



Carver County

2021 END OF YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHWAY 212 PROJECT UNDERWAY

The Highway 212 Project from Carver to Cologne stayed right on schedule, with some excellent summer and fall weather helping the project's progress. Some portions of the new divided highway from Carver to Cologne were put into use. This segment should be completed by Oct. 2022.

Additionally, the County received excellent news in July that the State Legislature allocated \$25 million to the project's second phase, allowing the Cologne to Norwood Young America segment to reach fully funded status.



COVID-19 VACCINES AND TESTING

Public Health continued serving County residents by delivering the COVID-19 vaccine, either directly or by sharing it with local health-care and pharmacy partners, as well as ramping up a community testing site at Waconia Event Center near the end of 2021. By year's end, the County's vaccination completion rate among residents 16 years and older was over 80%, with more than 75,000 residents receiving at least one vaccine dose. Public Health staff also worked tirelessly to serve residents with barriers to receiving both vaccines and testing, bringing the vaccine to their homes, to our schools and township halls. Public Health continued to support partners in navigating changing guidance and protocols to help keep our residents safe.

BOARD APPROVES STIMULUS MONEY USE

In 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved or gave direction on \$22 of the \$34 million the County received in Federal funds related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It addresses high-priority concerns such as business relief, food security, housing, broadband and pandemic-related response needs.

50,000+

COVID-19 vaccinations delivered by County Public Health, either directly given to residents or shared with health-care or pharmacy partners.

124

Number of family-based childcare providers licensed by the County in 2021, filling a need for residents.

860

Number of building permits issued, with a construction value of more than \$30 million.

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MENTAL WELLNESS FACILITY OPENS



The Steiner Kelting Mental Wellness facility opened in September. It features 12 beds in a voluntary, transitional facility, closing a gap in the County's mental health continuum of care while offering a service previously not available to people and their families in the County.

LIBRARY RECEIVES SUBSTANTIAL GIFT

The Carver County Library received a gift from the Charles Dahlke estate, supporting an annual \$100,000 grant program for specific projects, programming and services. This year, the gift funds such things as service contracts for Wi-Fi hot spots, digital conversion labs, STEM kits, the gardening seed library and a book club.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES THRIVES

Despite COVID-19, the Environmental Services team served 30,000 participants, including at the County Fair in the new building. It also made facility improvements at the Environmental Center, including resurfacing the parking lot.

MOST ACTIVE COUNTY IN MINNESOTA

The County ranked first among most active counties, as well as the healthiest county in Minnesota for the ninth straight year. The County scores well on low teen birth rates, access to exercise opportunities, as well as high school completion rates and low unemployment.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE USES BODY CAMS

The Sheriff's Office integrated usage of body-worn cameras in 2021, creating a video record of policing action and increased public trust through transparency, as well as capturing valuable evidence.

PARKS COMPLETES TRAIL PROJECTS

Both the Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail and the Highway 5 Regional Trail projects were completed in 2021. Parks continues to move forward with its Waterfront Service Center at Lake Waconia Regional Park.

HIGHWAY 101, HIGHWAY 11 PROJECTS

Public Works completed work on both the Highway 101-Bluff Area project with the City of Chanhassen, as well as the Highway 11 (Jonathan Carver Parkway) project with the City of Carver.

GOLDFISH STUDY CONTINUES

Water Management continued its goldfish infestation study and removal of the invasive species from County waterways. The effort received international attention, with coverage in Germany and Columbia. It removed 9,000 pounds of goldfish from the chain of lakes in the City of Chaska.

12

Consecutive years the County was awarded AAA bond rating

29,000

Pounds of plastic (agricultural and boat wrap) collected by Environmental Services over two events

1,500

Number of COVID-19 tests administered by Public Health in only four weeks time at the Waconia Event Center testing site.