

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

On Monday, May 19, 2025, 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 Melissa Fetterley
 Board Member Reid Bernard
 Board Member Nick Burgess
 Board Member Thomas Hagerty
 Board Member Paula Houts
 Board Member Laura Moore
 Board Member Hassan Salami

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Senior Planner Chris Anderson
 City Councilmember Eric Peters

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Fetterley 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 Burgess to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Members Bernard, Burgess, Hagerty, Houts, Moore, and Salami. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated April 21, 2025

Motion by Board Member Moore and seconded by Board Member Bernard to approve the regular meeting minutes dated April 21, 2025.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Members Moore, Bernard, Burgess, Hagerty, Houts, and Salami. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

5. POLICY BOARD BUSINESS

5.01: Consider the Natural Resources Aspects of a Site Plan for Taco Bell (Project No. 25-109); Case of Border Foods, LLC

Senior Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He reported that the City has received an application from Border Foods, LLC for consideration of a Site Plan for Taco Bell, to be located at the southeast corner of Armstrong Boulevard and Bunker Lake Boulevard.

Board Member Moore asked if the yellow outline is just the Taco Bell site or the whole site.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that Taco Bell would be the northern portion, while the yellow line represents the three parcels.

Board Member Moore stated that there is a significant amount of tree cover in the portion of the plat closest to the roundabout and asked if there is a plan to save any of those trees.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that there would not be much tree removal as a part of this, noting that most of the removal work previously occurred, noting additional comments will be provided during case two.

Chairperson Fetterley asked if a different type of fence could be used that would provide more of a sound barrier for the drive-through from the busy road.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that the applicant could choose to do so, but there is nothing in the City Code that would require that. He stated that the fence would need to be decorative or match the building, which can add a significant cost to a project. He noted that there would be a consistent fence along all three parcels to make it look more uniform.

Chairperson Fetterley asked and received confirmation that the trees shown would be on the outside of the fence.

Motion by Board Member Salami and seconded by Board Member Moore to recommend approval of the natural resources elements of the Site Plan.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Members Salami, Moore, Bernard, Burgess, Hagerty, and Houts. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

5.02: Consider the Natural Resources Aspects of Bunker Lake Crossing Subdivision (Project No. 25-105); Case of Capital Real Estate, Inc.

Senior Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He reported that the City has received an application from Capital Real Estate Inc. for consideration of a Final Plat for Bunker Lake Crossing, a three-lot subdivision located south of Bunker Lake Boulevard, north of Sunwood Drive, and east of Armstrong Boulevard. Typically, landscaping is reviewed as part of a Site Plan, however, the applicant has essentially designed the layout and landscaping for two of the three lots in the subdivision.

Board Member Houts asked how large the outdoor seating area would be.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that there would be enough space for two to four tables. He provided additional explanation on the request to place some trees in that area to provide screening and shade.

Councilmember Peters asked if this site would have irrigation.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that he is unsure. He stated that the City Code does not require irrigation, but if irrigation is used, it must have both a rain sensor and some other form of water efficient technology. He went on to state that the tree and shrub plantings do require a two year maintenance warranty.

Motion by Board Member Burgess and seconded by Board Member Salami to recommend approval of the natural resources aspects of this subdivision.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Fetterley, Board Members Burgess, Salami, Bernard, Hagerty, Houts, and Moore. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT

- **Wood Boilers**

Senior Planner Anderson noted that staff reached out to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to seek out an individual who could attend an EPB meeting to discuss outdoor wood boilers in greater detail. Coincidentally, the MPCA is currently seeking to fill this position, and until it is filled, they would not have anyone available to attend a meeting, which is why the item was not back on the agenda.

- Spring Recycling Event

Senior Planner Anderson reported that about 450 vehicles were serviced at the event. Staff have not yet received the tonnage data, but it is safe to say this was another successful recycling event.

Board Member Moore asked if the City is pursuing the option of having cardboard recycling year-round rather than just at the holidays.

Senior Planner Anderson replied that concept was discussed but it was determined that it would not make sense to spend funds on a dumpster when ACE has a dropped off dumpster available for that purpose down the road. He recognized that the City dumpster used around the holidays does get a lot of use.

Councilmember Peters noted that Coon Rapids also has a recycling center that is available to everyone, and appliances can be dropped off at the appliance store in Anoka at no cost.

- Arbor Month Planting Recap

Senior Planner Anderson provided a recap of the Arbor Month events. He also provided details on the upcoming rain barrel and compost bin distribution event.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Anderson
Senior Planner

ATTEST:

JoAnn Shaw
Community Development Secretary

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.