# Campus Connector Trail

Public Meeting #1 April 23, 2019







## Agenda

#### Part I Introduction: (5 min)

- Purpose of Tonight's Meeting
- What is a Mini-Master Plan?

#### Part II History: (15 minutes)

- What is the Campus Connector Trail?
- History & Past Planning Efforts

#### Part III Planning & Engagement Process: (10 min)

- Planning Process Goals
- Timeline

#### Part IV Mapping Exercise (60 min)

Group Mapping Activity

#### **Part V Next Steps & Questions**

## Part I: Introduction

(5 min)

## **Duluth Parks and Recreation Mission Statement**

To promote the health and well-being of our community, environment and economy by facilitating recreational opportunities and coordinating the enhancement of our parks, facilities and natural resources now and into the future.

## Purpose & Expectations of a Public Meeting

#### Purpose:

- Engage a wide audience in information sharing and discussion
- Increase awareness of Campus Connector Trail and planning process

#### **Expectations:**

- Treat each other with respect
- Work to build consensus
- Share the floor
- Offer your opinions, everyone has valid ideas!

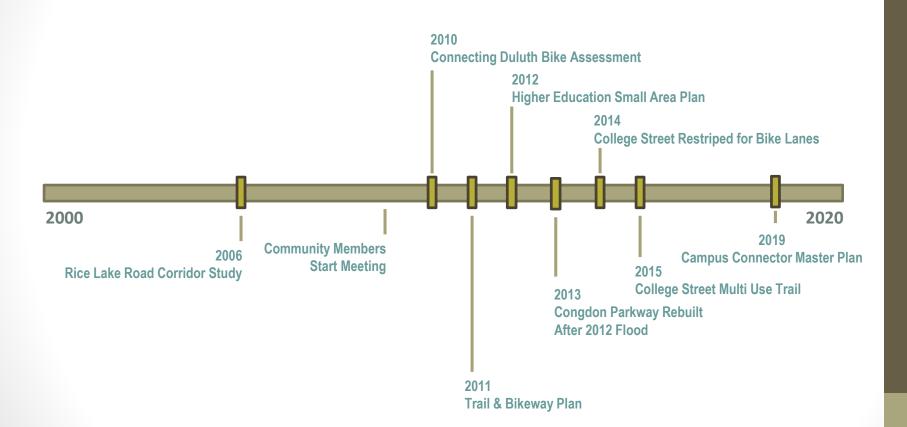
### What is a Mini-Master Plan?

- Document that defines where the park or trail facility is now, what it should be in the future, and what is required to get there.
- Creates a clear "road map" of how to move forward with future use and development of a park or trail.
- Becomes a resource for the Parks Division to guide future decisions in development, operations and maintenance, funding, etc.
- Public Process is used to determine the future use of the community trail and park.
- Engages stakeholders to understand trail usage, issues, needs, and opportunities.
- Offers clear direction to the City and community partners on facility development, operations and management of the trail system.

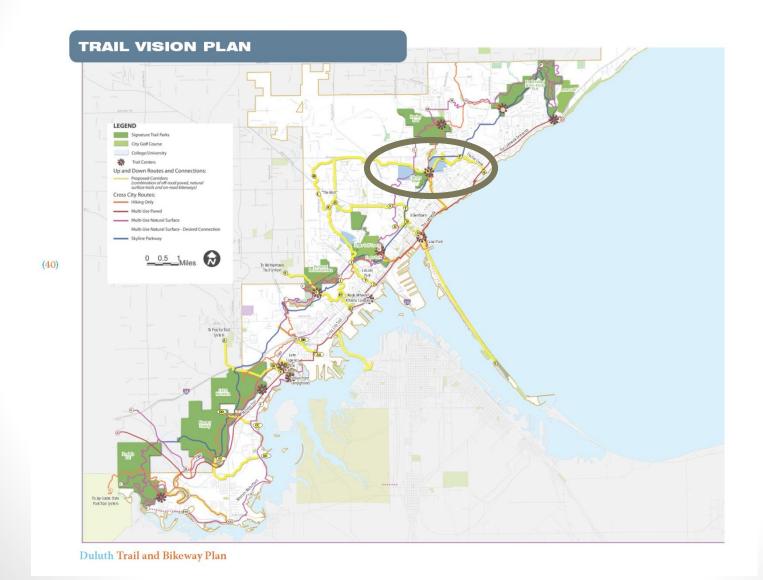
# Part II: History & Past Planning Efforts

(15 min)

## History of Campus Connector Trail



## 2011 Trail & Bikeway Plan

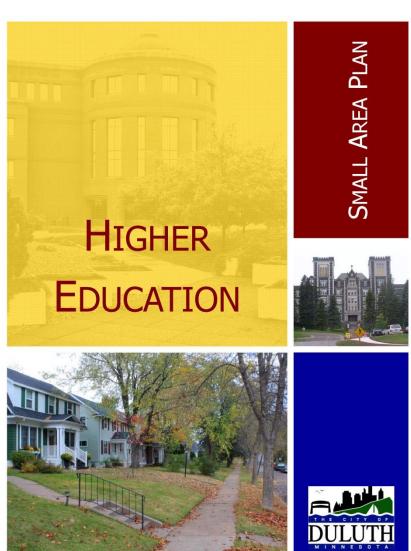


## "up/down corridors"



## 2012 Higher Education Small Area Plan

"Develop a trail from the Boulder Ridge area to Kenwood Avenue."



## **Early Vision**

- Trail is a paved, multi-use commuter and recreational trail that will run from the Lakewalk to Rice Lake Road
- Provides vertical activity for residents, nodes of business and education institutes along its path
- First paved, vertical commuter corridor in Duluth
- "From the CSS-UMD Housing Study, Fit City Duluth's Bike Study,
  Higher Education Small Area Plan, addressing Safe Routes to Lowell
  Elementary it was clear that we didn't have a sidewalk to walk on
  or a path to follow especially one that tackled the vertical
  connectivity of our topography. We all had a vested interest in
  connecting students to their campuses, neighbors to services, and
  encouraging healthy recreation."
- "Lowell to Lakewalk will be the first and best vertical trail connection in Duluth. Thanks to this project, for the first time Duluthians will be able to safely travel from Rice Lake Road to Mount Royal and head of Tischer Creek Trail by all modes, not just personal vehicle. It will also note the only pedestrian and bicycle friendly crossing on Woodland Avenue."

## 2014 & 2015: College Street

- Constructed multi-use trail on north side of College Street
- Because of extra space along roadway, also allowed for parking on North side.



## Connecting the Dots



#### **Campus Connector**

The Campus Connector trail will connect UMD and St. Scholastica, as well as neighborhood elementary schools, with the Lakewalk. Along the way, it will pass through the Kenwood and Congdon neighborhoods. As a 10-foot wide, paved multi-use trail, it will provide recreation and transportation for all those who work and live along the corridor.



#### History

Planning for the Campus Connector started in 2010.

In 2014, the portion of the trail along Congdon Parkway was completed. That year, the City also installed bike lanes along College Street, which in 2016 will be rebuilt to add a multi-use trail along the north side of the road.

The City is currently planning seaments starting at Rice Lake Road on the west, where it will meet the planned county trail.

#### **Project Partner**





#### **GET INVOLVED**

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#### **LEARN MORE**

For updated project information, visit: www.duluthmn.gov

Looking for more info? (2)



#### Q3 What destinations do you/would you visit along the Campus Connector route?

Answered: 62 Skipped: 5

Hartley Bagley Grocery Destinations Congdon Park
Lowell
Restaurants Campus Elementary

Mt Royal Kenwood Shopping Center

Royal
Shopping School Mount Royal
Chester Park

# Part III: Planning & Engagement Process

(10 min)

## **Planning Process Goals**

- Generate input on trail alignment and design
- Understand safety considerations & concerns
- Discuss potential amenities and infrastructure
- Identify and implement signage & wayfinding
- Identify maintenance needs & priorities
- Lay ground work for fundraising

### How You Can Help

- Participate in the public survey
- Participate in the engagement mapping activity
- Send additional comments online or via email to City Staff
- Talk to your neighbors

### Timeline

#### **Engagement Process**

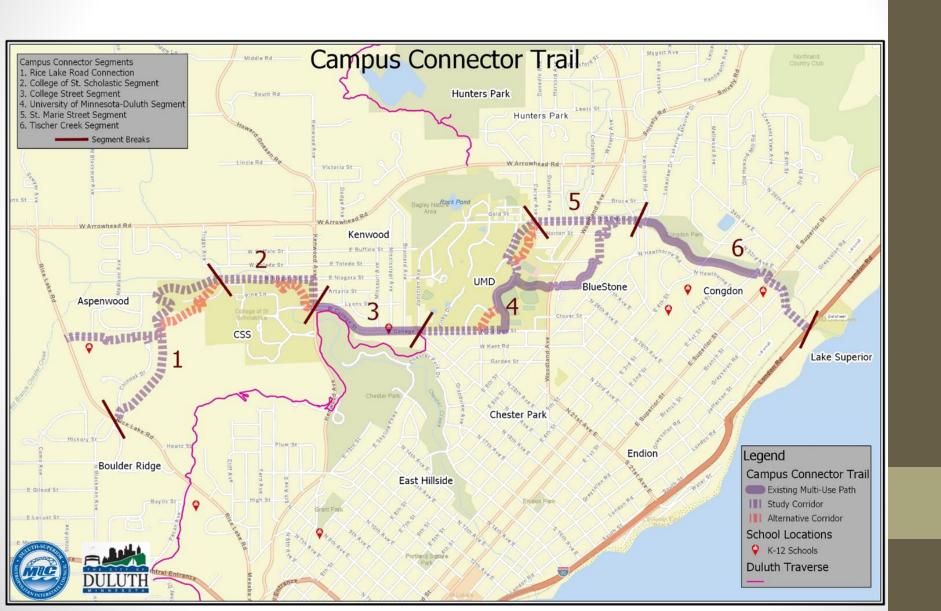
- Interdepartmental City Staff Kick Off February 15, 2019
- Stakeholder Meeting #1 April 1, 2019
- Public Meeting #1 April 23, 2019
- UMD/CSS Student Engagement April 2019
- Public Comment
  - Open during planning process through City of Duluth Parks email, phone, and website comment
- Public Survey
- Stakeholder Meeting #2 May 30, 2019
- Parks Commission Update w/ Public Open House June 12, 2019
- Parks Commission Approval July 10, 2019
- City Council Approval August 19, 2019

<sup>\*</sup>Dates subject to change

# Part IV: Group Mapping Activity

(60 min)

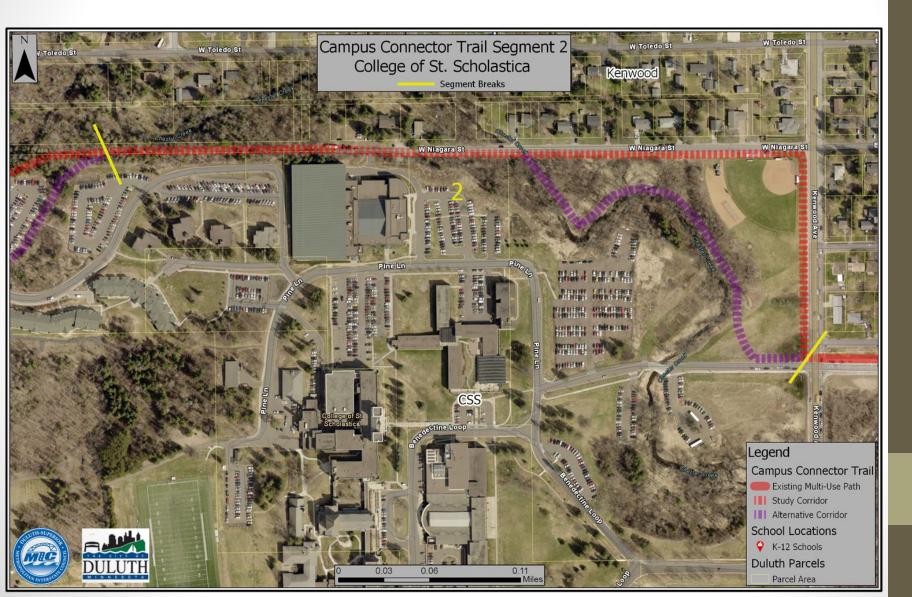
### **Focus Area**



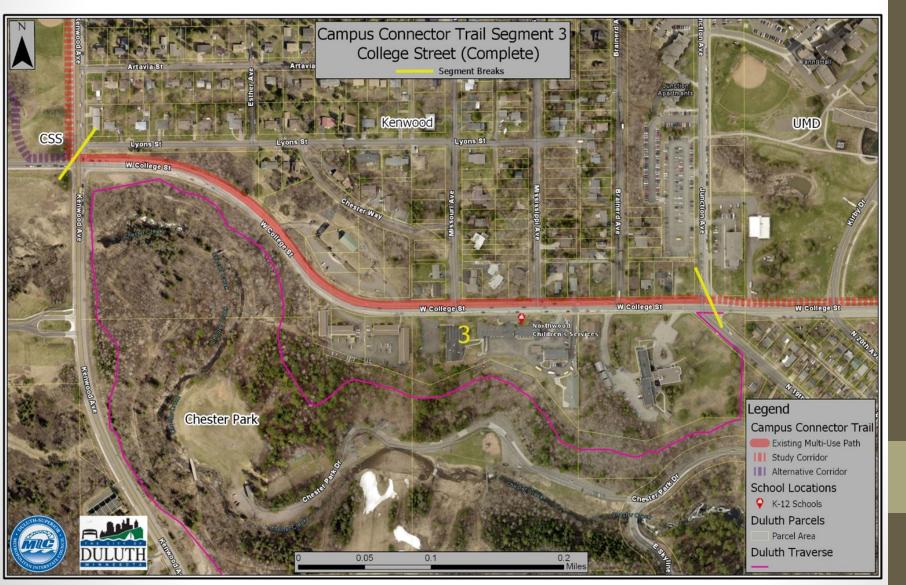
## Segment 1: Rice Lake Road



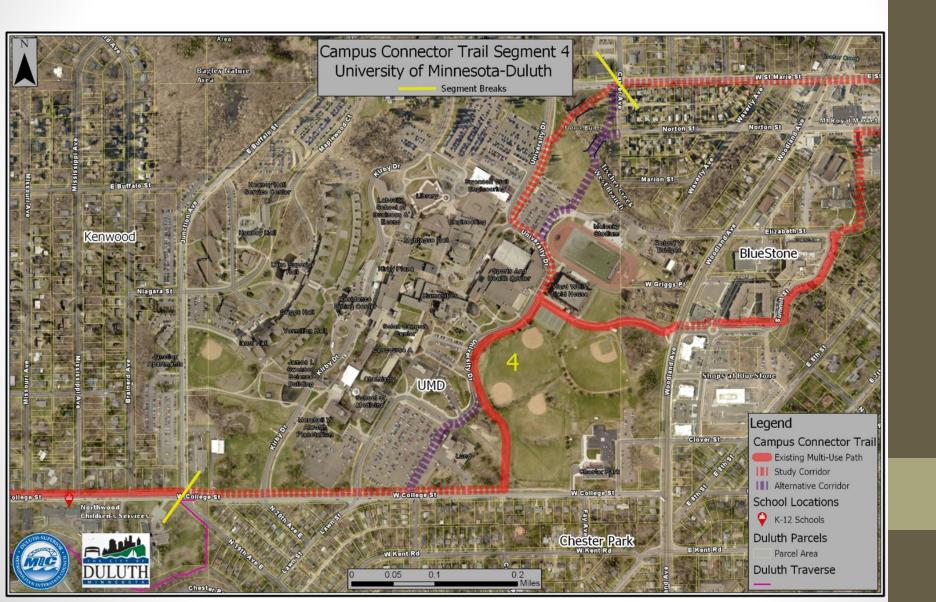
## Segment 2: College of St. Scholastica



## Segment 3: College Street (Complete)



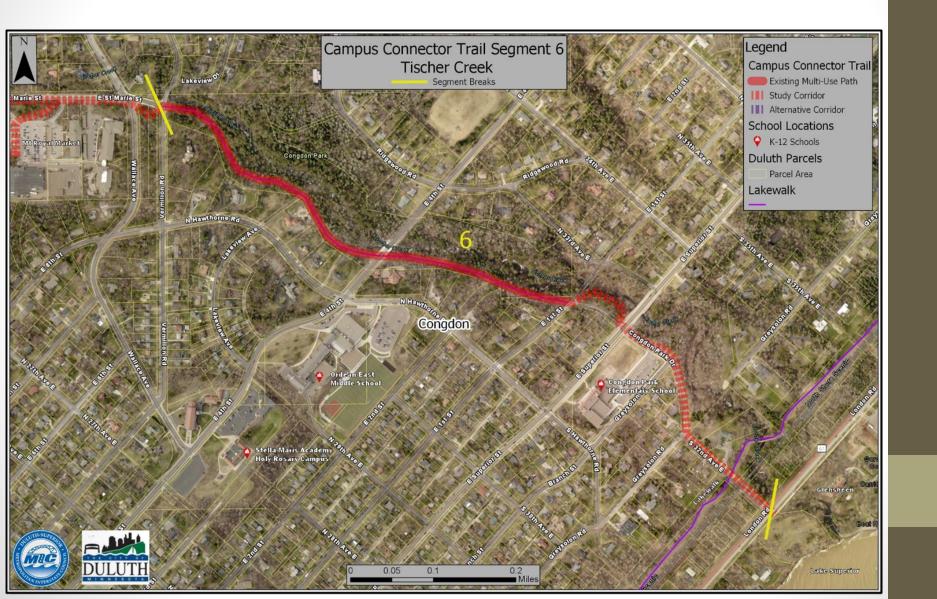
## Segment 4: UMD



## Segment 5: St. Marie Street



## Segment 6: Tischer Creek



# Part V: Next Steps & Questions

### **Next Steps**

- Public Meeting #1 April 23, 2019
- UMD/CSS Student Engagement April 2019
- Public Comment
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     and website comment
- Public Survey
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**QUESTIONS?**