

The Northern Lights Express (NLX) passenger train, a proposed transportation project, offers environmental benefits for both residents and nature. This higher speed train will move travelers between the Minneapolis Target Field station and Duluth in about 2 ½ hours, offering a reliable transit option to driving.

Use of the NLX will result in lower CO2 emissions in the Interstate 35 corridor. For example, air pollution benefits due to people riding the train instead of driving cars are expected to be worth approximately \$26 million over 40 years.

Even more important, people will experience improved air quality in neighboring communities, and specifically the station cities of Coon Rapids, Cambridge, Hinckley, and Superior. That means fewer potential negative health impacts like heart and lung concerns, including worsening of bronchitis, emphysema and asthma.

Compared to cars, trains also cause less noise pollution, result in fewer accidents, and reduce traffic congestion.

Since the NLX will use existing rail along most of the route, soil will only be disturbed around station additions and during the installation of safety upgrades. This preserves habitat and prevents erosion that negatively impacts water quality.

Please join me in protecting health and habitat by asking elected officials at the local, state and federal levels to support the NLX passenger rail project!