

**Energizing Voters and
Connecting Citizens to Candidates in Saint Paul's 1-9**

Pol1914
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
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The project on which this presentation is based was completed in collaboration with Ramsey County as part of the 2018–2019 Resilient Communities Project (RCP) partnership. RCP is a program at the University of Minnesota’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) that connects University faculty and students with Minnesota communities to address strategic projects that advance local resilience and sustainability.

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The Challenge

Offer new ideas on voter engagement in Ramsey County

Evidence-based recommendations

Practical, effective, and do-able suggestions

Understanding the Issues and Context

Review of literature on voter engagement (youth voting)

Familiarity with demographics in 1-9

Conversations with voter-engagement activists

Conversations with service providers and recipients

On-campus interviews with students

Polling Voters in 1-9

Exit polls administered at Jackson Elementary (204 respondents):

Important factors in voting decisions

Media use

Why friends and family members did not vote

Demographic data

Open-ended responses

Findings are most relevant to young residents and residents of color

Overview of Key Suggestions

Civic education (not just in school)

Better connections between residents and the candidates and issues

Harness the power of social media

Bringing residents' voices into the equation