

Vine Street Underpass (2003)

Client:

City of Eau Claire

Project Number:

N/A

Location:

Under USH 12/Clairemont Avenue
near the Vine Street Intersection in
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Client Contact:

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Staff Assignments:

Matt Gundry, P.E. – Structural/project engineer
Tony Zimmer – Plan preparation

Project Scope:

This project involved the design of a pedestrian underpass to be installed underneath USH12/Clairemont Avenue in the City of Eau Claire. USH 12 is a busy arterial that separates one of the city's middle schools from a large residential area. Prior to the construction of this underpass, numerous accidents had occurred at this pedestrian crossing, including one child fatality. The underpass was needed for safe pedestrian and bike crossing of a very busy highway.

The City of Eau Claire hired Fleming, Andre and Associates, Inc. to design the underpass and the required connecting trail. A pre-cast concrete culvert, structure C-18-43, was chosen to reduce impact to traffic due to construction delays. Because of the high public exposure and visibility of this project, aesthetics were important for acceptance. Cast-in-place cantilever retaining walls with a decorative stone pattern were designed at each entrance to the underpass. The design involved considerable coordination with Wisconsin DOT to allow for future expansion of USH 12 and to properly handle the traffic during construction. City water services were rerouted and site drainage was connected to the existing storm sewer system. Public involvement included input from the local middle school, which had been active in raising funds for this project.