

## NOTES FROM CORRIDOR TOUR ITINERARY

On June 23, 2016, Ramsey City Staff completed a tour of Key Corridors in Ramsey in an effort to discuss a work plan for the City Council's Strategic Initiative to Improve the Image of Key Corridors. The primary intent of this tour was to first identify easily implementable strategies that fit within existing policies. The secondary intent was to identify broader strategies that could be implemented that would require creation of new policies and programs. Below is a short list of the discussion from this tour.

### Highway #10

- Trim vegetation in areas where vegetation appears overgrown.
- Paint plywood used to secure vacant structures.
- Enforce removal of Commercial vehicles are using vacant parking lots for parking/storage without permission.
- Address homeless issues exist in vacant structures.
- Install community signs at key gateways. Work with property owners to secure easements.
- Utilize existing funding sources to aid in purchase and clean up (RALF, TIF, etc.)
- Complete Preliminary Engineering for Highway 10 Access Planning Study
- Work with Anoka Technical College on joint ventures (existing joint access/traffic issues; do they need additional parking?).
- Sidebar - potential contamination on various sites (vacant) makes it difficult to sell. Seek clean up funding.
- Encourage properties with outside storage to do so in a more orderly fashion.
- Explore existing sign regulations (tall banners – multiple, signs on fences, number of signs, temporary sign design and number).
- Take pumps out (complete).
- Fix missing panels, signs, and awnings.
- Communicate available Home Improvement Loans
  - Oak Terrace (in process)
- Suggest trash enclosure for Youth First and other City owned properties.
- Encourage storage containers to be relocated to rear yards.
- Explore additional community/COR signs
- Clean up construction debris on existing parcels
- Establish an Elk River Gateway
  - Cell tower

### Armstrong

- Encourage redevelopment and cleanup of industrial area west of Armstrong Boulevard
- Create a place-making element at Armstrong
  - Directional signage from Highway 10 to Armstrong
- Construct a dynamic display sign at node

- Explore a commercial node at CSAH 83 (Armstrong/Baugh) and border with Nowthen/Elk River as part of Comprehensive Plan

### **Nowthen Boulevard**

- Remove real estate signs at former municipal center campus (done)

### **Highway #47**

- Reconstruct trail and create a landscape plan
- Increase maintenance of Highway 47 landscaping
  - Consider a lower-maintenance-cost native planting (note: still requires a degree of maintenance, especially upon initial planting)
    - Some landscape improvements will be limited due to volume, speed, and width of corridor.
    - Landscape design/streetscape design for TH 47 from Bunker Lake Boulevard to Alpine Boulevard
- Review compliance of auto repair business at TH 47 and Alpine Drive
  - Review status of lawful, non-conforming use
  - Encourage reductions of outside storage
  - Encourage better vegetative management and screening
- Review 167<sup>th</sup> Avenue Retail Center Statement of Goals
  - Consider public improvement such as boulevard installation on north side of 167<sup>th</sup> Avenue to soften view/improve viewshed
  - Short-term strategy: authorize preliminary design/landscape design (boulevard and other streetscape improvements).
  - Traffic improvement at 167<sup>th</sup> Avenue/TH 47 (signal or roundabout)
- Extend 47 trail on east side, north of Bunker Lake Boulevard (near Holiday Station Store)