References from Past RCP Partnerships

**Minnetonka** (2012–2013 partner)

Julie Wischnack, Community Development Director, City of Minnetonka, jwischnack@eminnetonka.com, (952) 939-8282

**North St. Paul** (2013–2014 partner)

Paul Ammerman, Community Development Director, City of North St. Paul, paul.ammerman@northstpaul.org, (651) 747-2437

Mike Kuehn, Mayor, City of North St. Paul
Mike.Kuehn@ci.north-saint-paul.mn.us

**Rosemount** (2014–2015 partner)

Bill Droste, Mayor, City of Rosemount, mayor@ci.rosemount.mn.us, (651) 322-2050

**Carver County** (2015–2016 partner)

Tom Vellenga, Assistant County Administrator, Carver County, tvellenga@co.carver.mn.us, (952) 361-1501

Nate Kabat, Assistant City Administrator, City of Chaska (formerly Planner, Carver County), nkabat@chaskamn.com, (952) 448-9200

Paul Moline, Manager, Planning and Water Management Division, Carver County, pmoline@co.carver.mn.us, (952) 361-1825

**Brooklyn Park** (2016–2017 partner)

Angelica Klebsch, Policy Director, Citizens League (formerly Project Facilitator, Community and Economic Development, City of Brooklyn Park), aklebsch@citizensleague.org

Kim Berggren, Community Development Director, City of Brooklyn Park, kimberly.berggren@brooklynpark.org, (763) 493-8050

Brad Tullberg, Parks and Facilities Manager, City of Brooklyn Park, brad.tullberg@brooklynpark.org, (763) 493-8344

**City of Ramsey** (2017–2018 partner)

Tim Gladhill, Community Development Director, tgladhill@cityoframsey.com, (763) 433-9826

Kurt Ulrich, City Administrator, City of Ramsey, kulrich@cityoframsey.com, (763) 433-9845

**Scott County** (2018–2019 partner)

Brad Davis, Planning Manager, Scott County, bdavis@co.scott.mn.us, (952) 496-8654
What Some Past Partners Have to Say About RCP

“This entire RCP process…is such a well-oiled machine. It’s a true testament to [RCP’s] vision for connecting education with the real world. Introducing fresh ideas into our innovation efforts has ignited a spark for me and the Innovation Leadership Team. We are grateful to have been a part of this journey…It’s been a ride I’ll never forget!”

—Lorraine Brady, IT Project Manager, Carver County

“Most of the projects were known priority needs prior to the city’s participation in the RCP program. Were it not for RCP, North St. Paul would not have been able to address those issues in a timely and cost effective manner. In our view, the RCP program was a vehicle by which the city could tap the numerous resources of the university for the betterment of our residents’ future.”

—Paul Ammerman, Community Development Director, North St. Paul

“In our most conservative estimate of the value of that consultation with the students and faculty of the University of Minnesota [through the Resilient Communities Project], we estimated—and again, this is the most conservative estimate—around $400,000 in value. . . . What’s the value to the county in human terms, in terms of human well-being? In the words of the old ad, ‘it’s priceless.’ Because each project elevated our knowledge base, elevated our principles, our standards. We’re going to be working on the results of this [partnership] for months and years to come.”

—Tom Vellenga, Assistant County Administrator, Carver County

“We are now in the process of working on implementation plans for many of the study recommendations [that emerged from our partnership with RCP]. . . . The City of Rosemount has found the RCP process to be a rewarding process and appreciated the opportunity to partner with the University of Minnesota on the project.

—Kim Lindquist, Community Development Director

“What we received ultimately was very high quality, and it was great information for us as a City Council to look at, plan, and figure out how to utilize. . .going forward in a positive way for the citizens in our community.”

—Rosemount Mayor William Droste

“I think it really elevates the community’s opinion of the city because we have partnered with someone with a good reputation to do the work of the city. I think people can see that as both an efficient way to do business but also a smart way to do the city’s business. I wouldn’t underestimate the goodwill and the good PR that comes from participating in the RCP program.”

—Julie Wischnack, Community Development Director, City of Minnetonka

“Not only did we get fantastic work, but I think it’s really reinvigorated city staff. . .to be around students [and] faculty who have different ways of thinking and different ways of approaching an idea. So it has been an absolutely wonderful experience.”

—Susan Thomas, Principal Planner, City of Minnetonka