

Subject St. Louis Park to Savage transitway feasibility study

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Overview

This bill authorizes counties and regional railroad authorities to conduct a feasibility study for a rail transitway from St. Louis Park to Savage. It specifies study requirements, including aligning with federal rail project development processes, evaluating only specific types of trains that can operate on light rail transit track, and evaluating impacts of identified project components.

Background. A 2002 law prohibits planning, project development, and construction of a “Dan Patch” commuter rail line between Minneapolis and Northfield. Laws 2002, ch. 393, sec. 85. The route identified in the bill is a portion of that line. (The bill overrides the planning restrictions for purposes of the feasibility study.)