

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

On Monday, June 12, 2023, 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 Laura Moore
 Board Member Reid Bernard
 Board Member Melissa Fetterley
 Board Member Mike Heffner
 Board Member Hassan Salami

Members Absent: Board Member Thomas Hagerty
 Board Member Jessica Vikander

Also Present: Senior Planner Chris Anderson
 City Council Liaison Chelsee Howell

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Board Member Bernard and seconded by Board Member Fetterley to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Moore, Board Member Bernard, Fetterley, Heffner, and Salami. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Hagerty and Vikander.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated May 15, 2023

Motion by Board Member Bernard and seconded by Board Member Salami to approve the regular meeting minutes dated May 15, 2023.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Moore, Board Member Bernard, Salami, Fetterley, and Heffner. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Hagerty and Vikander.

Chairperson Moore introduced the newly appointment member of the Board.

Board Member Heffner introduced himself, providing some of his education and career experience.

5. POLICY BOARD BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Natural Resources Aspects of Proposed Site Plan for Aldi (Project No. 23-105)

Senior Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the City has received an application from Aldi for Site Plan, Plat and Easement Vacation for a proposed Aldi grocery store to be located in the southeast corner of Armstrong Boulevard and 147th Avenue. The subject property is currently owned by the City.

Board Member Salami asked the distance between this location and Coborn's.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that the site will be part of the Coborn's campus and provided more specific location information.

Chairperson Moore noted that residents of Ramsey are excited to welcome Aldi to the community.

Motion by Board Member Fetterley and seconded by Board Member Bernard to recommend approval of the Landscape Plan, contingent upon compliance with staff's review comments.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Moore, Board Member Fetterley, Bernard, Heffner, and Salami. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Hagerty and Vikander.

5.02: Consider Natural Resources Aspects of Proposed Site Plan and Plat for Bunker Lake Industrial Park (Project No. 23-106); Case of PSD, LLC

Senior Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the City has received an application from PSD, LLC for a Site Plan and Plat for the remaining land in Bunker Lake Industrial Park (BLIP), located south of Bunker Lake Boulevard and east of Puma Street.

Chairperson Moore commented that she was pleased to see the donation of trees to ACD for the riverbank stabilization project. She commented that she does not object to the carryover and ability to spread the landscaping between the two areas. She referenced the corner of the proposed parcel at 147th Lane and asked what exists on the other side of the circle.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that there is a stormwater pond and identified the other businesses in that area. He also provided details on the roadways different businesses use for access.

Board Member Fetterley commented that the portion of the property proposed for development looks to be closest to the residential development. She asked if there would be opportunity to build a better buffer along that border or whether the existing trees and proposed plantings would be sufficient.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that when BLIP was originally reviewed, the developer worked with Riverstone to establish a berm with the trees to create a buffer between the two properties.

He stated that with the existing trees, proposed trees, stormwater pond, and additional plantings there would be sufficient screening.

Board Member Fetterley asked if there another pond towards the railroad tracks on the southern portion of the property.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that would be an infiltration basin.

Motion by Board Member Bernard and seconded by Board Member Salami to recommend approval of the natural resources aspects of the proposed plat and site plan, contingent upon compliance with staff's review comments.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Moore, Board Member Bernard, Salami, Fetterley, and Heffner. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Hagerty and Vikander.

6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT

- **Update: COR Tree Clearing**

Senior Planner Anderson stated that one goal of the Council is to get more land within the COR shovel ready for development. He noted that a tree inventory was completed as many of the trees will need to be removed in order to bring in fill to bring those sites up to grade. He also provided some details on the streetscaping that will occur.

Chairperson Moore asked if those trees could be moved to other locations in Ramsey.

Senior Planner Anderson stated that he could ask about that but was unsure that the quality of the trees would warrant that. He was also unsure about staff resources to relocate trees

- **Small Scale Recycling Center Possibilities**

Senior Planner Anderson provided an update on the potential opportunity for a small-scale recycling center. He noted that they would need to think of items that would not require much in terms of staffing, and it would take time to implement. He stated that perhaps they could begin with oil collection as that would be something utilized by the community and could also decrease waiting at the recycling events. He encouraged the Board to start thinking about this as he will do the same.

Board Member Heffner suggested the possibility of corporate sponsorship for this type of effort.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Board Member Bernard and seconded by Board Member Fetterley to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Anderson
Senior Planner

ATTEST:

Dana Verbeek
Planning Administrative Assistant

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.