



## BIKING SUITABILITY IN ISANTI COUNTY

The Biking Suitability in Isanti County Map, as shown in figure D3, highlights the range of biking opportunities on the existing roads of Isanti County and connections to regional amenities. This map was developed by Mr. Joe Crocker, Steering Committee Co-Chair and Mrs. Jean Crocker and illustrated by the Center for Rural Design.

Continuous bike travel and regional connectiveness, bike connections between towns and linkages between the Isanti County Park holdings are of significance when analyzing biking suitability.

Continuous bike travel and regional connectiveness provide serious and weekend bikers safe options when choosing to navigate for a variety of purposes. According to the map and highlighted in blue, red and green there are a significant amount of suitable biking roads in the County. Interstate 47 in the west of the County allows moderately suitable and continuous biking from the north to the south. County Road 5 in the southern part of the County provide moderately suitable to suitable continuous biking from east west. County Road 28 connects with County Road 5 and offers a highly suitable connection to Sherburne County and the town of Zimmerman. County Road 3 and 13 in the northern part of the County offer suitable to highly suitable continuous biking from east to west.

Bike connections between towns provide more navigation choices for the Isanti County Community. The three cities in Isanti County, Braham, Cambridge and Isanti are linked by State Highway 65. State Highway 65 and 95 are minimally suitable according to the Biking Suitability Map. An alternative to biking illegally on a highway is to take lower traffic roads or a segregated bike path. Isanti County is currently working on connecting Isanti and Cambridge by a paved bike path that runs parallel to the railroad. A connection between Cambridge and Braham is suggested to be established also. County Road 34 and 36 and State Highway 13 connects Cambridge with Braham.

The north-south connection is not direct but offers a opportunity to travel by bike between these two towns. Another options for connecting Cambridge and Braham is a segregated path parallel to Interstate 65.

Linkages between the Isanti County Park holdings provide opportunities for increased use of the parks. The Biking Suitability Map shows the park holdings and suggests that there potentially could be connections between them. The Bike and County Park Road Connections Map utilizes the suitability continuum and recommends bike route linkages between parks.