

CITY OF RAMSEY LAND USE APPLICATION
TECHNICAL REVIEW FILE

DATE	3/27/15	PROJECT ADDRESS	TBD
PROJECT. TITLE	PARKVIEW EAST		
ESCROW #	114584		
DEPARTMENT:	Community Development: Planning Division (Landscape Plan & Environmental Resources)		
TECHNICAL REVIEWER:	Name: Chris Anderson, City Planner Phone: 763-433-9817 Email: canderson@cityoframsey.com		

The [COR Design Framework](#) outlines the required streetscape elements such as tree species, tree spacing, boulevard width, and sidewalk width based on the street hierarchy. The site abuts three (3) different streets, each with a different designation (Downtown, Connector, and Parkway). However, along Rhinestone Street, there is existing sidewalk and boulevard, which shall be utilized. Similarly, along Sapphire Street south of the project site, sidewalk and boulevard dimensions have already been established and the intention should be to mimic those to maintain a consistent appearance. Along Ramsey Parkway, boulevard and sidewalk width both should be six (6) feet. Finally, tree spacing for streetscape plantings should be between thirty (30) and thirty-five (35) feet.

We offer the following comments regarding the Landscape Plan prepared by Bolton & Menk, Inc. and dated March 3, 2015:

- The width of the boulevard area along Ramsey Parkway is not specified on the plans. The width should be at least six (6) feet and the additional width should be toward the building not the curb. This may require shifting the sidewalk closer to the building but that would benefit the project by improving the build to requirement (which is measure from edge of sidewalk). If this results in the public sidewalk being partially on private property, a permanent public easement over that portion of the sidewalk shall also be granted to the City for public purposes. *Please revise Sheet C2.4 to identify the boulevard width as six (6) feet.*
- The plans show a sidewalk connecting Ramsey Parkway and 145th Ave, which was requested by the City. It is presumed that park patrons (or other public) may traverse this sidewalk and thus, it would be beneficial to encumber this with a permanent public easement.
- Sidewalk width along 145th Ave should be increased to six (6) feet with the expansion being toward the future building (away from the curb). *Please revise Sheet C2.4 to accordingly.*
- The boulevard area must be finished with topsoil and sod and the developer (and eventually the management company) shall be responsible for its establishment (e.g.

watering). *Please revise Sheet C2.7 to specify that boulevards will be established with topsoil and sod.*

- *Planting details must be added to Sheet C2.7 to include the following*
 - *Planting depth shall be such that the 1st set of primary roots is at finished grade*
 - *Only prune out dead/broken/deformed branches at time of installation*
 - *Remove upper 1/3 of wire basket and burlap after being placed in planting hole*
 - *2-4 inches of wood chip mulch shall be included around all trees. Mulch shall not be piled against the trunk of trees.*
- *The proposed street trees are too close together, the overall number should be reduced so that the spacing is equal to 30-35 feet on center. Please revise Sheet C2.7 to reflect the proper spacing and update the quantities for each species accordingly.*
- *All plantings shall be outside the vision clearance triangle at all intersections and access points. Definition of the vision clearance triangle can be found in [City Code Section 117-348 \(g\)](#). Please revise Sheet C2.7 to identify the vision clearance triangle at all intersections and access points and ensure that no plantings are within this area.*
- *Street trees should be planted with one (1) species per block or, if a standard block does not exist, such as along Ramsey Parkway and Rhinestone Street, in blocks or groups consisting of 5-6 trees of the same species. Please revise Sheet C2.7 to reflect the street trees planted in linear groups of 5-6 trees per one species.*
- *Street trees shall have a minimum branch height of not less than five (5) feet. Please revise Sheet C2.7 to include this note.*
- *There are no foundation plantings or internal landscape elements shown on the plan. Are any plantings proposed? How about within any of the parking lot islands?*
- *It appears that there will be a very narrow strip of vegetation between the sidewalk and the retaining wall along Sapphire Street. It would be recommended to eliminate that and just widen the sidewalk to abut the wall.*
- *The plan must be revised to identify turf establishment with sod. The notes refer to both sod and seed but there is no legend or labels to determine which is being used and where. Please note that any alternative to the sod requirement requires City Council approval.*
- *Upon acceptance of landscaping by City, a two (2) year maintenance guarantee is required to ensure survival of plantings.*
- *The project is subject to the City's topsoil requirement, which states that all disturbed areas not otherwise improved with walkways, driveway, home and other impervious surfacing, shall receive four (4) inches of topsoil meeting the City's topsoil specification. A topsoil inspection is required prior to landscaping being installed and copies of the load tickets are required as well. This is reviewed at time of Building Permit Application and request for Certificate of Occupancy. Please update the Landscape Installation Notes to include this requirement.*

- The plans do not indicate whether an irrigation system will be installed or not. Establishment of the streetscape (trees and sod), including watering, is the responsibility of the Developer (and eventually the property management company). In ground irrigation within the boulevard area is subject to review and approval by the City.

Please submit a revised landscaping plan that addresses these matters.

Tree Preservation: This site is devoid of any significant tree cover and therefore, no tree preservation plan is necessary.

Stormwater: It appears that the site will utilize a subsurface stormwater system to achieve the required infiltration of the first one (1) inch of rainfall in accordance with the Lower Rum River Water Management Organization's 3rd Generation Plan. The system appears to be designed with an overflow outlet that allows runoff from larger events to outlet into the existing storm sewer infrastructure in Sapphire St where it will eventually be routed to a regional pond. The Engineering Division will be completing a more comprehensive review of the grading/drainage plans.