



# Highway 5

## *Connecting people and places*

State Highway 5, running from Chanhassen through Victoria and Waconia to Norwood Young America plays a vital role in connecting these growing communities.

However, as the area grows and traffic increases, this two-lane artery connecting communities is becoming increasingly clogged. With the population of the Twin Cities metropolitan area projected to grow by 1 million more residents over the next 20 years, we need to plan now to ensure a safe, east-west connection.

**Enhance Mobility** - With no major capacity or safety improvements planned, traffic jams will grow, with over 50 percent of the Highway 5 corridor congested by 2030.





**Improve Safety** – The crash rate on Highway 5 is over 20 percentage points higher than the statewide average, while the fatality rate for crashes on Highway 5 is over 70 percentage points higher than the statewide average.

**Connect residents and businesses** – Highway 5 is the primary east-west route that connects Chanhassen, Victoria, Waconia and Norwood Young America to the metropolitan area.

Highway 5 provides access to important destinations including the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and Waconia's Ridgeview Medical Center. The Medical Center serves as the primary care facility for residents in the surrounding area - an area that is over 700 square miles.

### ***How can you make a difference?***

Without action to make safety improvements and to plan for an expanded Highway 5 in the future, the problems will only grow worse.

- Talk to your elected representatives about the need to improve Highway 5. Let them know that you support additional funding to improve safety and mobility.
- Learn more about what your local community is doing to improve Highway 5. You can stay informed by visiting: [www.southwesttransportation.org](http://www.southwesttransportation.org)
- Talk to candidates running for office and let them know your concerns.

