

THE GATEWAY CORRIDOR – overlays Interstate 94 from the St. Croix River Bridge to downtown Saint Paul. The corridor is a vital transportation connection between urban, suburban and rural communities, and continues to be an important corridor to businesses and residents.

Today, the corridor provides an important link to some of the Twin Cities’ largest employers, including 3M, Imation, The Hartford Financial and the Andersen Corporation. As a result of recent population growth, the Gateway Corridor today moves more than 150,000 vehicles a day. In 2009, a commission was created to study and plan alternative transportation options for the area.



Why is transit needed in the Gateway Corridor?

More than 300,000 people live along the corridor and more than 90,000 vehicles cross the St. Croix River Bridge each day. By the time commuters reach downtown Saint Paul, the number of vehicles increases to 150,000. These current traffic levels on I-94 exceed the interstate’s capacity.

By 2030, the corridor’s population is expected to grow by nearly 30 percent. In addition to the population growth, more than 30,000 jobs are expected to be added to the corridor – adding more commuters to an already congested corridor.

What are the next steps in transit development for the Gateway Corridor?

With the public’s input, the Gateway Corridor Commission is leading an Alternatives Analysis Study that will determine the best mode of transit. The AA Study will identify whether the best transit option is light-rail transit, commuter rail or bus-rapid transit for the Gateway Corridor, as well as estimated ridership, potential routes and estimated costs for construction and operation. The Gateway Corridor’s Alternatives Analysis Study is expected to be completed by spring 2012.

Depending upon federal and local funding, new transit in the Gateway Corridor could be operational by 2022.