



Regional Parks Policy Update

Community Development Co.
August 2023

Parks Policy Plan Update Pro

- Park Policy Plan Update
- Review of local comprehensive pla
- Meetings with park implementing agencies
- Review by MPOSC – Jan. - June

Parks Policy Plan Structure

- Introduction
- Policies and Strategies
- System Plan Changes
- Implementation

Parks Policy Plan Update Tim

- Today's meeting:
 - Introduction: Ann Beckman
 - Policies & Strategies: Ann Beckman
 - Proposed System Changes: Jan Young



Parks Policy Plan Update Tim

- Community Development Committee
 - Information item: August 2
 - Action item: August 16
- Metropolitan Council
 - Public Hearing: October 13
 - Adoption: October 27
- 2010-2011: Issue system statements to affected communities regarding regional system changes



Introduction

- The Twin Cities Regional Parks System
- Outdoor recreation now and for the future
- Summary of current park system and funding
- Regional Parks System growth
- Planning for 2030

2030 Forecasts

	1970	2000	2030	1970-2000 increase	p i
Households	573,634	1,021,454	1,492,000	448,000	
Population	1,874,612	2,642,056	3,608,000	767,000	
Jobs	779,000	1,563,245	2,126,000	784,000	



2030 Regional Development Framework

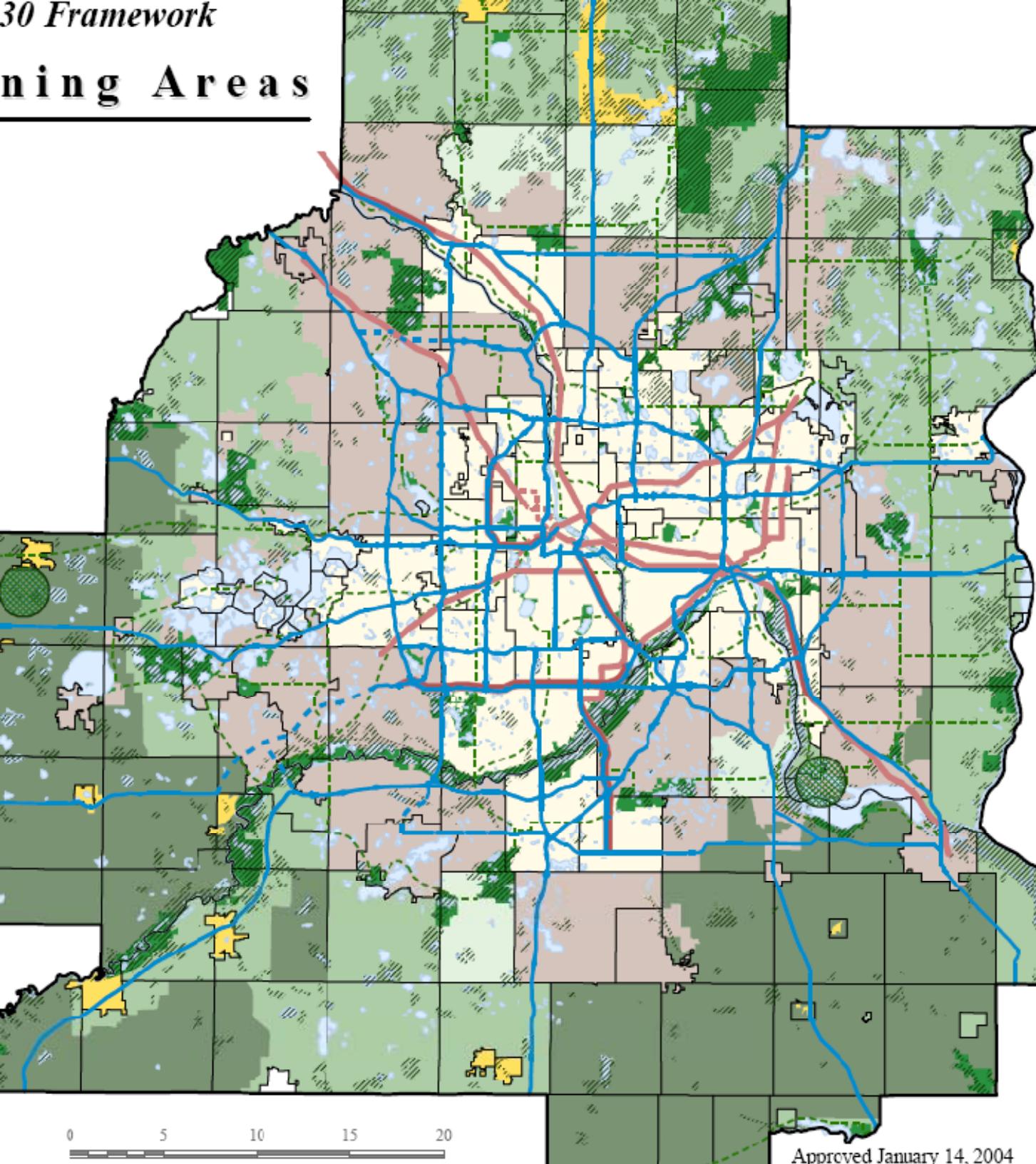
- Work with local communities to accommodate growth in a flexible, connected and efficient manner
- Plan and invest in multi-modal transportation choices based on the full ranges of costs & benefits, to manage growth of congestion & serve the region's economic needs
- Encourage expanded choices in housing location types, and improved access to jobs and opportunities



2030 Regional Development Fra

- Work with local & regional partners to reclaim, conserve, protect and enhance region's vital natural resources:
 - Encouraging the integration of natural resource conservation into all land planning decisions
 - Seeking to protect important natural resources and adding areas to the regional parks system
 - Working to protect the region's water resources

30 Framework Planning Areas



Geographic Plan

Urban Planning Areas

- Developing Area
- Developed Area

Rural

- Developed Community
- Developing Community
- Rural or Agricultural



2030 Regional Development Frame

- Initial chapter & unifying theme of the Council's Metropolitan Development System
- Umbrella statement of regional policy goals & strategies to inform the Council's system plans for:
 - Transportation and aviation
 - Wastewater services
 - Regional parks

2030 Regional Development Frame

Local comprehensive plans are reviewed for:

- Conformance with metropolitan systems plans
- Consistency with Council policies
- Compatibility with adjacent and affected government units



Policies & Strategies- Siting and Acquisition

Policy: Identify lands with high-quality resources...and put these lands in a priority status.

- Strategy 1: Lands with natural resource features and/or access to water bodies priority.
- Strategy 2: Funding will follow priorities of Metropolitan Council approved master



Policies & Strategies- Siting and Acquisition

Policy: Identify lands with high-quality resources...and put these lands in a protected status.

- Strategy 3: New trails, or trail segments that serve a regional audience have priority
- Strategy 4: Special recreation features enhance services and facilities already available without compete with or duplicate them.



Policies & Strategies- Finance

Policy: Provide adequate and equitable funding for the acquisition, rehabilitation development ...that provides the greatest possible benefits to the citizens of the

- Strategy 1: Only projects included in the improvement programs will be funded.
- Strategy 2: Funds will be granted only to regional park implementing agencies.



Policies & Strategies- Finance

- Strategy 3: Investment should be balanced between acquisition and development.
- Strategy 4: Any development should primarily benefit citizens of the metropolitan area.
- Strategy 5: Some emergency funding requests considered.
- Strategy 6: The Council may reimburse implementation agencies for the costs of acquiring some lands they have been made part of the regional park system.



Policies & Strategies- Finance

- Strategy 7: Trails that may be used for transit in the future should only be acquired if it is clear that they will be used as trails for at least 10 years.
- Strategy 8: The Council will support the activities of its non-profit partner, the Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities, in order to raise awareness of the regional parks system, fund support of the regional parks system, and raise private funds to help acquire lands.
- Strategy 9: The Council will actively seek funding from the State and other sources.

Policies & Strategies- Planning

Policy: Promote master planning and help provide integrated resource planning across jurisdictions.

- Strategy 1: Acquisition and improvement projects be part of approved master plans or their amendments.
- Strategy 2: Joint-powers agreements for regional services are encouraged.
- Strategy 3: Projects may share costs, if they are consistent with an approved master plan.



Policies & Strategies- Recreation Activities and Facil

Policy: Provide a regional system of recreation opportunities for all residents, while maintaining the integrity of the natural resource base through the regional parks system.

- Strategy 1: Activities in regional parks tied to the natural resources of the park must not impact them negatively.



Policies & Strategies- Recreation Activities and Facil

- Strategy 2: Most heavy recreational should be in the more urban regional
- Strategy 3: Regional park facilities a programs should encourage use by s populations.
- Strategy 4: Bicycle and pedestrian a and trails must be part of the regional parks.



Policies & Strategies- System Protection

Policy: Protect public investment in acquisition development by assuring that every element system is able to carry out its designated role long as a need for it can be demonstrated.

- Strategy 1: Local comprehensive plans may be changed if planned land uses would have negative impact on current or planned regional lands or facilities.



Policies & Strategies- System Protection

- Strategy 2: Restrictive covenants on regional system lands will only be removed if they are placed on other park land.
- Strategy 3: The Council will only pay for contaminated cleanup when there is no real alternative for the trail function and/or funding.
- Strategy 4: Phase I Environmental Site Assessments must be done for land that may be contaminated that may have abandoned wells on it.



Policies & Strategies- System Protection

- Strategy 5: Telecommunications towers will be allowed in regional parks or park reserves if no alternative site and if mitigation efforts are taken to minimize the impact on park lands and users.
- Strategy 6: Regional wastewater conveyance facilities and other utilities on park lands should be placed in ways that minimize negative impacts on the park, its facilities and its users.



Parks Policy Plan Upd Proposed System Char

Community Development Co
Augus

Plan
s
t

nal Status

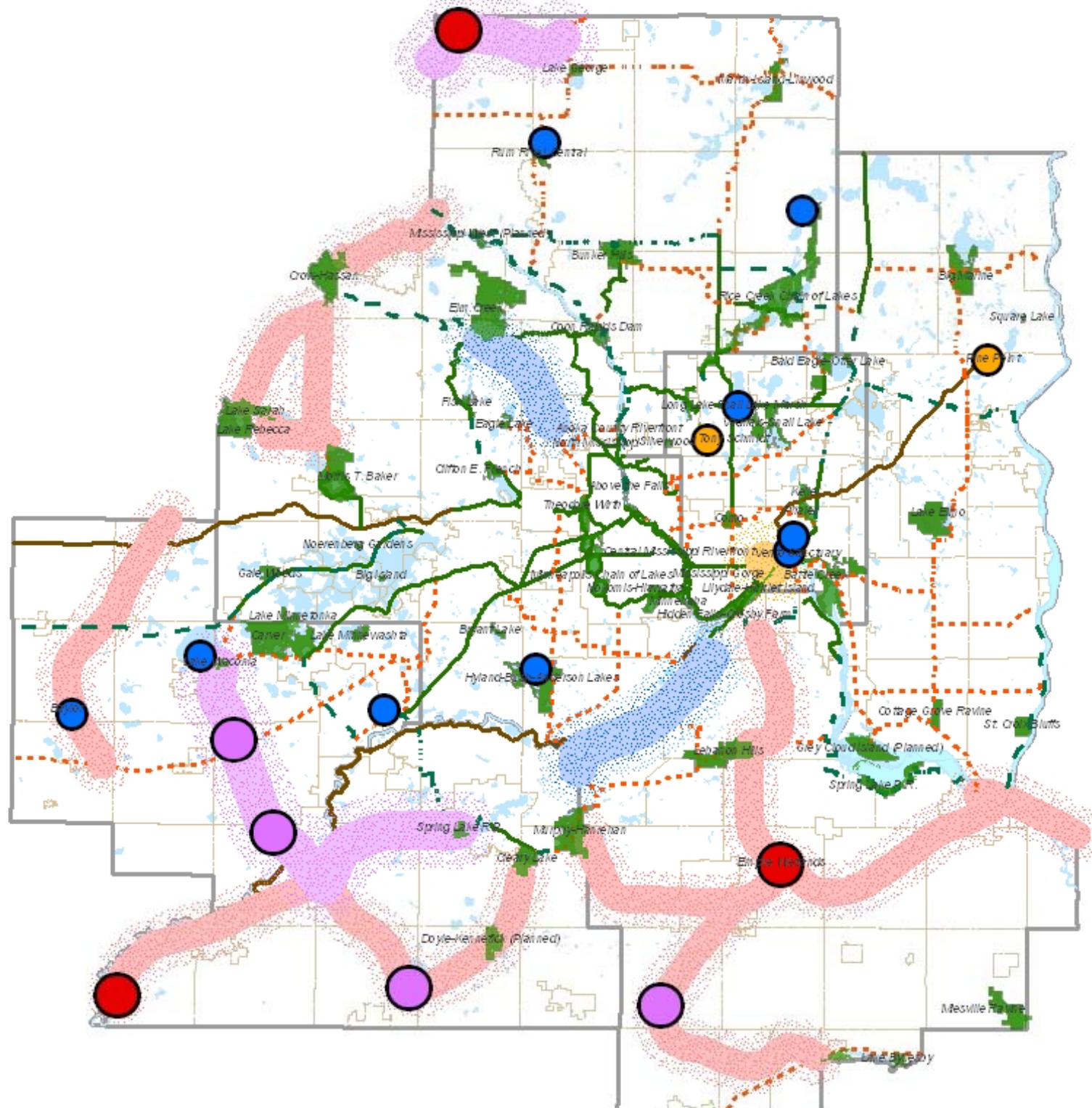
em

Corridors

ment

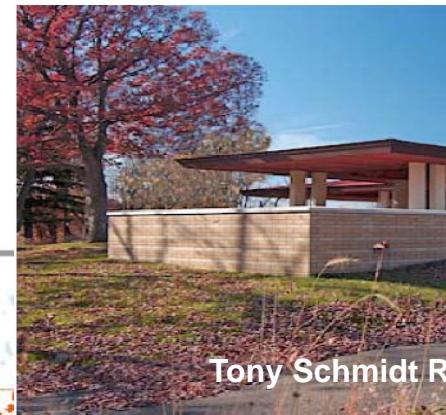
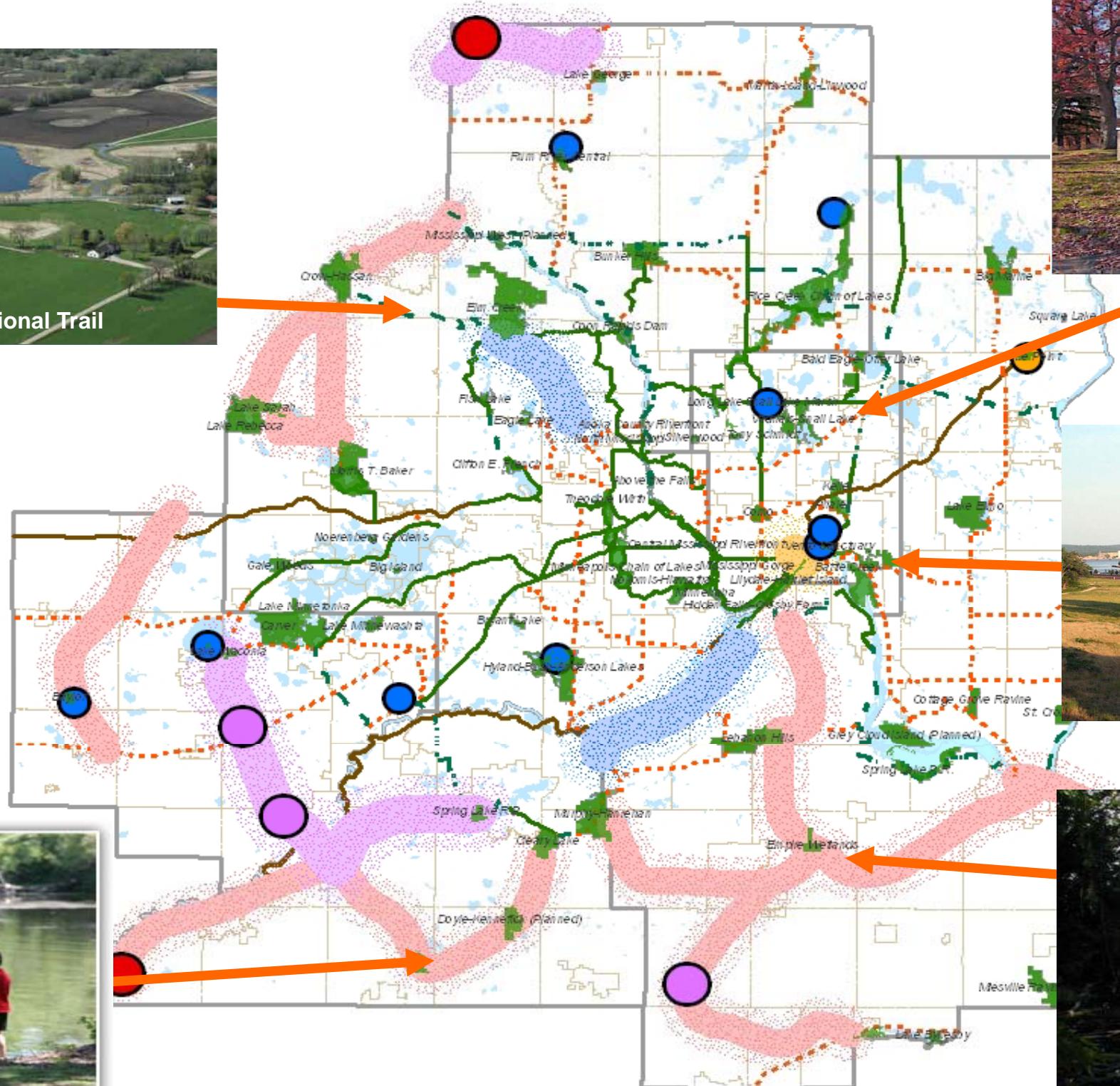
egional Status

System





Minnehaha Creek Regional Trail



Tony Schmidt R



Regional Park



Bruce Vento Nature



“Empire Wetlands” Re

Plan
s
t

nal Status

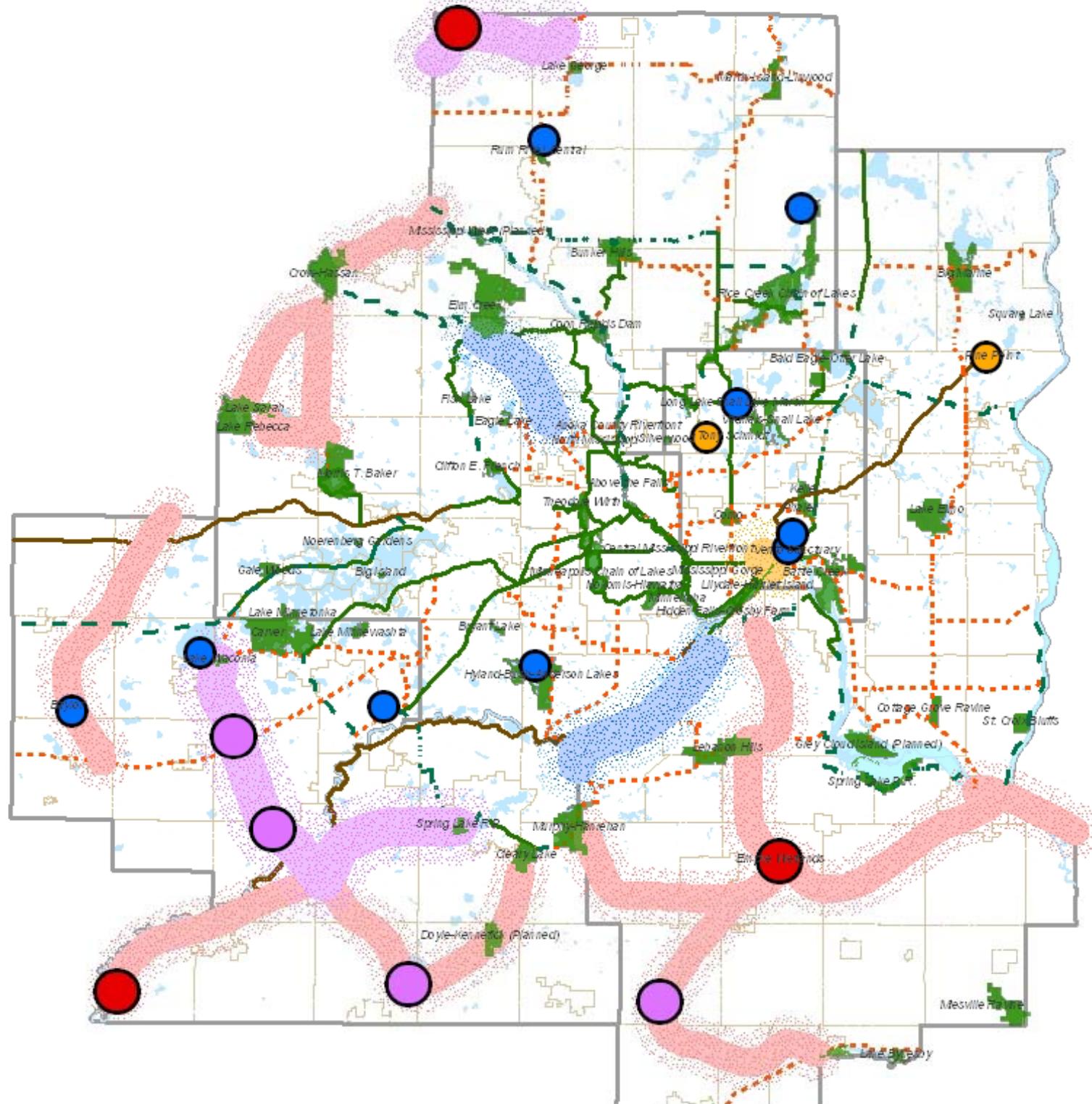
em

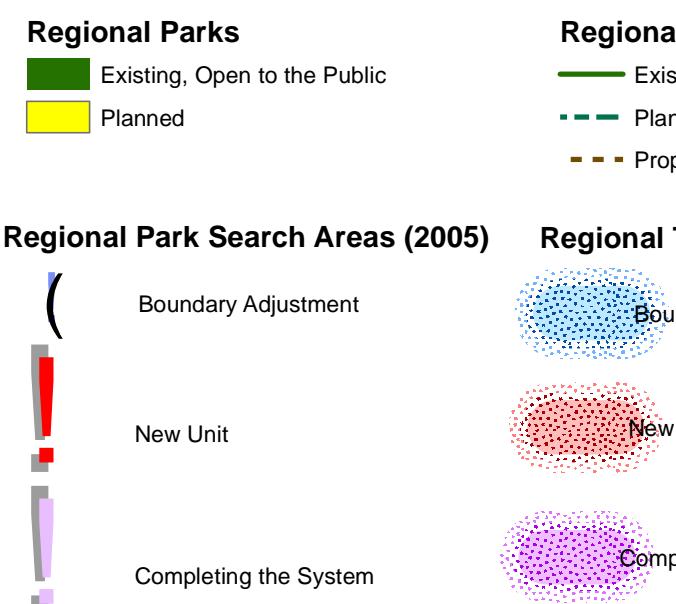
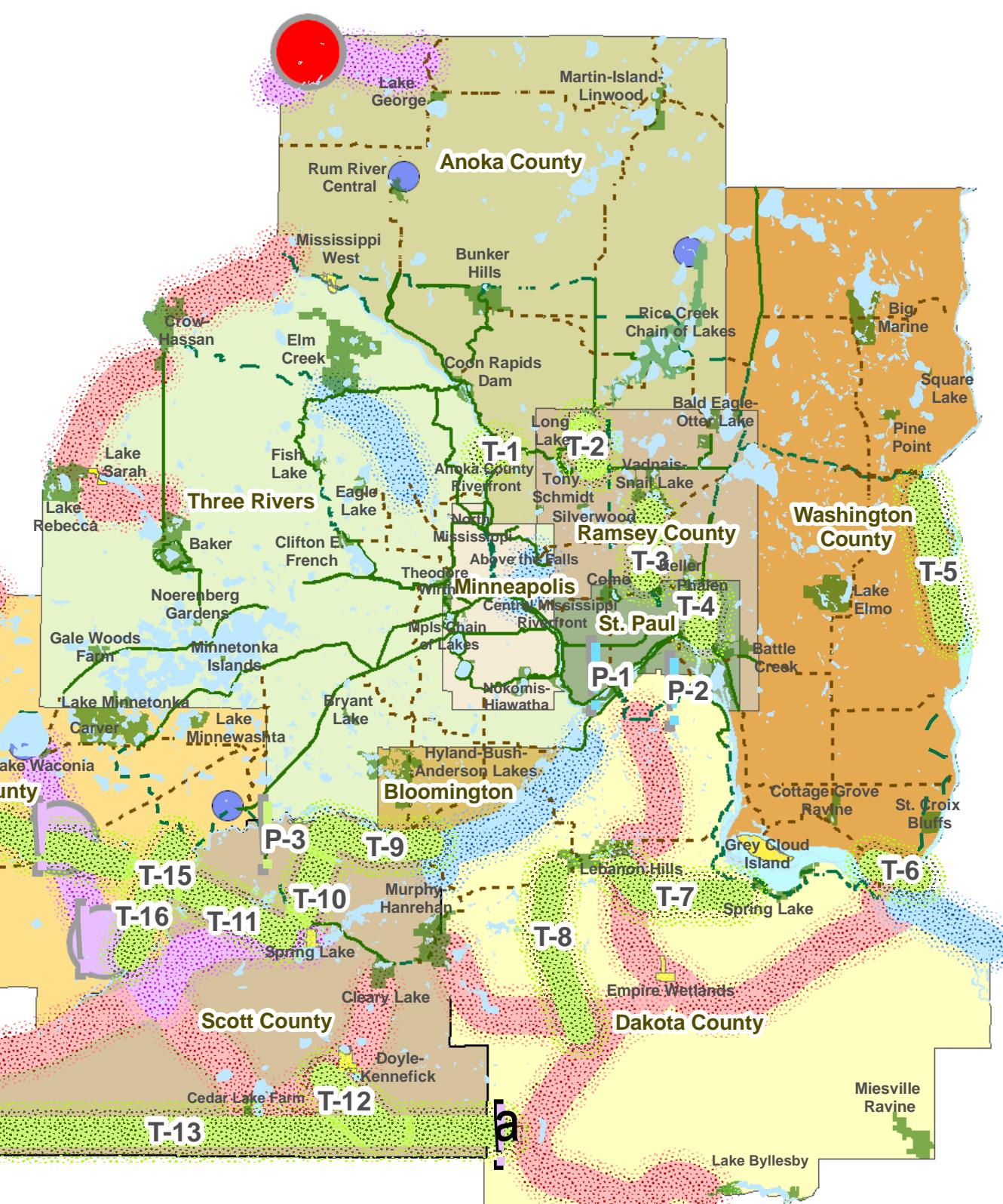
Corridors

ment

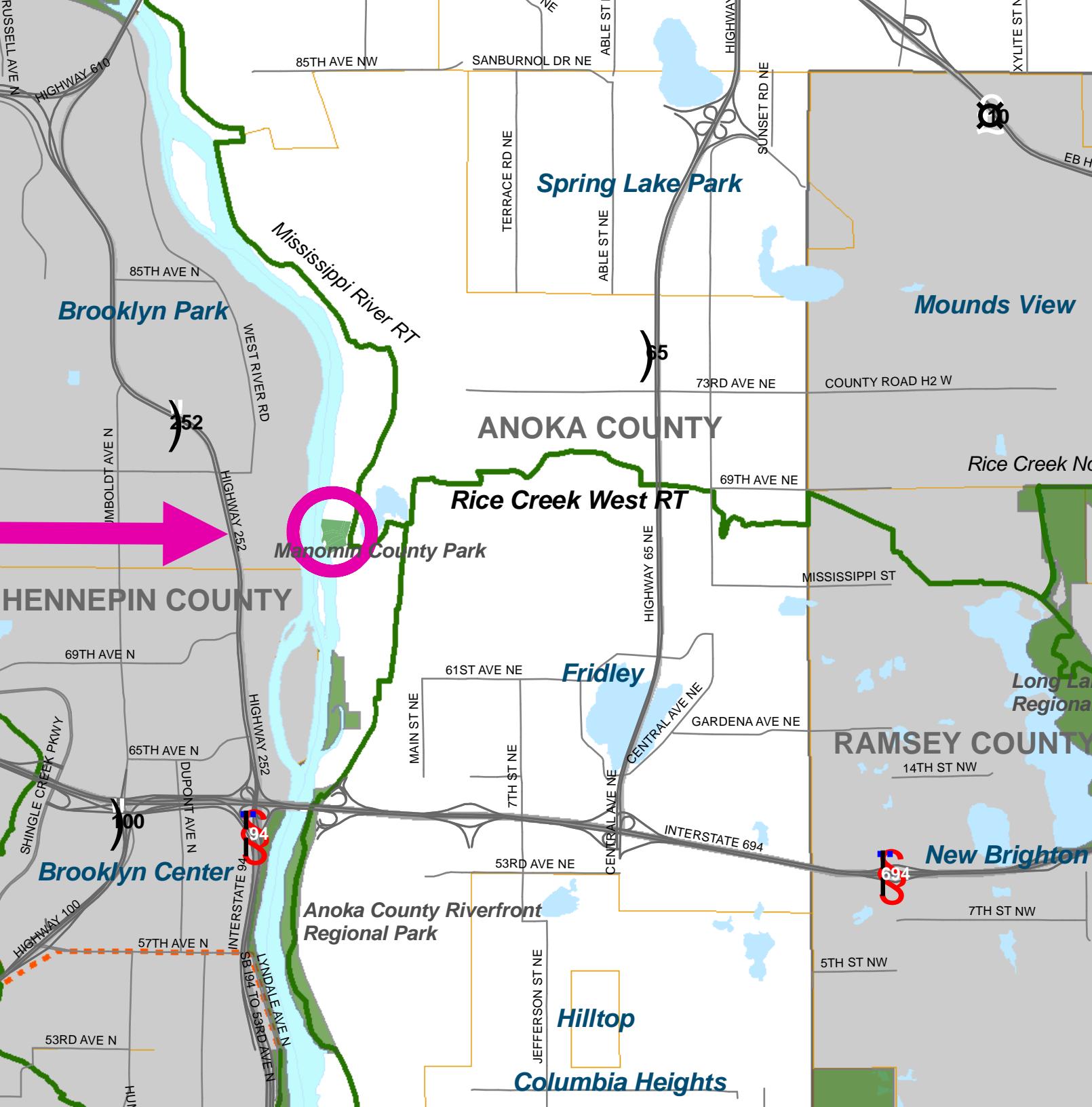
egional Status

System



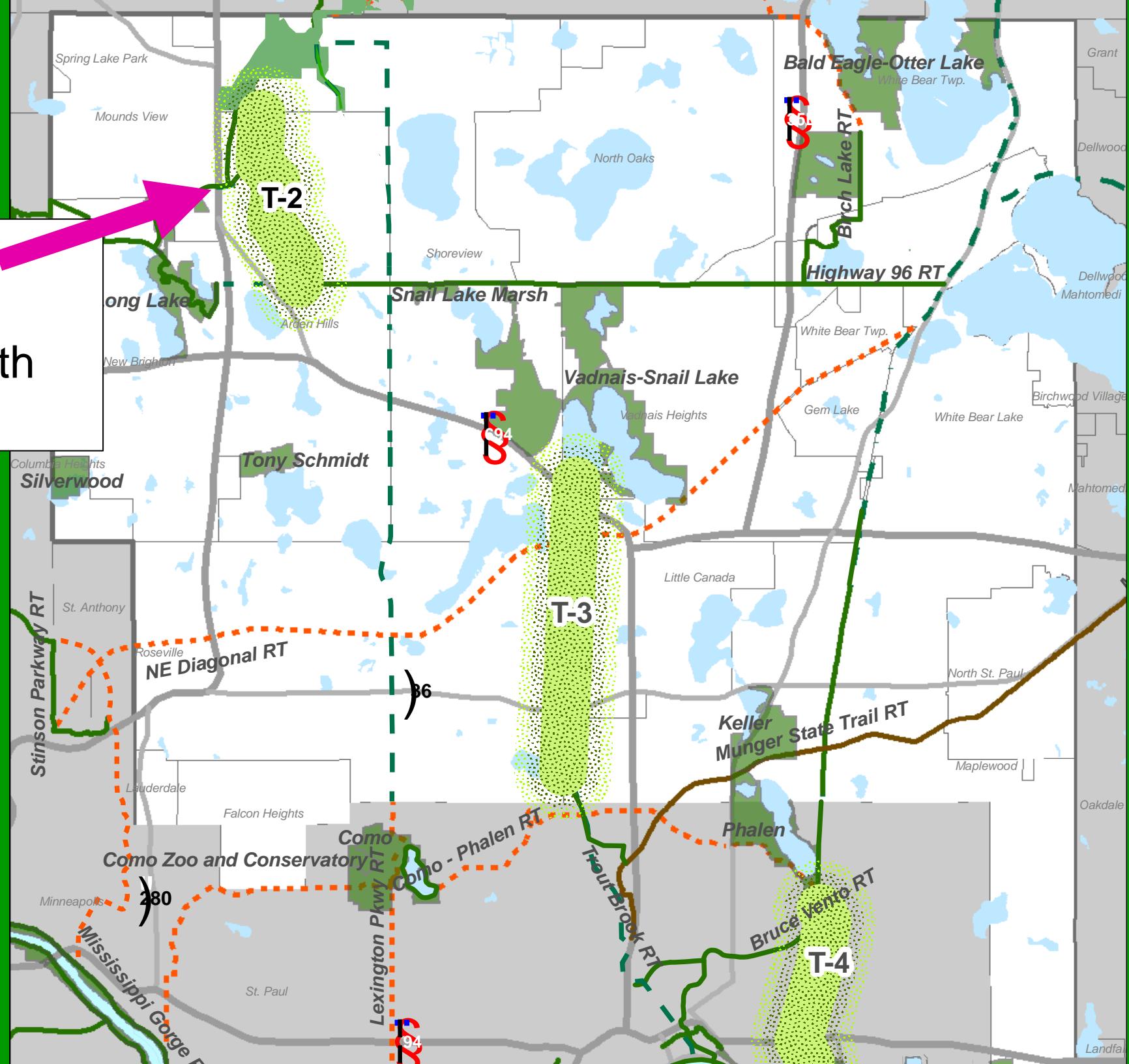


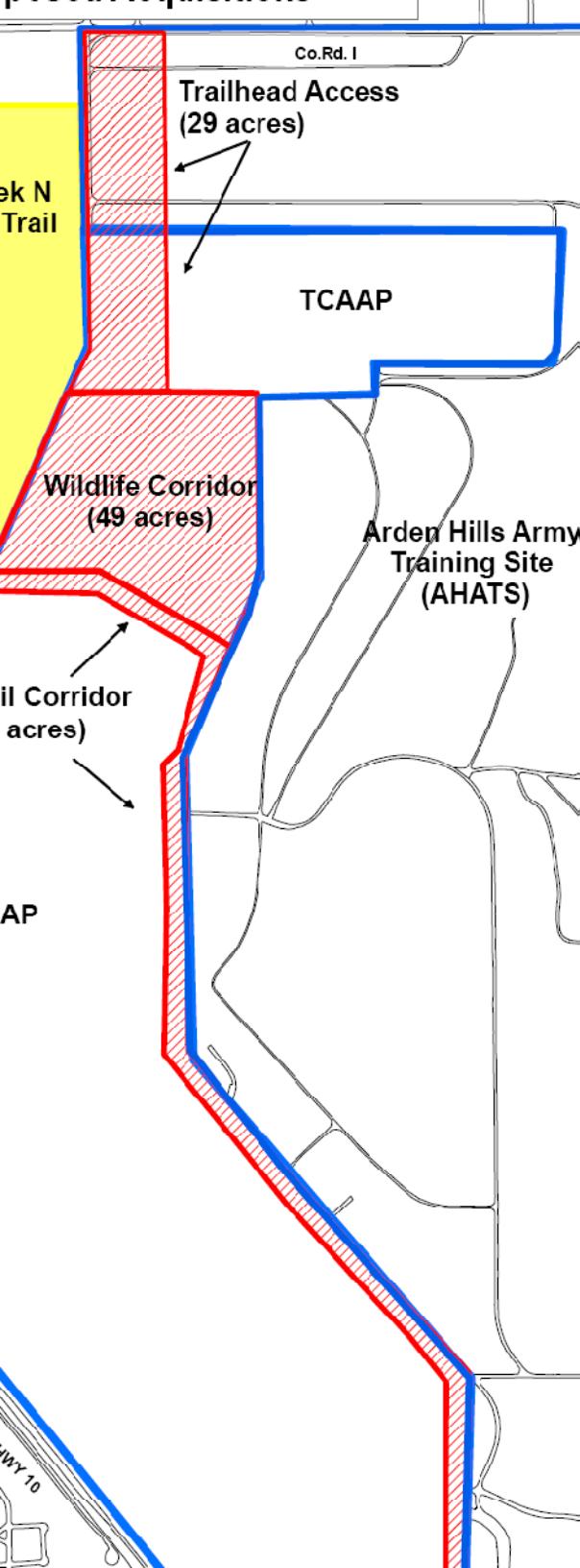
1
Adjustment
West
al Trail
add
ounty Park
l corridor



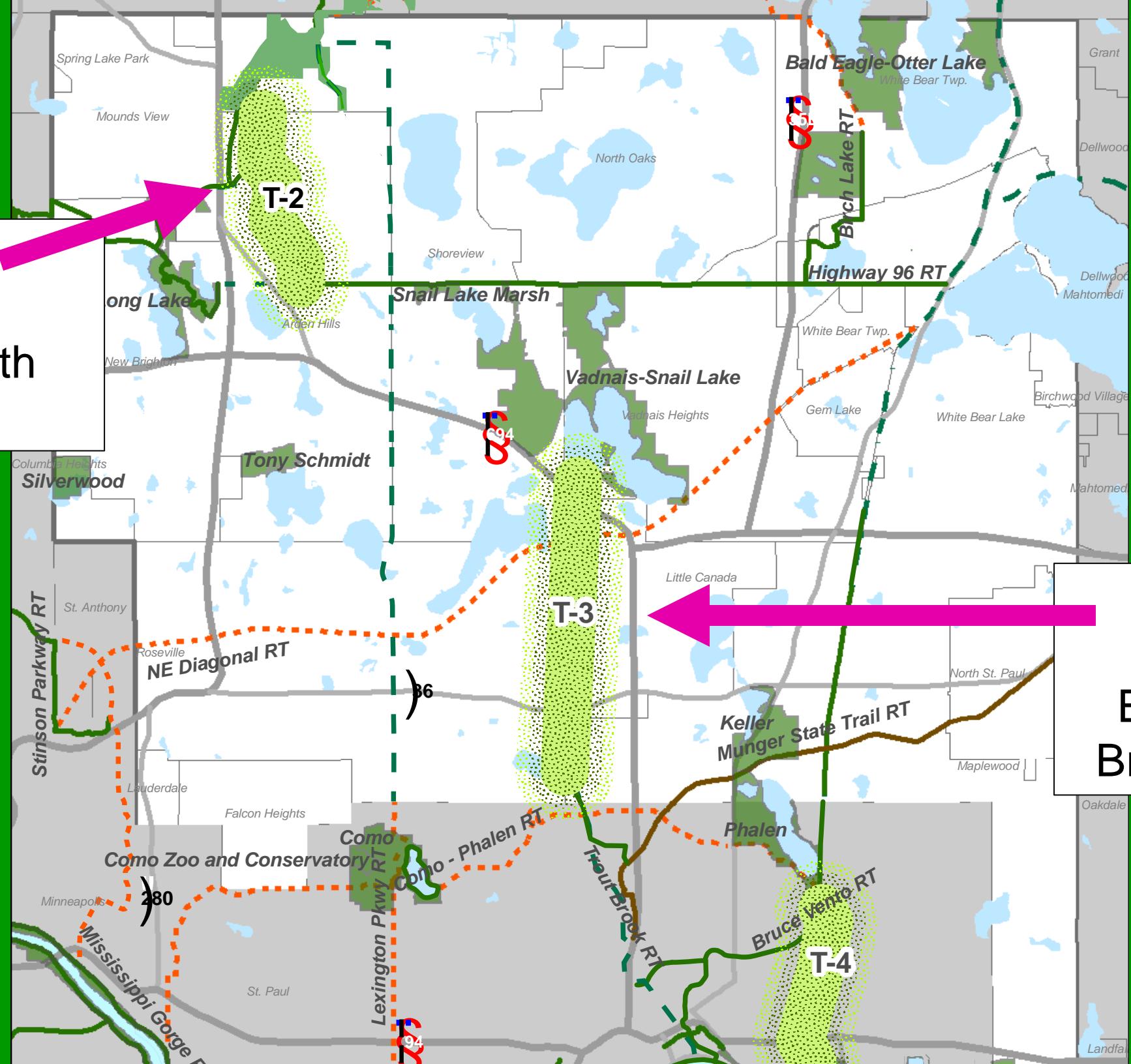


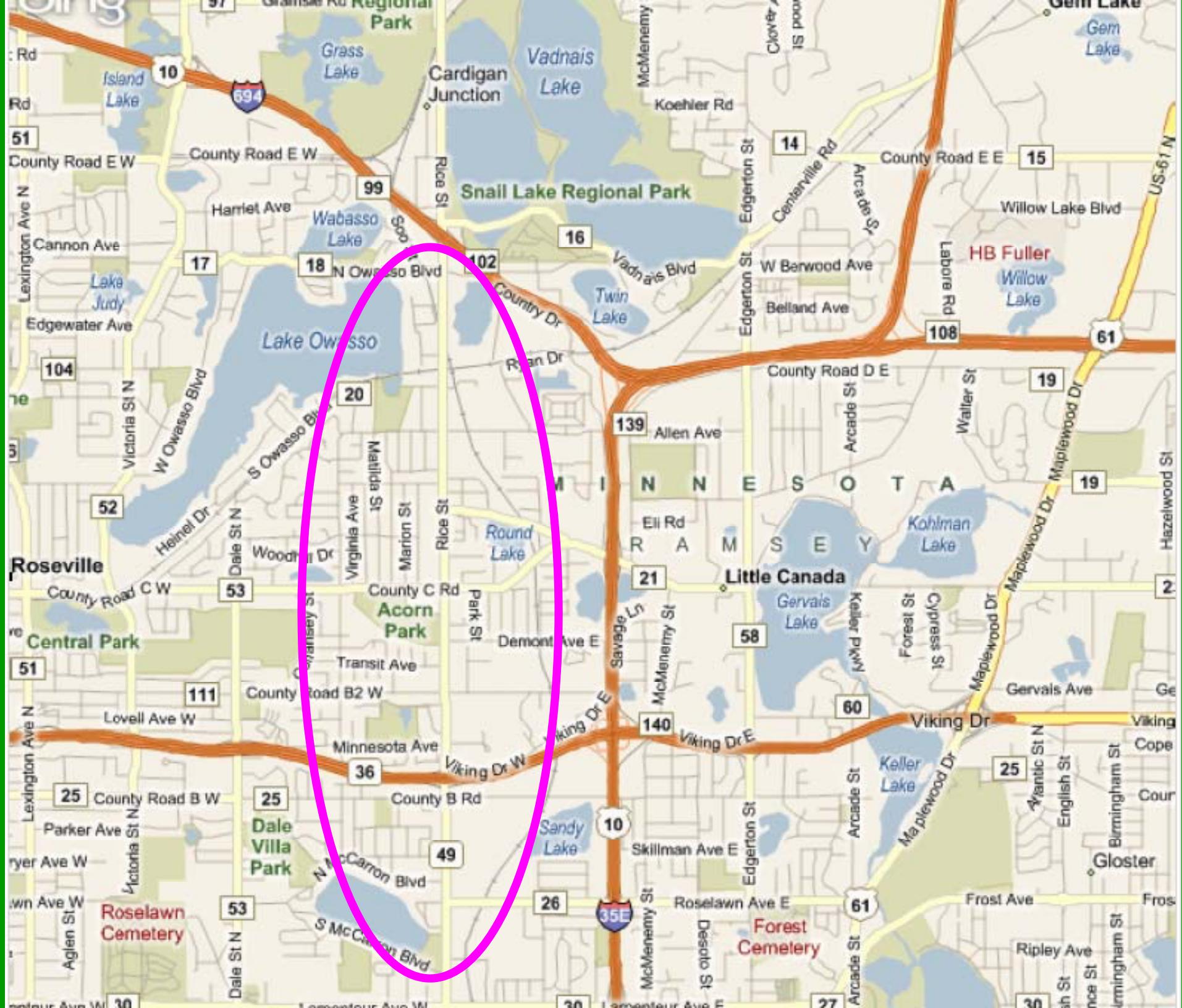
Proposed Bike South Trail

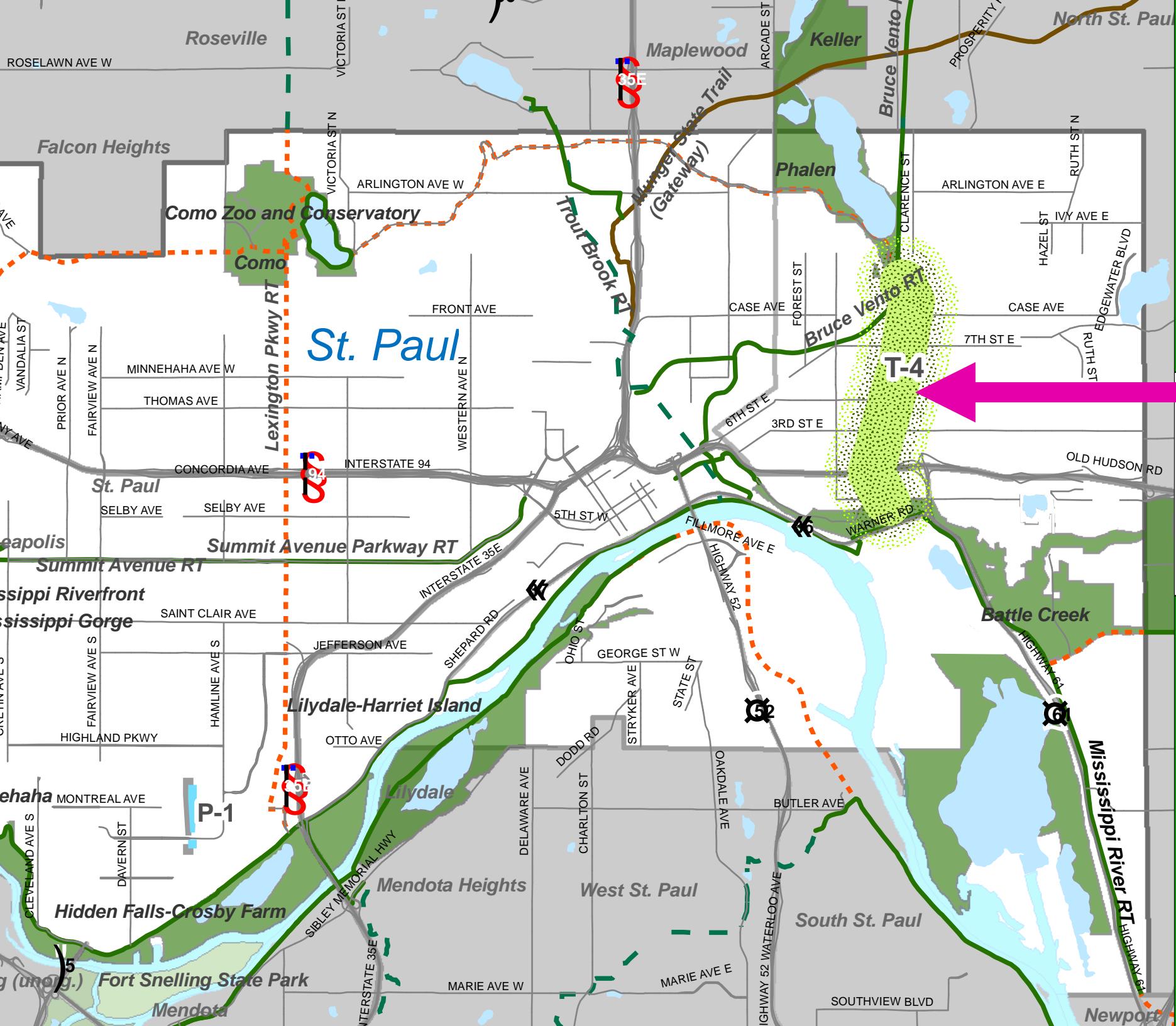




Proposed Bike South Trail

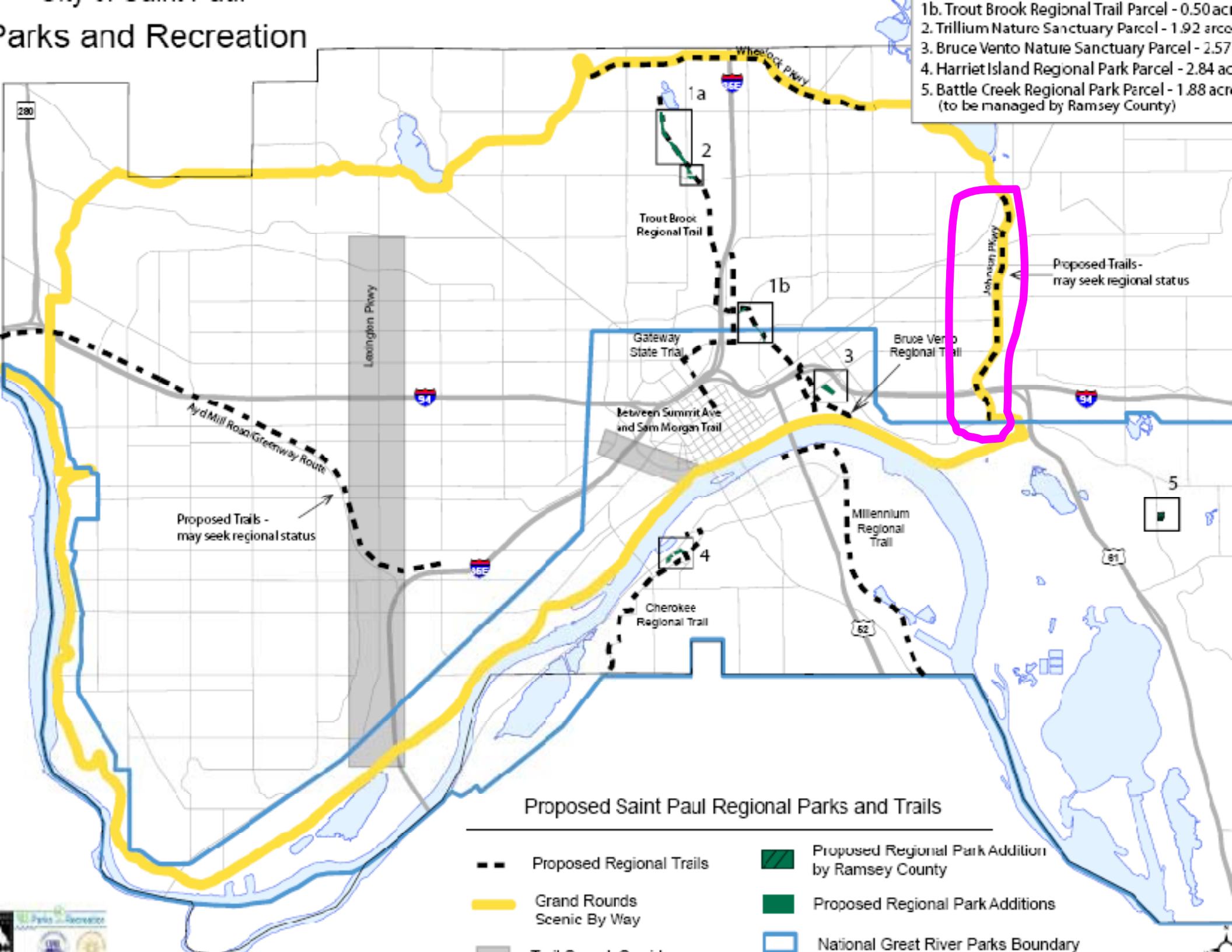






P
Johns
Reg

Parks and Recreation



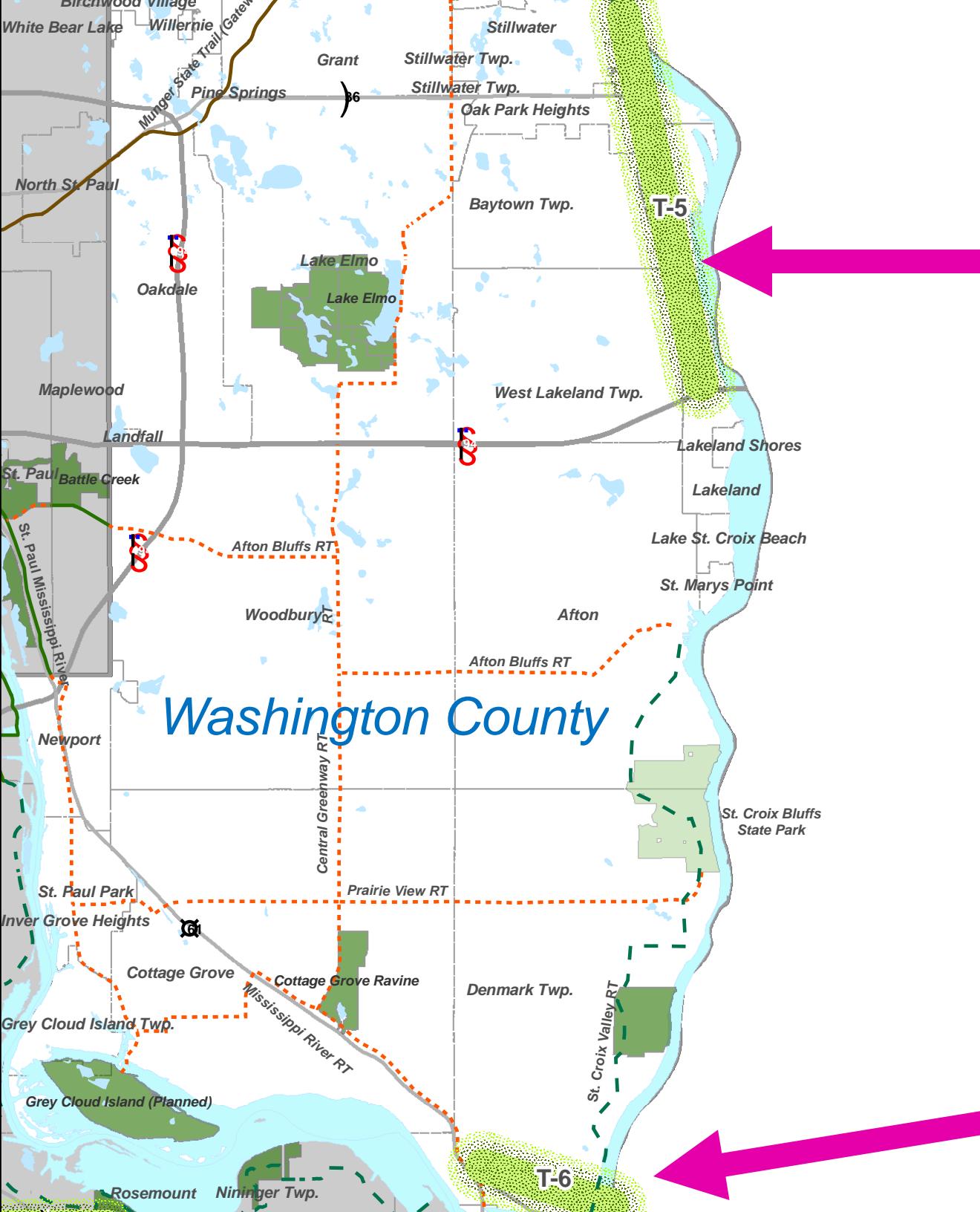






Johnson Parkway →

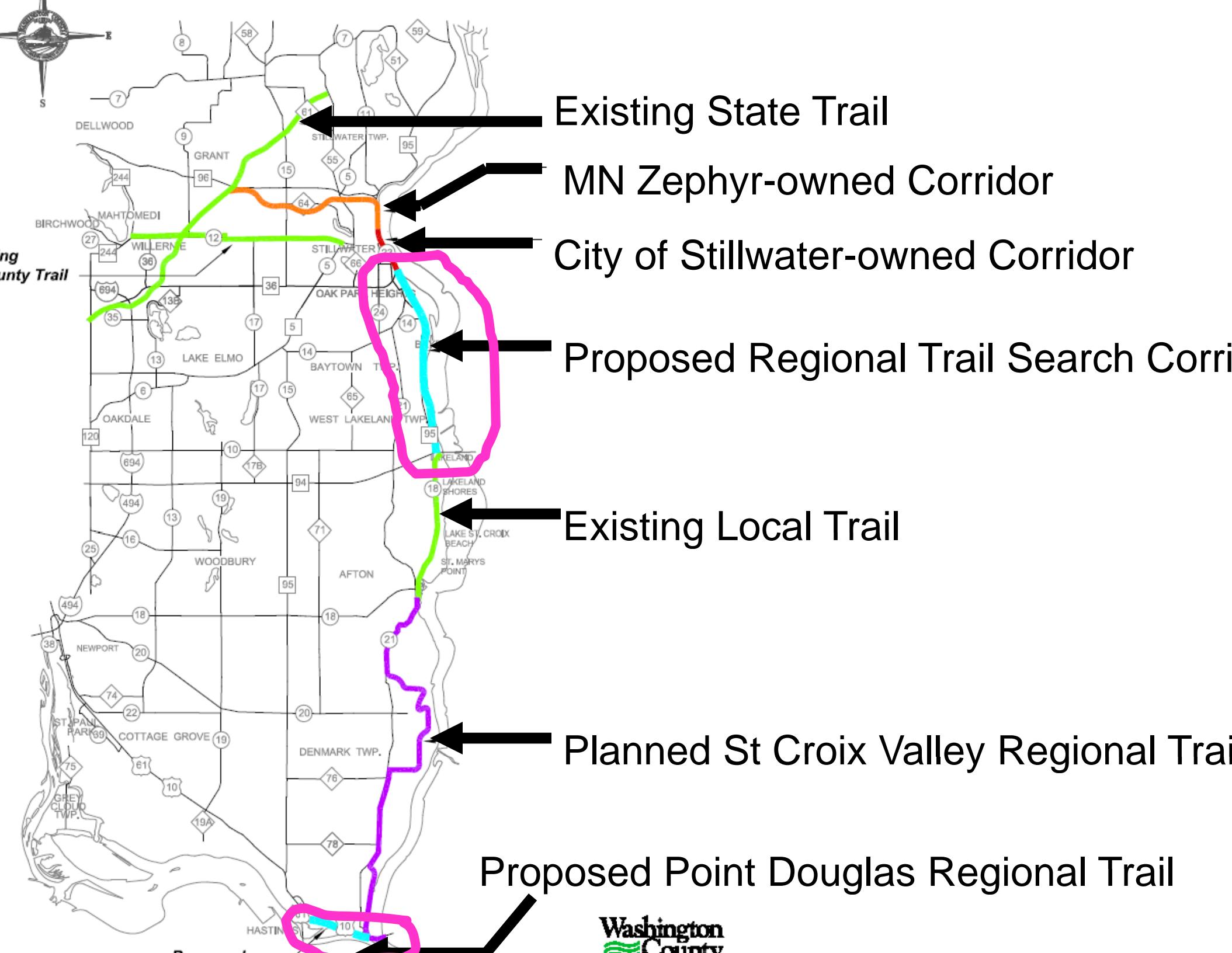
Indian Mounds RP



Middle St.
Region

Washington County

Point
Region



Existing State Trail

MN Zephyr-owned Corridor

City of Stillwater-owned Corridor

Proposed Regional Trail Search Corridor

Existing Local Trail

Planned St Croix Valley Regional Trail

Proposed Point Douglas Regional Trail

Washington County

St Croix Valley RT

Mississippi River RT

**St Croix
River**

11

10

Point Douglas Dr S

Conley Lake

Point Douglas Trail

21

Mississippi River

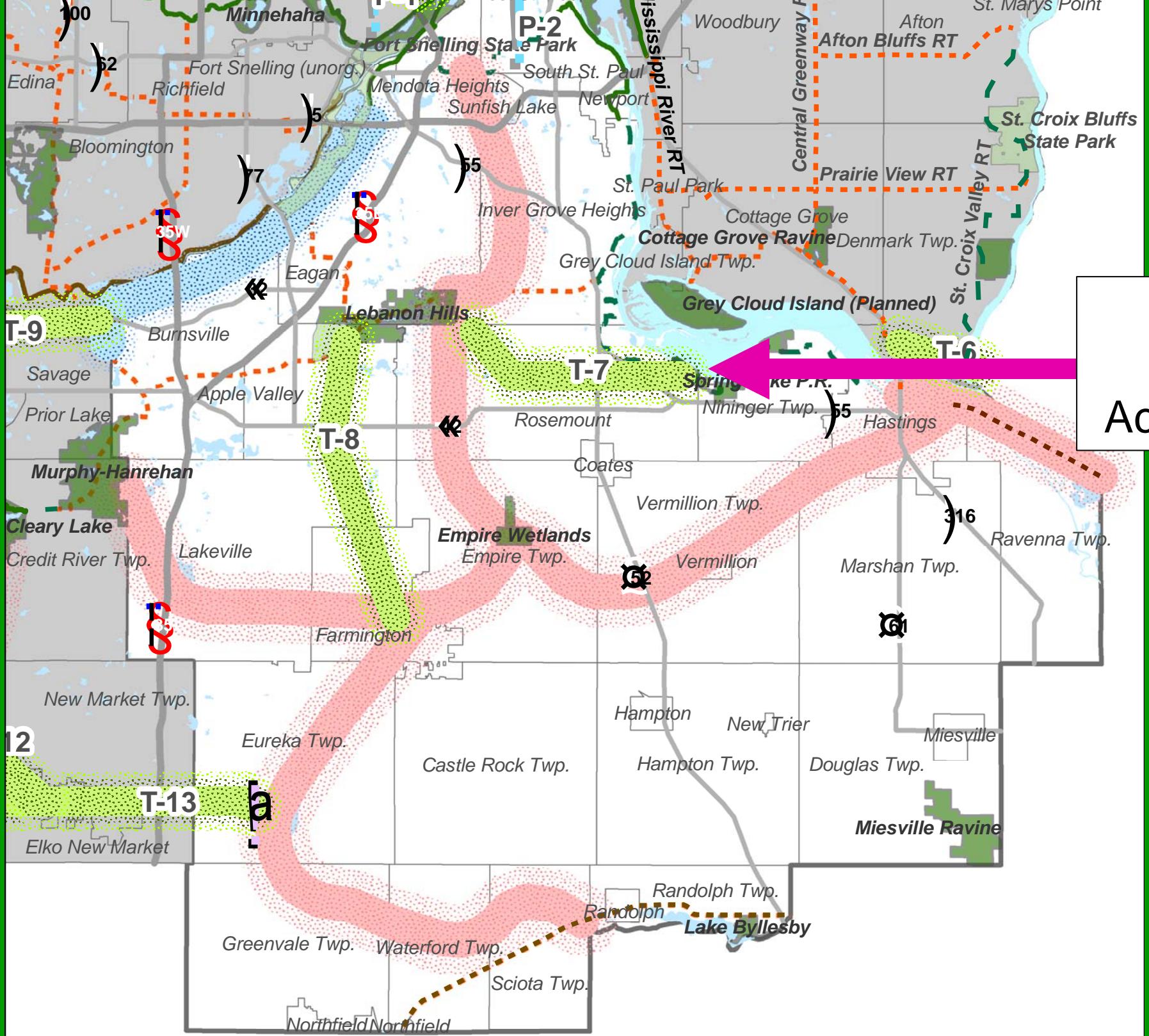
MINNESOTA

Dakota County

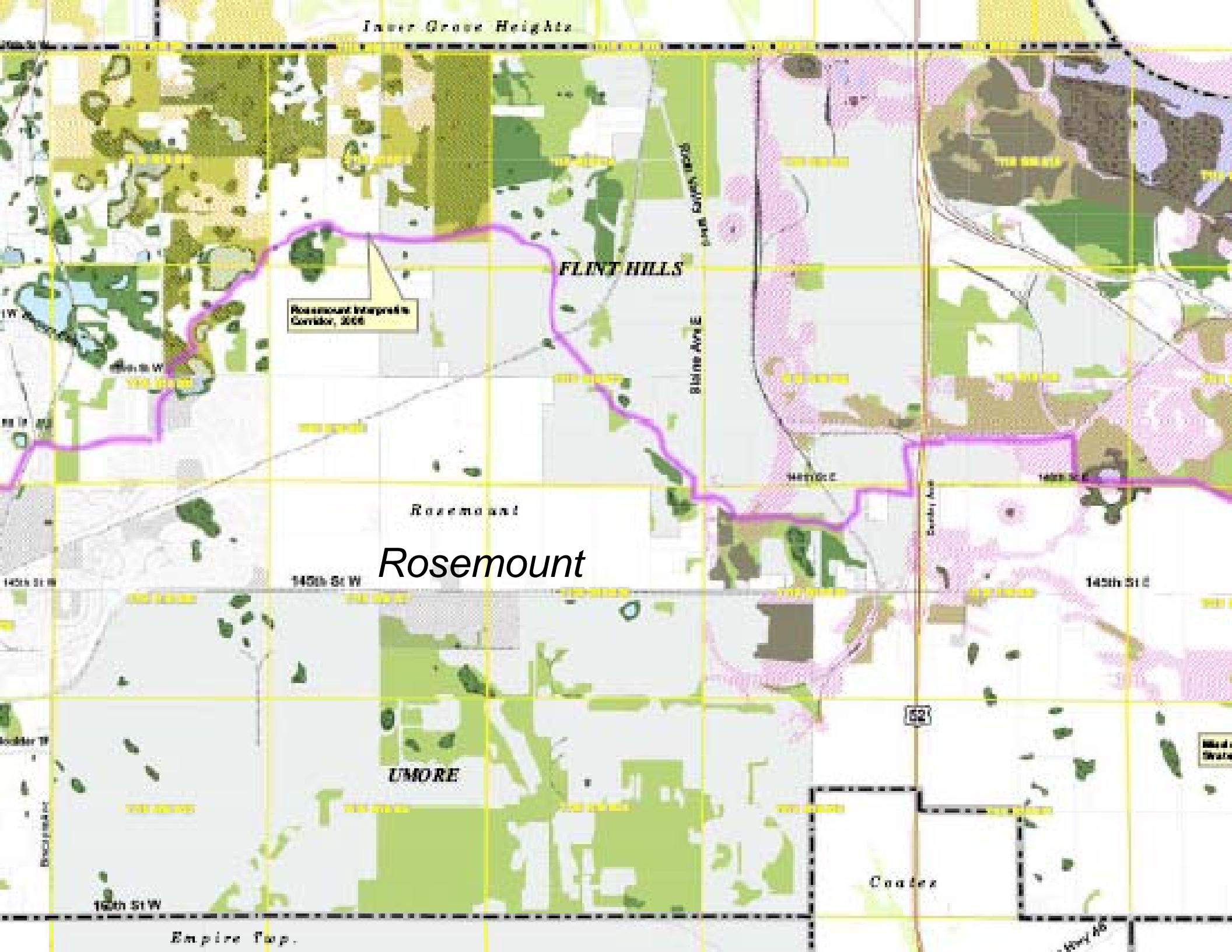
Point Douglas Dr E

St Croix Trail S

Rose Access



Inner Grass Heights

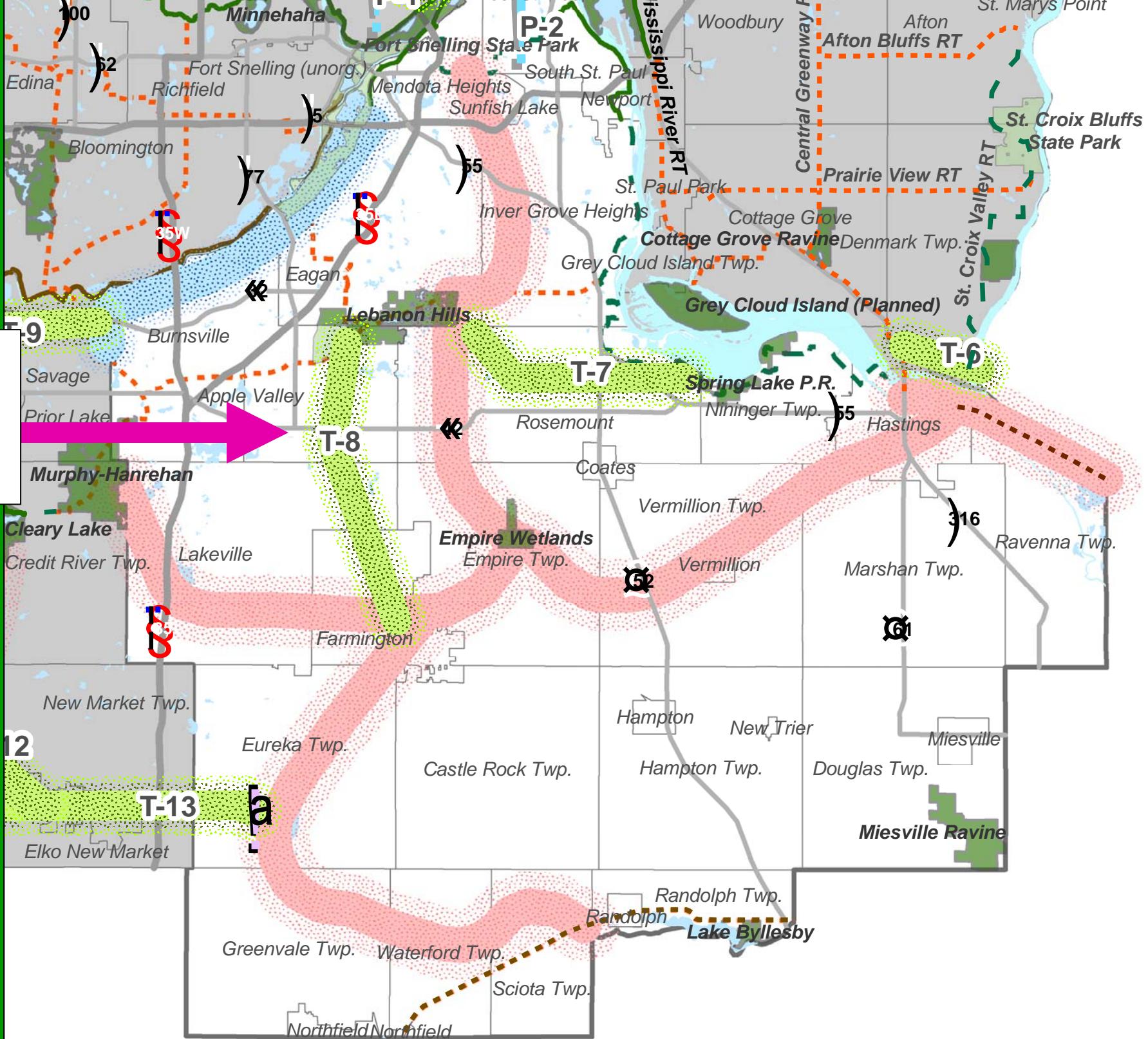


Rosemount

UMORE

Custers

Empire Twp.



System Additions (2010)

Rivers RT Connection

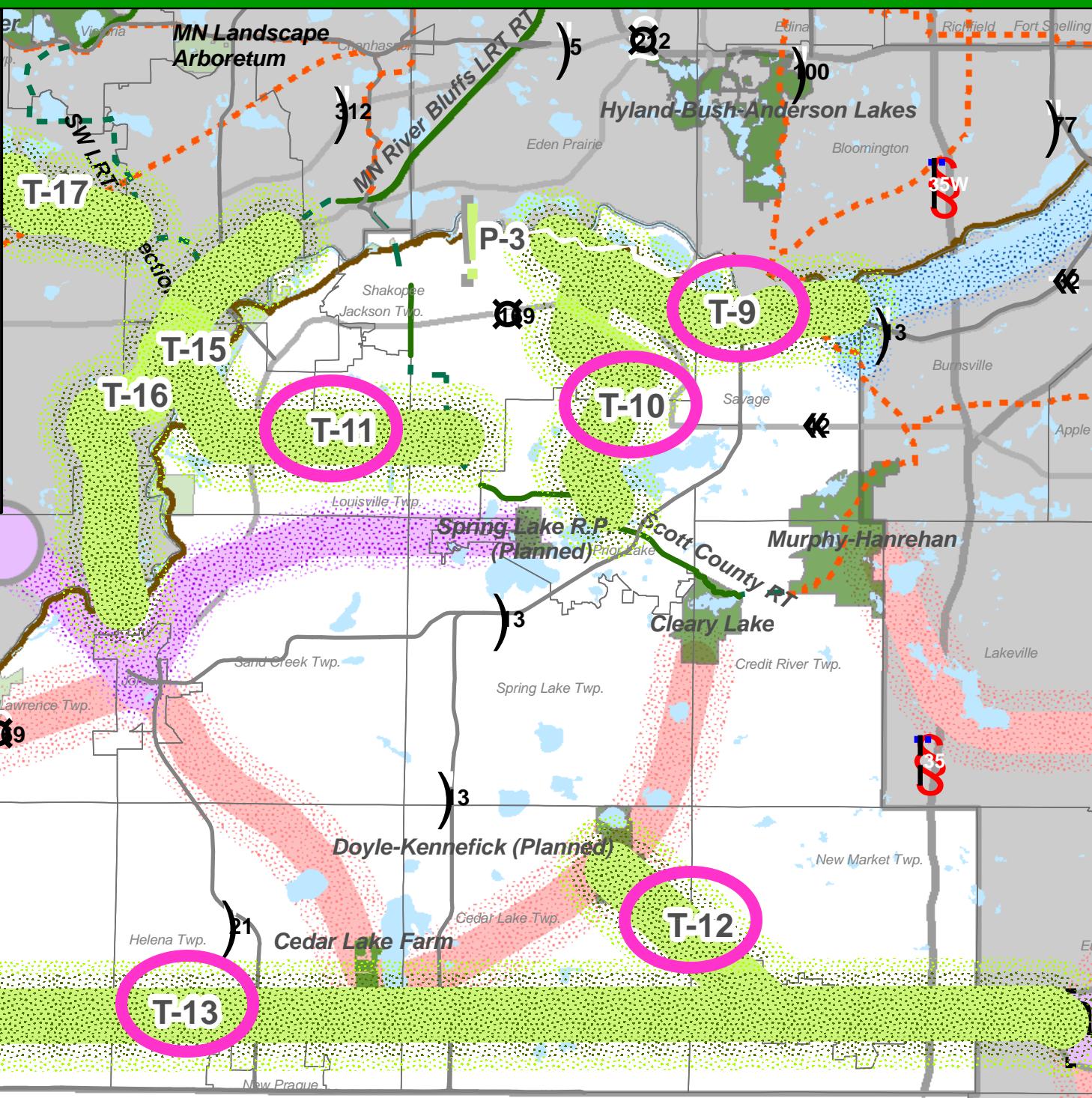
Lake Outlet Trail

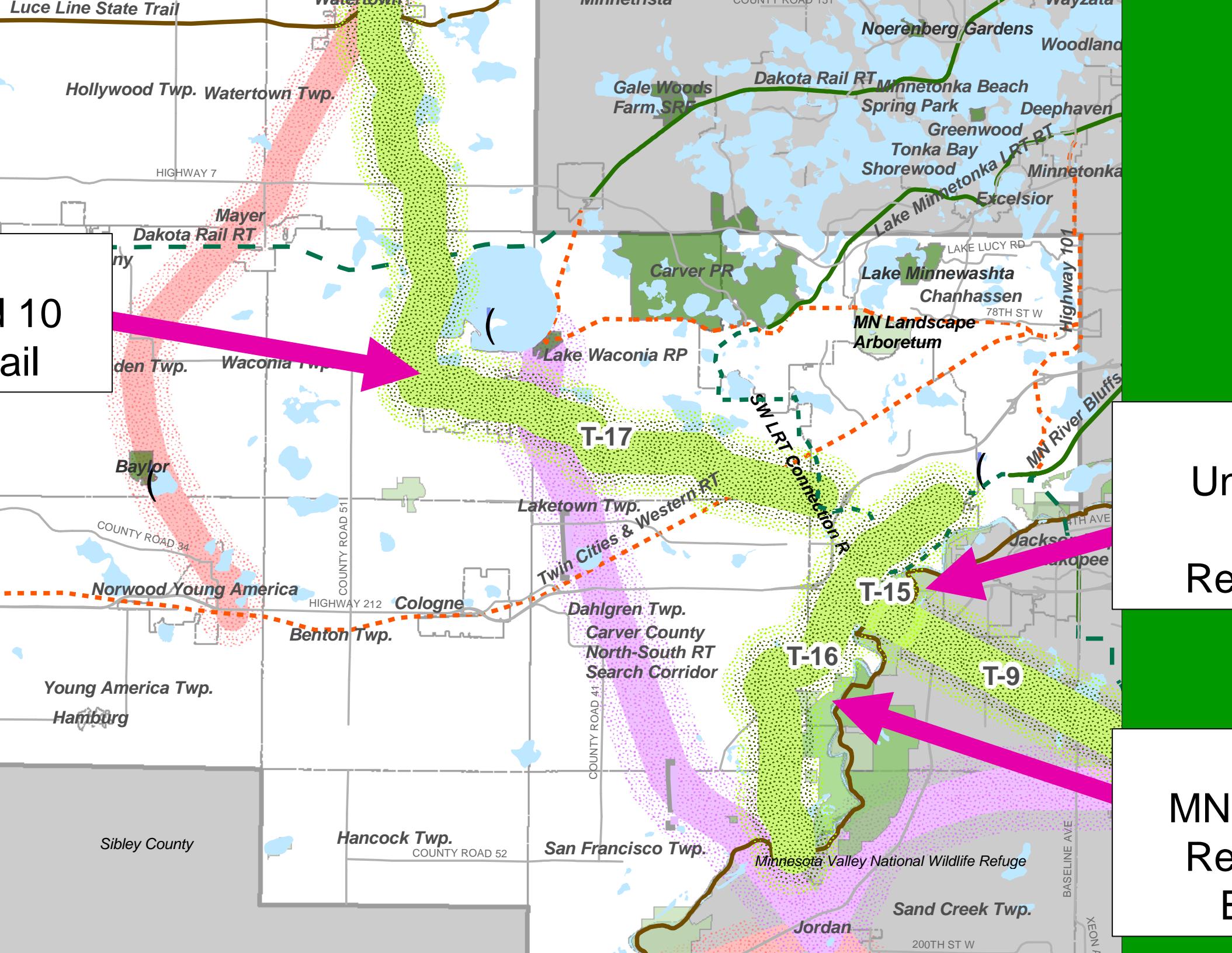
Eden Prairie Trail

New Market-Blakeley-Kennefick Connection

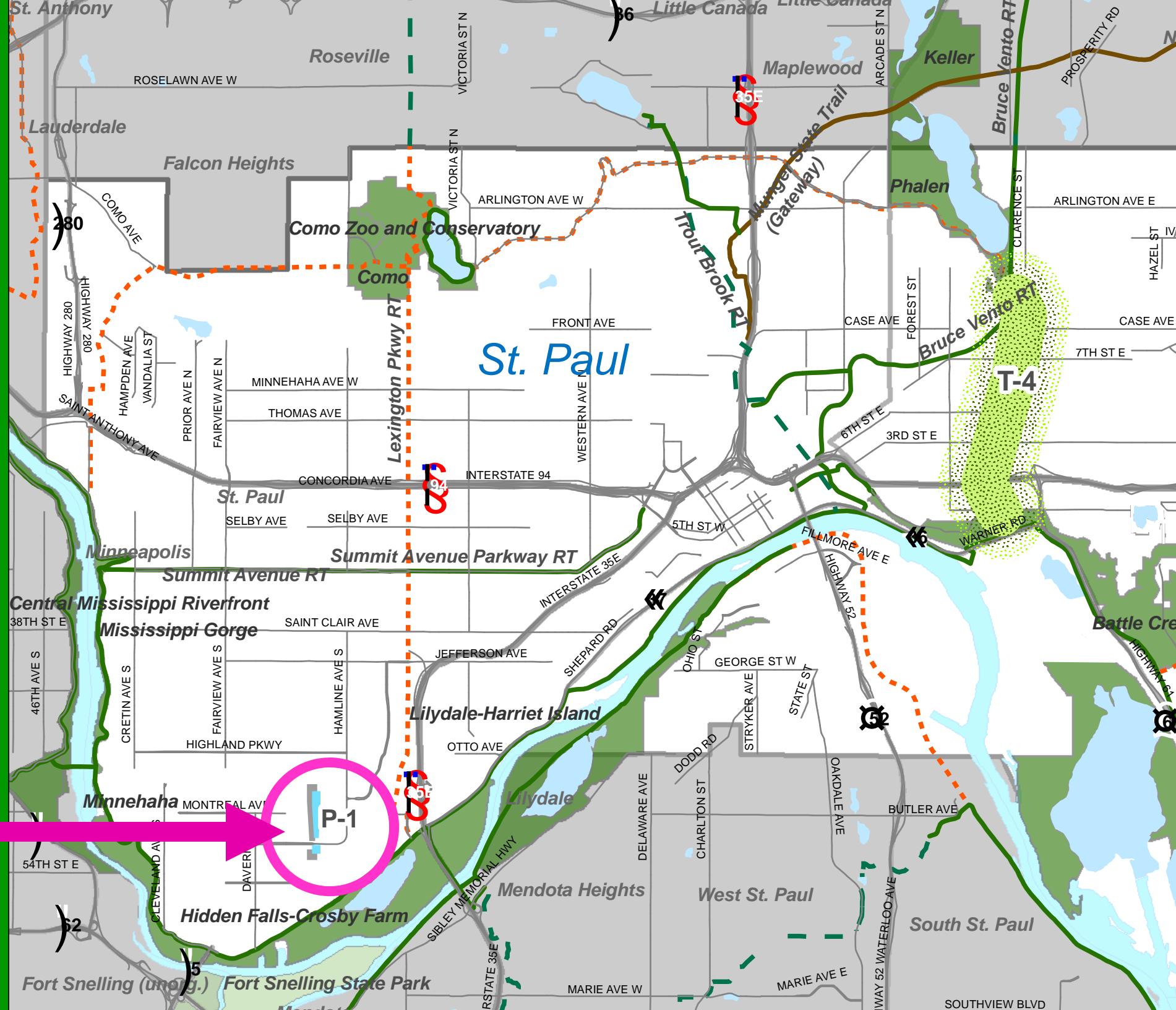
New Market-Blakeley Trail

Blakeley Bluffs RT Extension





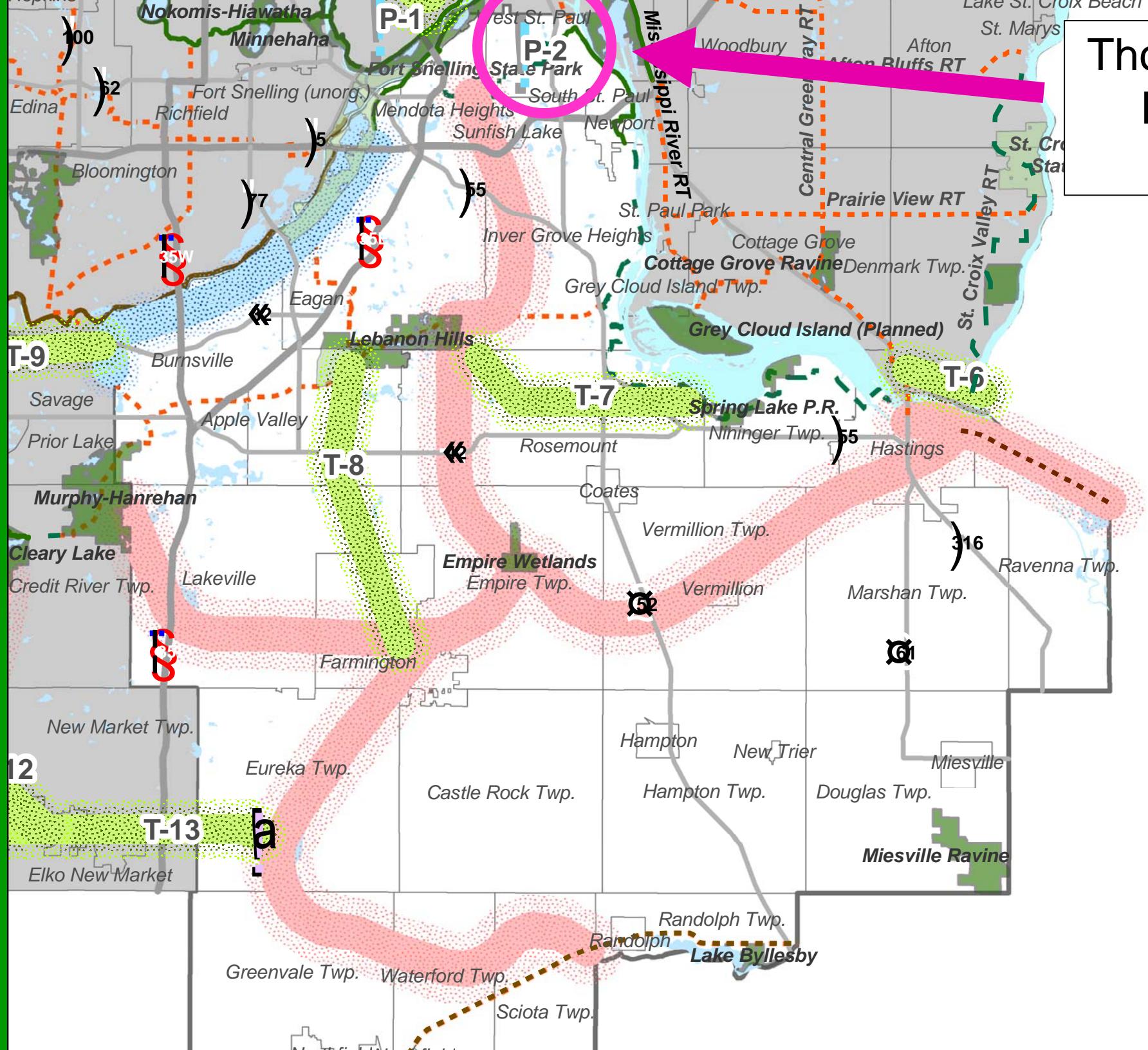
Park Study



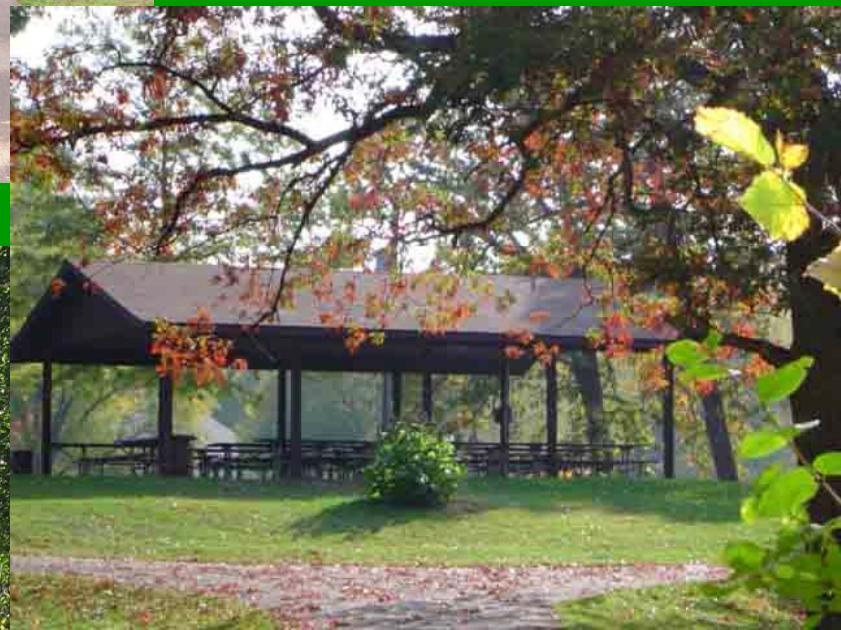
Highland Nat'l Golf Course



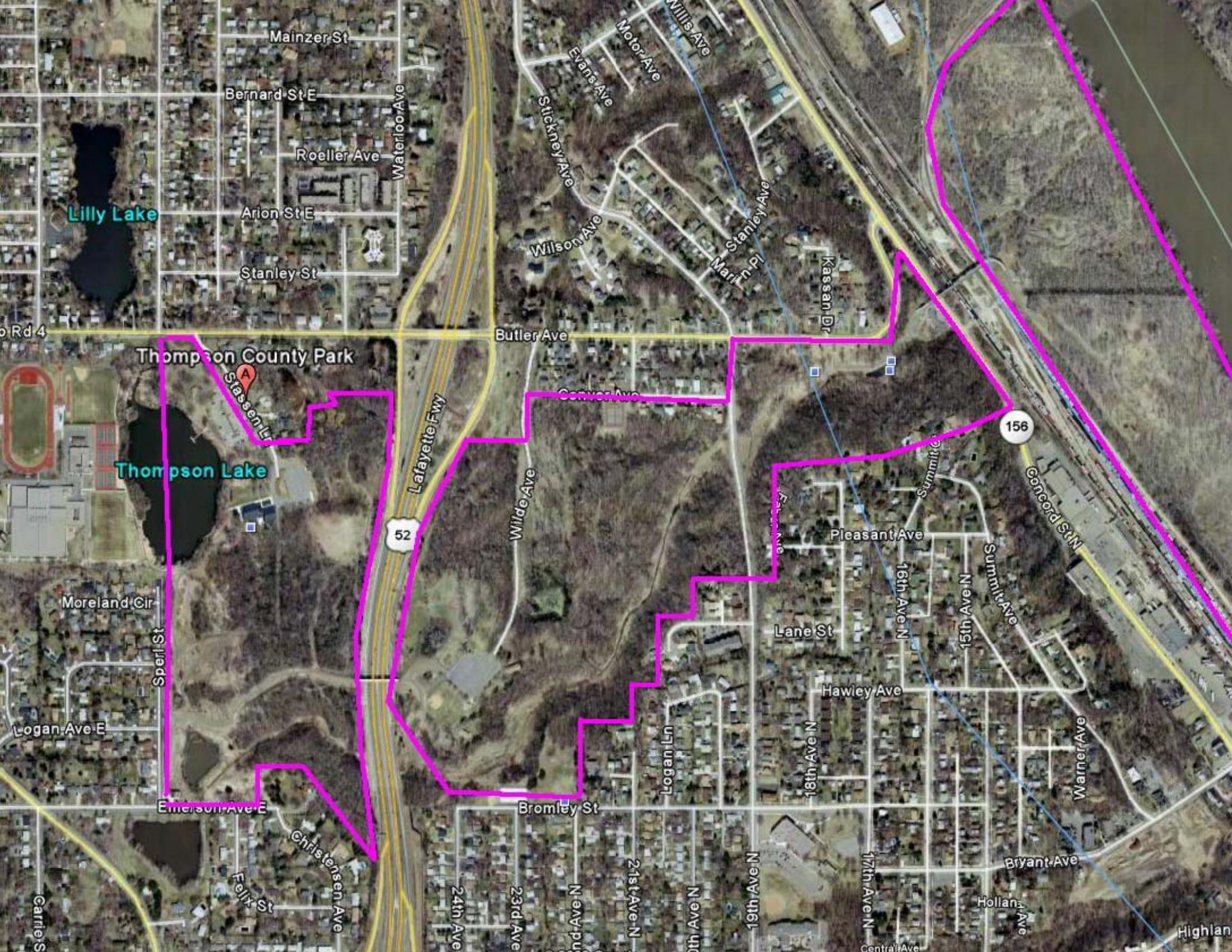
Thompson Region Study

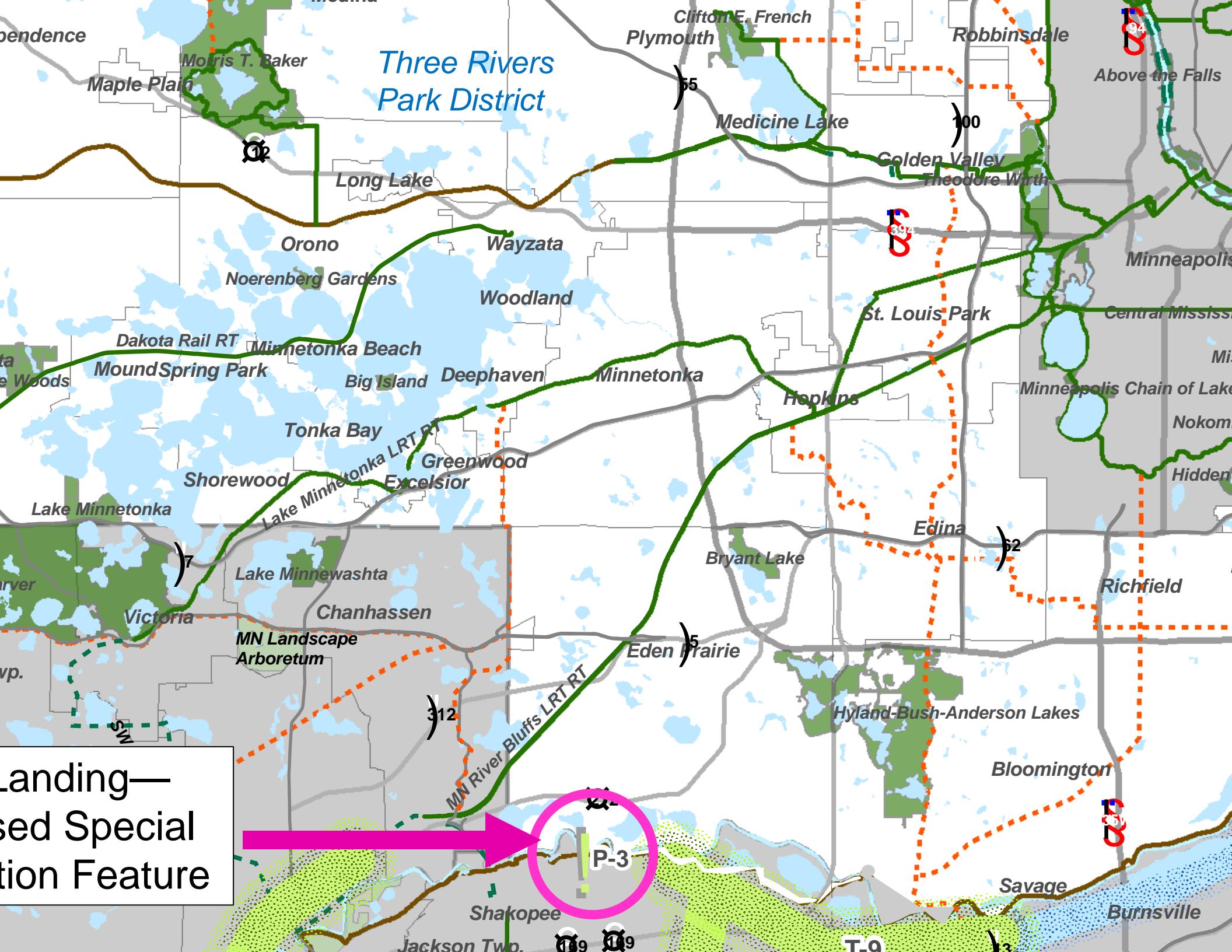


Proposed Regional Park Study Area



- Thompson County
- Kaposia Park
- Kaposia Landing (f/k/a Port Crosby)





THE

Minnesota

Leger

Unpaved H

Inte

Ext

Con

Driv

Par

Res - S

Res

Vie

Visi

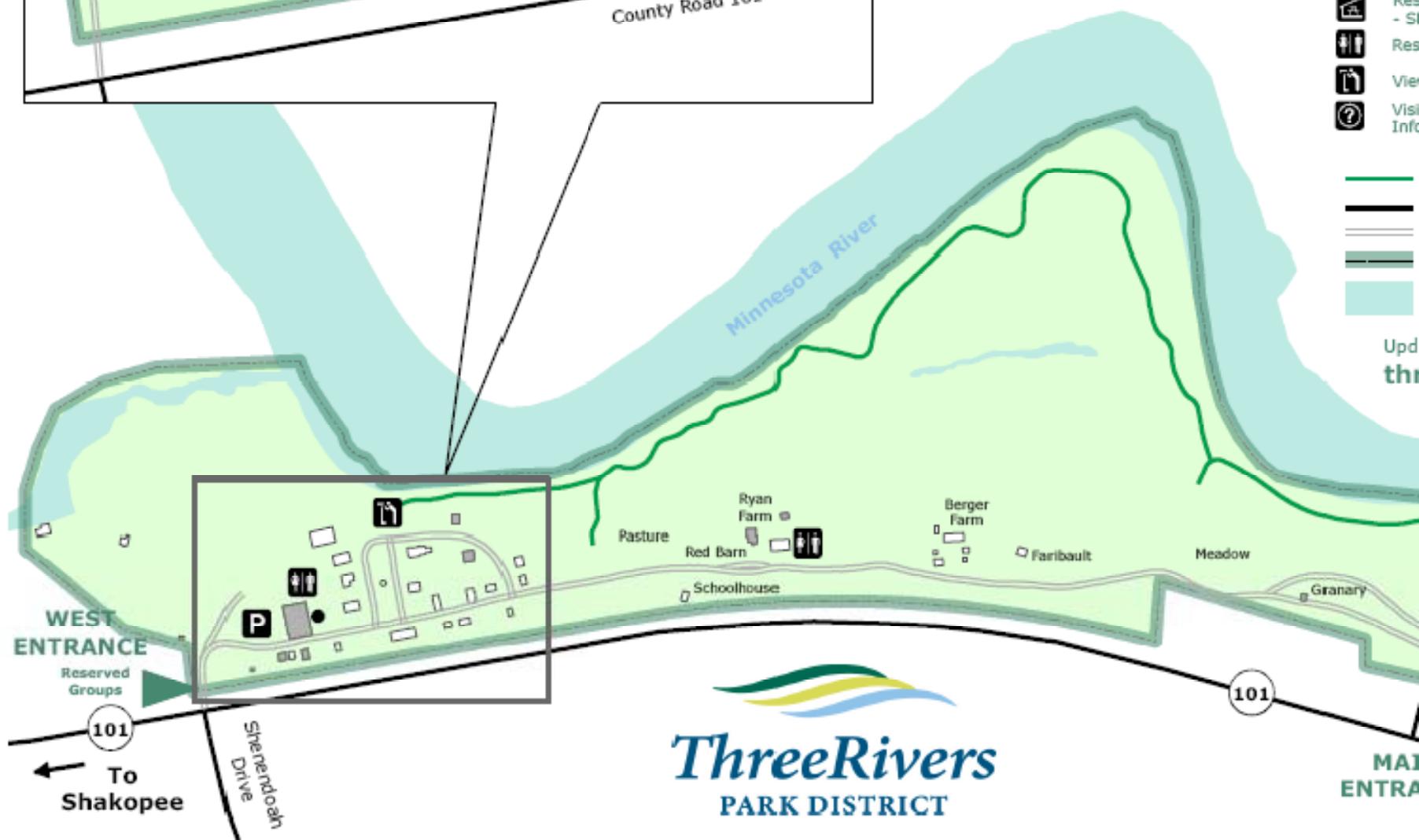
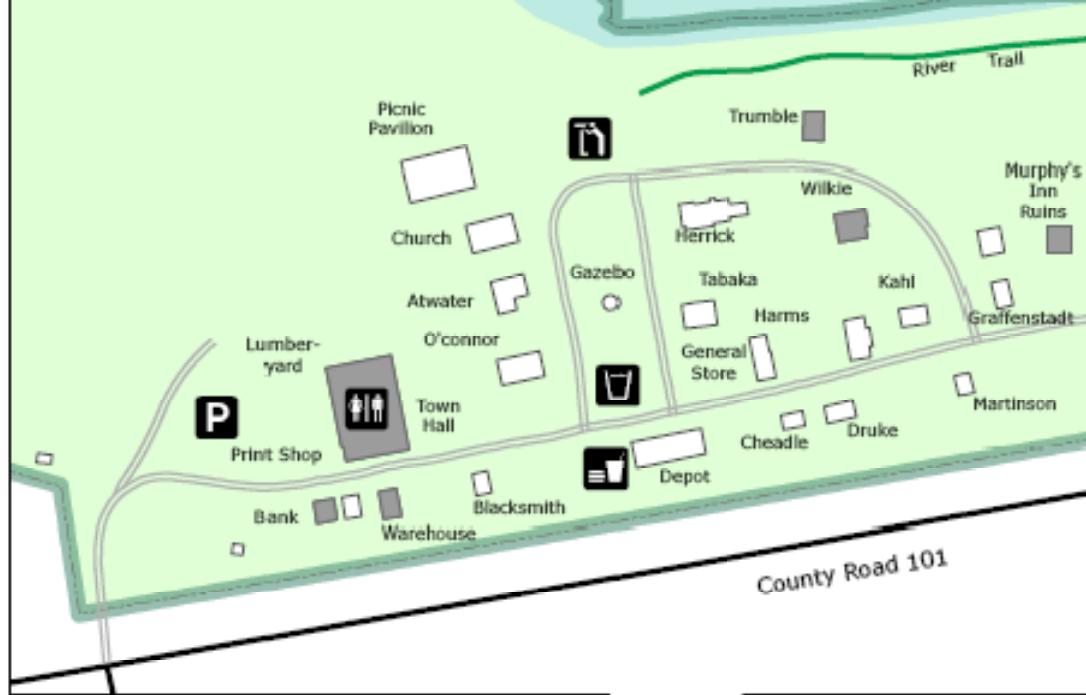
Info

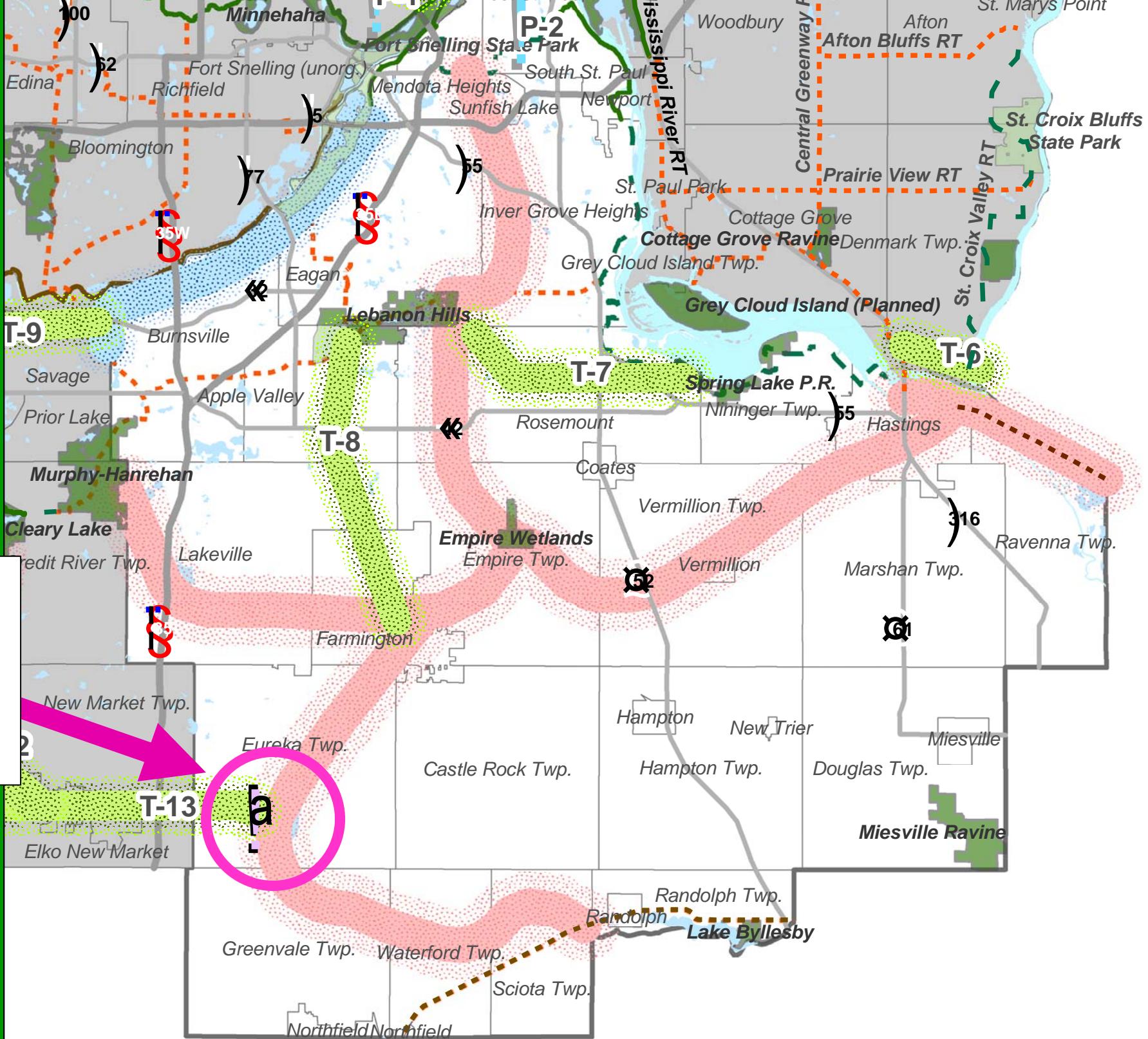


0.1

Mile

ThreeRivers
PARK DISTRICT





Estimated Costs for Development of the Regional Parks System

es ¹	Acquisition Costs ^{1, 2} (in \$ millions)	Development Costs ² (in \$ millions)	Total Co (in \$ milli
3,000	\$37-99	\$245-294	\$282-3

Includes acquisition of inholdings within current park boundaries and proposed parks

10 dollars