



## Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

**Date:** June 8, 2010  
**To:** Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee  
**Subject:** **Special Boulevard Permit Application Request – 1625 Hennepin Avenue S.**

**Recommendation:**  
Approve Special Boulevard Permit

**Previous Directives:**  
None

**Prepared by:** Heidi Hamilton, Deputy Director of Public Works, 612-673-3316

**Approved by:**

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Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

**Presenters:** Heidi Hamilton, Deputy Director of Public Works

### Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	___	Date	_____
Civil Rights Approval	Approval	___	Date	_____
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	___	Date	_____

### Financial Impact:

No financial impact

### Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification:  
City Goals:  
Comprehensive Plan:  
Zoning Code:

### Background/Supporting Information

In the area just south of the Basilica of St. Mary (intersection of Hennepin Avenue South and Dunwoody Boulevard) there are two medians and a wide boulevard that were previously landscaped by the city. Due to budget constraints, the landscaping has not been well maintained and can generally be described as overgrown and unkempt, including dead bushes and numerous weeds. Several property owners in the area have expressed interest in re-

planting these areas in order to improve the appearance, and volunteering to take care of the new landscaping.

Olson & Associates is a company located at 1625 Hennepin Avenue. Ms. Sue Williams, on behalf of Olson & Associates, has applied for a Special Boulevard Permit to landscape the boulevard in front of 1621 and 1625 Hennepin Avenue. A plan has been submitted that indicates the final planting plan (attached with the permit application), which will leave the bollards, light poles and trees in place, and replace the 3-4' tall perennials and weeds with shrubs and wood chips. The applicant intends to begin the installation this year but may phase in the full planting plan over a longer period based on the availability of plants and budget to complete the project. Through signature on the application, the applicant acknowledges that maintenance of the landscaping will be their responsibility.

Public Works recommends approval of this boulevard permit, consistent with Chapter 427.10 of the City Code, for the following reasons:

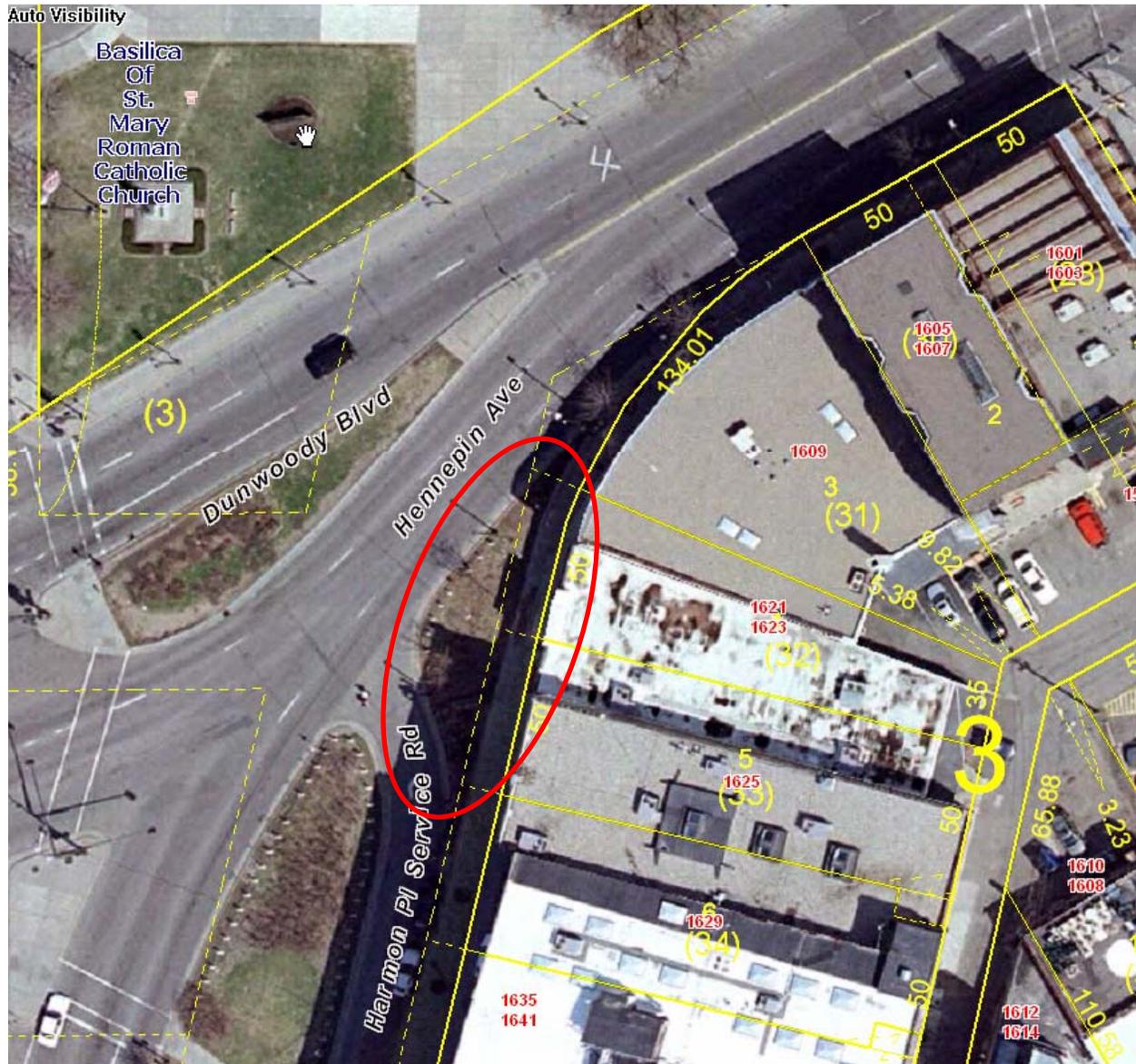
- The new bushes and wood chips are expected to be viewed by most people as more attractive in appearance than the existing plants.
- The project reduces the burden on city resources for maintenance of green spaces by engaging the adjacent business in maintenance of landscaping outside their front door.
- The project provides a valuable opportunity for community engagement in improving the neighborhood.
- The project is supported by the Council Member of the ward.
- The risks to the city for permitting this activity are minimal. The boulevard is accessible from the adjacent sidewalk so there is no need to work in traffic to complete the plantings or maintenance. If the applicant does not fulfill the plans as proposed, it is unlikely that there is anything the city must do to correct the situation; there is a risk that the area will look worse than it does now but that seems unlikely considering the efforts the applicant has put into being able to improve the boulevard.

*Attachments.:                    Location Map  
    Special Boulevard Permit Application with planting plan*

cc:     Council Member Lisa Goodman  
         Mike Kennedy  
         Jeff Johnson

# Special Boulevard Permit Application Request 1625 Hennepin Avenue S.

 Boulevard Location



APPLICATION FOR  
SPECIAL BOULEVARD PERMIT

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE AND GRANTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL BEFORE YOU SECURE YOUR SPECIAL PERMIT FROM THE CITY ENGINEER.

DATE June 2, 2010

TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Permission is requested to:

Remove the existing shrubbery and vegetation on the boulevard located in front of 1621 and 1625 Hennepin Avenue and replaced with at least 10 silver mound artemisia shrubs and 10 other small shrubs (species to be determined) as shown in the attached drawing. The shrubs shall be up to 3' to 4' tall at maturity. The shrubs will be monitored as not to obstruct visibility of area traffic. The remainder of the boulevard will be filled in with wood chips that will be placed such that they do not overflow into the street or onto the sidewalk. Soil that must be removed from the area will be properly disposed of by applicant. Applicant accepts responsibility for maintenance of the area including watering shrubs, weeding, and replacement of wood chips. Applicant will contact the Minneapolis Public Works Street Department prior to digging so that the existing sprinkler system that is located in the boulevard can be marked. Applicant accepts responsibility for any damage caused to city infrastructure due to negligence.

Location: Boulevard in front of 1621 and 1625 Hennepin Avenue South

Zoning C3A Use of Property Office

Size approx 450 sq ft Plan included Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information (Reason wanted) The city no longer has the financial resources to maintain the plantings in this boulevard. Applicant would like to replace the planting with new, healthy plantings to create a more attractive landscape.

THIS PERMIT IS APPLIED FOR UPON THE EXPRESS CONDITION THAT ALL WORK DONE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF SAME SHALL CONFORM IN ALL RESPECTS TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS.

Signed Sue Williams Sue Williams

Fee Paid N/A

For: Olson + Co., Inc.

Mailing address 1625 Hennepin Avenue

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mpls. MN

Telephone No. 612 215 9817

City Engineer Recommends Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Approved : Council Member Ward \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation and Public Works committee Recommends Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approve \_\_\_\_\_

City Council Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

City Engineer Recommends Approve ASA Not Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Approved : Council Member Ward \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation and Public Works committee Recommends Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approve \_\_\_\_\_

City Council Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**BOULEVARD IN FRONT OF  
1625 HENNEPIN AVENUE**

- SILVER MOUND ARTEMISIA
- SMALL SHRUBS
- EXISTING TREES
- EXISTING LAMP POST
- EXISTING ELECTRICAL BOXES
- EXISTING FENCE



