

CASE STUDY**NINE MILE CREEK BRIDGE**

Concrete Girders Align Final Stretch of Metro Hiking Trail

The Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail, which originated as an ambitious idea in 2008, is coming to completion in 2017. Construction on sections of the trail began in 2013, leaving a large swath including a pedestrian bridge in Edina MN, untouched. After three years of construction, this section of the trail in Edina will be completed with bridge girders manufactured by County Materials.

The trail's plan originated with the Three Rivers Park District, a special park district created to serve the suburban areas of the Twin Cities. The trail was developed through community assessment team meetings, public open houses, and agency meetings, from which a master plan was created. In January 2014 the Park District Board of Commissioners selected SHE Inc. to create preliminary engineering plans for the Edina stretch of the trail.

The alignment project consists of seven miles of trail through Edina, linked with a pedestrian bridge over Highway 100 and Metro Boulevard. The pedestrian bridge is supported by "I" beam girders manufactured by County Materials in Roberts, Wis. Outside of Edina, the trail stretches through Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield and Bloomington. The trail will also connect to other trails and many scenic and historic sites including Dakota County Big Rivers Regional Trails, The Minnesota River State Trail, Lake Minnetonka, Lake Edina, Cedar Lake, North Cedar Lake, the Minnesota River Bluffs, the Minnesota valley National Wildlife Refuge, and Fort Snelling State Park.

The general contractor, Kraemer North America, began construction on the west side of Metro Boulevard in March 2016. The first step was installing the bridge abutment and piers the girders sit on. Highway 100 was briefly shut down in June to set the girders over the highway. County Materials played a role in limiting road closure time by working closely with the contractor coordinating deliveries and making the deliveries on time. After the girders were installed the path was poured and railings installed.

The pedestrian bridge is set to officially open in the spring of 2017, connecting the long awaited Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail system for anxious trail enthusiasts.

Project Background

Products Used: Bridge Girders

Location: Edina, MN

Contractor: Kraemer North America