



## Red Rock Corridor Timeline

### **1997 - Twin Cities Metropolitan Commuter Rail Feasibility Study**

This study was conducted by the Minnesota Department of transportation (Mn-DOT) to determine if the Twin Cities metropolitan area could support commuter rail service. The study identified Red Rock as 1 of the 6 corridors proved to be feasible for supporting commuter rail service.

### **1998 – Red Rock Corridor Commission formed**

The Red Rock Corridor Commission, a joint powers board consisting of Counties, Cities and stakeholders, was formed to address the transportation needs of the corridor.

### **2000 – Mn-DOT Commuter Rail System Plan**

This study superseded the previous rail feasibility study and identified the Red Rock Corridor as a high priority, and the second commuter rail corridor implemented in the metro following the Northstar commuter rail line.

### **2001 – Commuter Rail Feasibility Study**

The Red Rock Corridor Commission undertook a Commuter Rail Feasibility Study that evaluated the constraints and opportunities of operating commuter rail service in the corridor. This study concluded that that the Red Rock Corridor Commuter Rail project was a viable transit option, and it should be advanced to the next phase in the project development process; specifically the Alternatives Analysis (AA) and environmental scoping process.

### **2007 – Alternatives Analysis**

The Red Rock Corridor Commission conducted an AA in 2007 to evaluate transit alternatives that cost-effectively address the transportation needs of the corridor. The results of the AA study indicated that expanding bus service, increasing bus frequency and providing additional Park & Ride facilities are the first steps towards building a stronger transit base in the corridor. This stronger base is a key component in the phasing of corridor improvements prior to the implementation of commuter rail. The study also acknowledged that that the implementation of high speed rail in and through the Red Rock Corridor would benefit commuter rail in the corridor by reducing capital costs.

### **2009 – Commuter Bus Feasibility Study**

In October 2008, the Red Rock Corridor Commission began the *Commuter Bus Feasibility Study* to evaluate options for adding/expanding bus service and park-and-ride facilities along the Red Rock Corridor from Lower Afton Road in St Paul, Newport, Cottage Grove, Hastings, Prairie Island Indian Community and Red Wing to both downtown St. Paul and Minneapolis in a manner that supports the Commission's long-range vision for commuter rail service in the corridor. A service implementation plan was developed that addresses management and oversight, fare policy and funding, marketing and branding, procurement, facilities development, and implementation schedule.

### **2010 – Station Area and Site Master Planning Study**

The Red Rock Corridor Commission will be conducting a station area and site master planning study for the southeast stations of the Red Rock Corridor. These stations include St. Paul (Lower Afton Road), Newport, Cottage Grove and Hastings. The work conducted for this study will be utilized in the development of station areas that can serve express bus service in the interim and transition to commuter rail in the long-term. The study is anticipated to be completed in 2011.