

The **Resilient Communities Project (RCP)** is a direct response to the growing need to find sustainability solutions to pressing issues facing our communities. RCP does this by connecting the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students with communities in Minnesota.



Each academic year, RCP chooses **one partner community** through a competitive request-for-proposal process. Cities, counties, and clusters of communities along a transportation corridor, around a regional center, or within a watershed are eligible. Working with a broad range of **local government staff** and **community stakeholders**, RCP helps to identify potential projects based on community-identified sustainability issues and needs. RCP then serves as a centralized “matchmaker,” connecting the city’s project needs with existing graduate and professional courses and independent graduate student projects at the U of MN. The partner community supports the effort through dedicated staff time and a local funding contribution. At the conclusion of the partnership, RCP can assist project partners to create a strategy to implement, evaluate, and monitor their ongoing sustainability efforts.

For communities, RCP provides **access to hundreds of students and faculty** members across a range of disciplines—from architecture, planning, and engineering to business, environmental sciences, and the humanities. Expertise is available related to all aspects of sustainability (e.g. environmental health, economic opportunity, social equity, and community livability) and all stages of sustainability efforts (analysis, planning, design, implementation, and evaluation).

For students and faculty, RCP facilitates **meaningful opportunities to gain experience** in analyzing and advancing community sustainability. RCP offers faculty efficient access to community projects, and students benefit from real-world opportunities to apply their knowledge and training. They also bring energy, enthusiasm, and innovative approaches to address difficult, persistent problems.

RCP provides a **comprehensive communication and outreach effort**, drawing on traditional and social media platforms to publicize the year-long partnership, its impact on the community, and its value to students and faculty. RCP’s website will highlight projects and best practices generated through work in each partner city, to benefit the broader set of communities interested in advancing sustainability and resilience.

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Resilient Communities Project

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

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with funding and administrative support provided by
the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) and the Institute on the Environment (IonE)*

2012–2013 RCP Partner: City of Minnetonka

City-Defined Projects

Storm water Management
Water and Energy Conservation
Mid-Priced Housing Options
Transit-Oriented Development
Conservation Development
Rooftop Gardens
Parking Regulations
Travel Demand Management
Water Resources Planning
Neighborhood Identities
Post-Development Impacts
Density and Housing Options
Housing Program Evaluation

U of MN Departments

Urban and Regional Planning
Geography
Public Policy
Environmental Science, Policy & Management
Housing Studies
Civil Engineering
Law School
Communication Studies
Liberal Studies
Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering
Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development
Agronomy
Landscape Architecture

The Resilient Communities Project is accepting proposals from cities and counties to be the community partner for 2014–2015.

The partner community must support the effort through dedicated staff time and a local funding contribution. The selection process is competitive.

*The deadline for applications is **4:30 PM on February 14, 2014**. The community partner for the 2014–2015 partnership year will be announced in March 2014.*

For more information, visit www.rcp.umn.edu

2013–2014 RCP Partner: City of North St. Paul

City-Defined Projects

Housing Conservation and Aging in Place
Live/Work Housing
Living Streets and Capital Improvements
Green Energy Initiative
Neighborhood Identities
Fiber Optic Network Development
Community Identity and Branding
Downtown Revitalization Strategies
Civic Engagement and Communication
Environmental Education
Redevelopment-Ready Community
Public Art and Public History
Master Redevelopment Plan
Silver Lake Trail Connection
Community Gardens and Local Food
Staff Development and Retention
Development of Underutilized Parcels
Energy Conservation Initiative
Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan
Bulk Waste Pick-Up Program Evaluation
Documenting the RCP–North St. Paul Partnership

U of MN Departments

Housing Studies
Civil Engineering
Law School
Landscape Architecture
Communication Studies
Sociology
Liberal Studies
Graphic Design
Gerontology
Journalism
Architecture
Organizational Leadership, Policy & Development
Urban and Regional Planning
Public Policy
Environmental Education (UMD)
Environmental Science, Policy & Management
Forestry
Agronomy
Social Work
Recreation Resources Management