Resilient Communities Project–City of Rosemount
2014–2015 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.

During the 2014–2015 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of Rosemount, a developing outer-ring suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 30 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 45 courses spanning 16 departments across 10 colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and Duluth campuses, engaging more than 400 students in applied, real-world projects.

**Housing and Community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Student Housing for DCTC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investigated options for private housing for Dakota County Technical College students to reduce commuting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Cohesion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identified strategies to support healthy neighborhood cohesion among residents, as well as integration of neighborhoods into the larger Rosemount community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeowner Association Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identified opportunities for collaboration and partnership with homeowners associations to provide public benefit and improved services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Gathering Spaces</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investigated the characteristics of place-making in a suburban setting and opportunities for community place-making through redesign or redevelopment</td>
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**Civic Engagement and Community Relations**

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<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communications Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identified methods of information dissemination most effective for communicating with underserved or hard-to-reach populations such as youth, seniors, and non-native residents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resident Participation in Parks and Recreation Capital Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identified strategies for better-publicizing existing parks and recreation amenities and engaging residents in future capital planning for these services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural Integration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventoried, evaluated, and identified gaps in services and programs geared toward new immigrant groups in Rosemount</td>
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**Human Wellness**

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<tr>
<td>Safe Youth Driving Behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investigated successful programs and partnerships to reduce teen traffic accident risks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthy and Safe Youth Behavior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducted a program inventory, evaluation, and gap analysis of mental health services and substance education and prevention programs that serve youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Wellness Programming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessed work- and home-related stressors for Rosemount city employees, and provided recommendations for improved employee wellness</td>
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**Administration and Public Works**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daytime Staffing at Fire Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developed recommendations to increase the amount of on-call volunteer firefighters available during daytime hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletic Stadium Turf Options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyzed the lifecycle costs of using synthetic turf versus natural turf grass on public athletic fields</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turf Management and Landscaping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identified strategies to reduce long-term turf and landscaping inputs and maintenance costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative Sources of Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed and made recommendations for use of alternative energy sources to power municipal facilities, such as solar, wind, and geothermal</td>
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![Image: Rosemount, Minnesota]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parks and Recreation</th>
<th>Environment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Programming for Children’s Interaction with</td>
<td>Climate Adaptation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nature</td>
<td>Identified potential local impacts of climate change, as well as strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to reduce the community’s vulnerability to these impacts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreational Opportunities for Underserved Populations</td>
<td>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identified strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the municipal</td>
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<td>and individual business and household levels</td>
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<td>Community Gardens</td>
<td>Storm Water Management</td>
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<td>Identified opportunities and design strategies for storm water infiltration</td>
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<td>that balance aesthetics and functionality, reduce long-term maintenance</td>
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<td>costs, manage winter snow melt, and provide opportunities for other passive</td>
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<td>uses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>Water Reuse and Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investigated the feasibility of reusing storm water and treated effluent for</td>
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<td>irrigation on public and private property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Oak Savannah and Riverfront Restoration</td>
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<td>Evaluated existing restoration activities in the Mississippi River Critical</td>
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<td>Area Corridor and recommended an overall restoration strategy to coordinate</td>
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<td>these efforts and incorporate public access opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Education</td>
<td>Park Restoration and Environmental Education</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Created a plan to manage buckthorn and emerald ash borer in City parks and</td>
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<td>use this opportunity to educate residents about the ecosystem service value</td>
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<td>of management and restoration</td>
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<td>Land Use and Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Agriculture</td>
<td>Explored opportunities to capitalize on the existing local agricultural</td>
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<td>economy in Rosemount by supporting locally grown food, agritourism, and</td>
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<tr>
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<td>value-added agricultural products</td>
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<td>Non-Motorized Transportation Assessment</td>
<td>Designed an evaluation plan to assess the impact of non-motorized</td>
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<td>transportation plans and investments in Rosemount</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel Shed Analysis</td>
<td>Conducted a travel shed analysis of where Rosemount residents and employees</td>
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<td>work and live to inform future transit and transportation planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis of Dakota County Business Clusters</td>
<td>Analyzed business clusters in dakota county to identify opportunities for</td>
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<td>rosemount to capitalize on existing and emerging clusters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eco-Green Business Park</td>
<td>Explored opportunities for attracting green businesses and encouraging</td>
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<td>adoption of green building/manufacturing standards for a future green</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>business park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Development Website</td>
<td>Evaluated rosemount’s existing economic development website and recommended</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>improvements to better meet the needs of developers and the business</td>
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<td>community</td>
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For more information, contact:

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Twitter: @RCPumn

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