

AGENDA ITEM – 3B



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
Jessica Jagoe, City Administrator

FROM: David Swearingen, P.E. Public Works Director / City Engineer

SUBJECT: Proposed trails within Ramsey County Right-of-Way

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
N/A	N/A	N/A

Council Should Consider

Council should consider proposed trail improvements within Ramsey County Right-of-Way.

Background

Ramsey County Public Works conducts an annual “Locally Led Project Solicitation” beginning in April for proposed projects that fall within Ramsey County Right-of-Way (ROW). This upcoming solicitation is for anticipated projects for the 2028 and/or 2029 construction seasons.

Discussion

Considering the upcoming potential changes to Ramsey County’s cost-share policy as it relates to trails, staff is requesting City Council consider programming additional trail improvements that are within Ramsey County ROW. Staff suggest trail projects that are adjacent to residential type properties as typically trail improvements can be required for commercial type properties as they redevelop. A map of the entire Arden Hills pathway system is shown in Attachment A. The following images show the specific segments staff suggests the City Council consider.

Old Highway 10 from Lake Valentine Rd to Hwy-96 (2027 construction) and Lake Johanna Blvd from County Rd D to Old Snelling (2029-2031 construction) are already within Ramsey County’s TIP and Arden Hills’ CIP, therefore, these are not included in the following.

Suggested proposed trail segments (yellow in images below).

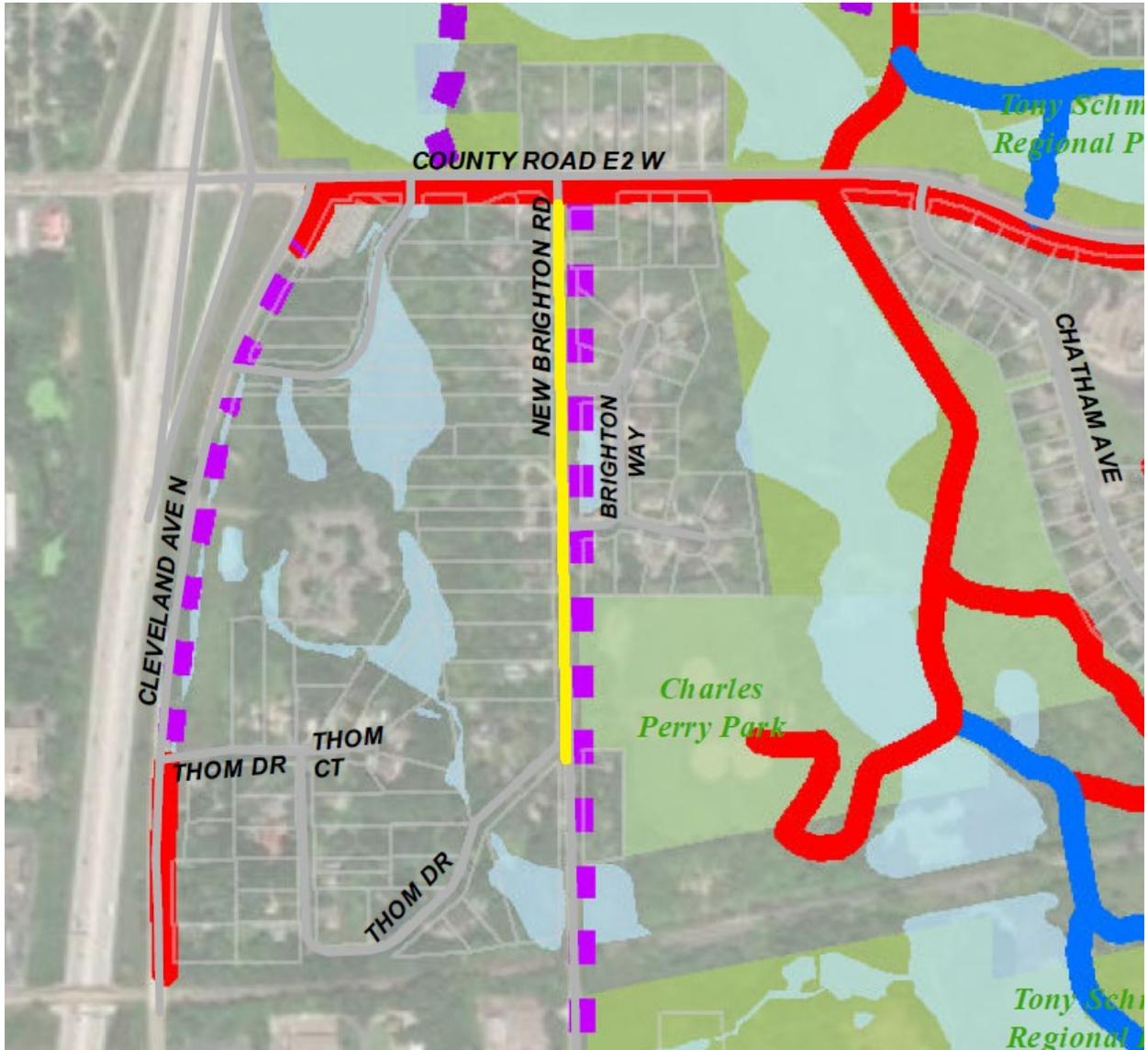
Lexington Ave from County Rd D to Harriet Ave.:

- Option 1A: Entire length = 3,900-feet; Estimated cost = \$1,365,000
- Option 1B: Edgewater Ave. to Tiller Ln. length = 1,400-feet; Estimated cost = \$490,000
- Option 1C: Edgewater Ave to Ingerson Rd. = 750-feet; Estimated cost = \$262,500



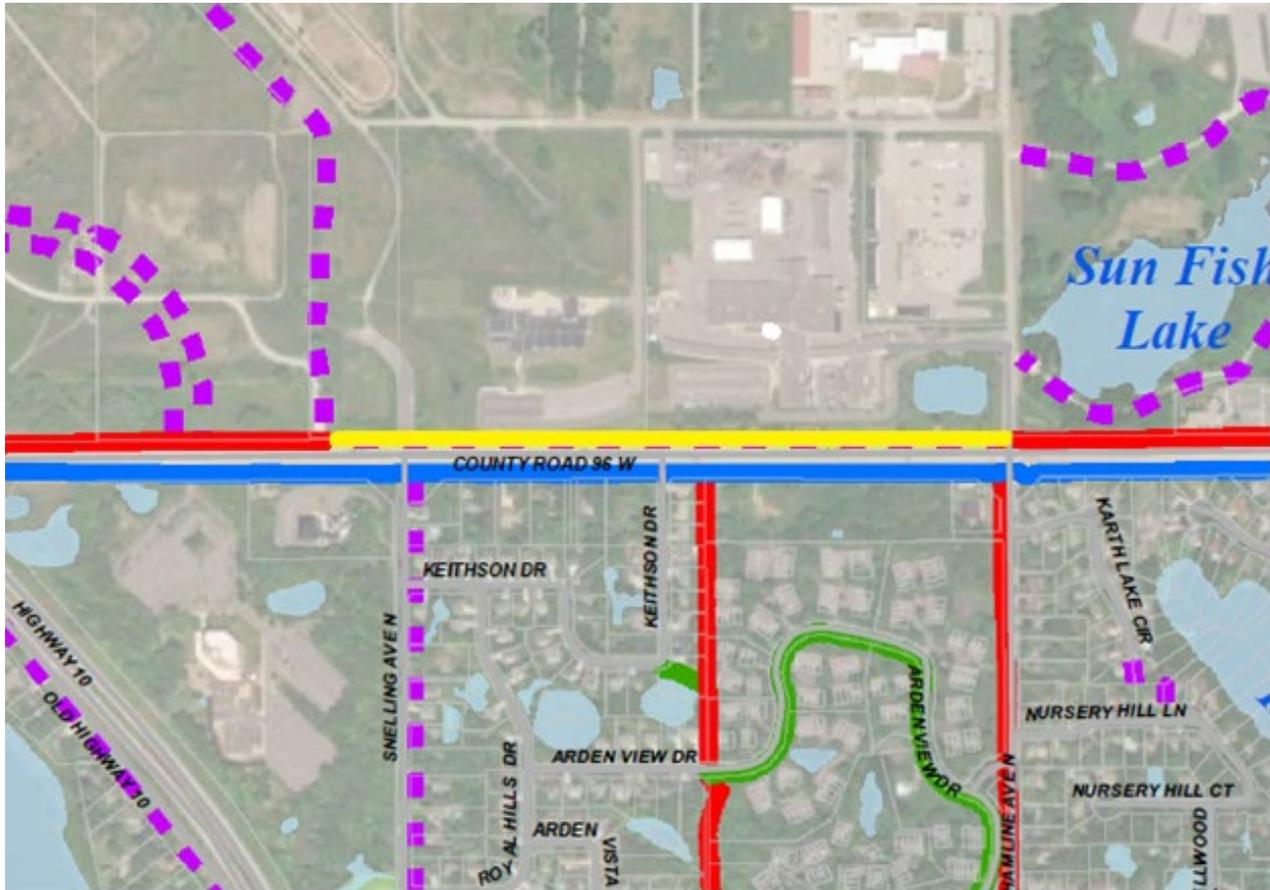
New Brighton Rd from County Rd E2 to Thom Dr. (Connect to Perry Park):

- Option 2: Entire length = 1,800-feet; Estimated cost = \$630,000



West Hwy-96 from Rice Creek Commons to Hamline Ave.:

- Option 3: Entire length = 2,950-feet; Estimated cost = \$1,032,500



If staff is provided direction to move forward with any of the options, the next step would be to apply to Ramsey County during the solicitation process which typically begins in April. If the application is accepted by the County, an applicable Resolution will be brought back to City Council to consider.

Budget Impact

Ramsey County’s current cost-share policy is split 50/50 between the City and the County. At this time, there has not been a determined amount for the new cost-share policy, but it is the goal of the County to have it be in favor of the cities. It is anticipated that the updated cost-share policy will go into effect in 2027.

Ramsey County’s available funding for this year’s program is not known at this time.

The City anticipates a PIR Fund balance of \$2,952,649 at the start of 2026. After accounting for the 2026–2030 CIP projects and assuming a 50/50 cost-share split with the County for 2026–2027 project expenditures, the fund is projected to conclude 2029 with a balance of \$1,166,493.

Attachments

- Attachment A – Arden Hills trail system map
- Attachment B – PIR Fund Balance Projection