

1. 5:00 P.M. City Council Regular Meeting Packet

Documents:

[SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 WORKSESSION PACKET.PDF](#)

2. 5:00 P.M. City Council Worksession Agenda

Documents:

[SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 WORKSESSION AGENDA.PDF](#)



City Council Agenda - Worksession

Monday, September 27, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

Council Worksession Room

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **COUNCIL BUSINESS and/or DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - 3.1 Discussion; Trunk Highway 10 Project; Neighborhood Traffic Impacts.
(Example: Pleasant/Wingfield/Garfield)
 - 3.2 Discussion; River Lane Public Easement.
 - 3.3 Discussion; Development Update:
 - * 2nd Avenue & Van Buren Street (Developer will be in attendance)
 - * 4th Avenue and Grant Street
 - * River Lane Vacant Lot
 - * North Street Area East of 7th Avenue
 - * 2612 4th Avenue
 - 3.4 Discussion; Flag Ordinance.
4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Members of the Anoka City Council may participate remotely in City Council meetings by interactive technology rather than by being physically present. Members of the public who desire to give input or testimony remotely may do so by calling or texting in comments prior to meetings at (763) 220-9005 or by email at: remotemeeting@ci.anoka.mn.us. Members of the public may also monitor and participate in meetings remotely by attending via video conference (Zoom Webinar). The Zoom Webinar link will be posted prior to the meeting on the City of Anoka's website calendar at: <https://www.anokaminnesota.com/calendar.aspx?CID=14>. To access the link, from the online calendar, find the correct meeting date and click "More Details."

Meetings by telephone or other electronic means in accordance with Minnesota Statute 13D.021.

COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEMO

Meeting Date: September 27, 2021
Agenda Section: Council Business and/or Discussion Items
Item Description: Discussion; Trunk Highway 10 Projects; Neighborhood Traffic Impacts
Submitted By: Ben Nelson, Engineering Technician

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Beginning in the spring of 2022, the City of Anoka will be reconstructing U.S. Highway 10/169 from the west city limit line with Ramsey to 1,100 feet west of the Trunk Highway 47/169 Ferry Street interchange. The project will transform this signalized corridor into a freeway providing a roundabout interchange at Thurston Avenue, an underpass at Fairoak Avenue, and a reconstructed interchange at Main Street. There will be frontage road networks on both the north and south sides of the highway. Total estimated project cost of \$73.5M. The benefits of this massive project include the following:

- A 75% delay reduction
- A 57% crash reduction
- Removal of the Fairoak Avenue and Thurston Avenue traffic signals
- Improved local circulation
- Enhance community connectivity & pedestrian accommodations along the corridor



Beginning in the spring of 2022, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will be reconstructing U.S. Highway 10 from 1,100 feet west of the Trunk Highway 47/169 Ferry Street interchange to just east of 7th Avenue. The project will include the replacing the U.S. Highway 10 bridge over the Rum River, transforming the Ferry Street interchange into a single point diamond interchange and the addition of auxiliary lanes between Ferry Street and 7th Avenue. Total estimated project cost of \$64M. The benefits of this massive project include the following:

- Improved condition of project area bridges
- Improve safety and mobility along the corridor
- Upgrade pedestrian/bicycle accessibility



* The award of contract for both projects are pending and subject for the construction of these projects. It is anticipated both projects will be awarded and construction will occur in 2022-2023.

The highway improvements occurring in 2022-2023 will require the adjacent roadway networks to absorb an influx of traffic that will be detoured around the construction. As part of the planning for these massive projects; MnDOT, Anoka County, and the City of Anoka developed a regional traffic management plan for this area during construction. As part of this plan, MnDOT, Anoka County, and the City will be completing or has completed the following projects prior to the construction of U.S. Highway 10:

- Green Haven Parkway Phase II (Led by *City of Anoka*): This project included the construction of a new parkway between Verndale Avenue and Fair oak Avenue. This section of roadway completes the backage road connection on the north side of Highway 10 and will be a primary detour route.
- 7th Avenue Mill & Overlay Improvements (led by *Anoka County*): This project includes the mill & overlay of 7th Avenue from Buchanan Street to 600 feet north of 38th Lane. This section of roadway will be a primary diversion route between Highway 10 to Bunker Lake Boulevard.
- Highway 47 & County Road 116/Bunker Lake Blvd Intersection Improvements (led by *Anoka County*): This project included increased intersection capacity for Bunker Lake Boulevard and Highway 47. Both of these roadways will be primary diversion routes.
- Bunker Lake Blvd Improvements from Armstrong Blvd to Sunfish Lake Blvd (led by *Anoka County*): This project will include the addition of designated turn lanes, increased length of merge lanes, restrictions of left turning movements onto Bunker Lake Boulevard and the installation of a permanent traffic signal system at the Sunwood Drive intersection. It has been estimated that traffic volumes on Bunker Lake Boulevard will double during peak travel times.
- Highway 47/169 (Ferry St) Resurfacing Project (led by *MnDOT*): This project includes resurfacing Highway 47 from the south end of the Mississippi River to Clay Street and from Pleasant Street to just south of Industry Avenue/Bunker Lake Boulevard. This section of roadway will be a primary diversion route to the Anoka-Champlin Bridge.
- Highway 47 (St. Francis Blvd) & McKinley St Temporary Signal (led by *MnDOT*): This project includes the pavement widening along the east shoulder of Highway 47 to accommodate a dedicated left turn and a thru/right turn lane to McKinley Street. A temporary signal will be installed at the intersection of Highway 47 and McKinley Street. This intersection includes 3-legs of the signal that are primary routes.
- 7th Avenue Interchange Improvements at Highway 10 (led by *MnDOT*): This project will include the realignment of the Highway 10 westbound exit ramp to align with Pierce Street with a temporary signal. The eastbound exit ramp from Highway 10 will be widened to accommodate a “button hook ramp” from southbound 7th Avenue to eastbound Highway 10. This will be a primary location to access Highway 10.
- Pleasant Avenue/Pierce Street/4th Avenue Temporary Signal (led by *MnDOT*): This project will include a temporary signal at the intersection of Pleasant Avenue/Pierce Street and 4th Avenue. All legs of this intersection are critical routes through the construction.
- Intelligent Transportation System Technology (led by *MnDOT*): This will include the installation of message boards regionally to inform motorists of the delays to expect if they continue towards Highway 10 as well as travel times via alternative routes.

Council shall be aware that these massive construction projects will have a substantial effect on the operational performance of the highways and local roads leading to an increase in congestion and delay during construction. After the completion of the projects, corridor capacity will be significantly improved. There is an advantage of the MnDOT and the City coordinating the construction of the two projects which include; greater ability to reduce and manage traffic disruptions, a cost savings for both agencies, and a shorter construction schedule.

DISCUSSION

The local roads within the City of Anoka will be affected by all the construction during 2022-2023. Staff is examining any and all solutions on what can be done to minimize non-local traffic within our local neighborhoods.

Dan Lonnes, a Principal Engineer with Bolton Menk, will present a PowerPoint on local neighborhood traffic impacts, the options and tools to mitigate these concerns and will help address council questions.

It shall be noted, any change in local circulation could lead to unintended consequences to the traffic patterns in other areas of the City. Council shall be aware that when construction begins the new/changed traffic patterns of the local commuters due to these impacts will “normalize” within 3-4 days. Generally, what has been observed with the existing traffic is that it will equally (one third); disappear/“goes away”, find an alternate route, or continue using the same route.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Staff is seeking feedback and direction on the framework for managing local traffic impacts through the Highway 10 construction in 2022-2023. Staff will answer questions on any aspects associated with the Highway 10 projects.

COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEMO

Agenda Item # 3.2

Meeting Date: September 27, 2021
Agenda Section: Council Business and/or Discussion Items
Item Description: Discussion; River Lane Public Easement
Submitted By: Doug Borglund, Community Development Director

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As you may recall, in November of 2017, a resident had brought forward concerns regarding the ability to utilize an existing 30-foot public walkway easement that is located between existing single-family residential parcels known as 442 River Lane and 502 River Lane at the end of 5th Avenue.

The existing 30-foot walkway easement was put in place in 1979 at the time of platting the subdivision known as Sandra Terrace, allowing public access to the Mississippi River between 442 River Lane and 502 River Lane.

The current property owner of 502 River Lane during the time-period of 2007-2008 (according to the property owner) constructed a retaining wall and stairway with a majority of the private improvement located in the existing drainage, utility, and walkway easement area.

After the November Anoka City Council work session meeting, the City received a petition to vacate the existing walkway easement from the owners of property adjacent to the existing easement that is directly impacted on December 26, 2017.

- The City Council discussed this item on November 27, 2017 at its regular work session meeting. The item was continued to the January 22, 2018.
- The City Council discussed this item on January 22, 2018. The Council consensus was to review the issue and bring it back for discussion in the future.
- The City Council again discussed this issue on August 27, 2018, with the consensus to investigate and move in a direction that would grant access to only the neighborhood. Since that time, the owners of 502 River Lane worked with a private attorney to create a new walkway easement exclusively for the purpose of providing access from River Lane to the Mississippi River over the westerly 15 feet of Lot 10, Block 1 Sandra Terrace and 7 feet of easement for walkway purposes over the existing staircase on Lot 10, Block 1 Sandra Terrace.
- On May 8, 2020, a Quit Claim Deed from the owners of 502 River Lane, the Grantors, was recorded, allowing exclusive access and permission to the following properties, to walk on the easement and use the Grantors' dock to access the Mississippi River: Lots 1, 2, 3, 3A, 4, and 4A, Block 1 and Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 2 of the Sandra Terrace subdivision. A copy of this Quit Claim Deed is enclosed for your review. In exchange for granting this easement, the owners of 502 River Lane expected the City would vacate the original public easement.

- On September 8, 2020, the Anoka City Council held a Public Hearing on the vacation of the original public access easement, with many of the property owners who had received the easement from the owners of 502 River Lane attending and requesting that the City not vacate the public easement. The City Council voted to not vacate the existing access easement.

As a result, there are now 2 easements on the owner of 502 River Lane's property, each providing for the same access. Since it was the desire of those neighborhood property owners who had received the exclusive easement for the City to continue the public easement access, those owners were requested to Quit Claim Deed the previous exclusive easement back to the property owners of 502 River Lane to remove the duplicative easements.

- On June 17, 2021 a letter was sent out by the City, which enclosed a Quit Claim Deed that would have simply conveyed back the easement to the property owners of 502 River Lane.

Because of a limited response to execute and return the signed Quit Claim Deeds for affected properties. This issue is being brought back to the City Council for discussion and further direction. Only one (1) out of six (6) affected property owners returned a sign Quit Claim Deed back to the City.

(NOTE: The property owners that had received quit claim deeds from the City have been invited to attend the meeting.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED

Provide direction to City Staff.

PROPOSED ACCESS EASEMENT DESCRIPTION:

A 7.00 foot wide permanent easement for access purposes over and across Lot 10, Block 1, SANDRA TERRACE, Anoka County, Minnesota, Said 7.00 foot wide access easement lying Southwesterly of and adjacent to the following described line and its extensions:

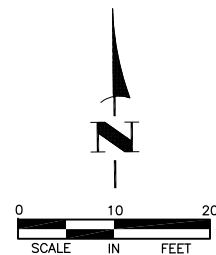
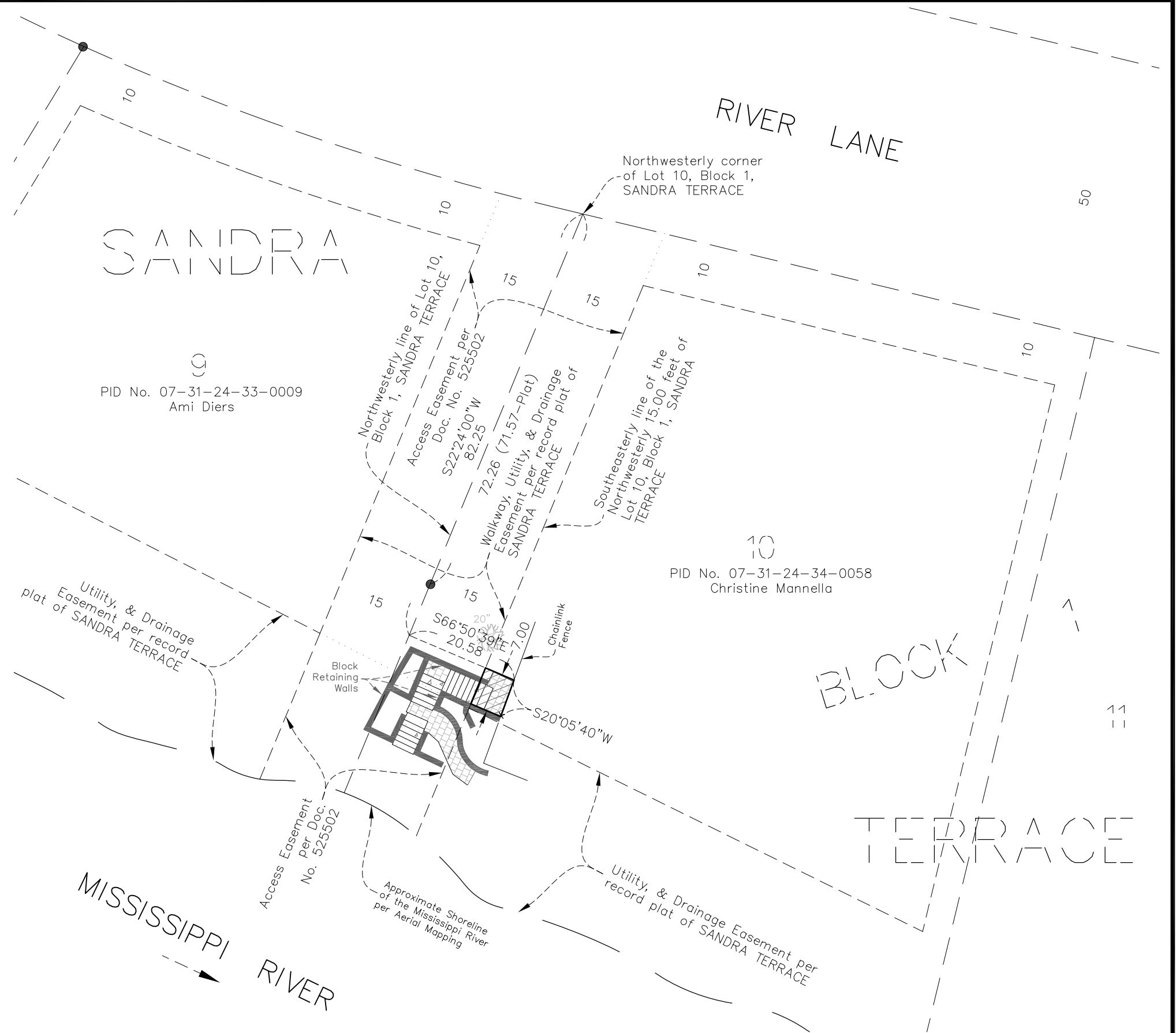
Commencing at the Northwestern corner of said Lot 10; thence South 22 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds West, assumed bearing along the Northwestern line of said Lot 10, a distance of 82.25 feet to the point of beginning of the line to be described; thence South 66 degrees 50 minutes 39 seconds East, a distance of 20.58 feet and said line there terminating.

The sidelines of said 7.00 foot wide access easement are to be prolonged or shortened to terminate on the Southeastery line of the Northwesternly 15.00 feet of said Lot 10, and a line which bears South 20 degrees 05 minutes 40 seconds West from the above described point of termination.

NOTES:

1. The professional surveyor has made no investigation/independent search for encumbrances, restrictive covenants, ownership title evidence, or any other facts that an accurate and current title search may disclose.
2. Bearings are based on the Anoka County Coordinate System.

Total Area of Proposed Access Easement = 40 Sq.Ft. or 0.0009 Acres



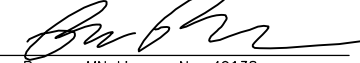
 Denotes Proposed Access Easement

Date	Revision



DESIGNED BY SMM
DRAWN BY SMM
CHECKED BY BRP

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


Date 11/27/19
Brian Person, MN License No. 49138


Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors
3601 Thurston Ave., Anoka, Minnesota 55303
763-427-5860 FAX 763-427-0520

Easement Exhibit
for
City of Anoka
DATE 11/27/19 FILE NO. AN905-2019-11
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COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEMO

Agenda Item # 3.3

Meeting Date: September 27, 2021
Agenda Section: Council Business and/or Discussion Item
Item Description: Discussion; Development Update
Submitted By: Doug Borglund, Community Development Director

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

City Staff will discuss with the following items:

- **2nd Avenue & Van Buren Street:** Discuss a proposed concept development of high-density residential mixed-use development concept and tax increment analysis for the 2nd and Van Buren site. The Developer will be present to interact with the City Council. Ehlers will be present to talk about TIF.
- **4th Avenue and Grant Street:** The discussion will include an update on development interest and getting direction from the City Council.
- **River Lane Vacant Lot:** There has been interest the subject property to build a single-family home. Since there has been a change indirection to develop this area as low density. Does the Council have interest in selling this lot or continuing to retain it for a future use?
- **North Street Area East of 7th Avenue:** The former Dustbusters site is for sale on North Street. The owner has approached the City to find out if there is interest in acquisition before the site goes on the market.
- **2612 4th Avenue:** City interest in acquisition.

(Note: Background information will be presented at the meeting.)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED

City Council provide direction to City Staff.

COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEMO

Agenda Item # 3.4

Meeting Date: September 27, 2021
Agenda Section: Council Business and/or Discussion Items
Item Description: Discussion; Flag Ordinance
Submitted By: Doug Borglund, Community Development Director

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Enclosed for City Council's review and discussion is a draft amendment to the City Code that would regulate the display of flags or similar objects or displays on City of Anoka owned buildings, sites, parks, community signs, light poles, and flagpoles, etc.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED

Provide direction to City Staff.

Chapter 54 - STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

ARTICLE VIII. DISPLAY OF FLAGS OR SIMILAR OBJECTS OR DISPLAYS ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY

Sec. 54-341. Purpose; applicability

The purpose of this article is to provide a way for the city too;

(1) Regulate the display of flags or similar objects on City of Anoka owned buildings, sites, parks, community message signs, light poles and flagpoles.

(2) Assure that anything displayed on City owned buildings, sites, parks, community message signs, light poles, flagpoles, or other City infrastructure only illustrates a form of governmental expression of the City of Anoka.

Sec. 54-342. Definitions.

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

City means the City of Anoka, Minnesota.

City Property means City owned buildings, sites, parks, community message signs, light poles, flag poles, and other similar sites and structures owned by the City.

Sec. 54-343. Display of Flags or Similar Objects on City Property

- (a) In addition to the display of the official flag of the United States of America, the City may display such additional flags or similar objects on City Property.
- (b) City Property is not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public. Rather, City Property is to be used exclusively by the City, where the City may display a commemorative flag or similar objects as a form of government expression. The City shall not display a commemorative flag or similar objects based on a request from a third party, nor shall the City use City Property to sponsor the expression of a third party or show religious preference.
- (c) No person shall display or place upon any City Property any flag, artwork, sign, or similar objects or displays not otherwise authorized by the City as an expression of government speech.
- (d) Owing to their very nature as expressive locations meant for contemplation and reflection, such as monuments, memorials, and other similar structures or sites built as a remembrance shall not be deemed locations for expressive flags or similar objects of a third party.

(e) In addition to the official flag of the United States of America and such other flags or similar objects as may be authorized by the Anoka City Council, the following flags or similar objects are hereby permitted to be displayed upon City Property, upon approval of the Anoka City Council, as a form of expression of government speech, in the manner set forth above:

(1) Flag of the State of Minnesota.

(2) P.O.W./M.I.A. (Prisoner of War/Missing in Action) flag as provided in Title 36, Chapter 9, § 902 of the United State Code (36 U.S.C.A. § 902).

(3) Flags representing all branches of US Military Forces

(4) Flag of the City of Anoka

(5) Banners on light poles reflective of City of Anoka, holidays, seasons, or celebrations.

(6) Official flags of the United States of America on street light poles.

(7) Community message signs

(8) City park or facility name permanent identification signage.

(9) Temporary signage/banners for City of Anoka events or activities displayed by the City.

(10) Color of backlighting of City of Anoka logo on Hwy 10 bridge decks or colored lighting of Main Street bridge as determined by the City.

(11) Displays, memorials, or artwork designed and/or approved by the City.

(f) The official flag of the United States of America shall always be displayed highest and any such additional flags shall be flown below the flag of the United States. The flag of the United States shall be displayed in accordance with and in the manner prescribed in Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the United States Code (4 U.S.C.A. §§ 1 to 10)

(g) Nothing contained herein is intended to abridge the right of the citizens of the City of Anoka to petition or request the Anoka City Council to authorize an expression of government speech.

Sec. 54-344 Display of Flags at Half-Mast on City Property

(a) United States of America flags shall only fly at half-mast when the President of the United States issues an order specifying that all states, at all government offices and/or at all public buildings are ordered to do so.

(b) State of Minnesota flags shall only fly at half-mast when the Governor of Minnesota issues an order specifying that all Minnesota government offices and all Minnesota public buildings are ordered to do so.

the City Attorney presented three samples of dog ordinances from Crystal, Edina, and Coon Rapids regarding kennels, and number of dogs allowed in a residential area. After a lengthy discussion it was moved by Commissioner Melrose, seconded by Commissioner Merritt, that action be continued for further study.

Mr. Ed Byers, of the Recreation Department, was present and presented a request for a use permit of John Ward Park and Grant Street Park, for a mixed couples tournament in Anoka, the weekend of August 7th and 8th. The tournament would be co-sponsored by the Anoka-Hennepin Recreation Department and the Tri-City Umpires Association. He also requested a 3.2 Beer license to be used at the John Ward Park. After discussion it was moved by Commissioner Sell, seconded by Commissioner Melrose that the tournament be approved, and 3.2 Beer license be issued to the Recreation Department of Anoka, for use at the John Ward Park. All voted "yes". Motion carried.

The City Manager presented reports from the Police Department regarding troublesome parking in certain areas within the City. One area consists of parking on Third Avenue to Van Buren Street, and Second Avenue to Fourth Avenue on Van Buren Street. Sgt. LaTuff presented a survey of this area, and statements of resident complaints. After discussion it was resolved that two hour parking restrictions be enforced in this area.

A traffic count on North Ferry Street was presented, which indicated that an average of 7,422 vehicles daily were using this street. After discussion it was moved by Commissioner Sell, seconded by Commissioner Melrose, that the following Resolution be adopted. Upon roll call all voted "yes". Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #71-45

WHEREAS the Engineering Department of the City of Anoka has taken an actual count of traffic on North Ferry Street, which indicated that a daily average of 7422 vehicles use this street, and

WHEREAS parking is presently allowed on both sides of this street, and

WHEREAS the presence of parked cars on both sides of the street, together with the volume of traffic indicated in the above count constitutes a substantial hazard which should be alleviated,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that is our recommendation that parking be discontinued and prohibited on both sides of North Ferry Street from Webster Street North to U.S. 10 by-pass, and possibly beyond the U.S. 10 by-pass up to Pleasant Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Commission suggests this traffic regulation to the Minnesota Highway Department for its consideration and enactment.

The City Manager acknowledged receipt of a letter and check in the amount of \$50.00 toward the designing of an official City Flag, from Lucille Lehn. The City of Anoka is to match this \$50.00, and the total of \$100.00 be used as prize money in a contest on competition of design for an official City of Anoka flag. Moved by Commissioner Sell, seconded by Commissioner Melrose, that the Mayor appoint a flag Committee. All voted "yes". Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Merritt, seconded by Commissioner Melrose, that Ordinance #493 entitled "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE DISPLAYING OF THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHER FLAGS" be adopted. Upon roll call all voted "yes". Motion carried.

Discussion was held on a resolution setting time and place of hearing for street grading and utility improvements on 8th Avenue, 8th Lane and Johnson Street between Lincoln and Grant Street. After discussion it was moved by Commissioner Merritt, seconded by Commissioner Sell, that the following resolution be adopted. Upon roll call all voted "yes". Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 493

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE
DISPLAYING OF THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND
OTHER FLAGS.**

The Commission of the City of Anoka
does ordain:

Section 1.

a. No person, other than one authorized
or assigned, shall lower or remove from
any flagpole the flag of the United States
of America.

b. No person shall display or carry any
flag, banner, ensign, or symbols of any
government, state, country, or political
force with which the United States of
America is engaged in an armed conflict
with the intent to cause a breach of
peace.

c. No person shall display, carry
or fly a flag, banner or ensign other than
the flag of the United States on a pole or
standard above the flag of the United
States of America.

Section 2. Any person who shall violate
any of the provisions of this Ordinance
shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and
upon conviction thereof shall be punished
by a fine of not to exceed \$300.00 or by
imprisonment for not to exceed 90 days
or both.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall be in
full force and effect thirty (30) days from
date of publication.

Introduced: July 6, 1971

Adopted: July 19, 1971

Published: July 23, 1971

ELLIOTT PEROVICH
Mayor

ATTEST:



City Council Agenda - Worksession

Monday, September 27, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

Council Worksession Room

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