



City of Blaine

City Council Workshop

August 5, 2024 | 5:15 PM
Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Square Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55449

AGENDA

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP MEETING

In accordance with the provisions of Section 3.01 of the Blaine City Charter, a Council Workshop meeting is scheduled for the following purpose:

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. New Business

- 3.1.** 2024-347 Northtown Mall Update
Sponsors: Michelle Wolfe, City Manager
- 3.2.** 2024-339 Closed Session Pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05, subd. 3(b) - Attorney Client Privileged Discussion Regarding Litigation Status, Strategy and Legal Advice with the City's Litigation Counsel on the Matter of *Blaine v. Irene Tamblyn*, Anoka County Court File No. 02-CV-22-0930
Sponsors: Michelle Wolfe, City Manager
- 3.3.** 2024-338 Closed Session Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05(2)(a)(2) - Active Fraud Investigation Update
Sponsors: Michelle Wolfe, City Manager
- 3.4.** 2024-331 National Sports Center Super Rink Improvements Part 2
Sponsors: Jason Zimmerman, Finance Director, Erik Thorvig, Community Development Director
- 3.5.** 2024-298 TH65 Bridge Aesthetics
Sponsors: Daniel Schluender, Director of Engineering
- 3.6.** 2024-319 Temporary Signs Discussion

Sponsors: Sheila Sellman, City Planner

- 4. Other Business**
- 5. Adjournment**



City of Blaine Staff Report

File Number: 2024-347

Agenda Date

August 5, 2024

Status

In Control

City Council

File Type

Workshop Item

New Business - Michelle Wolfe, City Manager

Agenda Item # 3.1

Northtown Mall Update

Background

Northtown Mall owner Felix Reznick will be appearing via Zoom to provide Council with an update.

Staff Recommendation

Questions for Council

Attachment List

None



City of Blaine Staff Report

File Number: 2024-339

Agenda Date	Status
August 5, 2024	
In Control	File Type
City Council	Workshop Item

New Business - Michelle Wolfe, City Manager

Agenda Item # 3.2

Closed Session Pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05, subd. 3(b) - Attorney Client Privileged Discussion Regarding Litigation Status, Strategy and Legal Advice with the City's Litigation Counsel on the Matter of *Blaine v. Irene Tamblyn*, Anoka County Court File No. 02-CV-22-0930

Background

The city council will be provided an update by the attorney representing the city.

Staff Recommendation

Questions for Council

Attachment List

None



City of Blaine Staff Report

File Number: 2024-338

Agenda Date	Status
August 5, 2024	
In Control	File Type
City Council	Workshop Item

New Business - Michelle Wolfe, City Manager

Agenda Item # 3.3

Closed Session Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05(2)(a)(2) - Active Fraud Investigation Update

Background

Staff Recommendation

Questions for Council

Attachment List

None



City of Blaine Staff Report

File Number: 2024-331

Agenda Date	Status
August 5, 2024	
In Control	File Type
City Council	Workshop Item

New Business - Jason Zimmerman, Finance Director, Erik Thorvig, Community Development Director

Agenda Item # 3.4

National Sports Center Super Rink Improvements Part 2

Background

On July 1, 2024 City staff [provided an overview](#) of proposed improvements the Minnesota Amature Sports Commission (MASC) included in their 2023 legislative session capital budget request, which was earmarked for the National Sports Center (NSC) Campus, specifically focused on the Super Rink. Unfortunately, while committee hearings were promising, the legislative session ended without the passage of any capital budget requests. Despite the failure to secure funding, MASC and the NSC have indicated their desire and commitment to address the backlog of deferred maintenance.

As part of the overall financing model, regardless of the state's willingness to contribute, and consistent with the construction of rinks 1-4 in 1998 and rinks 5-8 in 2006, the NSC is seeking financial participation from hockey organizations to guarantee the ability to purchase prime ice time in the form of a one-time payment. The ice rights guarantee would be 20 years, starting January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2044. While the ice time would need to be paid for annually, this structure has provided the NSC and priority organizations with the necessary long-term commitment needed to operate.

Blaine & Spring Lake Park Youth Hockey Financing Request

In March 2024, both Blaine (BYHA) and Spring Lake Park Youth Hockey (SLPYH) associations approached City staff inquiring about the City assisting in their one-time lump sum contributions related to the renovation project. The contribution requested of each organization is proportional to the number of annual ice hours being guaranteed. General dialog from the youth associations has noted*:

- Tight finances of Spring Lake Park Youth Hockey, which is currently unable to meet the financial need with existing resources
- Complex scheduling and financing with two facilities in use by both youth associations (Super Rink and Fogerty Arena)

- Subsidies exist from other City or School District operated ice arenas in the metro-area for the many similarly sized associations
- The most recent direct contribution from the City to the Super Rink was \$500,000 for the construction of the first four rinks in 1998
- At the July 1 workshop, both BYHA (\$750,000) and SLPYHA (\$600,000) were requesting the City of Blaine to fully fund their one-time contributions. BYHA has revised their request down to \$600,000 by indicating they would self-fund the remaining \$150,000 that is required. SLPYHA request remains unchanged. *This funding request is directly from both youth hockey associations, not from the NSC.*

The tentative payment schedule for priority partners calls for three equal installments in September 2024, January 2025, and March 2025.

**Note: These were points offered by the associations; city staff has not performed additional research on any of these topics.*

Financing Considerations

Traditionally, the City has leveraged two separate and unique funds, Strategic Priorities and Capital Improvement, to capitalize on opportunities as they arise outside the normal budgetary and capital planning processes.

The full balance of the Strategic Priorities Fund, along with the Closed Bond Fund, is included in a resolution subject to Council consideration at the August 5, 2024, City Council Meeting relating to the acquisition of property within the 105th Avenue Redevelopment District. While the intent is for the City to reimburse itself from the sale of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Bonds, should the Council support the establishment of a TIF district and associated agreements, the Strategic Priorities Fund has been identified by staff to serve as an interim financing mechanism. Additional details and terms of the interfund loan are contained within the staff report and resolution related to the purchase agreement.

The Capital Improvement Fund was [established by ordinance](#) in 1995 and is designed to act as an endowment fund to generate interest earnings that are to be used to pay capital costs of projects that are of general benefit to the city. Projects financed through this fund include the purchase and development of the Lexington Athletic Complex, various park improvements, and the construction of the Mary Ann Young Center. On May 20, 2024, the City Council approved the [transfer of \\$135,114 for City Hall and Aquatore Bandshell security enhancements](#), leaving approximately \$175,000 of available interest earnings.

- Expenditures from accumulated investment earnings:
 - shall be made upon the adoption of a resolution; and
 - approved by an affirmative vote of at least five council members
- Expenditures may be made from fund principal:
 - shall be made upon the adoption of a resolution;
 - approved by an affirmative vote of at least six council members;
 - requires a public hearing and publication in the City-designated newspaper;

- may not exceed 50 percent of the fund's balance; and
- shall not reduce principal funds below \$5,000,000

Fund	Current Balance (Approximate)	Funding Subject to 105th Property Acquisition	Remaining Funding Available
Strategic Priorities	\$3,100,000	\$3,100,000	\$-
Capital Improvement**	\$7,100,000	\$-	\$2,100,000

*** Amounts reflect the current balance and remaining funding available; this fund was designed to operate like an endowment fund, maintaining a healthy fund balance and using interest earnings for projects. Available interest earnings currently available total approximately \$175,000.*

MASC/NSC Conduit Debt Request

Representatives from the NSC have also inquired about the willingness of the City/EDA to provide conduit debt financing for this project. While the NSC is unsure if this will be needed, this tool may be useful pending the recommended outcome of their task force. The EDA has previously provided conduit debt to the NSC, most recently in [2019 for the sports dome project](#) and [2011 to construct the sports and exhibit hall](#). Conduit debt obligations are not a charge, lien, or encumbrance on the City/EDA, or its general credit / taxing powers. Conduit bonds are initiated and issued for the benefit of private entities, generally to support the construction of affordable housing, health care facilities, and other nonprofit ventures. Other conduit debt deals the City / EDA has participated in include:

- [2020 - Refunding of existing debt for Fogerty Arena](#)
- [2017 - Financing related to the construction of the Legends of Blaine through Dominion](#)
- [2016 - Financing related to the construction of Blaine University Townhomes through Anoka County Community Action Program](#)

Staff Recommendation

This is a council policy decision. Staff recommends caution due to current funding source limitations. Timing is an importation consideration due to current cash flow.

Questions for Council

Does the Council desire to provide funding on behalf of Blaine Youth Hockey and Spring Lake Park Youth Hockey for priority rights to purchase prime ice time for the next 20 years at the National Sports Center?

If the Council desires to provide financing:

- What amount?
- How should funding be determined to ensure an equitable allocation?
- What City funds should be utilized for this project?

- Should the City move forward with the intent of providing conduit debt financing?

Attachment List

None



City of Blaine Staff Report

File Number: 2024-298

Agenda Date

August 5, 2024

Status

In Control

City Council

File Type

Workshop Item

New Business - Daniel Schluender, Director of Engineering

Agenda Item # 3.5

TH65 Bridge Aesthetics

Background

The preliminary design of the bridges at 99th Avenue, 105th Avenue, 109th Avenue, 117th Avenue, and the pedestrian bridge at 113th/114th Avenues are nearly complete. The preliminary design required a Visual Quality Manual to be created that lays out the general Aesthetics treatments of the bridges and the landscaping of the local streets (roundabouts and boulevards). As a starting point for the bridge treatments, there was a review of the bridge colors and textures in the corridor at 121st Avenue/Paul Parkway, 125th Avenue, and 129th Avenue. These colors and textures are listed in the manual on page 4, see attachment. To tie the TH 65 corridor together throughout Blaine, the new bridges would follow similar colors and textures but could customize the abutment wall textures to look or give a sense of location or place. There is a suggestion on page 11 of the manual as a suggestion for the abutment wall textures for each bridge. Please note that the pedestrian bridge was added later to the preliminary design and not included in the Visual Quality Manual but there are a few elements that will include the railing color and the truss color of the bridge beams. Staff will bring back an item in the future to discuss the landscaping elements on the local roads.

Staff Recommendation

Staff is recommending that council discuss the bridges and the proposed textures on the abutment treatments along with the pedestrian bridge color of the railing and support beams.

Questions for Council

Attachment List

1. Blaine TH65 Visual Quality Manual



Blaine TH 65 Visual Quality Manual

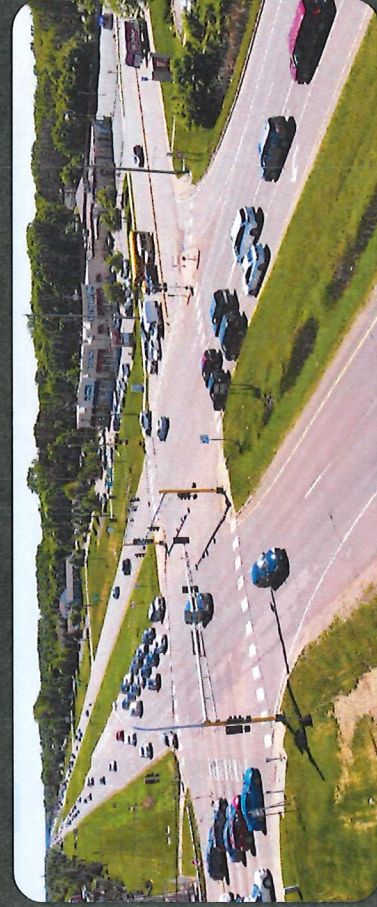


Acknowledgements

This Visual Quality Manual was prepared for the Highway 65 corridor through Blaine, Minnesota. It was primarily prepared by TKDA with assistance from Anoka County, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and the City of Blaine. Thank you to those who have contributed.

Contributors

Minnesota Department of Transportation
Anoka County
City of Blaine
TKDA (consultant)



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Introduction

Purpose

MnDOT, local agency stakeholders, and the Federal Highway Administration used a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study to develop and identify recommendations to Highway 65 in Blaine, MN.

- Planned Improvements will include:
- Added frontage roads and overpasses
 - Changes to access
 - Facilities for people walking and biking

The goal of this Visual Quality Manual is to outline aesthetic treatments along the Trunk Highway 65 corridor. Aesthetic treatments include landscaping, concrete patterns, and other treatments. The materials chosen will be visually pleasing, durable, and low-maintenance.



Corridor Issues



Vehicle Safety

Fatal and severe injury crash rates on highway 65 segments are 8 times higher than the state average.



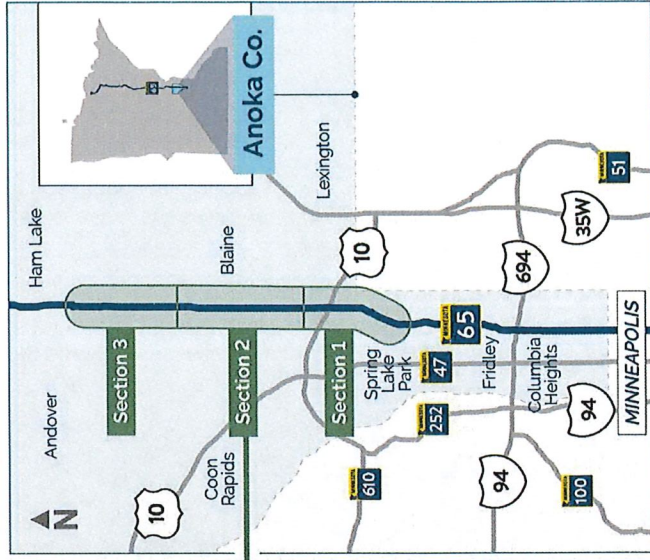
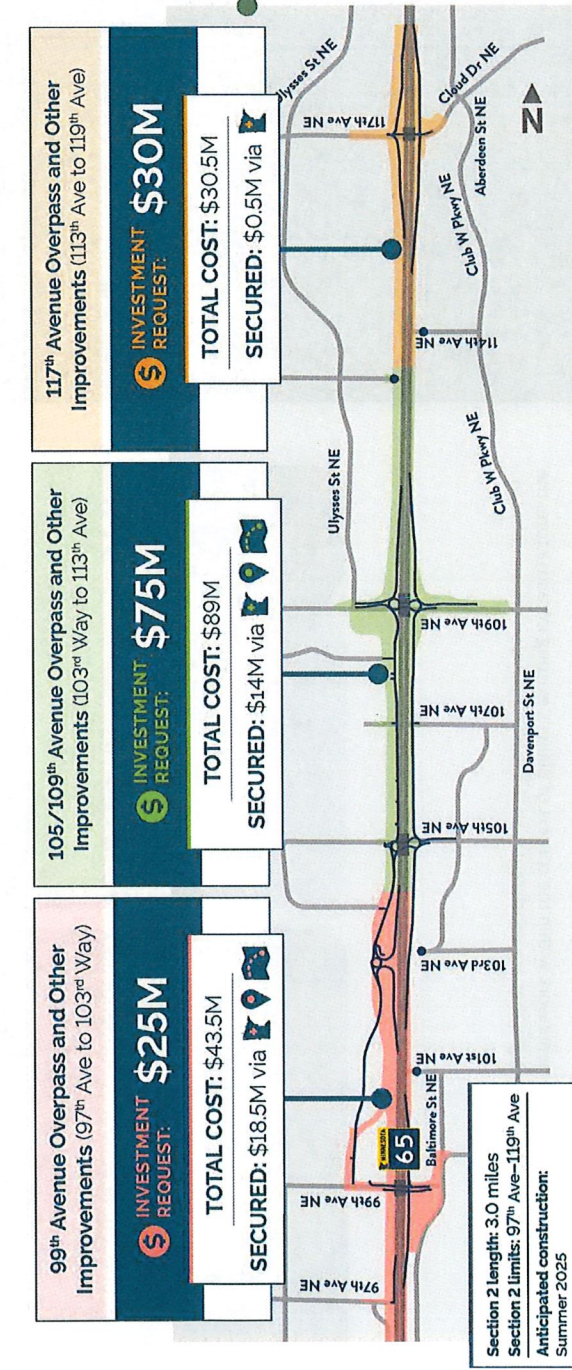
Vehicle Congestion

Congestion is expected to nearly double during peak hour travel times from 24 minutes to 40 minutes from south of County Road 10 to Bunker Lake Blvd by 2045.



Bike and Pedestrian Safety

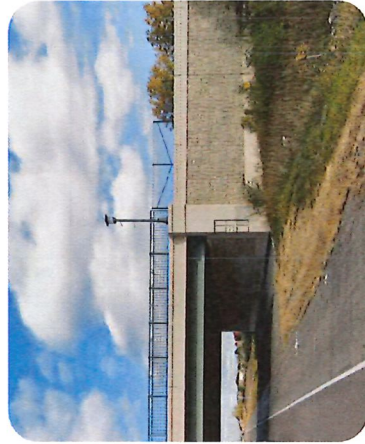
Highway 65 is difficult to travel on or cross for people walking and biking.



FUNDING SOURCES AND TYPES State Bonding Local Road Improvement Program Regional Solicitation

Conceptual Vision

To ensure that all aesthetic treatments work within the context of Blaine's existing infrastructure, the project shall use materials and designs that are consistent with the existing physical environment in the community.



125th Ave NE From TH65 Facing North



125th Ave NE From TH65 Facing North



Club W Pkwy NE and 114th Ave



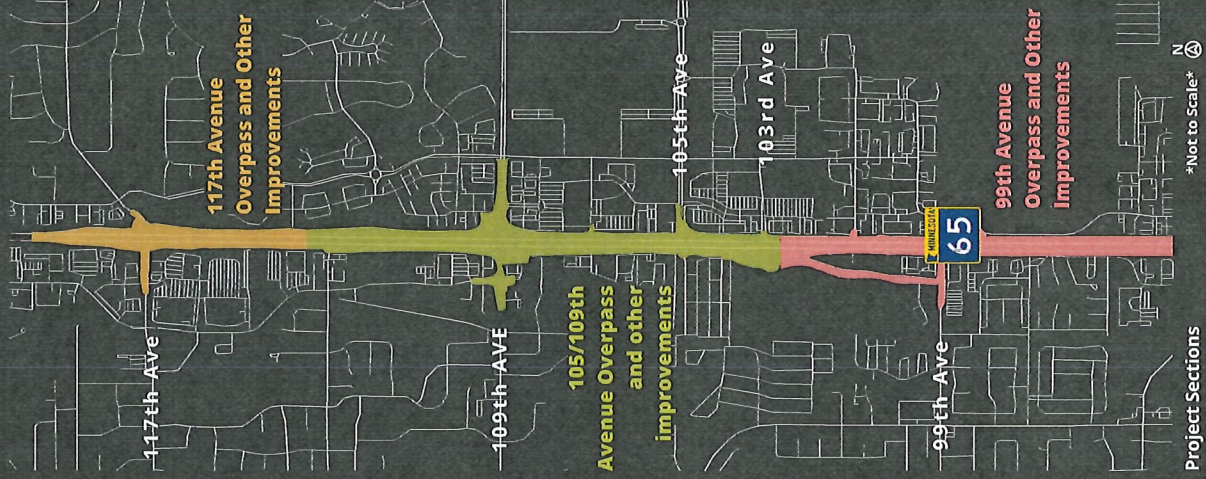
Club Pkwy NE and 113th Ave NE

Project Overview

Section 2 of the project is divided into three parts, named for the major overpass(es) in each section and spans from 97th Ave to 119th Ave.

This report is divided into the following sections:

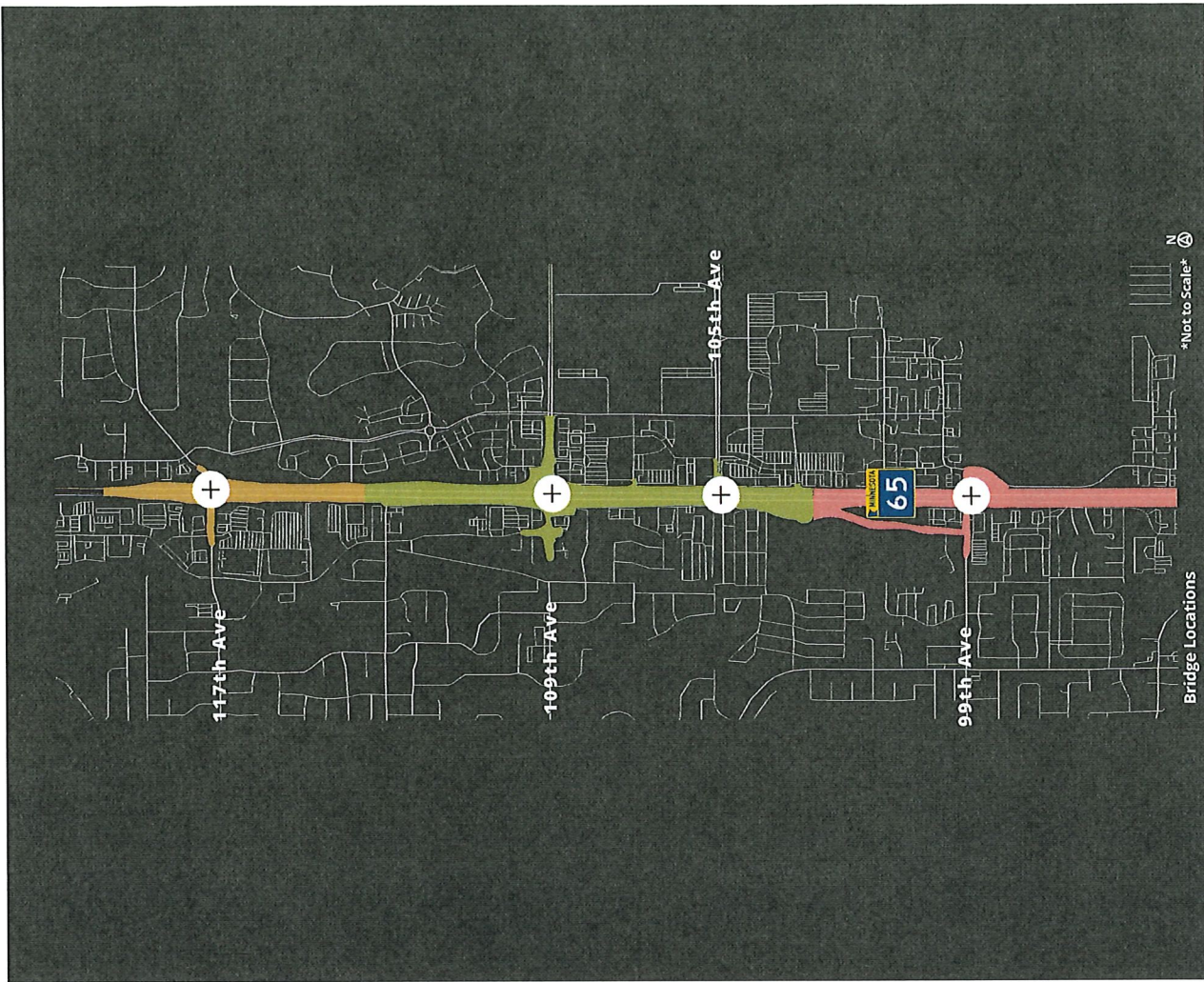
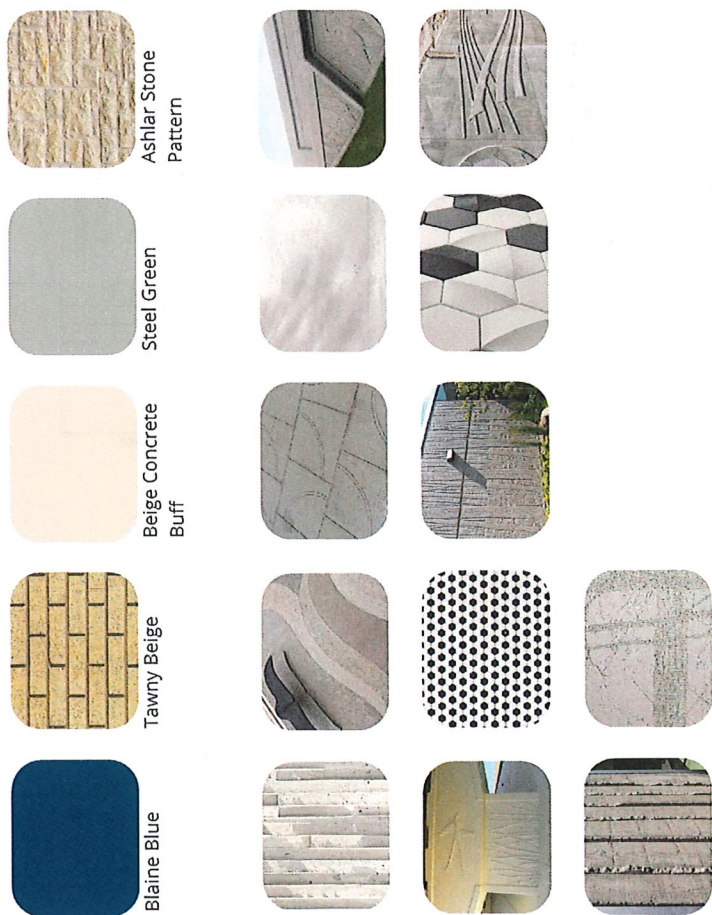
- Bridges
- Roundabouts
- Landscaping



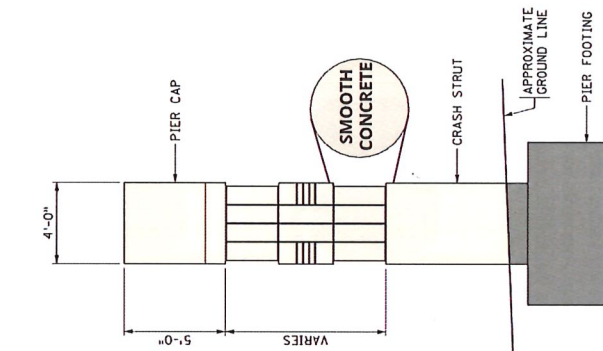
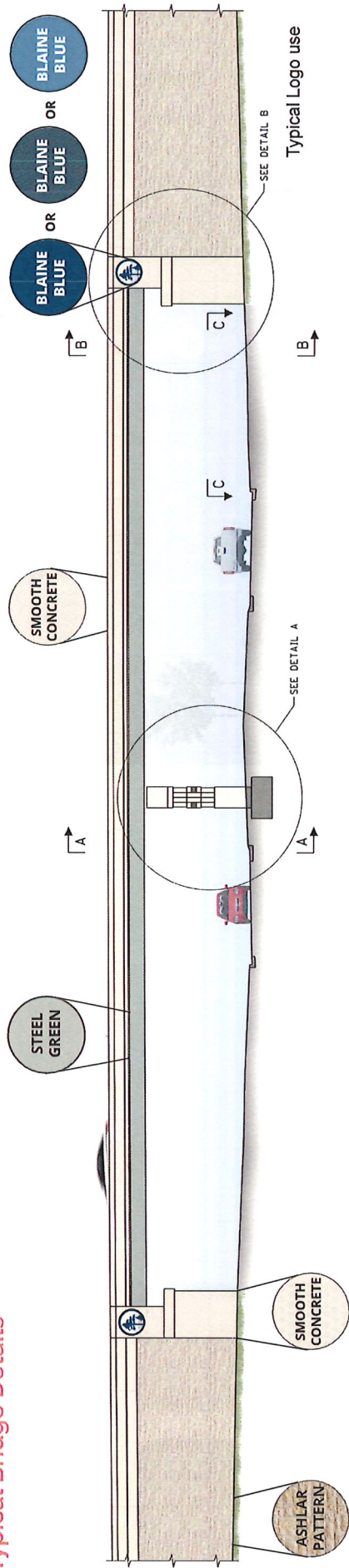
Bridges

The bridge aesthetic treatments provide an opportunity to establish a sense of place that feels uniquely 'Blaine'. The design elements outlined in the following section are intended to continue the existing character in the community while providing strategic moments for customization. Designs should reference the surrounding landscape and provide a visual reference for wayfinding.

Color and Texture Palette:

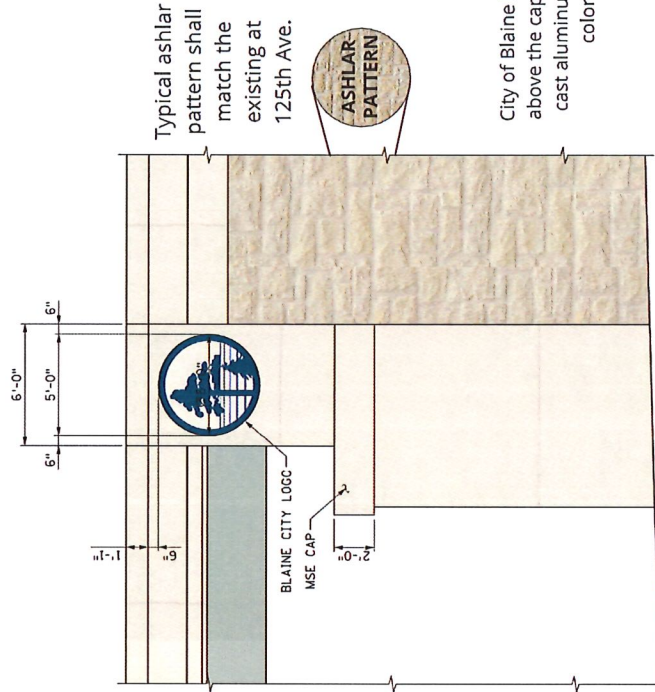


Typical Bridge Details



Typical Pier Elevation

Pier design shall match the existing aesthetics at 125th Ave.



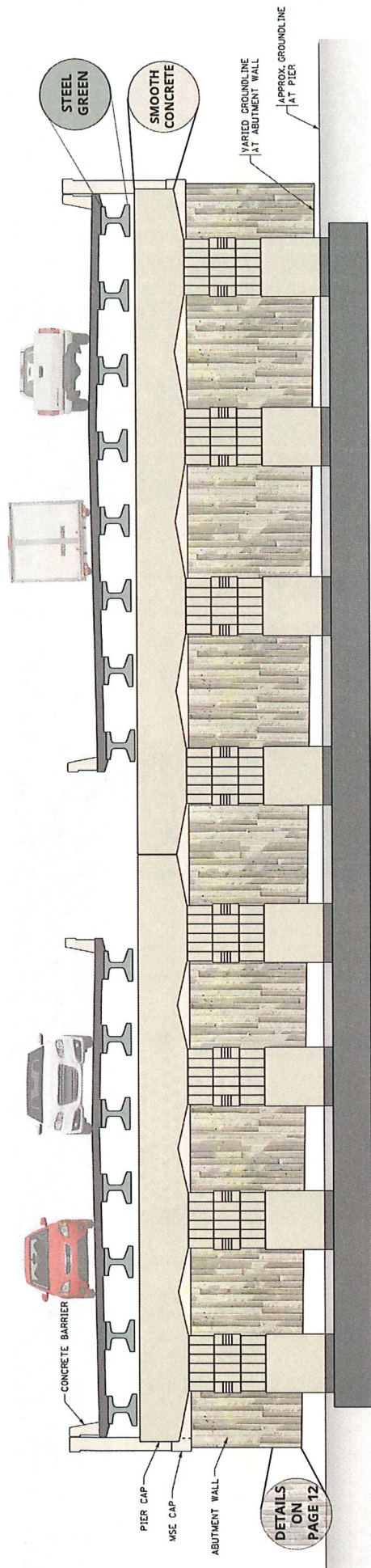
DETAIL B

Typical ashlar pattern shall match the existing at 125th Ave.

Typical Logo use

City of Blaine logo should be fixed to the column above the cap. Material should be made of solid cast aluminum with a powdercoat finish in the color of Blaine's standard blue.

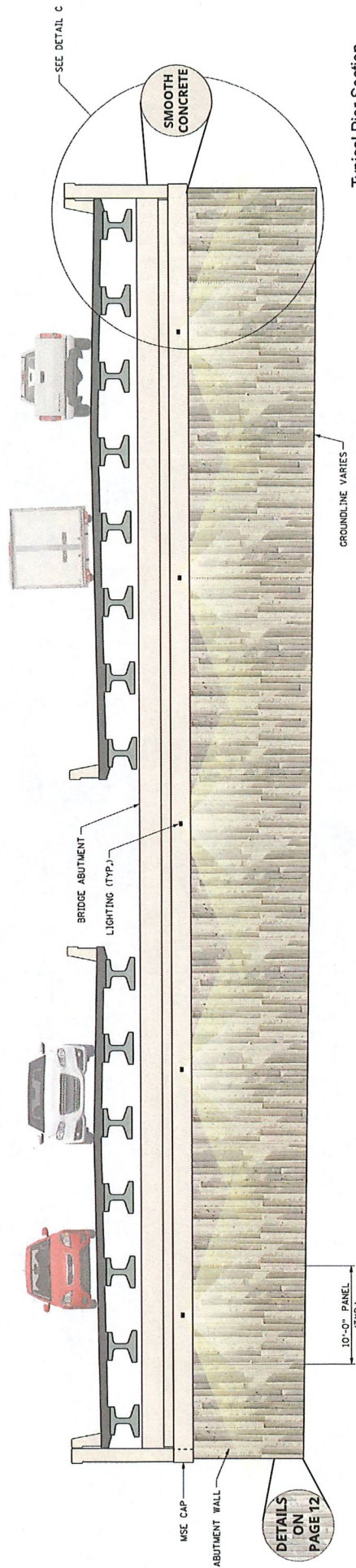
DETAIL A



Typical Pier Elevation

SECTION A-A

The MSE abutment wall shall have a unique concrete pattern as outlined in page 10 of this manual. This pattern shall extend to the top of the wall and beyond the groundline. See page 7 for pier and MSE cap aesthetics.



Typical Pier Section

SECTION B-B

MSE Abutment Wall Details

The MSE abutment walls on each of the four bridges are designed to provide visual connections to each destination. The diagram on the right outlines the design intent and key elements to be included on each bridge.

- **117th Avenue:** This bridge connects Sunrise Lake, Lakeside Commons Park, and West Lake Park to Blaine Baseball Complex and Blaine's City Center. As illustrated to the right, the design of these walls is inspired by the flow and movement of the lakes reached by the 117th Ave bridge.
- **109th Avenue:** Deacons Park, Blaine Wetland Sanctuary off Lexington Ave, and North Oaks West are key destinations along this corridor. The design for the 109th Ave abutment wall is a conceptual interpretation inspired by the wooded areas in these environments.
- **105th Avenue:** The connection to the National Sports Center, a 600 acre world-class multi-sport facility, with this corridor should be represented in the 105th Ave abutment wall design. The soccer-inspired scale pattern layout should be explored to ensure a clear meaning for drivers and pedestrians.
- **99th Avenue:** This bridge connects the community to Olympia Park and Victory Golf Course. The patterns along these walls should be reminiscent of natural, open space including grasses, wildlife and/or sky that can be found in these spaces.



Lakeside



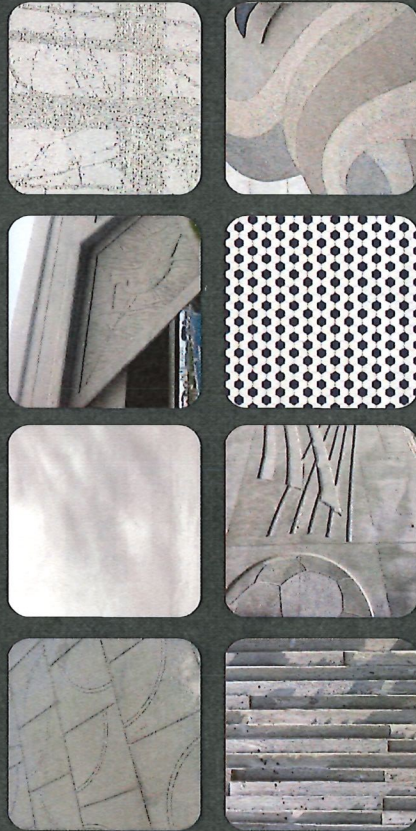
Wooded Sanctuary



Athletics



Open Spaces



Precedant Imagery of Wall Texture and Color



Roundabouts & Site Amenities

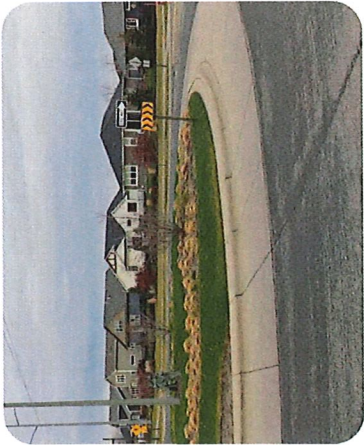
The overall intent is to create a beautiful, low maintenance, resilient landscape that compliments the context of the corridor.



126th Ave NE and Legacy Creek Pkwy NE



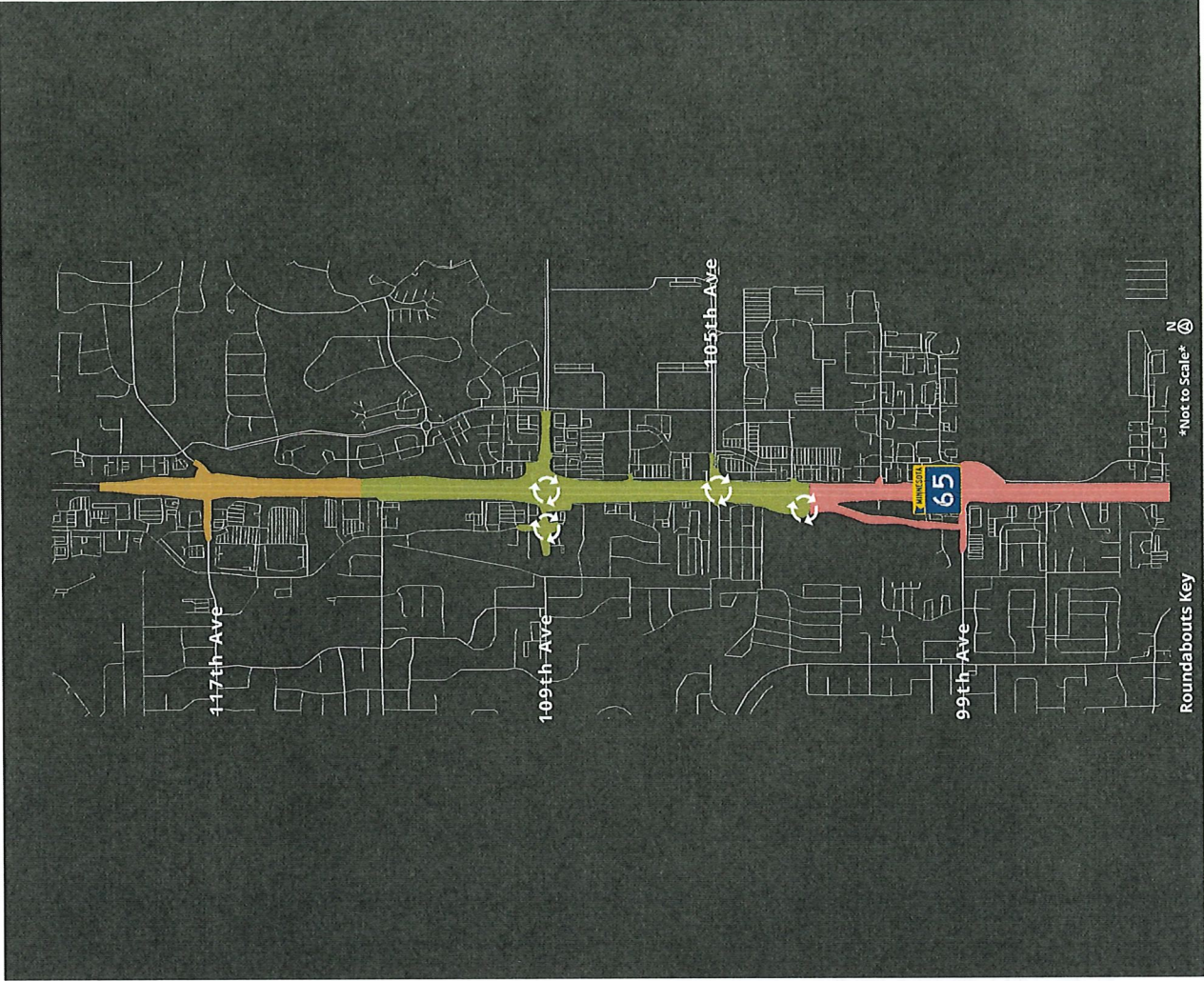
105th Ave NE and National Sports Center



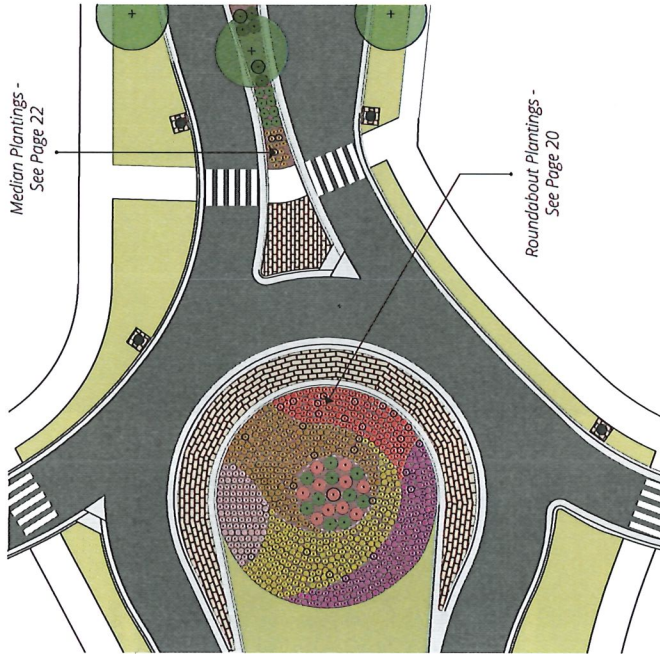
Harpers Ct NE and Lakes Pkwy



Club W Pkwy NE and 113th Ave NE



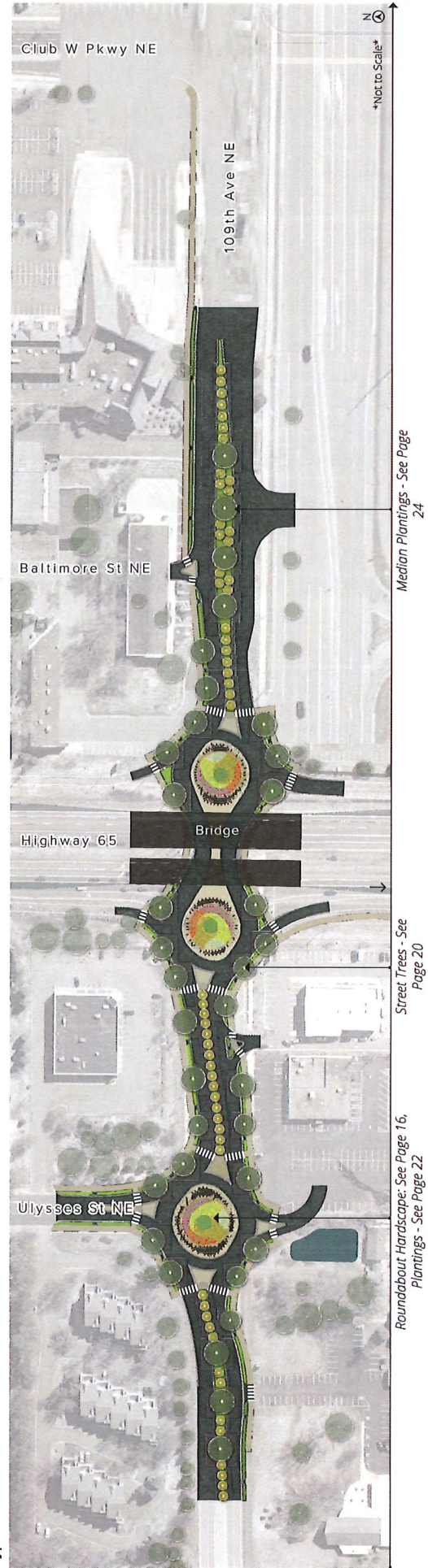
Typical Roundabout Details



Typical Hardscape Design

- All Concrete in medians and truck aprons should be tawny beige and stamped in a brick pattern.
- Lighting Standards:
 - Lights should match existing pedestrian level lamp posts in Blaine.
 - Place 4' X 4' Concrete base, tawny beige, stamped brick.

Typical Roundabout Plan



Landscaping

Planting Strategy:

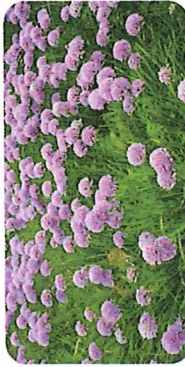
The planting strategy for the TH 65 corridor is based on utilizing low maintenance plantings that are proven to be hardy and salt-tolerant. Plantings should be located strategically along the corridor to provide maximum impact without creating long-term maintenance issues.

Key Guidelines:

The plantings and uses are broken into the following categories:

- Street Trees
- Roundabout Plantings
- Median Plantings

Landscaping should be used at these key locations to ensure maintenance is achievable. Shrubs and perennials should be placed in large masses with tight spacing. Diversity of plant materials is an important factor as well. The species outlined have a proven tolerance to harsh environments and are salt tolerant.



General Plant List

Deciduous Trees

Accolade Elm
Autumn Gold Ginkgo
Bur Oak
Majestic Skies Northern Pin Oak
Northern Acclaim Honey Locust
Ivory Silk Lilac
Summertime Amur Maackia
MN Strain Redbud

Coniferous Trees

Jack Pine
Black Hills Spruce

Shrubs

Black Chokeberry
Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle
Rugosa Rose

Perennials

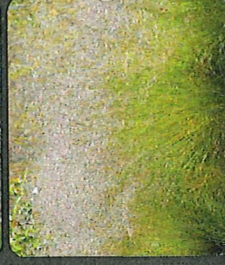
Prairie Dropseed
Walker's Low Catmint
Stella D'Oro Daylily
Allium 'Summer Beauty'
Autumn Joy Sedum

Ulmus 'Morton' Accolade
Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold'
Quercus macrocarpa
Quercus elipsoidalis 'Balsiques'
Gleditsia triacanthos 'Harve'
Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk'
Maackia amurensis 'Summertime'
Cercis canadensis 'Minnesota Strain'

Pinus banksiana
Picea glauca var. densata

Aronia melanocarpa
Diervilla lonicera
Rosa rugosa

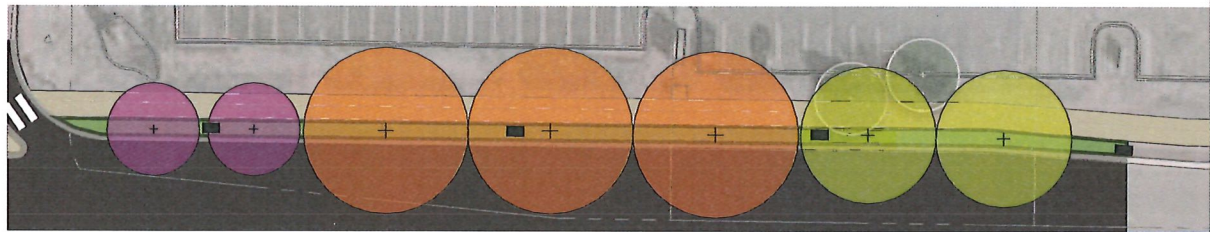
Sporobolus heterolepis
Nepeta x faassenii 'Walker Low'
Hemerocallis Stella D'Oro
Allium 'Summer Beauty'
Sedum 'Autumn Joy'



Street Trees

Street trees will create a more comfortable environment for pedestrians and bicyclists. Trees should be located on the city streets, not along the interchanges or Trunk Highway 65.

Diversity in tree species is a key priority. The same species of tree should not be planted in groups larger than 3-5. Spacing of the trees should be appropriate for the species at full maturity.



15' MN Strain
Redbud



40' O.C. Bur Oak

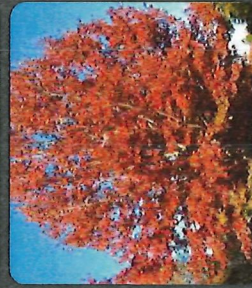
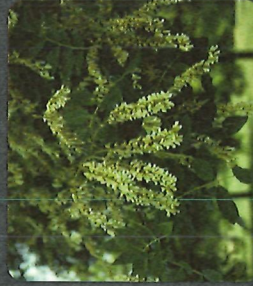


30' O.C. Autumn
Gold Ginkgo

Street Tree Planting List

Deciduous Trees

Accolade Elm	<i>Ulmus 'Morton' Accolade</i>	Spacing
Autumn Gold Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold'</i>	40' O.C.
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	30' O.C.
Majestic Skies Northern Pin Oak	<i>Quercus elipsoidalis 'Bailskies'</i>	40' O.C.
Northern Acclaim Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos 'Harve'</i>	30' O.C.
Ivory Silk Lilac	<i>Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk'</i>	15' O.C.
Summertime Amur Maackia	<i>Maackia amurensis 'Summertime'</i>	15' O.C.
MN Strain Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis 'Minnesota Strain'</i>	15' O.C.



Roundabout Plantings

The planting strategy for roundabouts is to use large mass plantings of native, low-maintenance, salt tolerant shrubs and perennials.

Roundabout Planting List

Shrubs

Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle
Rugosa Rose

Spacing

3' O.C.
4' O.C.

Diervilla lonicera
Rosa rugosa

Perennials

Prairie Dropseed
Walker's Low Catmint
Stella D'Oro Daylily
Allium 'Summer Beauty'
Autumn Joy Sedum

Sporobolus heterolepis
Nepeta x faassenii 'Walker Low'
Hemerocallis Stella D'Oro
Allium 'summer beauty'
Sedum 'Autumn Joy'

1.5' O.C.
3' O.C.
2' O.C.
2' O.C.
2' O.C.



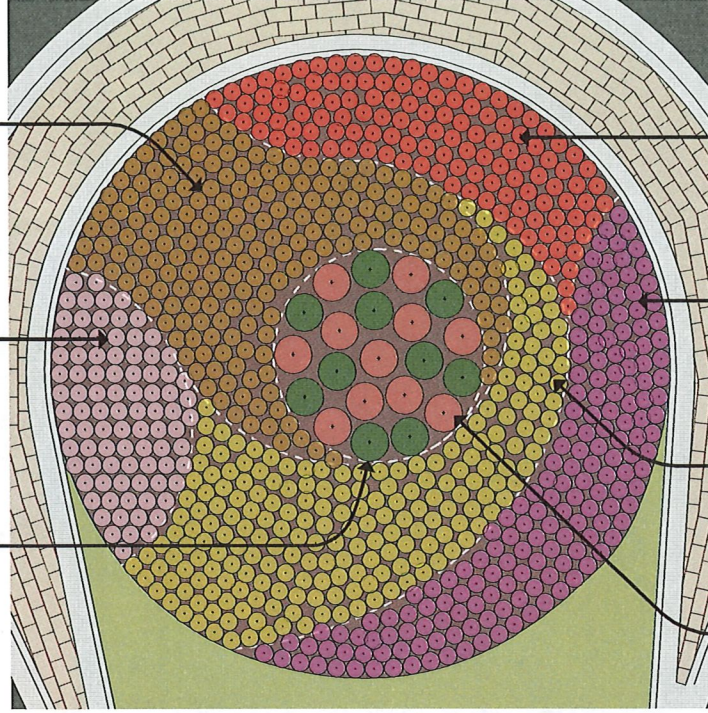
Prairie Dropseed



Allium Summer Beauty



Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle



Autumn Joy Sedum



Walker's Low Catmint



Stella D'Oro Daylily

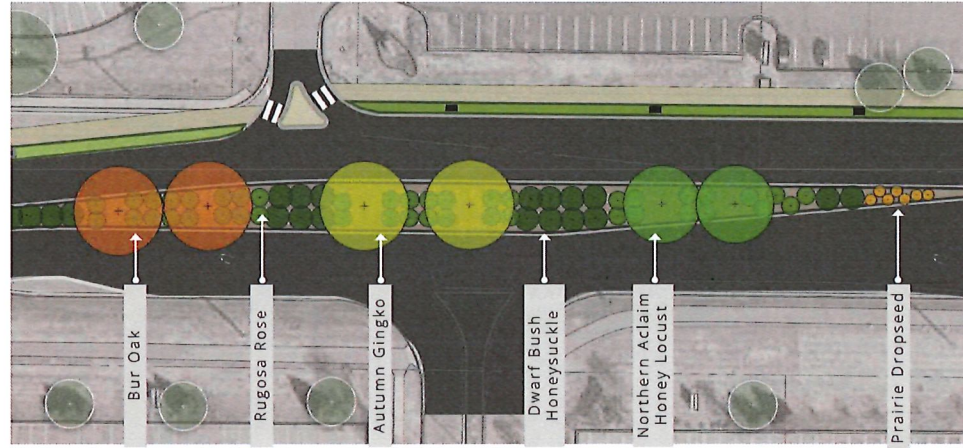


Prairie Dropseed

Median Plantings

The median plantings are placed in a pattern to create texture and movement, while still maintaining order and hierarchy.

Trees are located in the center; plants get shorter and smaller towards the end of the medians.



Median Planting List

Shrubs

Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle
Rugosa Rose

Perennials

Prairie Dropseed

Deciduous Trees

Autumn Gold Ginkgo
Bur Oak
Northern Aclam Honey Locust
MN Strain Redbud

Spacing
3' O.C.
4' O.C.

Diervilla lonicera
Rosa rugosa

Sporobolus heterolepis

1.5' O.C.
3' O.C.
30' O.C.
40' O.C.
30' O.C.
15' O.C.

Ginkgo biloba 'Autumn Gold'
Quercus macrocarpa
Gleditsia triacanthos 'Harve'
Cercis canadensis 'Minnesota Strain'





City of Blaine

Staff Report

File Number: 2024-319

Agenda Date	Status
August 5, 2024	
In Control	File Type
City Council	Workshop Item

New Business - Sheila Sellman, City Planner

Agenda Item # 3.6

Temporary Signs Discussion

Background

Temporary sign code violations are increasing and staff is seeking feedback on current requirements. Historically, staff would periodically discuss this topic with council to understand the level of enforcement and general philosophy. This hasn't occurred in several years and staff is seeking feedback from the current council.

Common violations include but are not limited to:

- Feather/banner signs without a permit: One feather sign with a maximum width of 3.5 feet and maximum height of 18 feet OR one banner with a maximum area of 32 square feet. The signs should be setback at least 10 feet from the property line and are not permitted within the right-of-way. Several properties have more than one feather sign, and often a banner as well, without a permit and placed in the right-of-way.
- Temporary sign permits allow an unlimited number of signage (feathers and banners) for a total of 8-weeks per calendar year (new businesses get 10 weeks).
- Window signage is limited to a maximum of 25% coverage. Solid colored window coverings are not considered signage.

Sign is defined as: Any letters, words, symbols, poster, picture, device reading matter, or representation in the nature of a message, announcement, visual communication, or advertisement, whether printed, painted, posted, affixed, constructed, or displayed for the purpose of information or communication. This definition includes sign structural supports, uprights, bracing and framework. The term sign shall specifically include architectural or graphic features which are intrinsically associated with a particular product, good, service, business, firm, corporation, or profession.

Images, poster, mascots are considered signage because they are associated with the nature of the

business (i.e. the paw print at Pet Suites or the cow at Chick-Fil-A).

The attached PowerPoint will be reviewed at workshop and used as part of the discussion. The PowerPoint gives some real examples of violations within the city. Also attached is a synopsis of what other cities do, which tend to be more restrictive than Blaine.

Staff Recommendation

Provide feedback and direction on council questions.

Questions for Council

1. Do you want to continue to allow unlimited signage with a temporary sign permit?
2. Do you want to reduce the amount of time allowed with a temporary sign permit?
3. Do you want sign violations to be proactively enforced by staff, or keep this complaint based?
4. Do you want more restrictions on temporary signs?

Attachment List

1. PowerPoint Presentation
2. Temporary Sign Research



Temporary Signs

City Council Workshop 2024

Questions to think about during this presentation:



- ◆ Are you familiar with the City's current signage requirements for temporary signs?
- ◆ How do you want the City to look?
- ◆ Do you believe the current signage seen throughout the City is aligned with the City's goals of promoting the health, safety, and welfare of the community?

Definition of Sign



- ◆ *Sign: Any letters, words, symbols, poster, picture, device reading matter, or representation in the nature of a message, announcement, visual communication, or advertisement whether printed, painted, posted, affixed, constructed, or displayed for the purpose of information or communication. This definition includes sign structural supports, uprights, bracing and framework. The term sign shall specifically include architectural or graphic features which are intrinsically associated with a particular product, good, service, business, firm, corporation, or profession.*
- ◆ Images such as a paw print on a pet store or Cow statue would be considered signage because it is associated with the nature of the business.

Background



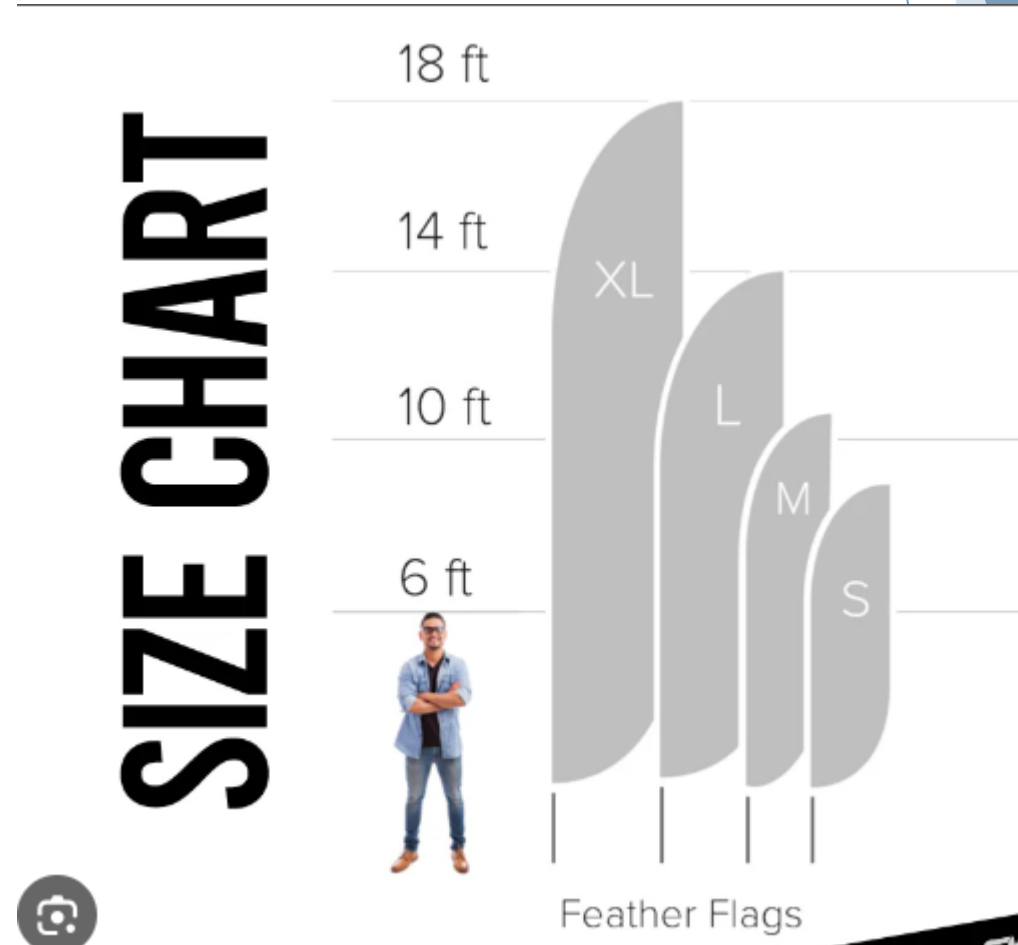
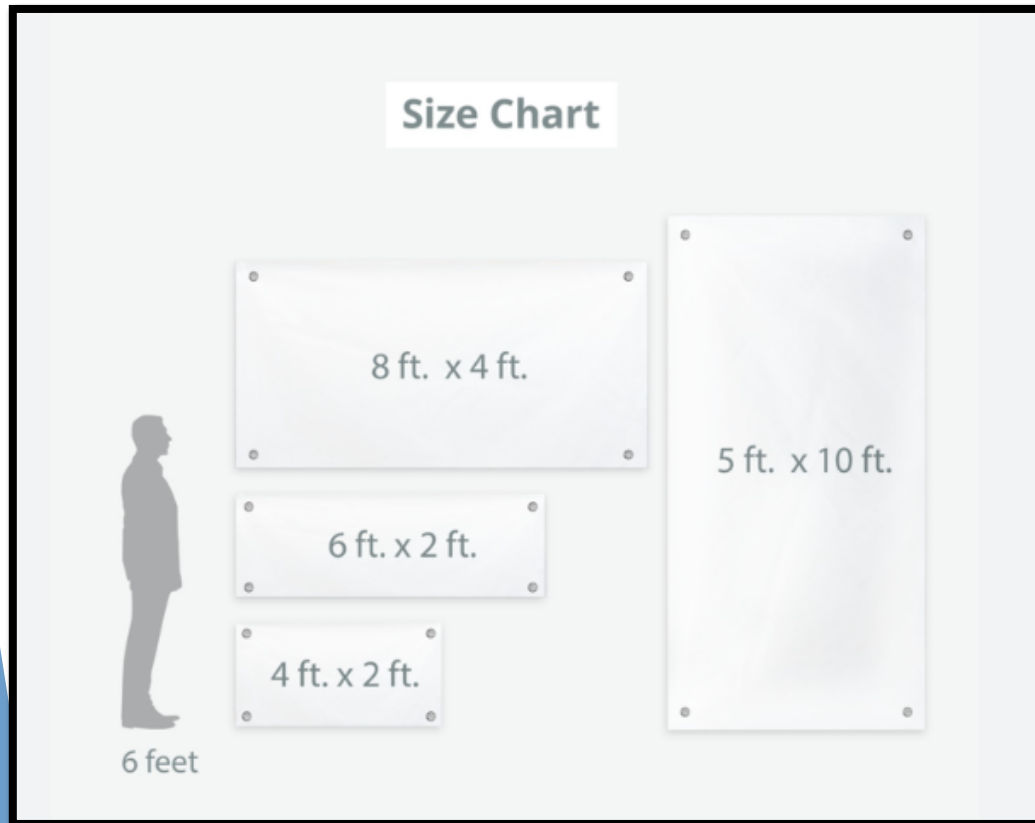
- ◆ **Current standards include:**
- ◆ One (1) feather sign with a maximum width of 3.5 feet and a maximum height of 18 feet **or** a banner with a maximum area of thirty two (32) square feet is permitted without a permit.
- ◆ All signs shall meet a 10-foot setback from property lines.
- ◆ No signs are permitted within the R-O-W
- ◆ Temporary sign permits are allowed for any extra signage, provided it does not exceed a total period of 8-weeks per calendar year. New businesses get an additional two weeks (10 weeks total).
 - ◆ **There is no limit on how much temporary signage you can have, only the time restriction.**
- ◆ Window signage is limited to a maximum 25% coverage. Solid colored window coverings are not considered signage.

Size examples – NO permit required

One (1) 32 square-foot banner

OR

One (1) feather sign that is no greater than 3.5 feet wide and 18 feet tall



What types of signage is allowed with a temporary sign permit?

- ◆ Banners
- ◆ Balloons and stringers
- ◆ Portable signs
- ◆ Search lights
- ◆ Feather signs
- ◆ Freestanding signs, including:
 - ◆ Sandwich boards
 - ◆ H-signs
 - ◆ A-frame signs

*All signage must meet the 10-foot setback from property lines and CANNOT be located in the Right-of-Way.



Example of a portable sign



Sandwich board sign



H-frame sign

Prohibited Signs

You cannot get a temporary sign permit to have this signage – it is simply not allowed.

- ◆ Signs attached to trailers, trucks, trees, fences, or other objects
- ◆ Signs with rotating or moving parts (for example, dancing inflatable tubes)
- ◆ Roof signs
- ◆ Window signage that is above the allowed 25%
- ◆ Signs in the Right-of-Way
- ◆ Signs closer than 10-feet to property lines
- ◆ Off-site signage





Examples of Sign Violations in the City of Blaine

Things to think about:

How do you feel about the following examples?

Is this how you want the City of Blaine to look?

Do you want staff to be more proactive about removal or requiring temporary sign permits when it comes to the following signs?

Signage Example

Location:
12751 Central Ave



All of this signage would be approved with a temporary sign permit, subject to the 8-week limitation.

Violation(s):
3 flag signs (only one is permitted)
Freestanding sign
Multiple banners
Signs affixed to stacked tires

Questions:

How do you feel about this amount of signage?

Signage Example



Violation(s)

- Sandwich boards are not permitted without a temporary sign permit.
- More than 25% of the windows are covered with signage (which is prohibited).

Do you want this?

Feather signs in the R-O-W Example

Location:

10519 University Ave

Violation:

Flag signs are not permitted within the Right-of-Way and must meet a 10-foot setback from all property lines.

This signage could not be approved with a temporary sign permit – no signs are allowed within the right-of-way under any circumstance.

Does Council want staff to be more proactive about removing signage within the R-O-W?



How do you feel about this signage?



Portable Sign Example



Central Tobacco (1430 93rd LN)

Violations:

All signs are located in the R-O-W
along Hwy 65

All signs would be approved through a
temporary sign permit if they met the
10-foot setback from property lines.

*All signs were removed in June 2024
after a complaint was made



**Do you want
staff to enforce
this?**

Portable Sign Example



Do you want
staff to enforce
this?



Corner of 109th Ave and
Hwy 65

Violation:

Signs are located in the R-O-W

- ◆ Signs would be allowed with a temporary sign permit, subject to the 10-foot setback requirement.

Window Signage Examples



Location:
9702 Ulysses St



10135 Central Ave

Do you want this
enforced?

Violation:

Window signage exceeds the 25% limitation. This amount is prohibited, and a temporary sign permit cannot be issued for more window signage.



805 County Hwy 10



3890 Pheasant Ridge Dr

Temporary Sign Example

Silverstar Car Wash (9280 Baltimore)

Temporary Sign Permit request:

6 Flags

28 H-Stands

2 A-frames

3 (24 x 36) freestanding upright

Signage was requested for 9 weeks



**Do you want this
amount of temporary
signage?**

4252 122nd Ave -
Tommy's Car Wash



Violations:

Multiple feather signs, H-signs

Signs in the R-O-W along 122nd and along
Lexington Ave

Inflatable tube man (prohibited)

All signage (except inflatable) would be
permitted with a temporary sign permit as
long as it meets the 10-foot setback and is
not located in the R-O-W

**How do you
feel about
this?**

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design guidelines:



Unobstructed doors and windows maximize visibility of people and parking areas for natural surveillance



Do not cover the entrance windows with posters, announcements or other signage that obstructs visibility



Allow window signs to cover no more than 15% of window



Window coverings that are semi-transparent are preferred over solid coverings

Questions for Council



- ◆ Do you want to continue allowing unlimited signage with a temporary sign permit?
- ◆ Do you want to reduce the amount of time allowed with a temporary sign permit?
- ◆ Do you want signage violations to be proactively enforced by staff?
- ◆ How do you want Hwy 65 to look?
- ◆ You can see in your handout that other cities are more restrictive. Do you want to add more restrictions to temporary sign permits?

Temporary sign standards

(Note these lists are not exhaustive, and only contain information pertinent to temporary signage for nonresidential properties).

Blaine

Prohibited Signs:

- Portable signs, unless approved in conjunction with an administrative permit. . .
- Roof signs, except for individual channel letters, up to three (3) feet in height, on single story flat roofed buildings without visible supports
- Projecting signs
- Signs with rotating or moving parts
- Signs placed on or affixed to vehicles and/or trailers. . .
- Banners, balloons, and stringers, unless approved in conjunction with an administrative permit. .

Permitted signs (No permit required)

- One (1) feather sign with a maximum width of 3.5 feet and a maximum height of 18 feet or a banner with a maximum area of thirty two (32) square feet is permitted without an administrative permit.

Temporary Signs:

- One permit per calendar year
- 8 weeks of signage total (may be split into two-week increments)
- New businesses get 10 weeks of temporary signage.

Window Signs (no permit required):

- No more than 25% of windows can be covered.

Maple Grove

Prohibited Signs:

- Roof signs
- Any sign which contains or consists of banners, pennants, ribbons, streamers, strings of lightbulbs, spinners or other similar devices, except as allowed through a temporary sign permit.

Temporary Signs:

- One permit per 12-month period
- Valid for 10 consecutive days and permit must be displayed during the entire period
- Portable signs and like devices are expressly prohibited

- Temporary sign permits can only be used for banners, pennants, searchlights, and similar devices.
- Devices such as banners and pennants shall not exceed 40 square feet

Window Signs (no permit required):

- No more than 25 percent of the total area of the window in which displayed. Lettering used in permanent window signage exceeding 3.5 inches in height shall be debited against the total number of items of signage permitted on that side of the building.

Woodbury

Prohibited Signs:

- Inflatable signs
- Motion signs
- Flying signs, such as blimps or kites, designed to be kept aloft by mechanical, wind, chemical, or hot air means (except allowed with a temporary sign permit).
- Portable signs
- Roof signs
- Pennants (except with a temporary sign permit).

Temporary Signage

Temporary Event Signs:

- One permit per calendar year
- No more than 20 days per year, with the exception that new businesses get an additional 5 days within 12 months of opening
- No more than any combination of four (4) of the following are allowed for each event:
 1. Banners not more than 80 square feet each
 2. Pennants not more than 200 lineal feet per string. Each string shall count as one sign.
 3. Flying signs (blimps) not more than 100 feet off the ground
 4. Air inflated devices on the ground and not attached to or on the building not exceeding 40 feet in height
 5. Search lights
 6. Other signs approved by the City

Banners:

- A permit shall be obtained prior to erecting a banner
- One banner per building or per tenant space in multitenant buildings with individual exterior entrances
- Total area of a banner shall not exceed 32 square feet, or five percent of the area of the wall to which it is attached with a maximum allowable area of 80 square feet.
- Banners may be erected up to six months per calendar year

Window Signs (no permit required):

- Limited to 30 percent of the total window area with a maximum area of 80 square feet per street frontage

Lakeville

Prohibited Signs:

- Dynamic display signs (except where expressly permitted by ordinance)
- Portable signs
- Roof signs
- Rotating signs
- Shimmering signs
- Signs painted, attached or in any other manner affixed to trees or similar natural surfaces, or attached to utility poles, utility boxes, bridges, towers, or similar public structures, or public fences.

Permitted signs (No permit required)

- In commercial and industrial districts, two (2) signs not to exceed twelve (12) square feet in area, erected up to a height of six (6) feet, and setback a minimum of five (5) feet from property lines shall be allowed for each access to a lot from a public street.
- Sandwich board signs are allowed in commercial zoning districts, provided that:
 1. Not more than one sign is allowed per principal building, except that one sign is allowed per tenant within a principal building having two (2) or more tenants each with an exclusive exterior entrance.
 2. The sign shall only be displayed when the business is open to the public
 3. The sign shall only be placed on the business property and shall not encroach into any principal building setback
 4. Sign must maintain a minimum 5-foot setback from the pedestrian walkway and be placed to not obstruct vehicular traffic.
 5. Sign must meet a 2-foot setback from the back of the curb of a public street or private drive aisle
 6. Sign shall conform to the following dimensions:
 - Height: 4-feet
 - Width: 3-feet

Temporary Signs:

- One permit per business
- No more than 60 days allotted per calendar year
- Maximum area of a temporary sign shall be fifty (50) square feet per sign face, except within the freeway corridor district where the maximum area of a temporary sign shall be one hundred (100) square feet per sign face.
- No more than one temporary sign shall be displayed upon a property at any one time.
- No temporary sign allowed for a lot upon which there is already a dynamic display sign.

Window Signs (no permit required): 25% coverage maximum.

Bloomington

Prohibited Signs:

- Roof signs
- Rotating signs
- Shimmering signs
- Vehicle signs
- Balloon signs
- Flashing signs
- Signs painted on , attached to, or maintained upon trees, shrubs, rocks, or other natural features.

Temporary Signs:

- Businesses are permitted to have freestanding signage of no more than 8-feet in height, and 64 square feet in area. The duration and number of signs are subject to the number of tenants per building:
- 1 tenant = 1 sign per street frontage. **60 days per calendar year.**
- 2-15 tenants = 2 freestanding signs per street frontage per site and 1 building sign per tenant. **90 days per calendar year, with no individual tenant exceeding 60 days per calendar year.**
- 16-29 tenants = 2 freestanding signs per street frontage per site and 1 building sign per tenant. **180 days per calendar year, with no individual tenant exceeding 60 days per calendar year.**
- 30 or more = 2 freestanding signs per street frontage per site and 1 building sign per tenant. **240 days per calendar year, with no individual tenant exceeding 60 days per calendar year.**
- Each freestanding sign shall meet a minimum of 15-foot setback from property lines along public streets, and 5-feet from the side or rear yard property lines.
- Off-site signage is not permitted

Permitted signs (no permit required):

- Balloons 24 inches or less in diameter

Window Signs (no permit required):

- Window signs are limited to a maximum coverage of 25%

Rosemount

Prohibited Signs:

- Rotating signs
- Portable signs except as allowed by this chapter
- Flashing signs
- Signs which advertise a business, activity, product or service not located exclusively on the premises are prohibited . . .
- Inflatable signs
- Roof signs
- Shimmering signs
-

Permitted signs (no permit required):

- Sidewalk signs in the DT (Downtown District) are allowed without a permit, subject to the following requirements:
 1. Signs shall be limited to two (2) feet in width and three and one-half (3.5) feet in height, including support members
 2. No sign shall have more than two (2) faces
 3. Signs shall not limit the normal pedestrian use of the sidewalk, and a minimum passable contiguous space of three (3) feet shall be maintained at all times.
 4. One sign is permitted for each building adjacent to the public right of way, unless multiple businesses within one building allow separate business signs to be spaced no closer than thirty (30) feet from another sidewalk sign
 5. A business or building with two (2) right of way frontages may display a sidewalk sign on either frontage
 6. All signs must be removed from the sidewalk at the end of each business day
 7. No sidewalk sign shall be lighted by attached external or individual internal lights

Temporary Signs:

- Each property may have only one (1) temporary sign permit at any given time. Permits for temporary signs may be issued a maximum of six (6) times per year for a maximum of fourteen (14) days per permit. Businesses only open to customers on an intermittent basis may assign the fourteen (14) day permit to the days they are actually open to customers. Permits for searchlight signs may be issued a maximum of three (3) times per year for a maximum of three (3) days per permit.
- Temporary signs are allowed in any Commercial, Business Park, Industrial, or Public and Institutional District except that portable changeable copy signs are prohibited in the DT (Downtown District).
- Temporary signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area of the maximum height of a permanent freestanding ground sign in the given district. Temporary signs shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from any property line and shall not encroach upon any right of way, easement, or sight triangle. No temporary sign may be placed in such a way as to cover any door, window or fire escape and shall not interfere with circulation in any required parking, loading, maneuvering or pedestrian area.

Window Signs (permit required):

- Shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the window on which it is placed and is counted toward the overall fifteen percent (15%) maximum wall signage.