

Community Driven CAV

February 2023 – June 2024

Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ), Saint Paul, MN



Finding CAV solutions for community-identified issues

We envisioned a project—a future—where the community is at the forefront of planning and implementation of new technology. Technologies are often developed by select companies and universities, and then tested in communities. Instead of leading with a solution, Community Driven CAV started by understanding community needs and assets, and then creatively explored ways that connected and automated technologies could address them. We wanted the community to drive what technology and use cases we plan for, develop and test. We sought to upturn the usual way of doing business to create a stronger and more equitable transportation future.

First the project team conducted three community listening sessions to understand the community's transportation challenge. Next a workshop with community members and technical experts was held to discuss how CAV technology could potentially help address the identified transportation challenges. This work resulted in [potential demonstration concepts](#) for the Creative Enterprise Zone and a [Community-Driven Planning Framework](#), which can be used by others looking to do community led planning.

Project Goals

Program goal	Project goal
 Equity and Accessibility	Facilitate discussions with community members on how CAV could improve access to key destinations, goods and services for the area's diverse residents and visitors.
 Economic Benefits	Identify how CAV could support the community's economics vision and needs including supply chain disruptions and access to jobs and workers.
 Trust and Understanding	Bring together community members and technical experts in workshops to plan for the future of transportation, together.
 Readiness	Create a potential demonstration action plan as a guide for future planning, technology development and demonstrations.



Project Milestones

- **February 2023**—Project Kick-off
- **Spring 2023**—Listening Sessions
- **Summer 2023**—Workshops
- **Fall 2023 - Winter 2024**—Action Plan & Framework

Project Team/Community Partners



Located between Prior Ave. and the Minneapolis/Saint Paul boundary along the University Ave. Green line, the CEZ is home to hundreds of creative businesses and is now one of the fast-growing residential areas in the state making it a prime location to think through CAV use cases. Visit the [CEZ website](#) for more information.

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