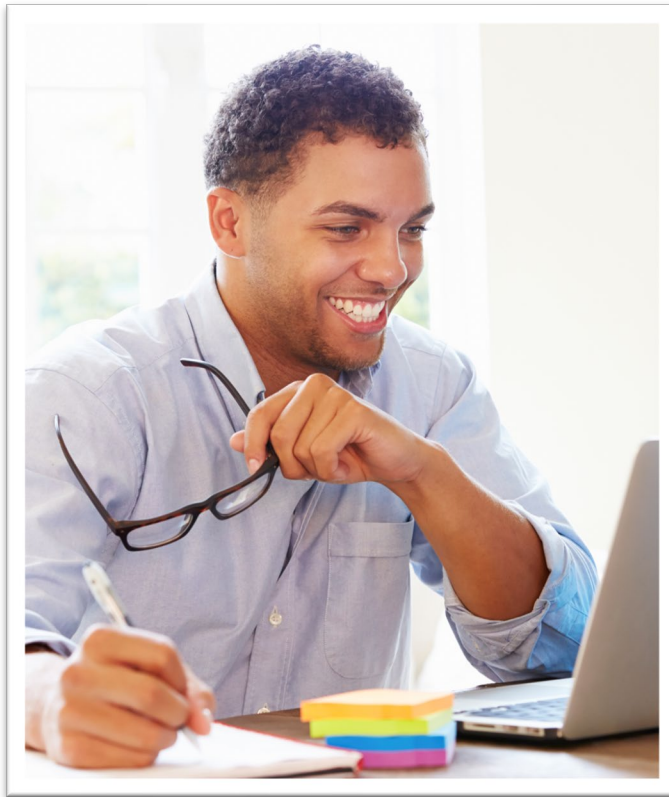
- Ideal for longer commutes
- Need just four people to start vanpool
- 50 percent of each vanpool is subsidized by the Met Council
- Lease agreement between primary driver and Commute with Enterprise
- Lease includes maintenance, repairs, \$1 million liability insurance, 24-hour roadside assistance
- Flexible: 30-day notice to leave or terminate



Try It Campaigns and Events

- Monthly prize drawings for trying a sustainable commute
- Invite us to Earth Day/Month, sustainability, employee appreciation events
- May is Bike Month – enter to win an electric bike





Free resources for employers,
managers and teleworkers

Online, anytime: tctelework.com

Free telework/hybrid work resources

- 🌱 Sample telework and hybrid policies
- 🌱 Teleworker agreement
- 🌱 Implementation guidance
- 🌱 Consulting on best practices
- 🌱 Training for managers on how to manage remote workers
- 🌱 Ask the Expert
- 🌱 On-demand webinars
- 🌱 Mental health resources
- 🌱 Ergonomic and home office recommendations
- 🌱 FOMO resources for managers and teleworkers
- 🌱 Quarterly Telework Trends newsletter
- 🌱 And many more telework/hybrid resources



More resources for commuters and employers

Guaranteed Ride Home

- Provides “a safety net” for commuters who take sustainable commutes three or more days per week
- Paid for by the Metropolitan Council, **free** to the commuter
- Registered participants get up to \$100 annually in rides (Uber, Lyft, transit, etc.)
- Available in multiple languages

Stay in the know with our newsletters

Commuter newsletter: Monthly email, features regular updates on all road construction projects along with transit, bike commuting and telework news

- Sign up at: [commuter.org](https://www.commuter.org)

Employer newsletter: Quarterly email with information about sustainable commute programs, road construction updates, transit improvements and more

- Sign up by emailing Kate Meredith: kate@494corridor.org

Twin Cities Telework newsletter: Quarterly email featuring telework and hybrid trends, best practices, tips to start and maintain your work from home programs, and more

- Sign up at the Twin Cities Telework website: [tctelework.com](https://www.tctelework.com)



Questions?



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Thank you for joining us

