

I-35E MnPASS in Little Canada and Vadnais Heights

Project description

In 2016, MnDOT extended the I-35E MnPASS Express Lanes connecting the St. Paul/Maplewood MnPASS lanes to the northeastern part of the Twin Cities. Due to the unique layout of the I-35E/I-694 commons area, MnDOT decided to provide a MnPASS lane southbound through the commons during the morning commute, but to leave the northbound direction as a general lane during the afternoon. Currently, northbound MnPASS ends at Little Canada Rd. and continues at Co. Rd. E. MnDOT wanted to evaluate the performance of MnPASS in the I-35E/I-694 commons before implementing it in both directions.

MnPASS lanes perform well through the I-35E/I-694 commons; however, some drivers are confused with the “gap” in MnPASS when traveling north. In addition, enforcement of MnPASS is difficult due to lack of continuity of the MnPASS lane. Therefore, MnDOT will connect the northbound MnPASS lane between Little Canada Rd. and Co. Rd. E. This will provide a consistent MnPASS lane in both directions on I-35E.

Summary of work

- Connect northbound MnPASS lane between Little Canada Rd. and Co. Rd. E
- Install MnPASS overhead signs and readers
- Update pavement markings

Benefits

- Provide a continuous MnPASS lane on northbound I-35E Monday-Friday from 3-7 p.m.
- Alleviate confusion when driving through the I-35E/I-694 commons
- Improve MnPASS enforcement due to a consistent MnPASS lane in both directions

Construction schedule

Summer 2021—I-35E northbound between Little Canada Rd. and Co. Rd. E in Little Canada and Vadnais Heights

For more information

- **Sue Gergen**, MnPASS Communications, susan.gergen@state.mn.us or 651-234-7088
- **Project webpage:** mndot.gov/metro/projects/i35emnpassexension
- **MnPASS information:** mnpass.org

