

**City of Ramsey**  
**Agenda**  
**Environmental Policy Board (EPB)**  
**Monday, August 17, 2020**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Council Chambers, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW**

Those that can join remotely are encouraged to do so by visiting [www.cityoframsey.com/meetings](http://www.cityoframsey.com/meetings). Attendees are asked to use a webcam if providing public comment.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Citizen Input**
3. **Approve Agenda**
4. **Approve Minutes**
  1. Approve Meeting Minutes Dated June 15, 2020
5. **Policy Board Business**
  1. Consider Natural Resources Elements of Proposed Ramsey Villas North Preliminary Plat (Project No. 20-117); Case of Rivers Bend Holdings LLC
  2. Consider Recommendation on Ordinance #20-04 (Landscape Requirements)
  3. Consider Recommendation from the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization to Provide Educational Campaign for Rum River Wild and Scenic Overlay District
6. **Board/Staff Input**
  - Fall Recycling Day Event (September 26)
7. **Adjournment**

**Environmental Policy Board (EPB)**

**4. 1.**

**Meeting Date:** 08/17/2020

**By:** Chris Anderson, Community  
Development

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**Information**

**Title:**

Approve Meeting Minutes Dated June 15, 2020

**Action:**

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**Attachments**

Meeting Minutes Dated June 15, 2020

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**Form Review**

**Inbox**

Tim Gladhill

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 08/13/2020

**Reviewed By**

Tim Gladhill

**Date**

08/13/2020 08:50 AM

Started On: 08/12/2020 11:43 AM

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

On Monday, June 15, 2020, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Council Chambers at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Chairperson Michael Valentine  
                            Board Member Reid Bernard  
                            Board Member Jane Covart  
                            Board Member Melissa Fetterley (joined remotely)  
                            Board Member Michael Hiatt (joined remotely)  
                            Board Member Jared Little  
                            Board Member Laura Moore (joined remotely)

Members Absent:     None

Also Present:         City Planner Chris Anderson  
                            City Council Liaison Jeff Menth

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Valentine called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2.     CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**3.     APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Board Member Covart and seconded by Board Member Little to approve the agenda as submitted.

A roll call vote was performed:

Board Member Moore	aye
Board Member Little	aye
Board Member Fetterley	aye
Board Member Bernard	aye
Board Member Hiatt	aye
Board Member Covart	aye
Chairperson Valentine	aye

Motion carried.

**4.     APPROVE MINUTES**

#### **4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated May 20, 2020**

Motion by Board Member Little and seconded by Board Member Covart to approve the regular meeting minutes dated May 20, 2020.

A roll call vote was performed:

Board Member Little	aye
Board Member Bernard	aye
Board Member Moore	aye
Board Member Fetterley	aye
Board Member Hiatt	aye
Chairperson Valentine	aye
Board Member Covart	aye

Motion carried.

### **5. POLICY BOARD BUSINESS**

#### **5.01: Approve Planning Framework for Highway 10 South Planning Area – Riverstone Area**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the purpose of the case is to provide very high-level policy direction pertaining to a potential development project south of Highway 10 and east of Bowers Drive (portions of the Pearson Farm). This is not a formal application nor official development review. The intent is to provide staff with direction on key policy points to assist staff in reviewing concepts with Capstone Homes, the potential developer. As is commonplace, there will be significant opportunities for ongoing public engagement throughout this process moving forward.

Board Member Moore stated that her main concern would be the preservation of the trees. She asked the type of park that would be proposed, whether it would be a preserve area or whether it would remove trees to install a play park.

City Planner Anderson replied that the parks staff has referred to this as a tree fort park, working with what is out there to create an area for play.

Board Member Hiatt stated that in previous discussions it had been mentioned that Bowers Drive is the longest cul-de-sac in Ramsey and asked if there would be a potential to provide a connection through this neighborhood to improve public safety.

City Planner Anderson replied that there was a virtual workshop to receive high level public input related to tree preservation and density transitioning along with traffic and safety connections. He confirmed that there will be a second access provided for Bowers Drive, noting that the details are still being worked out.

Chairperson Valentine asked the status of the river crossing that was under discussion for some time.

City Planner Anderson replied that Ramsey continues to work with Dayton on that potential opportunity, although that area is not part of this discussion.

Board Member Fetterley commented that it would be nice to have a larger transition buffer, noting that would also help to preserve additional trees. She stated that the goal is to preserve the largest number of native trees possible and would encourage the developer to keep that in mind.

Board Member Hiatt asked if preserving trees above the required amount in code can be mandated or whether that would be a decision of the developer.

City Planner Anderson explained that it would depend upon the request from the applicant. He stated that if the developer requests something, such as rezoning, the City could then negotiate for items such as additional tree preservation. He explained that if a developer came forward with a request that meets all the standards, the City would not have the ability to mandate any additional requirements. He stated that the intent tonight is to provide high level input that the developer can use when further designing their proposal. He stated that the Board could consider encouraging the developer to look at conservation design and how that could be incorporated into plans going forward.

Board Member Covart referenced the buffer and noted that it stops at the larger lots and asked if that would be extended.

City Planner Anderson replied that the buffer is a wooded stand that is owned by the City. He provided background information and noted that there is no intention to extend the buffer past that area. He further clarified that the lots in Pearson Place were purposefully designed to be larger and deeper than the previously existing lots along Bowers Drive to provide more separation between those newer homes and future development of the remainder of the Pearson Family Farm.

Councilmember Menth stated that he likes the buffer and recognized the need for a second connection to Bowers Drive for public safety. He stated that it would be great to preserve some of the wooded area and add a park as well.

Motion by Board Member Covart and seconded by Chairperson Valentine to recommend that the City Council adopt the document as an official, yet nonbinding policy document, and provide support for enhanced tree preservation efforts and other natural resources related guidance to shape future conversations pertaining to Riverstone South, encouraging the developer to preserve as much of the tree stand as possible, encouraging the second connection for Bowers Drive, encouraging incorporation of conservation design principles, to keeping the park as natural/rustic as possible.

A roll call vote was performed:

Board Member Bernard	aye
Board Member Covart	aye
Board Member Moore	aye
Board Member Fetterley	aye
Board Member Little	aye

Board Member Hiatt            aye  
Board Member Valentine       aye

Motion carried.

### **5.02: Consider Draft Landscaping Ordinance Amendment**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the purpose of this case is to check in with the EPB on the draft ordinance amendment for landscaping standards in the Employment Districts. As a result of the Comprehensive Plan Update, there will be a number of City Code amendments in the coming year and as part of that, staff is looking at overhauling much of the Zoning Code. As can be seen from the draft ordinance, more than just the Employment Districts are being addressed. A new section entitled Landscaping is being proposed and all landscaping standards are being removed from individual zoning districts and moved here. There is a lot of repetition between many of the districts and this will help reduce the overall size of the Zoning Chapter.

Chairperson Valentine stated that he is happy with the progress, noting that it appears the discussion of the Board has been incorporated thus far.

Board Member Hiatt commented that he likes the idea to consolidate landscaping into its own section where it also makes it clear as to the difference in requirements per zoning section.

City Planner Anderson stated that he will continue to work on this and bring it back to the Board in the future, noting that it is not time sensitive.

### **6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT**

City Planner Anderson reported that the timeframe for filings has closed and there is not a need for a primary to be held in August for the City Council elections.

### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Board Member Little and seconded by Board Member Covart to adjourn the meeting.

A roll call vote was performed:

Board Member Little            aye  
Board Member Covart            aye  
Chairperson Valentine         aye  
Board Member Bernard         aye  
Board Member Moore            aye  
Board Member Hiatt             aye  
Board Member Fetterley        aye

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Anderson  
City Planner

ATTEST:

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JoAnn Shaw  
Community Development Assistant

Drafted by Amanda Staple  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

**Meeting Date:** 08/17/2020

**By:** Chris Anderson, Community  
Development

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**Information**

**Title:**

Consider Natural Resources Elements of Proposed Ramsey Villas North Preliminary Plat (Project No. 20-117); Case of Rivers Bend Holdings LLC

**Purpose/Background:**

The City has received a Preliminary Plat Application from Rivers Bend Holdings LLC (the "Applicant") for a property three (3) lot subdivision located on the northwest corner of Xkimo Street and Xkimo Court (the "Subject Property"). The Subject Property is currently zoned R-2 Residential (Medium Density). The proposed housing product is detached townhomes (single family homes). In addition to the standard landscaping and tree preservation requirements, typically density transitioning would be required (properties to the northeast and east, across Xkimo Court, are zoned R-1 Residential). However, the proposed density is similar to the existing neighborhood (approximately three [3] units per acre). Plus, the units are detached, giving the appearance of a more traditional single family home project.

**Observations/Alternatives:**

**Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)**

The northern portion of the site is designated as a non-native/altered plant community. There is a remnant deciduous forest around the perimeter of a low quality wetland (per the MnRAM assessment/wetland inventory data). While not a native plant community, most of the northern 1/3 of the Subject Property will be undisturbed by construction, with a number of existing oak trees preserved.

**Wetlands/Floodplain**

As noted above, there is a low quality wetland in the northern portion of the Subject Property. The plans do include the required sixteen and a half (16.5) foot setback from the delineated wetland boundary. Staff has noted on the plan set that silt fence shall be placed no closer than 16.5 feet from wetland edge and vegetation beyond that point shall not be disturbed (per Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization, LRRWMO, standards).

There are no designated floodplains on the Subject Property.

**Tree Inventory and Preservation**

An inventory of existing trees has been provided. The bulk of trees on site appear to be pin oak and bur oak, with a few boxelder, green ash, and willow scattered across the site. While Staff has requested additional information, such as a tally of total Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) inches on the Subject Property and a tally of DBH inches being removed, to verify that the project complies with tree preservation standards, it does appear to do so.

**Landscaping**

The submittal also includes a Landscape Plan. A total of eighteen (18) trees, with close to a 50/50 split between deciduous and coniferous trees, are proposed along with nine (9) shrubs. Coupled with the number of trees being preserved on site, it appears that this will satisfy planting requirements. It may be beneficial for the developer to consider some additional landscaping along the western border to help buffer against noise from Highway 47 (the plans do indicate a 6-foot tall cedar privacy fence).

Attached to this case is the Landscape Plan, which also includes the Tree Inventory data, including Staff's comments/required corrections.

**Density Transitioning**

As noted previously, typically, density transitioning would be required between a proposed R-2 Residential development and an existing R-1 Residential neighborhood. However, there are several factors that Staff believes may impact whether this transitioning is really applicable in this case. First, the proposed product is detached townhomes, which resembles a more traditional single family home. Secondly, the proposed density is essentially equivalent to an R-1 Residential project (roughly 3 units per acre). Thirdly, since the Subject Property abuts Highway 47, which direct access is not viable nor desired, the front yards will face Xkimo Court. It would be rather unusual to have a densely planted landscape attempting to screen the fronts of these homes. It should be noted that there is some existing tree cover along the eastern boundary between proposed Lot 3 and the existing single family home.

**Funding Source:**

The Applicant is responsible for all costs incurred by the City while processing this request.

**Action:**

Motion to recommend approval of the Landscape Plan, contingent upon compliance with Staff's requested revisions/corrections.

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**Attachments**

Site Location Map

Preliminary Plat Sheet

Landscape Plan with Corrections Noted

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**Form Review**

**Inbox**

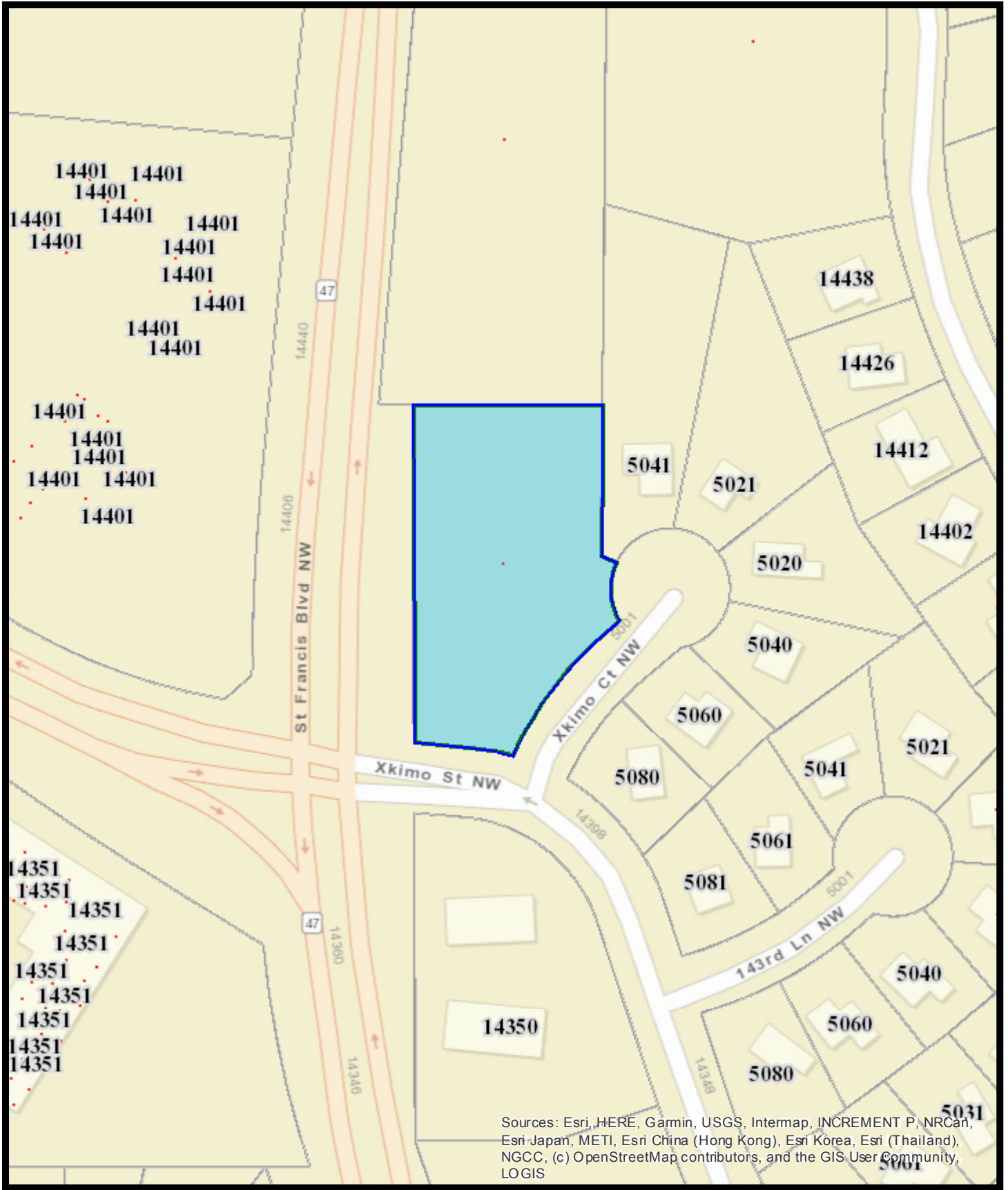
Tim Gladhill  
Form Started By: Chris Anderson  
Final Approval Date: 08/12/2020

**Reviewed By**

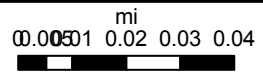
Tim Gladhill

**Date**

08/12/2020 04:07 PM  
Started On: 08/11/2020 04:55 PM



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri-Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, LOGIS



# Preliminary Plat of RAMSEY VILLAS NORTH

**CITY OF RAMSEY  
COUNTY OF ANOKA  
SEC.25, TWP.32, RNG.25**

For the purposes of this plat, the west line of Outlot E, RIVER'S BEND 3RD ADDITION is assumed to be N 0°16'54" W.

- Denotes 1/2 inch x 14 inch iron monument set with a plastic plug stamped R.L.S. 47466.
- Denotes 1/2 inch x 14 inch iron monument with a plastic plug stamped R.L.S. 47466 to be set within one year of platting date.
- Denotes iron monument found (IP # 18420, unless otherwise indicated).

**REFERENCE BENCHMARK:**  
MNDOT Geodetic Monument "0206 AK" at Trunk Hwy 47 milepost 22.95, 47.2 feet W. of a southbound Trunk Hwy 47 fog line and 0.25 miles North along Trunk Hwy 47 from the intersection of Trunk Hwy 47 and County Rd 5.  
Elevation = 862.11 feet (NAVD 88)

**PROJECT BENCHMARK:**  
Top nut hydrant in the NE quadrant at the intersection of Xkimo Street NW and Trunk Hwy 47.  
Elevation = 867.47 feet (NAVD 88)

**OWNER/DEVELOPER:**  
River's Bend Holdings, LLC  
Richard Foster  
19230 Evans Street NW  
Elk River, MN 55330  
763-241-1801

**SURVEYORS & ENGINEERS:**  
Bogart, Pederson & Associates, Inc.  
13076 First Street  
Becker, MN 55308-9322  
763-262-8822

**TOTAL AREA:** 59,887± S.F. (1.37± Ac.)

**EXISTING ZONING:** Medium-Density Residential (R-2)

**PROPOSED ZONING:** Medium-Density Residential (R-2)

**MINIMUMS:**  
50 feet Lot Width  
0.15 Acres

**DENOTES BUILDING SETBACKS:**  
25' exterior boundary  
25' front yard  
25' side yard corner lot  
20' rear  
16.5' wetland  
5' side

Drainage and Utility Easements are shown thus:

Being 5 feet in width and adjoining lot lines, and 10 feet in width and adjoining street lines, unless otherwise indicated, on the plat.

DATE: August 6, 2020  
FIELD DATE: July 28, 2020  
BK/PG: xxx/xxx  
DRAWN BY: CJR  
CHECKED BY: RMB,CAW  
DWG FILE: 20-0234 Prelim Plat  
FILE NO: 20-0234.00

**REVISIONS:**


I hereby certify that this survey, plan, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Signed:   
Craig A. Wensmann  
Date: 8/6/20 Lic. No. 47466

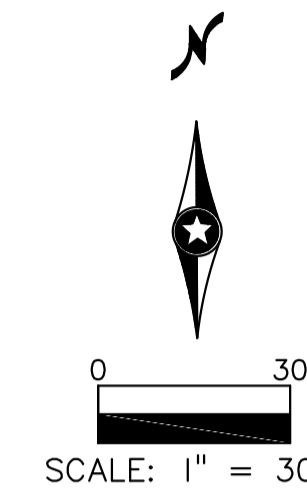
**BOGART, PEDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
LAND SURVEYING  
CIVIL ENGINEERING  
MAPPING  
13076 FIRST STREET, BECKER, MN 55308-9322  
TEL: 763-262-8822 FAX: 763-262-8844

**PRELIMINARY PLAT**  
for  
River's Bend Holdings, LLC  
RAMSEY VILLAS NORTH  
City of Ramsey  
Anoka County, MN

**Property Description (Title Commitment No. 12007-17):**  
Outlot E, RIVER'S BEND 3RD ADDITION, Anoka County, Minnesota.

**Surveyor's Note(s):**

1. Subject property is not within a flood plain district as mapped by FEMA or shoreland district.
2. A wetland delineation was performed by Matthew Blesi, BWSR Cert. No. 5092 of Bogart, Pederson & Associates, Inc. on July 24th, 2020.
3. Plat contains three (3) lots.



**LEGEND:**

- Denotes mailbox
- Denotes sanitary manhole
- Denotes water valve
- Denotes sign
- Denotes power pole
- Denotes electric vault
- Denotes hydrant
- Denotes soil boring
- Denotes light pole
- Denotes gas meter
- Denotes delineated wetland interior
- Denotes James M. Winter, LS
- Denotes Charles R. Christopherson, LS
- Denotes bituminous surface
- Denotes concrete surface
- Denotes underground telephone
- Denotes overhead electric
- Denotes underground gas line
- Denotes tree line
- Denotes easement
- Denotes major contour
- Denotes minor contour
- Denotes sanitary sewer
- Denotes waterline
- Denotes existing adjoiners
- Denotes delineated wetland edge
- Denotes retaining wall
- Denotes setback line

**SOILS CHART**

Map symbol & soil name	Hydrologic group	Water table depth (in)
Mc: Marsh	A/D	0
C73C: Nymore loamy sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	A	>80

\* Data from USDA Web Soil Survey

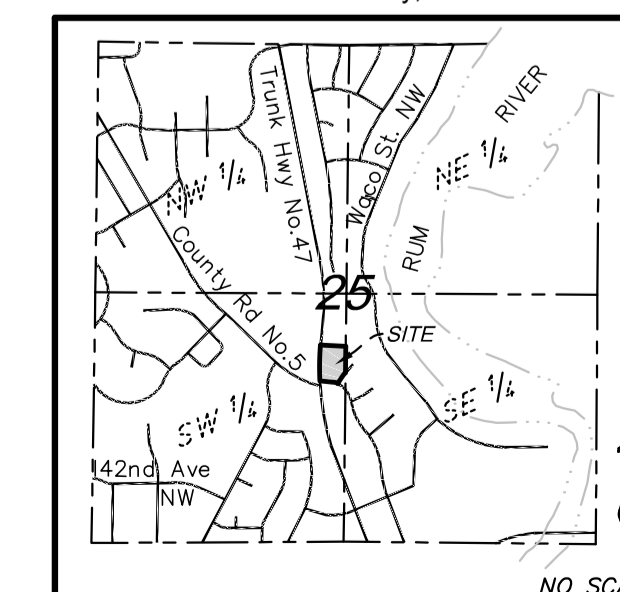
**TYPICAL HOUSE PAD**

946.0	MINIMUM LOWEST FLOOR ELEVATION
FB	SUGGESTED BUILDING TYPE
950.0	SUGGESTED GARAGE FLOOR ELEVATION
FB	DENOTES FULL BASEMENT
FBLO	DENOTES FULL BASEMENT LOOKOUT
SWO	DENOTES SPLIT WALKOUT
FBWO	DENOTE FULL BASEMENT WALKOUT

I hereby certify that a boundary survey has been completed for the preliminary plat of RAMSEY VILLAS NORTH, Anoka County, Minnesota.

Signed:   
Craig A. Wensmann  
Date: 8/6/20 Lic. No. 47466

**VICINITY MAP**  
Sec. 25, Twp. 32, Rng. 25  
Anoka County, MN



**BOGART, PEDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Add legend so it's clear which trees are being removed and saved. Also, add tally of total tree inches, tree inches being removed, and add column with general purpose for removal (e.g. mass grading, stormwater pond, sidewalk, etc.). Certain removals may be exempt from the removal calculation.

**EXISTING TREE TABLE**

Tree #	Species	DBH	Condition	Stems
1	Redcedar	3.5	Good	1
2	Oak, pin	4.5	Good	1
3	Elm, American	10.0	Good	1
4	Boxelder	18.0	Fair	1
5	Redcedar	9.5	Fair	1
6	Boxelder	22.5	Good	3
7	Boxelder	25.5	Good	3
8	Oak, pin	5.5	Good	1
9	Redcedar	16.0	Good	1
10	Oak, pin	9.0	Good	1
11	Redcedar	3.0	Good	1
12	Redcedar	4.5	Good	1
13	Oak, pin	4.0	Good	1
14	Oak, pin	5.5	Good	1
15	Oak, pin	5.5	Good	1
16	Boxelder	21.5	Good	3
17	Boxelder	13.0	Good	2
18	Redcedar	3.0	Good	1
19	Oak, pin	3.5	Good	1
20	Oak, pin	5.5	Good	1
21	Oak, pin	8.5	Good	1
22	Oak, pin	10.0	Good	1
23	Redcedar	12.0	Good	1
24	Oak, pin	5.0	Good	1
25	Oak, pin	10.0	Good	1
26	Oak, pin	5.5	Good	1
27	Oak, pin	5.0	Fair	1
28	Oak, pin	7.0	Good	1
29	Oak, pin	7.0	Good	1
30	Oak, pin	4.0	Fair	1
31	Oak, pin	8.0	Good	1
32	Oak, pin	6.0	Good	1
33	Oak, pin	7.0	Good	1
34	Oak, pin	25.0	Good	1
35	Oak, bur	13.0	Good	1
36	Oak, bur	16.0	Good	1
37	Oak, pin	19.5	Fair	1
38	Oak, pin	16.0	Good	1
39	Oak, pin	16.5	Good	1
40	Oak, pin	13.0	Good	1
41	Oak, pin	21.5	Good	1
42	Oak, pin	34.0	Good	2
43	Oak, pin	17.0	Fair	1
44	Oak, pin	20.0	Fair	1
45	Oak, bur	6.5	Good	1
46	Boxelder	10.0	Fair	1
47	Boxelder	12.5	Fair	1
48	Boxelder	11.0	Fair	1
49	Ash, green	19.0	Good	1
50	Ash, green	9.0	Good	1
51	Cherry, black	15.0	Good	1
52	Oak, bur	8.0	Fair	1
53	Oak, bur	5.0	Fair	1
54	Oak, bur	16.0	Good	2
55	Ash, black	9.5	Good	1
56	Oak, bur	20.5	Good	2
57	Oak, pin	23.0	Good	1
58	Oak, bur	11.0	Good	1
59	Boxelder	11.5	Good	1
60	Oak, bur	14.0	Good	1
61	Boxelder	8.0	Good	1
62	Oak, bur	18.0	Fair	1
63	Oak, bur	11.0	Good	1
64	Oak, bur	19.5	Good	1
65	Cherry, black	8.0	Good	1
66	Oak, bur	5.0	Good	1
67	Oak, bur	8.5	Good	1
68	Cherry, black	10.5	Good	1
69	Ash, green	8.0	Good	1
70	Boxelder	12.0	Fair	1
71	Boxelder	8.0	Fair	1
72	Boxelder	8.5	Fair	1
73	Ash, green	9.0	Good	1
74	Willow	10.0	Good	1
75	Willow	9.5	Good	1
76	Willow	13.5	Good	2
77	Willow	12.5	Good	1
78	Ash, green	11.0	Good	1
79	Oak, bur	27.5	Fair	1
80	Oak, bur	7.5	Good	1
81	Oak, bur	5.5	Good	1
82	Ash, black	9.0	Good	1
83	Boxelder	9.0	Good	1
84	Oak, bur	23.0	Good	1
85	Oak, bur	13.5	Good	1
86	Oak, bur	9.5	Good	1
87	Oak, bur	21.0	Good	1
88	Oak, bur	12.5	Good	1
89	Oak, bur	14.0	Good	1
90	Oak, bur	12.5	Good	1
91	Oak, bur	11.5	Good	1
92	Oak, bur	14.0	Good	1
93	Oak, bur	13.0	Fair	1
94	Boxelder	8.5	Fair	1
95	Boxelder	13.0	Fair	1
96	Boxelder	9.5	Fair	1
97	Oak, bur	14.5	Good	1
98	Pine, white	9.0	Fair	1
99	Pine, white	6.0	Good	1
100	Pine, white	7.0	Good	1

Add these line types to legend so it's clear what they are.

Advisory Comment: Consider adding trees along fence line to help buffer against noise.

This area shall also be finished with sod up to back of curb. Expand sod symbol in this area.

Add Tree Save Fence in this general area to ensure preserved trees are not removed or damaged.

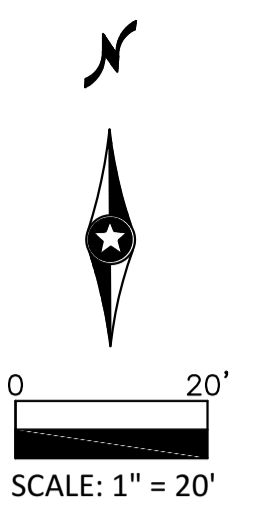
Add Landscape Note stating that any in-ground irrigation system must include a rain sensor and some form of water efficient technology, such as a smart controller.

Based on aerials, it appears that these existing trees are a repeat of trees 98, 99, and 100. Remove these symbols from this sheet.

Add Landscape Note stating that all disturbed areas to receive 4" of topsoil with not more than 35% sand content.

**LEGEND:**

- PROPOSED DRIVEWAY LOCATION
- PROPOSED SOD
- PROPOSED DECIDUOUS TREE
- PROPOSED CONIFEROUS TREE
- PROPOSED SHRUB
- EXISTING TREE LOCATED BY ARBORIST
- CLEARING AND GRUBBING (AS INDICATED)
- MAINTAIN AND PROTECT



**LANDSCAPE NOTES:**

- NUMBERED TREES WERE LOCATED AND IDENTIFIED BY STEPHEN NICHOLSON CF (TREEBIZ LLC). SEE THE EXISTING TABLE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. GRAYED OUT TREES ARE TO BE REMOVED.
- ALL AREAS DISTURBED DURING CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE RESTORED AND VEGETATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ANY FINISHED AREAS SHALL BE SEEDED AND MULCHED WITHIN 7 DAYS AFTER FINISHED GRADING IS COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE TO MN/DOT 2575.
- ANY CLEARING OF OAK STANDS SHALL BE PERFORMED PRIOR TO APRIL 15 OR AFTER JULY 15 OF EACH SEASON.
- SOILS ARE CHARACTERIZED AS NYMORE LOAMY SAND, 6 TO 12 PERCENT SLOPES, HYDROLOGIC GROUP A.
- PLANTING SOIL SHALL CONSIST 1:1:1 CONSISTING OF 33% SELECT LOAMY TOPSOIL, 33% PEAT MOSS, 33% PIT RUN SAND.
- ALL DISTURBED AREAS SHALL BE REVEGETATED WITH MN/DOT SEED MIX, MULCHED, & DISK ANCHORED, PER THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

SEED MIX 25-15-15: 220 LB/AC  
MULCH TYPE 3: 2 TONS/AC

**FORESTER STATEMENT**

On July 24, 2020 I performed a tree inventory and assessment of the property located at the corner of Xkimo Street and Xkimo Court (PID 25-32-25-31-0006). Information relating to tree species, diameter, condition and location was submitted to Bogart, Pederson & Associates for permitting purposes.

Stephen Nicholson  
TreeBiz LLC  
ISA Certified Arborist MN-4305A  
Certified Forester 2369

**PLANTING SCHEDULE**

QUANTITY	KEY	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SIZE	NOTES
<b>TREES</b>					
4	HB	HACKBERRY	CELTIS OCCIDENTALIS	2" DIAMETER	STRAIGHT TRUNK, NO V-CROTCH
2	DH	DOTTED HAWTHORN	CRATAEGUS MOLLIS	2" DIAMETER	STRAIGHT TRUNK, NO V-CROTCH
2	BO	BUR OAK	QUERCUS MACROCARPA	2" DIAMETER	STRAIGHT TRUNK, NO V-CROTCH
10	WS	WHITE SPRUCE	PICEA GLAUCA	6' HIGH	STRAIGHT TRUNK, NO V-CROTCH
18	TOTAL				
<b>SHRUBS</b>					
9	SB	SILVER BUFFALOBERRY	SHEPHERDIA CANADENSIS	24"	
9	TOTAL				

CALL 48 HOURS BEFORE DIGGING:  
**GOPHER STATE ONE CALL**  
TWIN CITY AREA 651-454-0002  
MINNESOTA TOLL FREE 1-800-252-1166

**BOGART, PEDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
LAND SURVEYING  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
13076 FIRST STREET BECKER, MN 55508-9322  
TEL: 763-262-8822 FAX: 763-262-8844

**Rivers Bend Holdings LLC**  
Ramsey Villas North  
OUTLOT E, RIVERS BEND 3RD ADDITION  
City of Ramsey, Anoka County, MN  
LANDSCAPE PLAN

DATE: 08/06/2020  
DESIGN BY: C.J.D. M.J.M.  
DRAWN BY: M.J.M.  
CHECKED BY: W.P.D.  
DWG FILE: LANDSCAPE  
FILE NO.: 20-0000.00

REV. NO. 1  
DATE 08/06/2020  
DESCRIPTION DRAWINGS ISSUED TO CITY

Signed: Wesley P. Davis Lic. No. 55866  
Date: 08/06/2020

SHEET NO. **L1**

**Meeting Date:** 08/17/2020

**By:** Chris Anderson, Community  
Development

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**Information**

**Title:**

Consider Recommendation on Ordinance #20-04 (Landscape Requirements)

**Purpose/Background:**

As the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) knows, Staff is working on an ordinance amendment regarding landscaping requirements (initially focused on the Employment Districts, but has since expanded to create a separate Landscape Section in City Code and removing landscape standards from individual zoning districts). Due to a couple of recent development proposals, Staff wanted to check back in with the EPB regarding one aspect of the draft ordinance, which addresses detached townhomes and villas.

**Observations/Alternatives:**

Currently, in the R-2 Residential District (Medium Density), landscaping is based on a Canopy Cover Formula, which takes into account available pervious area for plantings. However, it is becoming more commonplace to see development proposals for detached townhomes or villas, which can not only meet the density and other bulk standard requirements of the R-2 Residential District, but also look and function more similarly to a single family residential neighborhood.

In these instances, it would seem reasonable to apply the more traditional two (2) trees per lot, or some modified version of this standard. One difference between the lots for detached townhomes and single family homes is lot width, which could make two front yard trees more challenging. Minimum lot width in the traditional R-1 Residential (MUSA) District is eighty (80) feet. There is also a sub-district now that would allow lot width to be sixty-five (65) feet. In the R-2 Residential District, minimum lot width is fifty (50) feet. When you factor in space for a driveway and other potential obstacles (e.g. street lights, hydrants, mailboxes, etc.), trying to fit two front yard trees in becomes difficult (not at the time of initial planting, but looking ahead 10-20 years).

The draft Ordinance that was last presented to the EPB did include separate landscaping requirements for detached townhomes and villas compared to attached townhome products. This was not necessarily highlighted as part of that last review. Staff wanted to check in with the EPB to make sure this recommended change was not overlooked and to confirm that the Board has no objections to this aspect of the ordinance. The language can be found in the attached draft ordinance, Section 117-364 (c) (5) and (6).

**Funding Source:**

This is being handled as part of Staff's regular duties.

**Action:**

Based on discussion. No formal motion is needed. Staff is simply looking for consensus that the proposed modifications to landscape requirements for detached townhomes and villas are acceptable/supported by the EPB.

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**Attachments**

Draft Ordinance #20-04

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## Form Review

**Inbox**

Tim Gladhill

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 08/13/2020

**Reviewed By**

Tim Gladhill

**Date**

08/13/2020 08:53 AM

Started On: 08/12/2020 10:57 AM

**ORDINANCE #20-04**

**CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 117 WHICH IS KNOWN AS THE ZONING AND SUBDIVISIONS CHAPTER OF THE CITY CODE OF RAMSEY, MINNESOTA.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 117-111 (R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT), 117-112 (R-2 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT), 117-113 (R-3 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT), 117-114 (B-1 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT), 117-115 (B-2 HIGHWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT), 117-116 (E-2 EMPLOYMENT DISTRICT), 117-117 (E-1 EMPLOYMENT DISTRICT), 117-120 (H-1 HIGHWAY 10 BUSINESS DISTRICT), 117-121 (B-3 BUSINESS DISTRICT), 117-124 (E-3 EMPLOYMENT DISTRICT), AND 117-125 (NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT), OF CHAPTER 117 OF THE CITY CODE OF RAMSEY, MINNESOTA.**

**SECTION 1. AUTHORITY**

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to and under the authority of the City Charter of the City of Ramsey.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS**

Sec. 117-111 (g) (3) and (4) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-112 (e) (6) a., b., c., d., and e., and all of (7) shall be repealed.

Sec. 117-113 (e) (5) a., b., c., d., and e., and all of (6) shall be repealed.

Sec. 117-114 (e) (14) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-115 (e) (16) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-116 (e) (3) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-117 (e) (3) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-120 (e) (14) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-121 (g) (2) f. shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-124 (e) (3) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-125 (f) (13) shall be repealed entirely.

Sec. 117-348 (i) shall be repealed entirely.

Section 117-364 (Landscaping) shall be added to read as follows:

- (a) Intent. The City of Ramsey recognizes the advantages that landscaping and screening can provide, including enhanced health, safety, aesthetic, ecological and economic value. The intent of this section is to:
- (1) Enhance the quality of life within the city;
  - (2) Enhance aesthetic view of development(s) from public roads;
  - (3) Maintain and enhance property values;
  - (4) Aid in both physical and mental human health;
  - (5) Improve air quality and buffer against noise, glare, and heat;
  - (6) Reduce the potential for crime and violence;
  - (7) Improve energy efficiency;
  - (8) Add visual interest to blank building facades and soften appearance of hardscaping and buildings with accent plantings;
  - (9) Complement adjacent land uses;
  - (10) Improve the visual quality and continuity within and between developments;
  - (11) Reduce storm water runoff;
  - (12) Encourage the establishment and/or restoration of native landscapes.
- (b) Goals and Objectives. Landscaping for any project is intended to achieve the following goals and objectives:
- (1) Provide immediate aesthetic enhancements to a development site while also taking into account space and input needs of plantings well into the future;
  - (2) Encourage a healthy environment and landscape in the future;
  - (3) Ensure a diverse mixture of species to protect against future pests and pathogens.
  - (4) Encourage native landscapes in suitable locations with appropriate management plans.
- (c) Landscaping Requirements.
- (1) Topsoil and Ground Cover. All exposed ground areas, including boulevards and areas not devoted to off-street parking, driveways, sidewalks, trails, patios or other such impervious improvements, shall be landscaped with turf, shrubs, trees, native grasses and wildflowers and/or other ornamental landscape materials within six (6) months of the date of issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.
    - a. Topsoil. In all zoning districts, a minimum of four inches of topsoil, as defined in Section 117-1, shall be applied across all exposed ground areas to the edge of improved streets, sidewalks, driveways and other impervious surfaces, excluding natural areas that are left undisturbed, whenever a building permit is issued for the construction of a principal building.
      1. The depth of topsoil at the time of inspection shall be not less than four inches.
      2. Alternatives to the import of topsoil, such as compost or other soil amendments known to improve soil water holding capacity may be permitted, but only with the prior approval of the City Engineer.

- b. Required Ground Cover. In all zoning districts except R-1, all portions of a site not covered by structures, concrete, or asphalt, but excluding natural areas that are left undisturbed, shall be finished with sod and plantings, up to the edge of improved streets and other impervious surfaces. Any alternative to the sod requirement shall require City Council approval.
  - 1. In the R-1 Residential District, sod is required in all boulevards, excluding those areas devoted to sidewalks, trails and driveways.
  - 2. The remainder of a yard may be established with sod, seed, natural ground cover and/or native grasses and wildflowers. Noxious weeds do not constitute allowable ground cover.
  - 3. A landscape escrow, in an amount to be determined by the Building Official, shall be deposited for all required landscaping, including topsoil, sod and trees, which is not established at the time of issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. Installation of required landscaping, including topsoil, sod (or seeding where permitted by this Code) and trees, shall be completed within six months of the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, weather permitting. The city may draw upon the escrow to install the required landscaping if said work is not completed within six months of the date of issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

(2) Irrigation. If a landscape irrigation system is provided, the system shall be equipped with the following:

- a. Technology that inhibits or interrupts operation of the irrigation system during periods of sufficient moisture (rain sensor).
- b. One or more water efficient technologies. This could include, but is not limited to, WaterSense labeled weather-based irrigation controllers, soil moisture sensors, and/or evapotranspiration (ET) sensors.

(3) Existing Trees. A reasonable attempt shall be made to preserve as many existing trees as is practicable and incorporate them into a development (see Division 5. – Tree Preservation for inventory and preservation requirements). For each healthy significant tree retained on site and not identified on the City’s list of prohibited trees, one overstory tree, or the equivalent canopy square footage, can be deducted from the minimum planting requirements.

(4) Planting types. Acceptable planting types shall be determined by the Ramsey Tree Book. The complement of trees fulfilling the landscaping requirements shall not be less than 25 percent deciduous and not less than 25 percent coniferous. Not more than 25 percent of the required plantings shall consist of ornamental or understory trees.

(5) Planting Requirements for the R-1 Residential District.

Zoning District	Planting Type	Minimum Number Required	Size
R-1 Residential (MUSA) - Villas	Overstory Deciduous and/or Coniferous trees	1 tree per 50 feet of frontage, planted in the boulevard.	1 inch caliper – deciduous 5 foot height – conifer

R-1 Residential (MUSA) - SF Detached Homes	Overstory Deciduous and/or Coniferous trees	2 trees per dwelling, planted in the boulevard (or front yard depending on available space)	1 inch caliper – deciduous 5 foot height – conifer
R-1 Rural Developing	Overstory Deciduous and/or Coniferous trees	2 trees per dwelling, planted in the front yard	1 inch caliper – deciduous 5 foot height – conifer

- a. In the R-1 Residential (MUSA) – Villas sub-district, alternative planting locations, such as the backyard or common areas, will be considered if there is not sufficient space in the boulevard due to other improvements such as driveways, streetlights, hydrants, etc.

(6) Planting Requirements for the R-2 Residential (Medium Density) and R-3 Residential (High Density) Districts.

- a. If the housing product is a detached style, the plantings shall consist of at least one (1) tree per 50 feet of street frontage, planted in the boulevard.
  - 1. Alternative planting locations, such as the backyard or common areas, will be considered if there is not sufficient space in the boulevard due to other improvements such as driveway, streetlights, hydrants, etc.
- b. If the housing product is an attached style, the number of plantings shall be determined based on canopy cover. To fulfill the planting requirements, a combination of trees and shrubs shall meet or exceed the minimum required canopy cover square footage.
- c. The minimum canopy cover required shall be calculated as follows:
  - 1. Determine ratio of impervious area (including stormwater ponds) to entire site.
  - 2. Multiply the impervious area/site area ratio by the square footage of the pervious area to calculate the required canopy cover square footage for the project area.
  - 3. The following formula shall be utilized to determine the average canopy cover of a species:  $[(\text{Minimum} + \text{Maximum Spread}) \div 4]^2 \times \pi \times (0.65 \text{ for preferred species or } 0.50 \text{ for acceptable species, as identified in the Ramsey Tree Book})$ .
- d. Minimum size of plantings. Required trees and shrubs shall meet or exceed the following size standards:

Plant Type	Size
Deciduous Tree	1 inch caliper
Coniferous Tree	5 feet in height
Ornamental Tree	1 inch caliper
Deciduous Shrub	2 feet in height
Evergreen	2 feet in height or width, based on growth characteristics

(7) Planting Requirements for Business and Employment Districts (B-1, B-2, B-3, Neighborhood Business, H-1, E-1, E-2, and E-3).

- a. Business Districts (B-1, B-2, B-3, Neighborhood Business, and H-1). The minimum number of trees required are outlined in the table below. These are minimum requirements and can be supplemented with other plantings, as well as flowers and various ground covers that would be appropriate to produce a complete and quality landscape.

Planting Type	Required Numbers
Deciduous/coniferous trees	1 tree per 50 lineal feet of site perimeter, or 1 tree per 1,000 square feet of building footprint, whichever is greater. For building expansions, 1 additional tree is required for each 1,000 square feet of new building footprint area.
Shrubs	1 shrub per 30 lineal feet of site perimeter or 1 shrub per 300 square feet of building footprint area, whichever is greater.

- b. Employment Districts (E-1, E-2, and E-3). The minimum number of plantings required shall be determined based on canopy cover. To fulfill the planting requirements, a combination of trees and shrubs shall meet or exceed the minimum required canopy cover square footage. The minimum canopy cover required shall be as follows:
1. Determine ratio of impervious area (including stormwater ponds) to entire site.
  2. Multiply the impervious area/site area ratio by the square footage of the pervious area to calculate the required canopy cover square footage for the project area.
  3. The following formula shall be utilized to determine the average canopy cover of a species:  $[(\text{Minimum} + \text{Maximum Spread}) \div 4]^2 \times \pi \times (0.65 \text{ for preferred species or } 0.50 \text{ for acceptable species, as identified in the Ramsey Tree Book})$ .
- c. Minimum size of plantings. Required trees and shrubs shall meet or exceed the following size standards:

Plant Type	Size
Deciduous Tree	2.5 inch caliper
Coniferous Tree	6 feet in height
Ornamental/Understory Tree	1.5 inch caliper
Deciduous Shrub	2 feet in height
Coniferous Shrub	2 feet in height or width, based on growth characteristics

- d. Road frontage plantings. For every 35 feet of public road frontage, one overstory tree shall be planted adjacent to the road right-of-way on private property. These plantings are credited toward the minimum planting requirements.
- e. Parking lot landscaping. All parking lots are required to provide internal overstory tree plantings in an effort to shade parking surfaces and provide visual relief. The planting schedule is established to provide an acceptable number of plantings that may be planted in regular symmetrical patterns or irregular clusters or groupings. Plantings are required at the following minimum schedule:
1. 1 tree per every ten parking spaces.

2. Every overstory tree planting shall be provided with a planting area of at least 162 square feet.
  3. Acceptable ground cover materials include sod, mulch, and other natural ground cover. Landscaping rock and plastic underlayment is prohibited.
- f. Bufferyards. Bufferyards help to achieve screening between differing uses with varied intensities and impacts that are not always complementary when adjacent to one another. When a bufferyard is required, the yard space and planting requirements are not to be reduced for other purposes such as future parking and driveways, building expansions, or other activities that are not in keeping with the purposes of buffering and screening.
1. Bufferyards are intended to provide additional screening of businesses that are adjacent to residential areas. The following table details the width of the bufferyard along the common adjacent property line. An additional increase of landscape plantings is required in the bufferyard. The table below outlines the minimum required additional plantings, expressed as a percentage of the total required site landscaping:

Proposed Development	Existing Adjacent Development							
	R-1	R-2	R-3	NBD	B-1	B-2	B-3	H-1
Neighborhood Business (NBD) Bufferyard width	40 feet	30 feet	20 feet	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
% increase in plantings	25%	20%	20%					
B-1 Bufferyard width	40 feet	30 feet	20 feet	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
% increase in plantings	25%	20%	20%					
B-2 Bufferyard width	50 feet	40 feet	30 feet	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
% increase in plantings	30%	25%	20%					
B-3 Bufferyard width	50 feet	40 feet	30 feet	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
% increase in plantings	30%	25%	20%					
H-1 Bufferyard width	50 feet	40 feet	30 feet	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
% increase in plantings	30%	25%	20%					

E-1 Bufferyard width %increase in plantings	60 feet 30%	60 feet 30%	60 feet 30%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%
E-2 Bufferyard width %increase in plantings	60 feet 30%	60 feet 30%	60 feet 30%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%
E-3 Bufferyard width %increase in plantings	60 feet 30%	60 feet 30%	60 feet 30%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%	35 feet 20%

- As an alternative method for screening in the Neighborhood Business, B-1, B-2, B-3, H-1, E-1, E-2 and E-3 Districts, fences that are 100 percent opaque may be used to mitigate the impacts of businesses that are adjacent to residential areas. Fences are subject to the provisions found in all applicable ordinances. When a fence is used for screening purposes, the bufferyard planting requirements may be reduced by ten percent from the stated minimum requirement.

### **SECTION 3. SUMMARY**

The following official summary of Ordinance #20-04 has been approved by the City Council of the City of Ramsey as clearly informing the public of the intent and effect of the Ordinance.

Ordinance #20-04 amends Sections 117-111, 117-112, 117-113, 117-114, 117-115, 117-116, 117-117, 117-120, 117-121, 117-124, 117-125, and 117-348 to move all landscaping standards into a new Section of 117-364. Furthermore, this ordinance establishes intent, goals and objectives of landscaping. It also establishes bufferyard standards for the Neighborhood Business District and B-3 Business District. Finally, this ordinance amends the landscaping requirements in the Employment Districts (E-1, E-2, and E-3) to base them on the Canopy Cover Formula.

### **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance becomes effective 30 days after its passage and publication, subject to City Charter Section 5.04.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Ramsey, Minnesota the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Administrator

Introduction date:

Posting dates:

Adoption date:

Publication date:

Effective date:

**Meeting Date:** 08/17/2020

**By:** Chris Anderson, Community  
Development

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**Information**

**Title:**

Consider Recommendation from the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization to Provide Educational Campaign for Rum River Wild and Scenic Overlay District

**Purpose/Background:**

In 1978, the State of Minnesota added the Rum River to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Program. The stretch of river through Ramsey is designated as Scenic (meaning, at the time of designation, the adjacent lands were mostly undeveloped and therefore provided a sense of natural character). When the State added the Rum River to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Program, they also developed a Management Plan and directed local municipalities and counties to adopt and enforce zoning standards in compliance with the Management Plan. The City of Ramsey officially adopted the Scenic River Protection Overlay District, which incorporated the standards outlined in Minnesota Rules 6105.1400 through 6105.1500.

**Observations/Alternatives:**

The added layer of protection provided by the Overlay District is really intended to maintain the natural and scenic views from the river and protect against degradation of water quality and wildlife habitat. Concerns regarding potential violations are handled through the City's Code Enforcement Program. However, over the years, that has proven somewhat challenging since oftentimes, potential violations can only be viewed from the river (City Staff cannot enter private property without the property owner's consent).

More recently, the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO) has initiated an annual 'float tour' of the Rum River through Ramsey, Andover and ending in Anoka. The primary purpose of this is to identify potential erosion concerns, which can obviously have a negative impact on water quality. However, this has also afforded City Staff from all three communities to identify potential violations of the Overlay District. The most common potential violations involve non-permitted structures and docks and stairways that have expanded areas (e.g. platforms/decks) for seating and gatherings, which conflict with the standards of the Overlay District.

When the Rum River was originally entered into the Wild and Scenic Rivers Program, there was momentum to ensure property owners were aware of the added regulations that apply to riparian lots. However, over time, some of the literature that was originally developed by the MN DNR, has become outdated and/or obsolete. In light of some of the potential violations that are now being identified, Staff intends to initiate an educational mailer for all property owners along the Rum River. The purpose of this mailing would be to remind (or inform) property owners that there are regulations pertaining to land use activities along the river and that if verified, property owners will need to bring properties into compliance.

Staff has attached the draft letter to this case. It is anticipated that this may generate a number of calls (and initially, this likely will require significant staff time in terms of follow up and potential violation notices). However, Staff is hopeful that by doing a similar mailing periodically (maybe on an every other year basis), it will result in fewer calls and reduce the number of potential violations along the Rum River.

**Funding Source:**

This is being handled as part of Staff's regular duties.

**Action:**

While no specific action is needed, if the Board has any feedback on the draft letter or recommendations for additional information to include, this would be the time to provide it.

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## **Attachments**

### Informational Letter

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## **Form Review**

**Inbox**

Tim Gladhill

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 08/13/2020

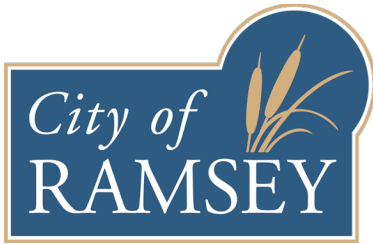
**Reviewed By**

Tim Gladhill

**Date**

08/13/2020 03:32 PM

Started On: 08/12/2020 10:20 AM



7550 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, MN 55303

City Hall: 763.427.1410 • Fax: 763.427.5543

[www.cityoframsey.com](http://www.cityoframsey.com)

Dear Resident,

The City of Ramsey, in cooperation with the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, would like to remind property owners along the Rum River of the various protections that exist to protect this valuable State Resource. The intent of this educational campaign is to help Residents along the Rum River navigate these natural resource protections in a way that balances our shared desire to access and enjoy this resource.

### **Wild and Scenic Rum River Rules and Regulations**

The Minnesota State Wild & Scenic Rivers Program was established in 1973 to protect rivers that have outstanding natural, scenic, geographic, historic, cultural, and recreational values. The Rum River was designated as a Wild & Scenic River in 1978. This designation resulted in an overall Management Plan, which outlines the goals and protections for the waterway. These rules work together with Ramsey City Code to protect the river from erosion and poor water quality. Below is a brief overview of some of the rules and regulations.

#### **Vegetation & Erosion Control**

Protections are in place that guides the cutting of certain vegetation. It is important to maintain a buffer strip of vegetation cover along the river. When the shoreline begins eroding, it can diminish the aesthetic values of the river and can lead to a decrease in the water quality of the river. More importantly, it can result in the loss of valuable shoreline on your property. A buffer strip can act as natural screening, preserve wildlife habitat, and can reduce the chance of erosion. Please work with City Staff to plan your project in advance.

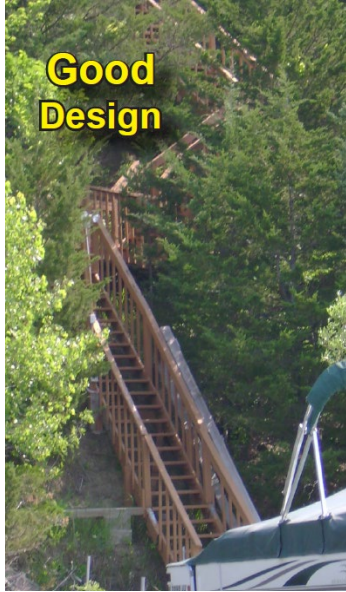


The following vegetation management **is** permitted:

1. Removal of diseased or rotten trees.
2. Pruning of brush, grasses, shrubs and small plants.
3. Mowing lawns.
4. Harvesting crops.

The following vegetation management is **not** permitted:

1. Cutting healthy trees greater than four (4) inches in diameter at breast height if the removal results in less than a continuous canopy cover.
2. Clear-cutting vegetation and trees to a point where maintaining a continuous canopy cover is not possible.



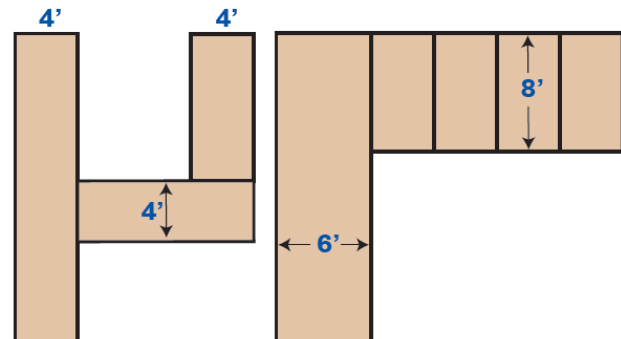
### Stairways, Landings and Lifts

Steep slopes on the Rum River can pose problems for gaining access to the river. These slopes are highly susceptible to erosion. Stairways with landings can provide safe access to the water where it would otherwise be difficult. If designed and installed properly, they can blend into natural surroundings and reduce erosion in highly traveled areas by minimizing soil compaction. Regulations and rules regarding stairways, landings and lifts go as follows:

1. Stairways and lifts must be no wider than 4 feet on residential lots.
2. Landings for stairways and lifts on residential lots must not exceed 32 square feet.
3. Canopies or roofs are not allowed on any stairways, lifts or landings.
4. Avoid removing more trees and vegetation than absolutely necessary to complete the project.
5. Secure appropriate permits from the City.

### Docks

Docks and watercraft lifts are commonly used success structures on Minnesota lakes and rivers. It is important to regulate the installation of docks on the Rum River to ensure that shoreline views do not suffer and a safe passage along the river is available. A permit is required for temporary docks. The exact approval process depends on your location on the Rum River. Permanent docks are not permitted on a Wild and Scenic River, meaning they need to be removable and removed before winter conditions. The above image shows the recommended dock styles for the Rum River.



If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please contact the City of Ramsey Planning Division at 763-433-9817 or the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at 651-296-6157. Please also note that the City of Ramsey, City of Anoka, and the City of Andover enforce the requirements of the Scenic River District and that properties in violation will be required to come into compliance.

Enclosures  
MN DNR Stairways, Landings and Lifts