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DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING MAINTAINABLE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COUNTERMEASURES

Status: Active

Project Start Date: 06/04/2021

Summary:

In Minnesota, one challenge with installing safety countermeasures for people walking and ensuring year-round access to pedestrian infrastructure is winter maintenance. Specific pedestrian safety and accessibility treatments introduce real and perceived challenges to traditional snow removal operations and winter maintenance plans. Snowplows may have difficulty removing snow from around curb extensions, median refuge islands, speed humps, and narrower lanes. Furthermore, roadway snow removal often blocks curb ramps or even results in piles of snow atop curb-tight sidewalks. These issues negatively affect pedestrian mobility and accessibility in winter and complicate efforts to install such safety treatments. This project seeks to identify best practices for designing and implementing pedestrian safety countermeasures that ensure year-round maintainability.