



Memorandum

DATE: March 17, 2016

TO: Board of Public Works

FROM: Mark Radtke, Director of Public Works *MR*

RE: WisDOT 441/Racine Street Landscaping & Aesthetics Ballot

WisDOT is finalizing the STH 441/Racine Street interchange area landscaping and aesthetic feature concepts that have been previously discussed with the involved communities. At this stage, they are requesting action on a ballot of available options for landscaping and site features at the interchange (see attached). The chosen items in the ballot will be incorporated into the Racine Street landscaping construction project which is currently scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2017, with a February or March, 2017 bid letting.

The first item involves the planting in the roundabout splitter islands. The City had previously elected to include the highest level landscape design for the roundabout itself, and now WisDOT is asking whether we prefer to have planting, or no planting, in the three splitter islands outlining the roundabout. The splitter islands will have a decorative concrete finish throughout all non-planted areas. **It is staff's recommendation to continue with the softening of the hardscape by including the planting beds (Option 1), but to be able to select the type of planting that best suits our needs and is within the allowable parameters established by WisDOT.**

The second item involves selecting the level of development of the proposed pocket park east of the roundabout. This area is presently in the Winnebago County road right of way but Winnebago County has indicated they have no interest in retaining this property upon completion of the 441/Racine Street roundabout interchange. Because the property abuts Menasha Joint School District (MJSD) property, Winnebago County has preliminarily indicated a willingness to transfer the property to MJSD.

Option 1 for the pocket park would provide a picnic area and sidewalk connection to the adjacent Calder Stadium parking lot while Option 2 does not include the picnic area or the connecting walk. In a recent meeting with MJSD, Option 2 (no picnic area or connecting walk) was selected by them as the preferred option. **Therefore, we also recommend Option 2 for the pocket park since MJSD would likely be responsible for this area following its transfer from Winnebago County.**

The third item on the ballot involves the entrance feature wall to be located within the pocket park area southeast of the roundabout. There are options for constructing the wall a stained formliner or a natural stone veneer on concrete. There would be a local cost share estimate of \$12,000 with the natural stone veneer option. The stained formliner option would require no local cost share. A local benefactor has offered to cover the local cost share if the natural stone veneer option is selected. **On that basis, staff recommends selecting the natural stone veneer option for the entrance feature wall.**

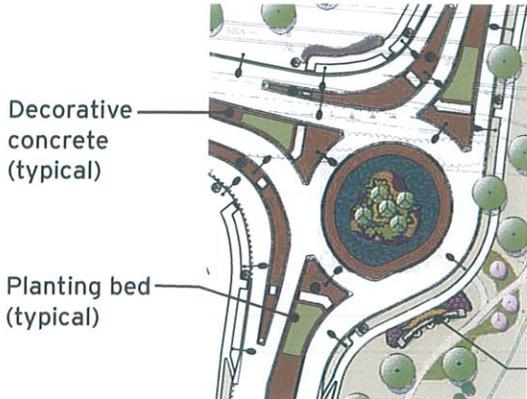
The last item for consideration is whether or not to incorporate a flag display in the entrance feature wall. We think the flag display would be appropriate and impressive as an entrance feature in this location. **Therefore, staff recommends including the flag display in the entrance feature wall.**

Attachment

Racine Rd Landscape Treatment

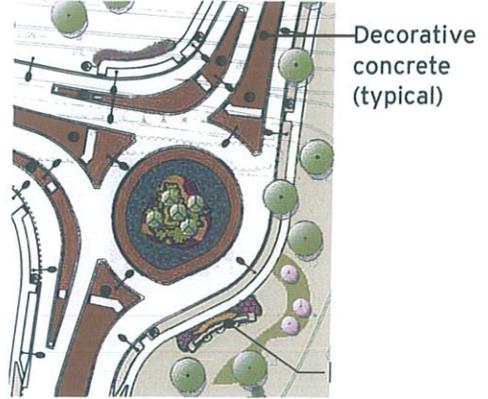
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Planting in Splitter islands



Option 1: Planting in splitter islands

Please check preferred option (one only)



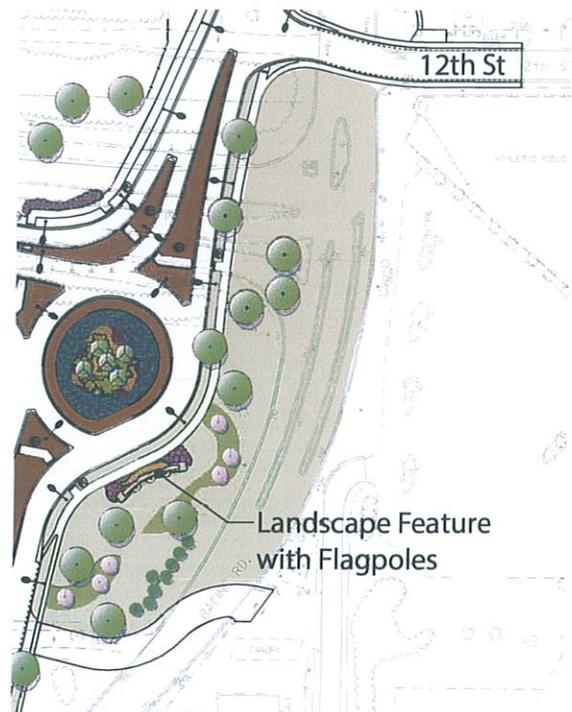
Option 2: No Planting in splitter islands

Pocket Park



Option 1: Pocket Park with picnic area & sidewalk connection

Please check preferred option (one only)



Option 2: Pocket park without picnic area & sidewalk connection

Racine Rd Landscape Treatment

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If you selected Option 1: Pocket Park with picnic area, please select your preferred picnic table, bike rack and trash receptacle.

Picnic Table

Please check preferred option (one only)



Direct Burial pedestal
(Powder Coated Steel)



Traditional
(Composite Material)

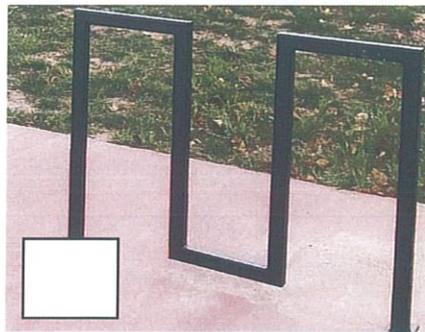
Bike Rack (Accommodates 6 bikes)

Color: Black

Please check preferred option (one only)



Traditional



Geometric *

Trash Receptacle

Color: Black

Please check preferred option (one only)



Stylized*



Traditional

* These styles were used on Appleton Road.

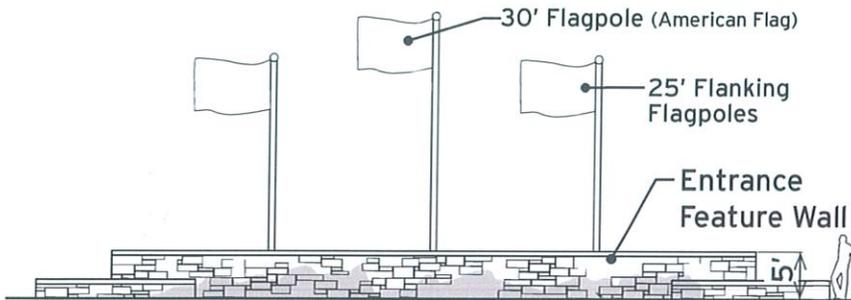
Note: All items will be anchored to concrete slab.

Racine Rd Landscape Treatment

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Entrance Feature Wall

Please check preferred option (one only)



Wall can be constructed using a formliner or natural stone veneer on concrete. Natural stone veneer ranges from 1- 1.5" thick. Estimated costs are included based upon 75' long x 5' high (with a 4' deep footing)



Pro
Less maintenance
More durable and salt resistant
Matches Appleton Rd Bus shelters
More cost effective

Con
Not natural material

Estimated cost: \$30,000 - \$33,000 +/-
Local cost share would be \$0.



Pro
Natural material
Capstone can have a natural edge

Con
More sensitive to salt
Maintenance
More expensive

Estimated cost: \$41,000 - \$45,000 +/-
Local cost share would be \$12,000.

Flag Display

Please check preferred option

Yes

No