

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW
AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

1. JOINT MEETING WITH THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO REVIEW SHOREVIEW COMMONS MASTER PLAN CONCEPTS
2. REVIEW PROPOSED UPDATED SIGNAGE PLAN FOR SHOREVIEW COMMONS CAMPUS
3. DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL PARK ACQUISITION
4. OTHER ISSUES
5. ADJOURNMENT

Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council Members
Parks and Recreation Commission Members

From: Tom Simonson, Assistant City Manager and Community Development Director

Date: February 4, 2016

Re: Shoreview Commons Master Plan – Review Concepts from Consultant

Introduction

The next joint meeting of the City Council and Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for the workshop session on Monday, February 8th at 7 pm in the Council Chambers. Representatives of Stantec Consulting Services, the firm hired by the City to develop a new master plan for the Shoreview Commons civic campus and park area, will be presenting several concepts for discussion and feedback.

Purpose

With the addition of a new regional library coming to the campus, planned expansion of the Community Center, and discussion of adding other park amenities, it was determined that an updated comprehensive master plan would be beneficial to long-range planning and guiding improvements in the Shoreview Commons.

The Shoreview Commons is both the geographic center and heart of the community. The City is seeking to enhance the existing facilities through development of a signature central park environment. The master plan will serve as a framework for creating a distinctive campus environment that includes new park features and amenities which reflect the values of the community and best serves residents and visitors of all ages. Strategies for future phasing and funding of improvements will also eventually be developed as the master plan develops.

The master plan will guide for prioritizing future facility improvements, recreational amenities, and civic features, and is being undertaken with these core objectives:

- ***Develop plans for future park improvements and other site amenities*** within the Shoreview Commons, including exploring the potential re-purposing of existing ball field areas to create new park elements and features that complement existing public facilities.
- ***Enhanced connectivity between public facilities*** on the campus that includes the Shoreview Community Center, Shoreview City Hall, Mounds View School District Administrative

Services (future re-purposing of existing Library), new Ramsey County Regional Library (construction now underway), Haffeman Pavilion, and County Ice Arena (adjacent).

- **Improved on-site pedestrian and bicycle linkages** that provides safe access to the public services and recreational facilities within the Shoreview Commons.
- **Maintain safe and efficient traffic flow and parking** to support the facilities, events, and activities in the Shoreview Commons area.



Master Plan Concepts

Stantec is working closely with both a City staff project team, with review and oversight by the City Council, and Parks and Recreation Commission, in developing the Shoreview Commons master plan. Based upon the comments received during the initial group meetings, Stantec has developed three conceptual plans that try to incorporate many of the desired features and amenities that may currently be lacking on the campus. Each of the concepts varies in the level of activity, while still suggesting all would include some core amenities and signature features that have been identified as important for serving residents and visitors to the campus. The three preliminary themes presented are Concept 1 (“Relax”), Concept 2 (“Play”), and Concept 3 (“Active”).

Stantec will provide more context to each of the themes, but we wanted to share the concept plans in advance to give you additional time to review. During a recent discussion of the concepts with the staff project team, there were some issues and challenges identified that will need to be considered as the master plan is developed, such as:

- Consideration of maintaining the separate “neighborhood park” component located at the north end near Mound Avenue or incorporating facilities/features within other areas of Shoreview Commons while still serving the neighborhood
- Possible need for future property acquisition to support new amenities and/or building expansion (e.g. additional parking)
- Determine potential for improving water quality and odor conditions of the existing pond as a complementary asset to any planned nearby amenities
- Interaction, conflicts, and buffering of active versus passive amenities (e.g. skate park or child play areas near proposed gardens and outdoor wedding venue)
- Soil conditions in the “backyard” area north of the Pavilion and nearest the pond are generally poor and consist of organic peat conditions, likely requiring significant corrections or limit certain desired amenities

Stantec will receive feedback, comments and questions from the work group and then refine the concept(s) and return for further review. The process will also likely include an opportunity for public input through some form of information meeting/open house and perhaps some online forum for feedback once the Council and Parks and Recreation Commission is comfortable with the preliminary concept(s). The master planning process is expected to be completed in several months.

Concept 1 "RELAX"



LEGEND

- 1 Veterans Promenade
- 2 Oak Grove
- 3 Pedestrian Connection
- 4 Prairie-Style Wedding Venue
- 5 Prairie Gardens
- 6 Naturalized Prairie
- 7 Interpreted Prairie Walk Experience
- 8 Sledding/Sliding Hill
- 9 Soccer Field
- 10 Lazy River/Ice Ribbon
- 11 Lazy River Support Area
- 12 River Lounge/Winter Gathering Areas
- 13 Deck & Landscaping
- 14 Teen Gathering Area
- 15 Plaza Style Skate Park
- 16 Stormwater Treatment Train
- 17 Nature Play Area
- 18 Arboretum Experience
- 19 Existing Pavilion
- 20 Pavilion Plaza
- 21 Backyard Plaza
- 22 Patio/Outdoor Fireplace/Outdoor Library
- 23 Lounge Areas
- 24 Sunrise/Sunset Piers
- 25 Council Ring Gathering Area
- 26 Labyrinth
- 27 Mindfulness Garden
- 28 Existing Lawn
- 29 Existing Playground
- 30 Food Truck/Kiosk Area
- 31 Highway Corridors Transitions Study (Mar-2015) Development



Concept 2 "PLAY"



LEGEND

- 1 Veterans Promenade
- 2 Oak Grove
- 3 Pedestrian Connection
- 4 Porch-Style Cafe
- 5 Deck Eating Area
- 6 New Service Drive
- 7 Zamboni/Mechanical Garage
- 8 Ice Ribbon
- 9 Landscaped Game Rooms (i.e. Bocce)
- 10 Fire Gathering Area
- 11 Hockey Rink/Sport Courts
- 12 Plaza Style Skate Park
- 13 Optional Team Rooms
- 14 Optional Rink Roof
- 15 Sledding/Sliding Hill
- 16 Soccer Field
- 17 Destination Playground
- 18 Existing Tball, Basketball & Tennis Courts
- 19 Focal Point (Shelter/ Sculpture)
- 20 Mini Golf
- 21 Existing Pavilion
- 21 Pavilion Plaza
- 22 Connecting Plaza
- 23 Bermed/Terraced Lawn
- 24 Landscape Buffer
- 25 Existing Playground
- 26 Low Ropes Course
- 27 High Ropes Course (visible from Hwy 96)
- 28 1.8ac (20-unit) Multi-Family Development Concept



Concept 3 "ACTIVE"



LEGEND

- 1 Pedestrian Connection
- 2 Oak Grove
- 3 Sledding/Sliding Hill
- 4 Soccer Field (reoriented)
- 5 Veterans Memorial Walk
- 6 Sculpture Garden
- 7 Sculptural Outdoor Climbing Experience
- 8 Ice Ribbon
- 9 Moonscape-Style Skate Plaza
- 10 Zamboni/Mechanical in Building Addition
- 11 Nontraditional Play Area (i.e. Nature Play)
- 12 Existing Tball, Tennis, & Basketball Courts
- 13 Art Nodes
- 14 Gathering Area
- 15 Existing Pavilion
- 16 Pavilion Plaza
- 17 Connecting Plaza
- 18 Buffered & Sloped Lawn
- 19 Gardens
- 20 Intimate Woods-Style Wedding Venue
- 21 Extended Parking Lot
- 22 Possible Woods Walk
- 23 Highway Corridors Transitions Study (Mar-2015) Development



Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Tom Simonson, Assistant City Manager and Community Development Director
Date: February 4, 2016
Re: Shoreview Commons Signage Update Plan

With the construction of a new County regional library and lease-purchase of the existing library facility by the Mounds View School District, a number of updates are necessary to the signage in and around the Shoreview Commons. City staff has been working with officials from the County and School District on a new signage plan to serve the campus, and engaged the services of the Lane Design Group.

The Lane Design Group has prepared a preliminary signage plan, and all of the parties have agreed to overall plan and design elements consistent with the theme the City has developed in the past several years for the campus.

Attached is a table showing the cost estimates and breakdowns of the various signs that would either be new or modified. Both the County and School District will be participating in shared signage and responsible for their individual entrance monument signs. Also included is the draft signage update plan for the Shoreview Commons.

Staff would like to discuss the signage plan proposal with the City Council at the February 8th workshop, including the preliminary cost estimates, to receive your general endorsement before we proceed with seeking formal bids.



COST ESTIMATE

Preliminary Design
 Cost Management Report
 Shoreview Commons Signage Update

Prepared by Lane Design Group, Inc.
 January 19, 2016
 REVISED January 20, 2016

Sign Type (quantity)	Page Reference	\$ Unit Installed	Quantity	\$ Sign Total	\$ Masonry	\$ Electrical/Data	\$ Final Design/CD/CMs	\$ Total
Directional signs - roadway trailblazers	pg 2	900	4	3,600	-	-	550	4,150
Victoria monument signs - Footings, masonry	pgs 10 - 16	25,000	2	50,000	30,000	6,000	7,000	93,000
Flagpoles w flags - 30'	pg 11	1,500	3	4,500	2,700	1,500	800	9,500
Monument sign - Mounds View - Use existing brick base	pg 18	8,500	1	8,500	(a) 2,800	(b) 1,200	600	13,100
Monument sign - Library - New footing and masonry, lighting	pg 18	8,500	1	8,500	4,500	1,600	800	15,400
Monument sign - Ice Arena - Metal clad post base, reflective graphics	pg 19	5,400	1	5,400	-	-	500	5,900
Monument sign - modify graphics only	pg 20	1,200	1	1,200	-	-	300	1,500
Campus directional sign (replace panels)	pg 22	2,400	1	2,400	-	-	350	2,750
Community Center monument sign (reused w 12mm color displays	pg 23	(c) 140,000	1	140,000	14,000	(c) 3,000	3,500	160,500
				Total			Total	305,800
						Structural engr.	4,000	
						Subtotal	309,800	
						Contingency 10%	30,980	
						Total I	\$340,780	
Community Center monument sign (relocated, as is)	pg 27	(d) 1,800	1	1,800	14,000	(c) 3,000	1,800	22,400
				Subtotal (from above)			309,800	
						Savings from relocation of sign (as is)	-138,100	
						Subtotal II	\$171,700	
						Contingency 10%	17,170	
						Total II	\$188,870	

NOTES:

- (a) For new capstone and tuckpointing of existing brick
- (b) Uses existing circuit and service, incl \$ for lighting only
- (c) Based on 4' x 12 12mm pitch full color message center (2)
add \$500/sq ft for larger sizes. Includes modification of
existing sign for larger message center.
- (d) Includes removal, transport and reinstallation

Cost Option II

Community Center monument sign
(relocated, as is)

(e) Electrical \$ determined by length of conduit run and
available amperage in existing breaker box.

Wayfinding and Signage Update Plan

Shoreview Commons

Preliminary Design
Presented January 26, 2016



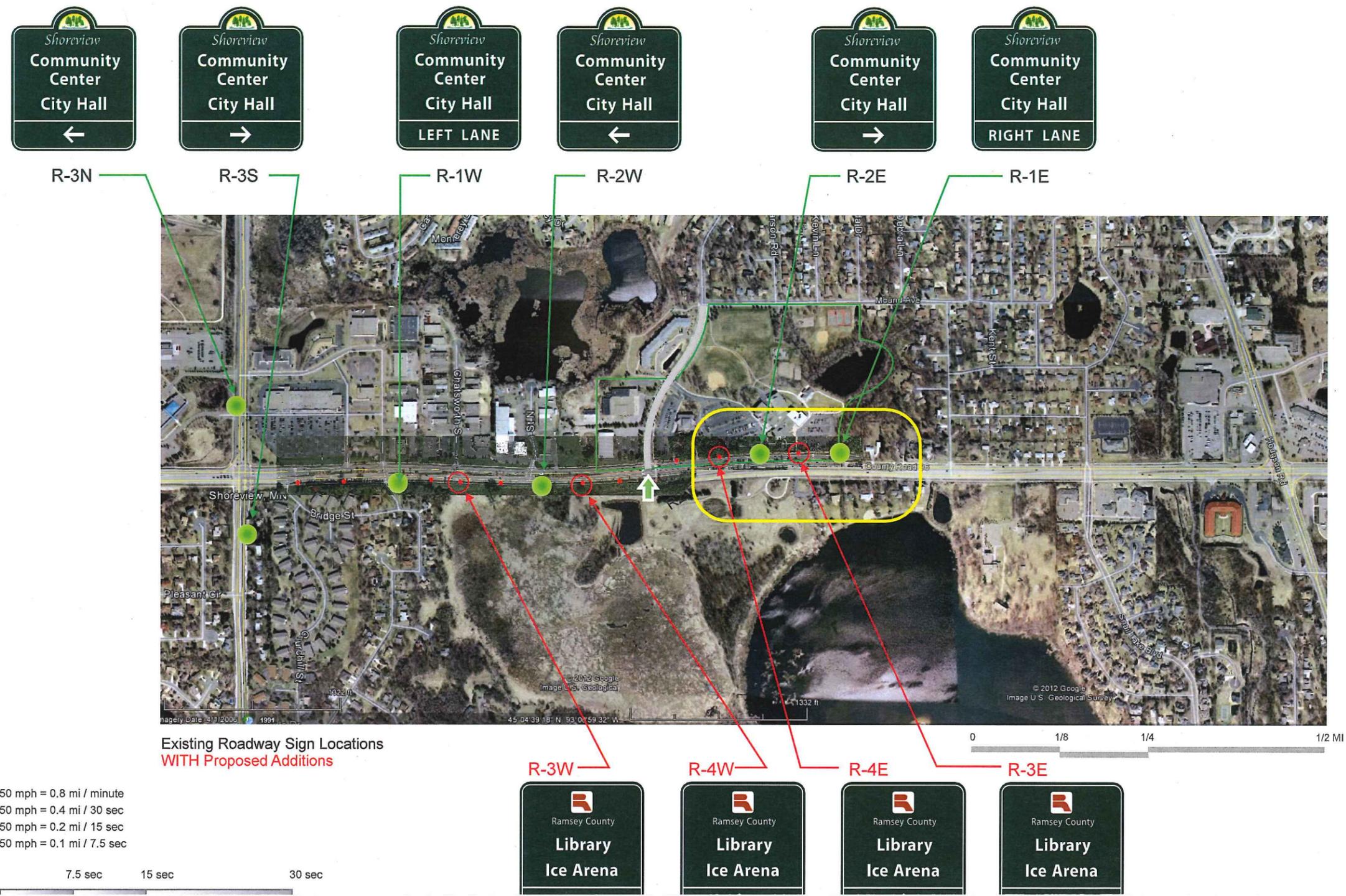
The first elements of wayfinding for motorists are roadway guide signs. This shows the **existing roadway signs** (trailblazers) that are currently displayed along Lexington and Highway 96.



50 mph = 0.8 mi / minute
 50 mph = 0.4 mi / 30 sec
 50 mph = 0.2 mi / 15 sec
 50 mph = 0.1 mi / 7.5 sec

7.5 sec 15 sec 30 sec

Additional signs will need to be added to give guidance for the Ramsey County Library and Ramsey County Ice Arena. These signs are important to prepare motorists for the upcoming turning movements and lane changes required at the Victoria Street entrance.



This earlier sketch showed the existing sign monument sign, in context with the new library. It was determined that the sign would be a visual barrier for southerly views from the library. **Alternate sign locations were studied** and are shown on the following pages.



Alternate locations for the existing monument appeared to be either (a) in the center median or (b) to the West side of Victoria. This shows how the sign would look at those locations with the same 30 ft setback as the existing location.



County HW 796

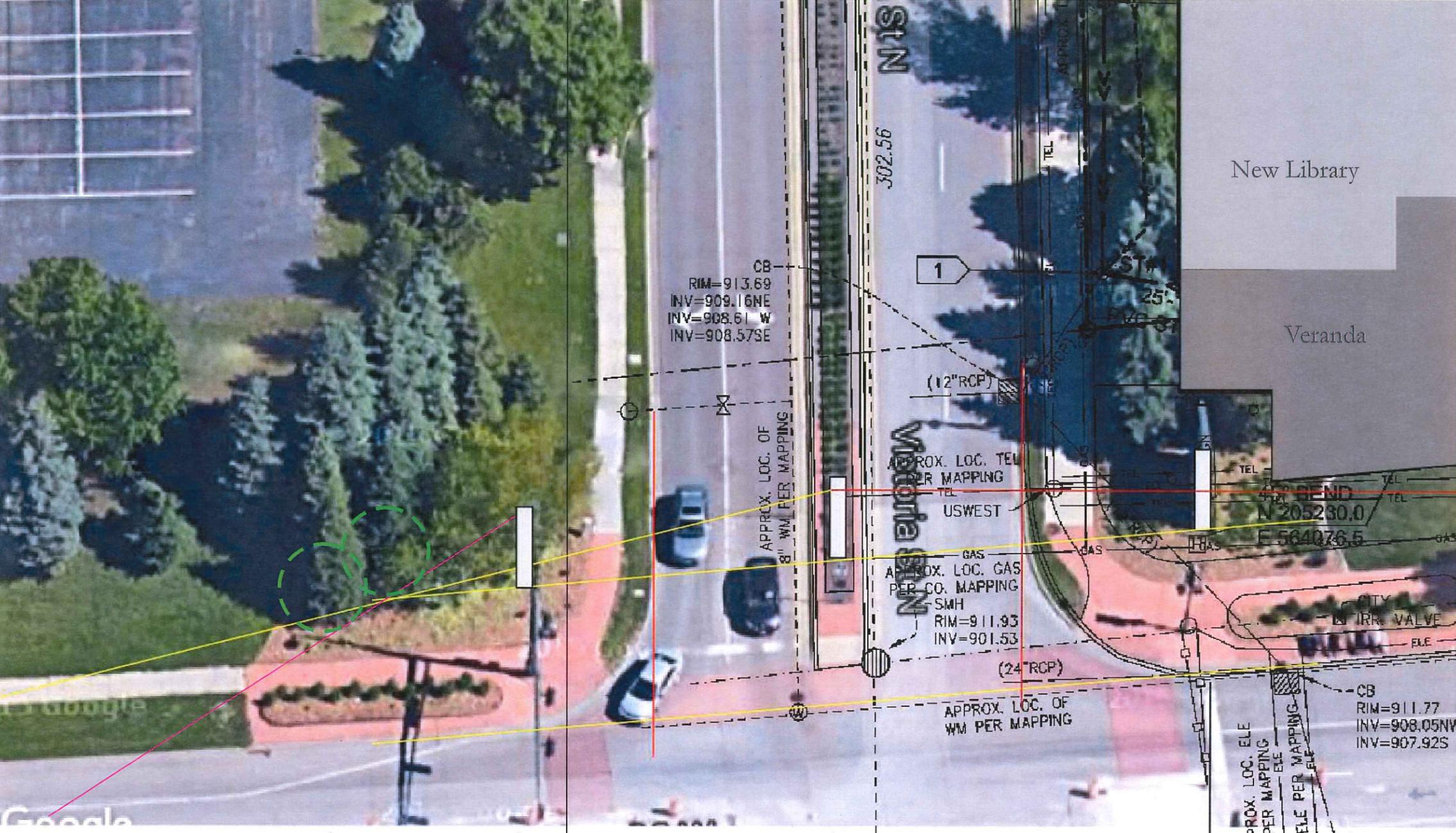
↑
West side location

↑
Median location

↑
Existing location

Alternate locations for **relocating** the existing monument in plan view are shown here, along with approximate sight lines.

- Median location offered good visibility from both viewing directions, but was determined to be a possible traffic hazard and **was not acceptable** to Ramsey County traffic engineers or the City of Shoreview.
- West side location also presented problems with **trees limiting sight lines** for vehicles approaching from the West.



West side location (trees limit visibility) Center median location was rejected for safety reasons Existing location

This shows the limited visibility of a sign mounted to the West side of Victoria for viewers traveling East. The sign would offer limited identification value for these motorists. **So what other options are there?**



Visibility
Eastbound



66'

The maximum **visibility** distance for approaching vehicles is about **650 feet** from both east and westbound traffic - due to trees in the median and along the side of the highway.

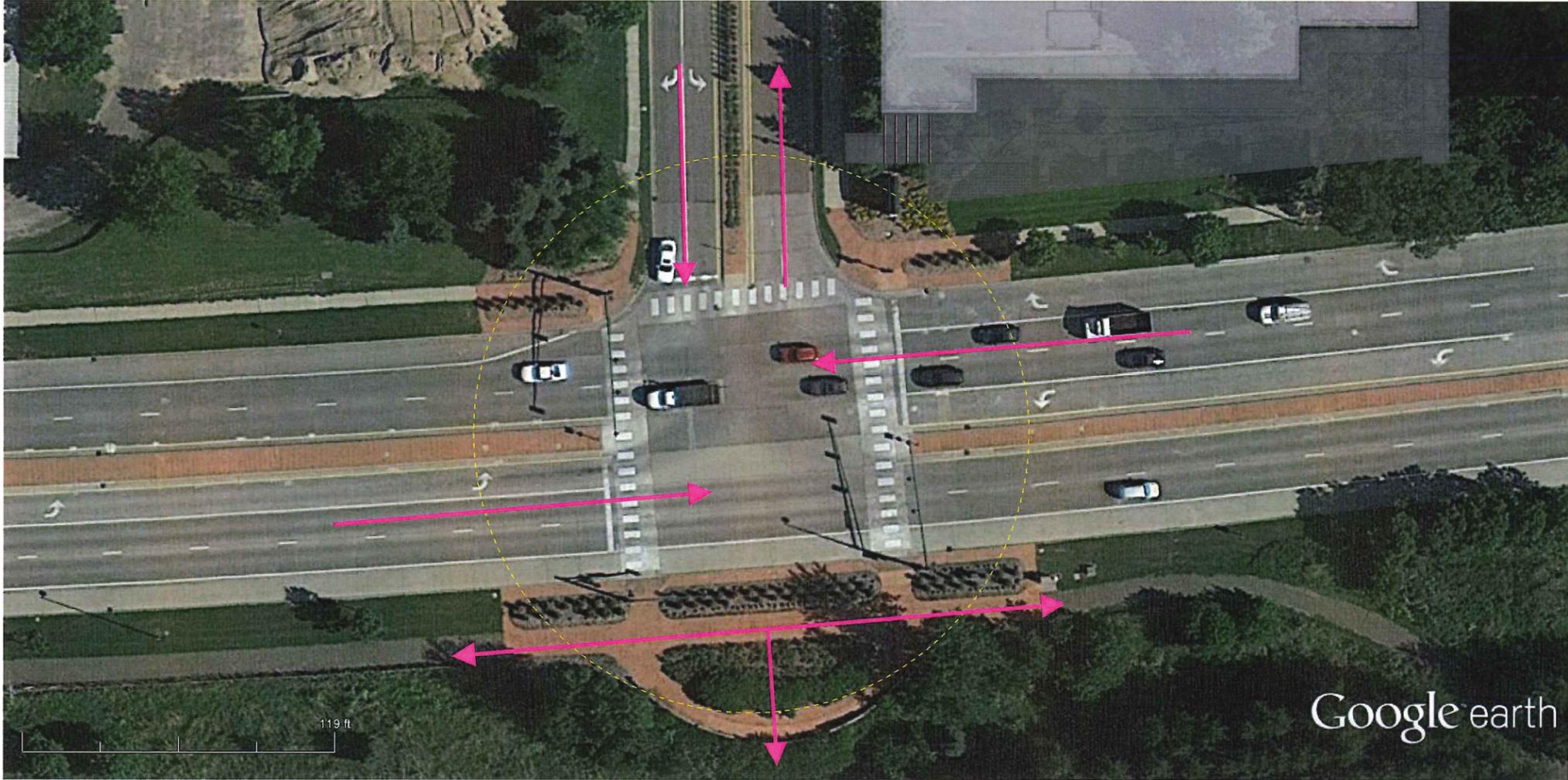


Visibility Eastbound = 650 ft.

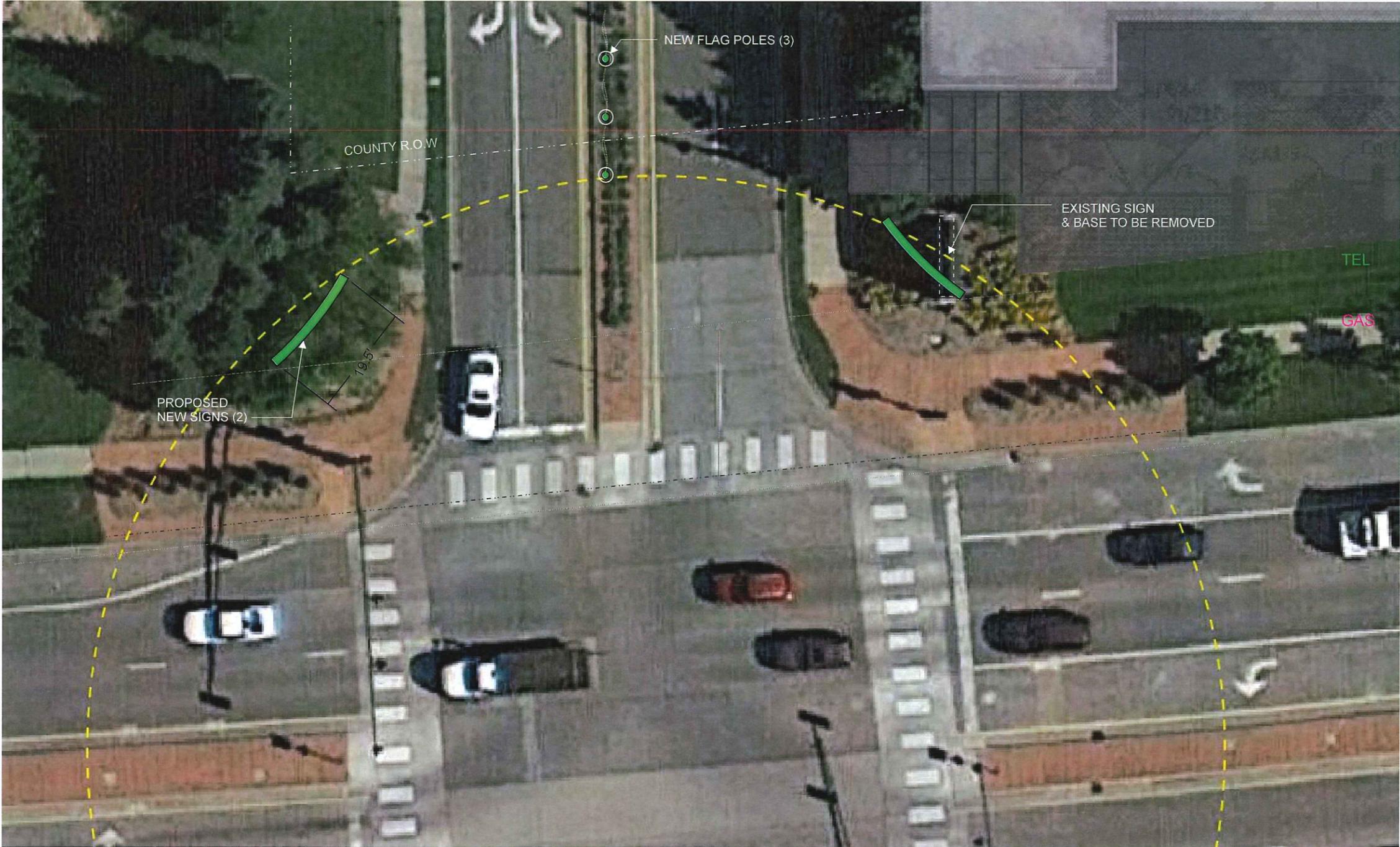


Visibility Westbound = 650 ft. (w lower branches trimmed)

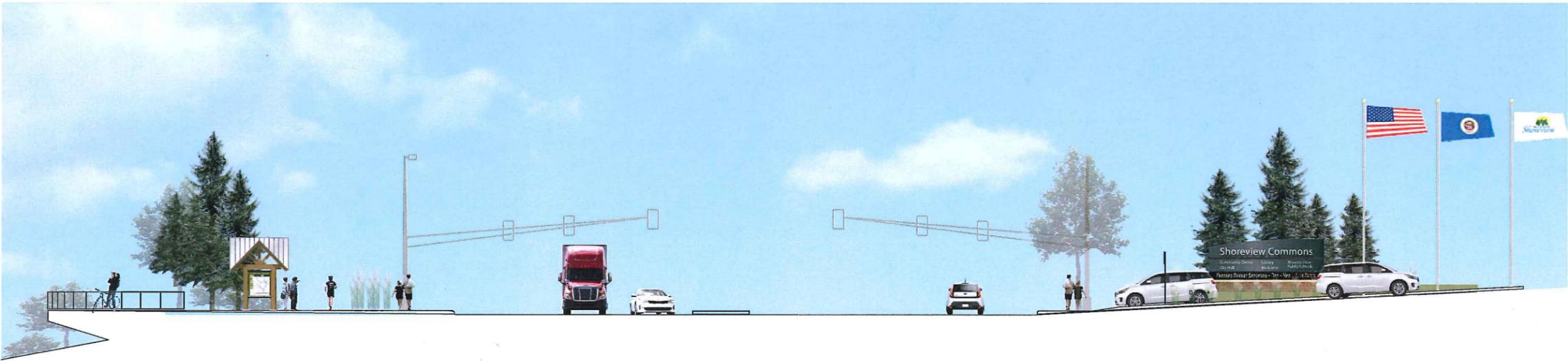
Victoria and highway 96 is a major intersection and with access to numerous community facilities and activities. The landscape design and paving is a symmetrical configuration that includes a scenic overlook along the county-wide regional trail. **Can the signage solution be integrated with this design and landscape symmetry?**



The concept that offers the best solution includes **two signs of lower height**, on either side of Victoria, and optional flags in the median as formal civic identifiers. These signs would maintain the same 30 foot setback as the existing monument sign, and would include multiple destination names of City and County venues, with **equal visibility and legibility, from both directions**. The following pages show how this concept would look.



The intersection at Victoria offers a good opportunity to identify the community, civic and nature offerings of Shoreview and Ramsey County. Flags, combined with the a new name “Commons” and an interpretive kiosk at the Regional Trail overlook can present immediate visual identifiers - without overpowering the drivers comprehension ability - at 50 mph.



Nature / Conservation / Fitness

- Bike, walking, jogging trailhead
- Scenic overlook, rest area
- Interpretive/Orientation Kiosk

High Volume Corridor

Civic /Community / Education

- New library
- Community Center
- City Government
- Athletic fields
- Concerts
- Farmer's Market

The gateway identification would include two identical signs, reduced in height, and highly visible from both East and Westbound traffic. Flags are an optional addition that would further signal a civic gateway to a re-branded **Shoreview Commons**. The legibility distances are 650 feet for Shoreview Commons and 250 feet for the smaller names. The message center displays a single line of text legibility up to 300 feet.



While it will be unlikely that any motorist will be able to read all the messages while traveling at 50 mph, the sign will provide primary identification of the Commons campus and considerable information to turning motorists and those stopped at the intersection. It will **confirm arrival** for these traffic generators and provide helpful community service messages.



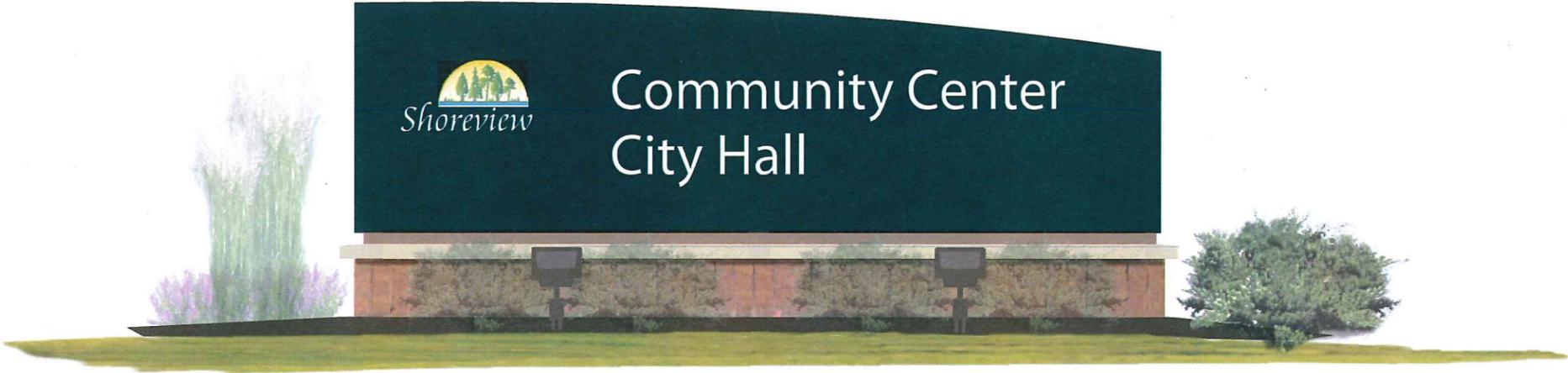
A wide angle view of the gateway intersection with signs and flags, looking North.



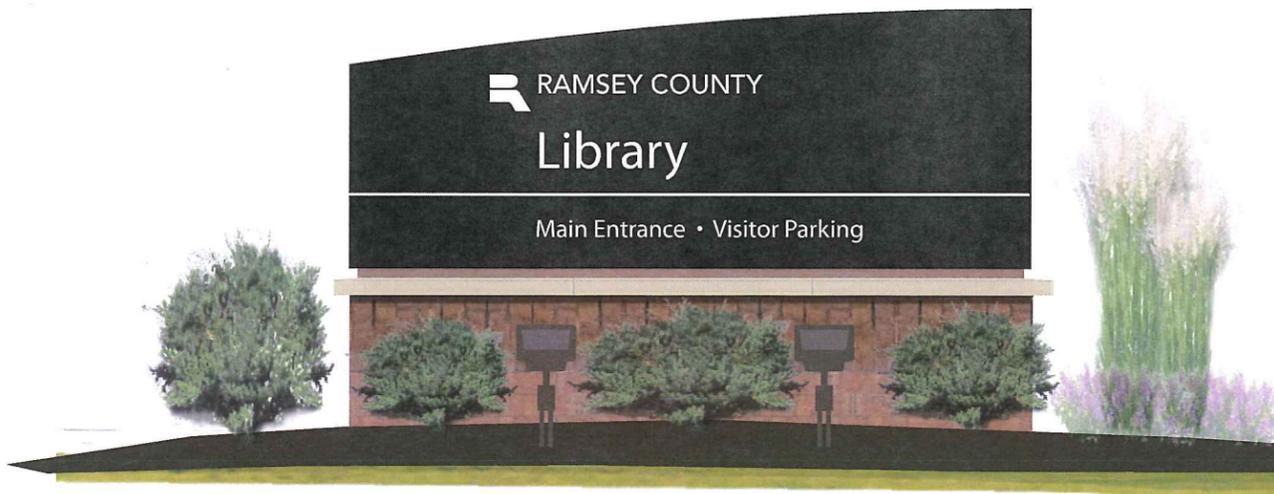
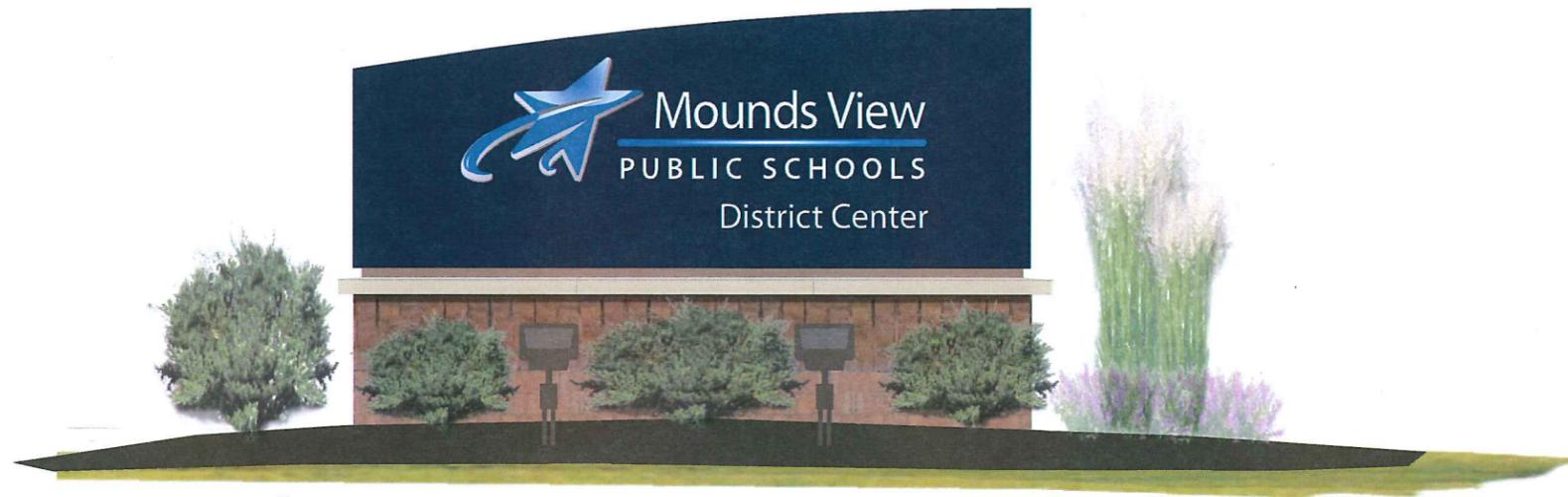
A closer view of the sign with possible location for Library identity to show combination identities, as seen from the far side of highway 96, looking North.



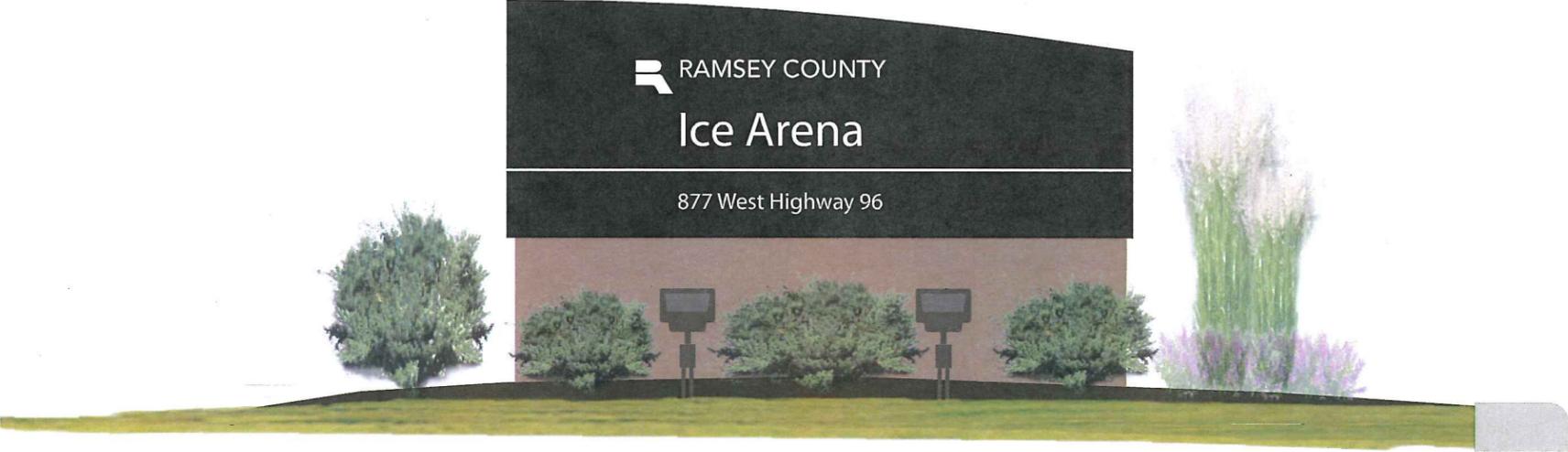
These are signs that have been recently installed and we would like to keep this style for additional signs where possible.



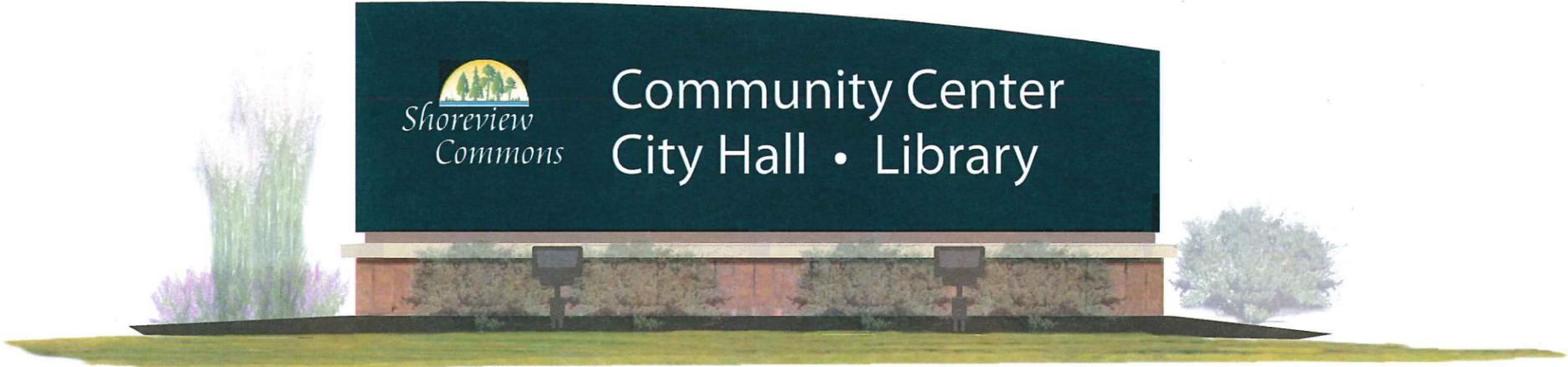
These are proposed signs to identify the entrances to parking lots. The Library sign is new construction and the Mounds View is placed on the existing brick base. Both signs would have floodlights typical to existing campus signs and similarly landscaped.



This is the sign proposed to identify the entrance to the Ice Arena, with access off of Victoria. It shows a less expensive metal base option.



This shows the modification to the monument sign that previously identified access to the Community Center and City Hall.



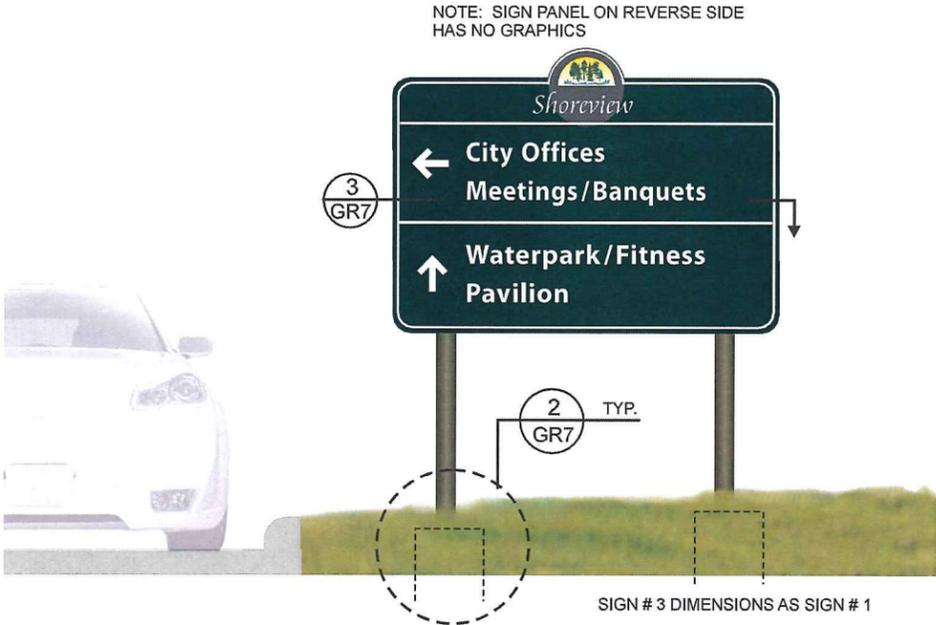
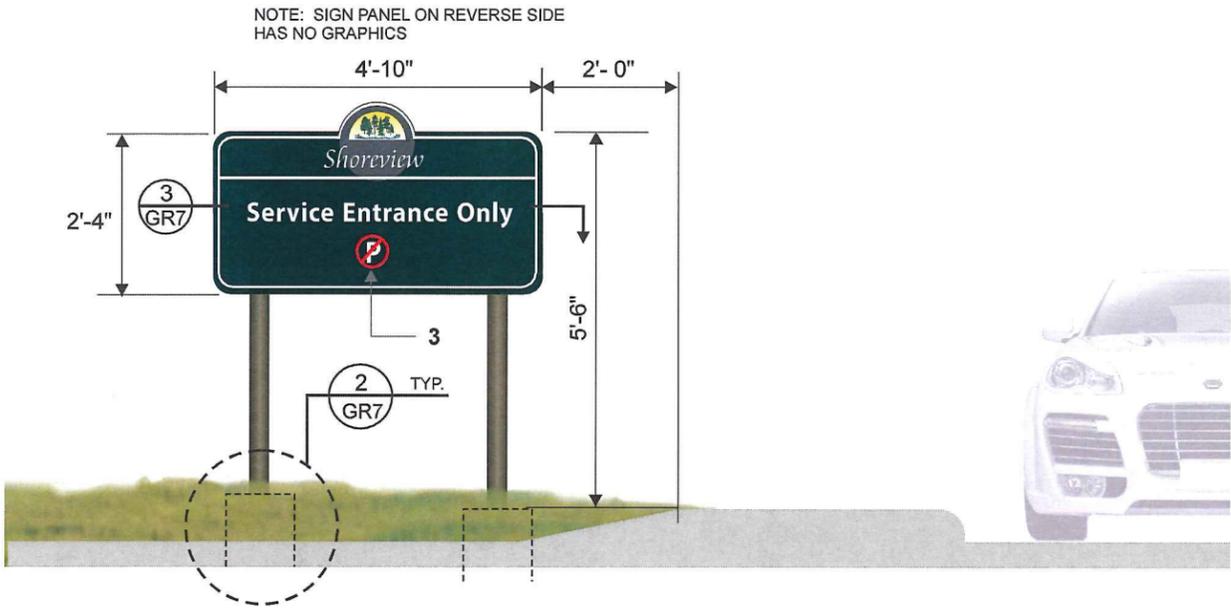
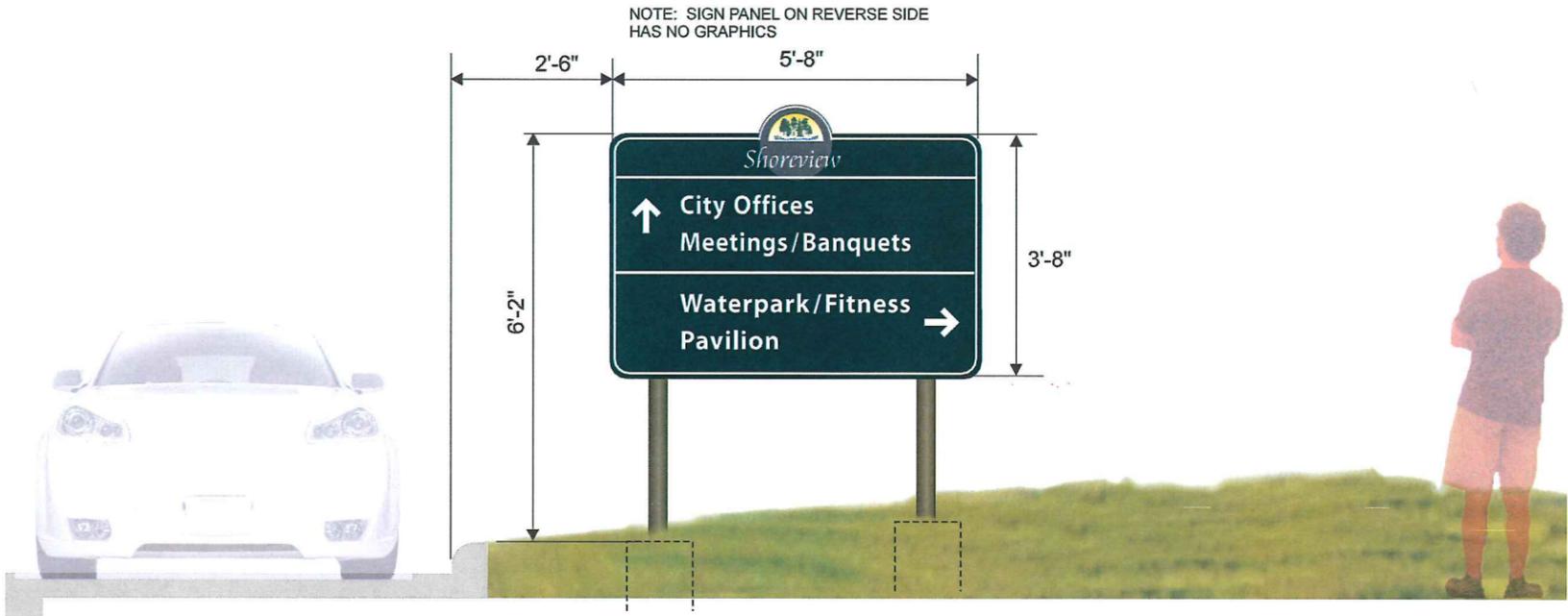
Modified Sign



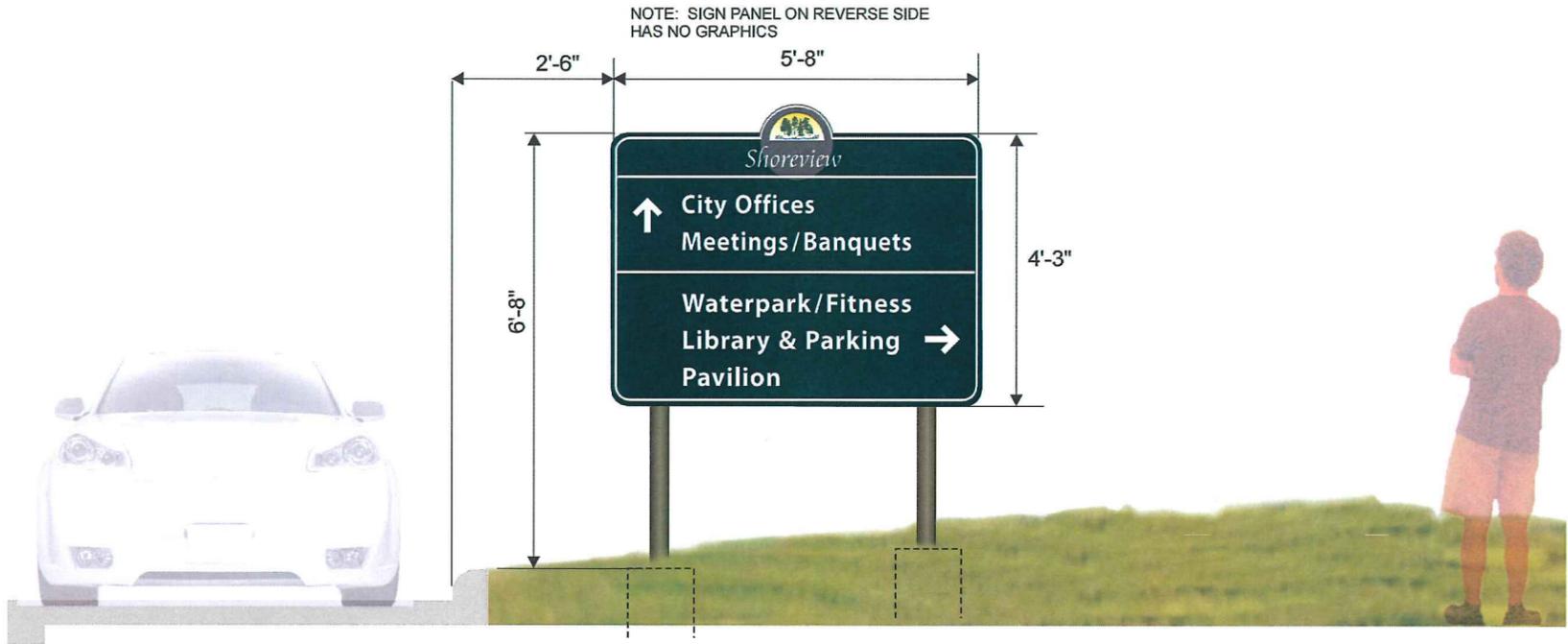
Existing Sign



This shows the existing guide signs on the campus.



This shows the existing guide sign modified to include direction to the new Library parking lot and entrance.



This shows the proposed re-use of the existing monument sign. The sign has a larger color message center with photo images selected to reflect the ongoing activities available at the Community Center. Text messages will be minimal, due to the reading limitations of 50 mph traffic speeds.



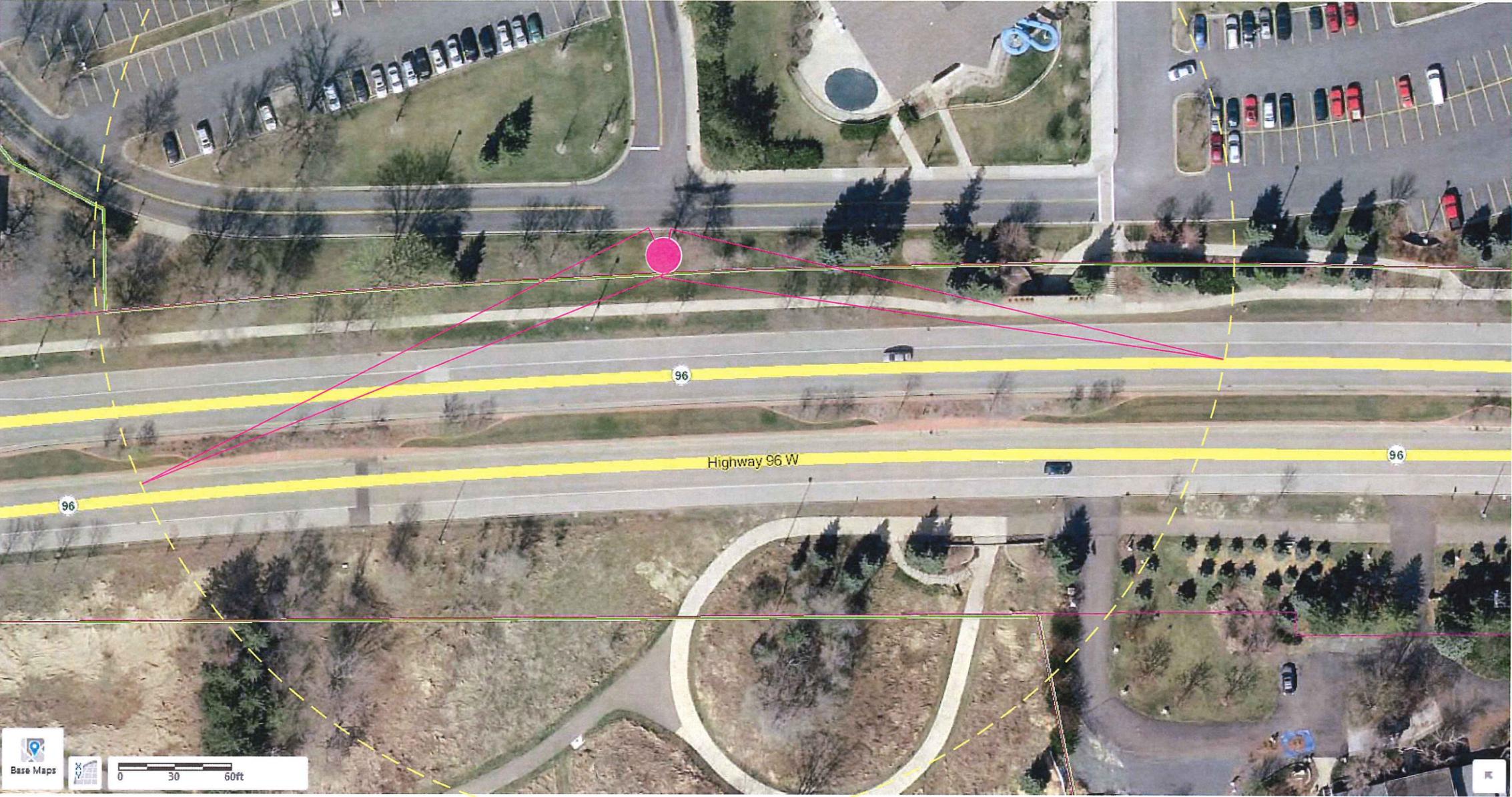
Property line

Approximate sign location

Using photo images in conjunction with the Community Center title the motorist can easily associate the two with minimal wording. Images would quickly communicate activities such as swimming, concerts, exercise center and other activities. With exposure to highway and the lower access road, the sign serves a dual purpose.



The sign is shown at the edge of the property line, approximately 35' setback from highway 96 and offers a **minimum** of 300 ft of visibility and legibility to East and Westbound traffic. At 50 mph the viewing time will be at least 4 seconds.



This shows the re-location of the existing monument sign, as it is, with the monochrome message center. This is a more economical option (Option II). This option includes a new brick base to match the Community Center and City Hall.



Approximate sign location

A close up view of the relocated sign, Option II.



**TO: MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**FROM: TERRY SCHWERM
CITY MANAGER**

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2016

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL PARK ACQUISITION

BACKGROUND

The property owner who resides at 910 County Road E contacted the City to determine if the City was interested in acquiring their property as an addition to Bobby Theisen Park. As shown on the attached map, this property is the middle property of three single family homes that front on County Road E. These three properties are surrounded by Bobby Theisen Park.

In 1996, the City conducted an Open Space and Park Study. In this study, the three single family homes (902, 910, and 950 County Road E) were identified as potential future additions to Bobby Theisen Park. Enclosed is a copy of the portion of the City's Comprehensive Plan that identifies these properties for potential parkland acquisition.

The property at 910 County Road E is approximately 75' x 200' (.34 acres) and is valued at \$162,500 by Ramsey County. The adjoining properties at 902 County Road E and 950 County Road E are also about 75' x 200'. The values of these two properties are \$158,700 and \$167,100, respectively.

In the mid-2000's, the City completed a needs assessment for all City parks. The park assessment for Bobby Theisen does identify these three in-holding properties for potential acquisition, although it does not identify any type of future use for the property. The City has created a youth size soccer field in the grassy area adjacent to the parking lot. If the three properties were purchased, it could accommodate another youth soccer field.

If the City purchases this property for inclusion in the park, the other two properties should be acquired at the time they are available for sale. The anticipated acquisition of the properties and tear down of the homes would result in a total cost around \$600,000. The City does not have any money identified in the Capital Improvement Program at this time for this acquisition.

Staff is seeking input from the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council on whether to pursue the acquisition of this property at this time. If the City acquires this property, funding would be from the Community Investment Fund.

15 County Road E W

Bobby
Theisen
Park

3575

950

910

902

921

913

903

895

885

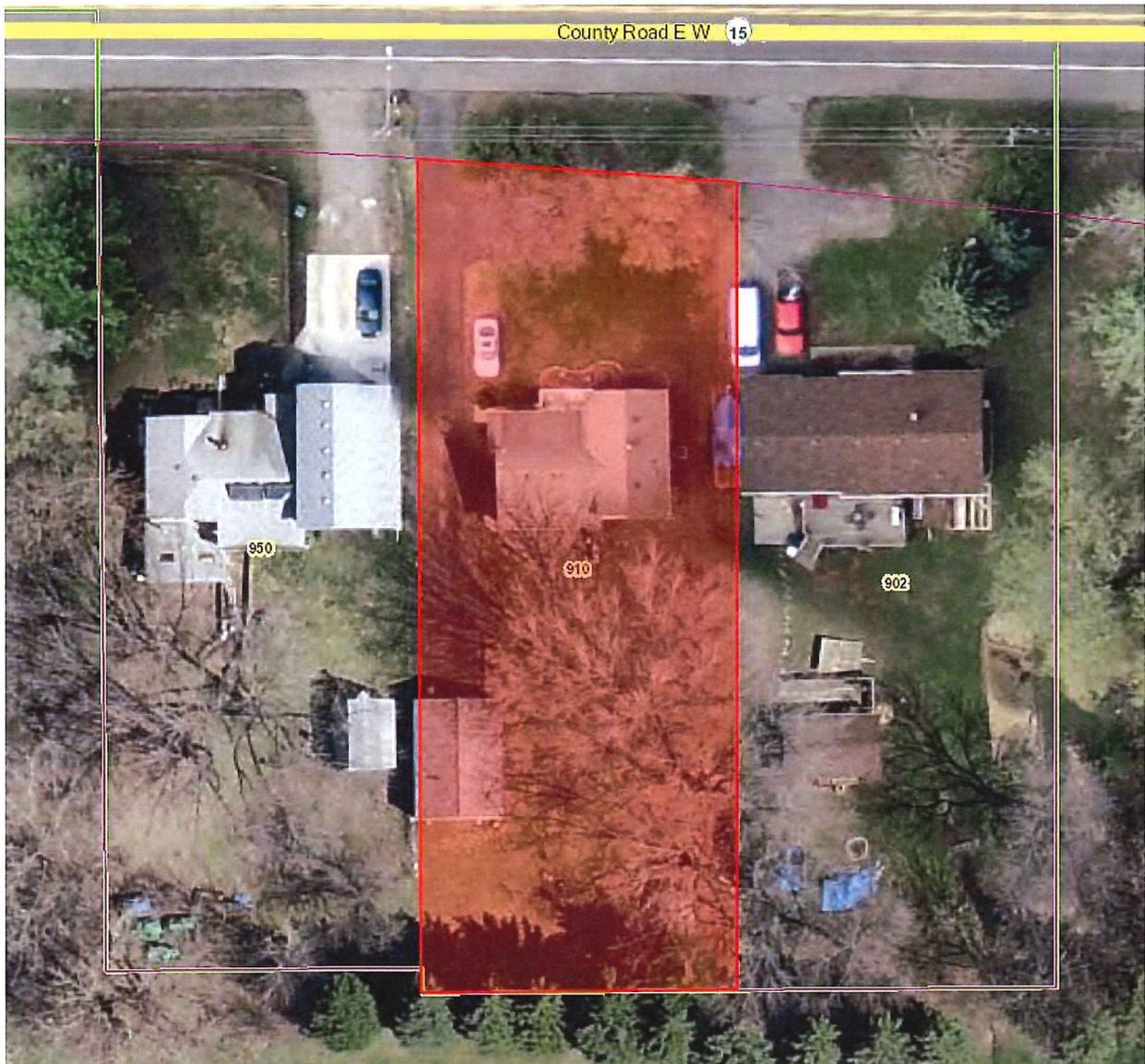
877

867



Ramsey County Data:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Total Value (Pay 2016)</u>
910 County Road E	.34	\$ 162,500
902 County Road E	.33	\$ 158,700
950 County Road E	.34	\$ 167,100



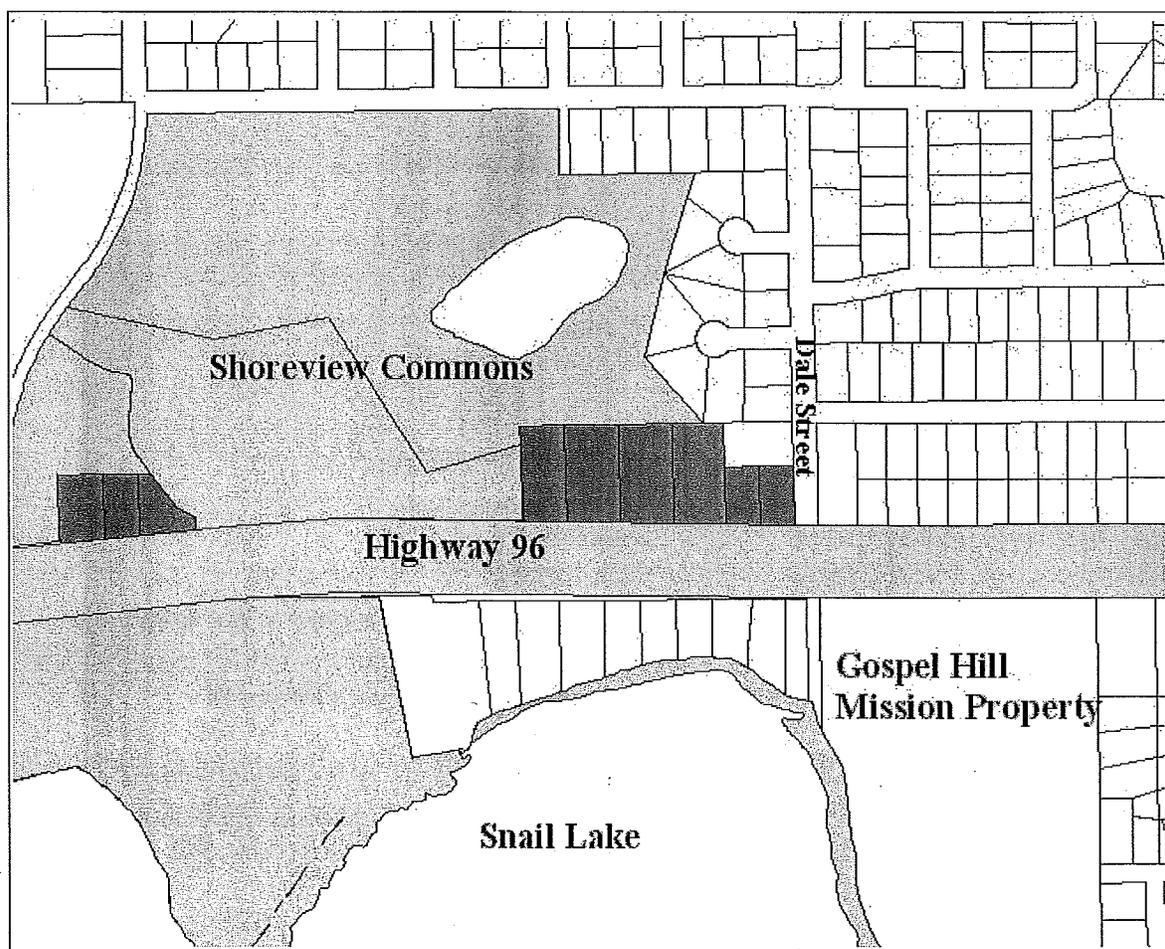
Comprehensive Infrastructure Replacement Plan. In addition to the CIP, the City Council has adopted a Comprehensive Infrastructure Replacement Plan (CHIRP). This plan, like the CIP, addresses the future replacement or reinvestment in City facilities. The CHIRP, however, describes the policies and presents information derived through careful analysis of replacement needs over the next fifty years.

Park Acquisition and System Expansion

The City will continue to implement the recommendations of *the Open Space and Park Land Study*. These recommendations include:

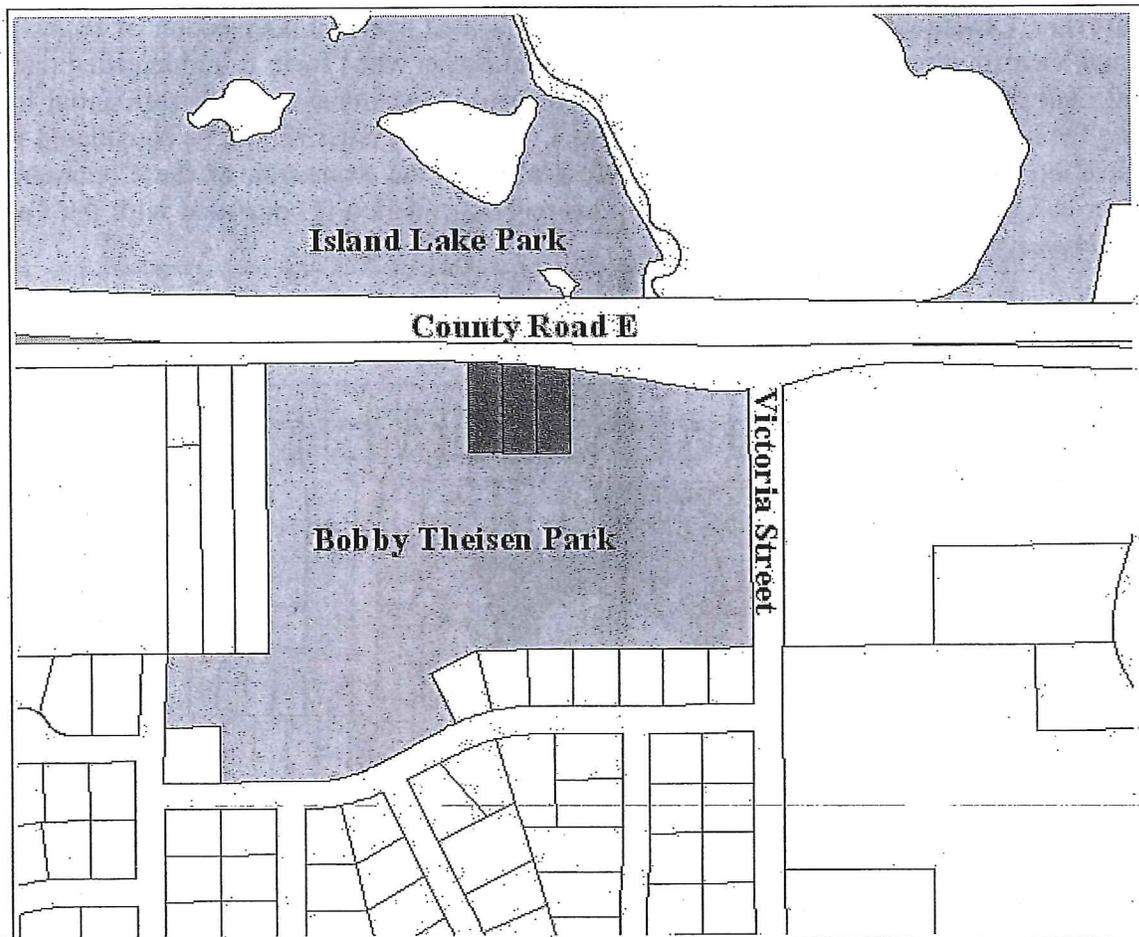
- **Shoreview Commons Park In-Holdings.** Homes located near the intersection of Highway 96 and Victoria Street should be considered for acquisition when there is an identified need; most likely in conjunction with the future expansion of the library. Other residential lots along the north side of Highway 96 east of the Community Center should be considered for acquisition when there is an identified need relating to the expansion of the Community Center or Commons Park Enhancements. This recommendation is consistent with the *Core Area Framework Plan*.

Shoreview Commons In-Holdings



- **Gospel Hill Mission Property.** When an opportunity arises, consider the acquisition of easements along Snail Lake for a public trail with access to the Highway 96 Regional Trail.
- **Bobby Theisen Park In-Holdings.** Three single-family homes on County Road E are surrounded by the park property. Although there is not an immediate need, the City may purchase these properties in the future if recreational needs dictate. This acquisition would enable the City to complete the park boundary and expand the recreational area.

Bobby Theisen Park In-Holdings



- **United Tower Property.** This property lies adjacent to Grass Lake in the Snail Lake Regional Park. At least a portion of this property should be considered for incorporation into Snail Lake Regional Park in the event that the tower use is ever eliminated.
- **Outdoor Educational Classroom.** The abundance of open space throughout the community provides an opportunity to create an outdoor environmental learning center for youth, which could be used to teach children about nature and environmental issues. The City may work

with both the Mounds View School District and Roseville School District and Ramsey County to further explore this idea.

Commons Master Plan

- Explore the construction of an outdoor water play area. The master plan includes the development of an outdoor water play area to replace the current outdated and underutilized wading pool. In the late 1990's, the City designed and bid a custom water play area, however, the bids were rejected because they exceeded the budget estimates. An outdoor water play area would be a significant enhancement and revenue producer.
- Program other key elements of the Master Plan in the City's Capital Improvement Program.

Candidate Areas for New Parks

For those areas identified as Candidate Areas, the City may pursue acquisition for the development of neighborhood parks or mini-parks in these neighborhoods. Acquisition of property may only occur as part of a private decision to develop by the property owners and during the review of development applications.

Athletic Facilities

The City will continue to work with other communities and school district to implement the recommendations of the Athletic Facility Needs Analysis. These recommendations included:

- Closely monitor and evaluate potential for a tournament sports complex on the TCAAP property.
- Evaluate cooperative use agreements with the School Districts for enhanced use and improvements of outdoor youth baseball and soccer fields.

Cooperative Parks Planning Efforts

The City will continue to participate with Ramsey County and the school districts in multi-jurisdictional park planning efforts when opportunities become available to meet the recreational needs of the community.

Parks Programming

The City's parks and recreation program will continue to respond to the changing demographics and needs of the community. The City will continue to evaluate its park facilities and programs in light of the community's recreational needs.

Bobby Theisen Park

Bobby Theisen park is a 15 acre park located at 3575 Vivian Street, at the corner of County Road E and Vivian Street and across the street from Island Lake School. The park consists of roughly three terraced areas, with the first containing the parking lot and hockey area, the second the tennis courts and the third, the soccer field and wetlands. Also at the second terrace are three inholding properties. The adjacent school makes use of the park's open field area, and likewise, the school has a new play structure available to the public for use.

Existing facilities:

- Soccer field/ Football field.
- 4 tennis courts (one use for in-line skating).
- 1 Basketball hard court area.
- Skating rink.
- Open skating.
- Warming house/Picnic shelter (capacity 15).
- Picnic table.
- Parking.
- Connecting trails.
- Open field area.
- Trails.
- Portable restroom.

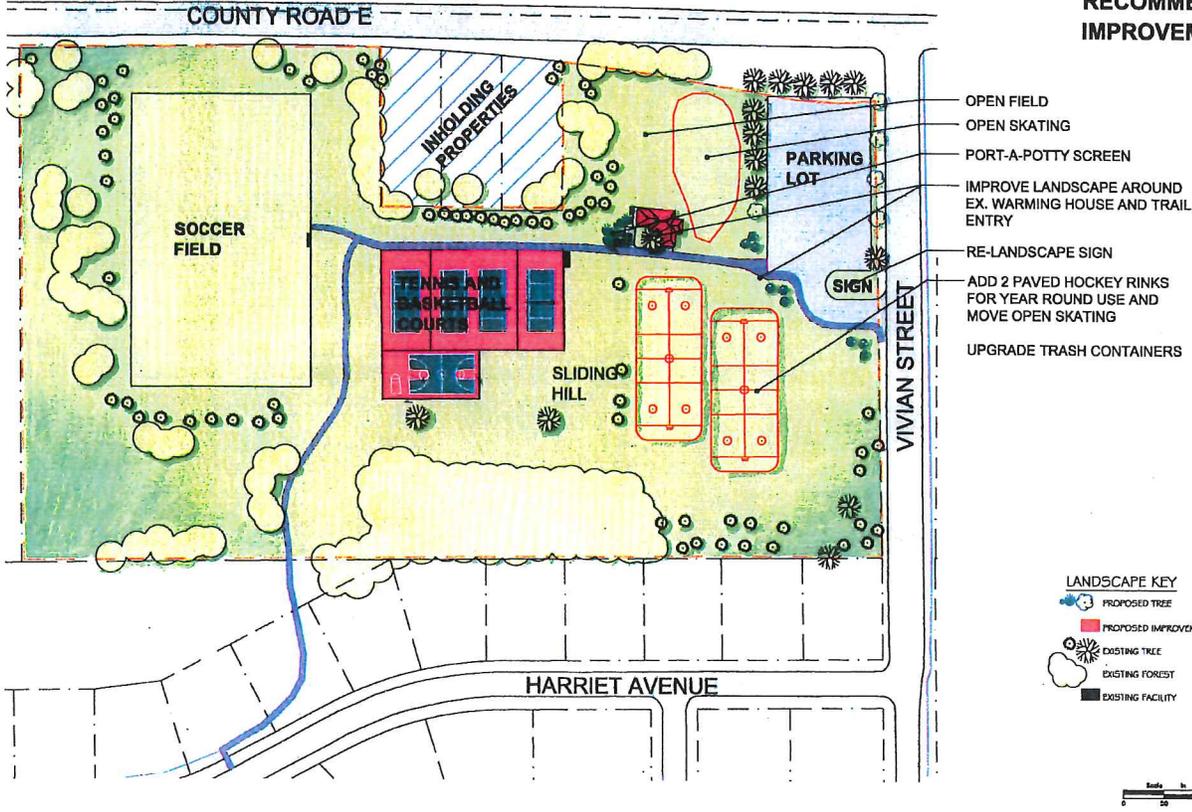
Park issues:

- Heavy clay soils causing heaving and cracking of paving (tennis courts).
- Boards needed around roller hockey rink in tennis court.
- Warming/Shelter house landscaping.
- Park identification sign landscaping.
- Possible use of the three residential inholdings.
- Screening & location of portable restroom.
- General landscape improvements.
- Trail/park sign improvements.
- Under utilized fields.
- Under utilized hockey rinks.

Plan considerations:

Plan alternatives considered making converting the inholding properties to recreational uses, however no significant park use was identified for those properties. Plans also considered alternatives for the skating and warming house area and alternative uses for the open field areas such as ballfields and open recreational fields.

**BOBBY THEISEN PARK
RECOMMENDED
IMPROVEMENTS**



Park improvement recommendations:

- Adding a new skating rink.
- Move open skating area adjacent to warming house and parking lot.
- Landscape warming house/picnic shelter and park identification sign.
- General landscaping of park and trail entrances into the park.
- New trash receptacles and recycling area.
- Relocated porta-potty with screen.
- Revitalize tennis courts base and surface.