

Program Overview

What is Street Furniture?

Street furniture is the term used to describe objects and equipment installed on streets and sidewalks intended for public use. Examples of types of street furniture include transit shelters, litter and recycling receptacles, bus benches, bike racks, enclosures for newspaper boxes, as well as wayfinding signs and structures.

What is meant by the term 'coordinated'?

Coordinated does not mean identical, but it does suggest the ability to immediately recognize the furniture whatever its setting or context. Street furniture elements around the city should use materials or forms that blend well throughout many diverse city environments and neighborhoods. Some degree of variation or customization (color changes, design details) is welcomed as a way for the furniture to respond to its changing context.

Why is the City considering street furniture at this time?

Current contracts with US Bench and CBS Outdoor expire in 2009. The City expects improvements in the placement, configuration, upkeep and design of street furniture elements on Minneapolis' sidewalks.

The city's intention is to structure a street furniture program that

- a) reduces clutter;
- b) beautifies city streets;
- c) provides functional public amenities with a higher level of service (maintenance and litter collection) and
- d) creates an identifiable image for Minneapolis; and
- e) enhances the current revenues.

Where will the furniture be installed, and what happens to the existing objects?

The program will be city-wide in its reach. Furniture will be located along high transit routes where stops are located today. Neighborhood commercial nodes, major streets, and unique areas such as Uptown, Downtown, West Broadway Avenue, Central Avenue, Stadium Village and Dinkytown, Midtown and Hi Lake are all likely places to host street furniture. Final locations will be decided in consultation between the City, transit providers, and the vendor, work with local property owner, business association and neighborhood input.

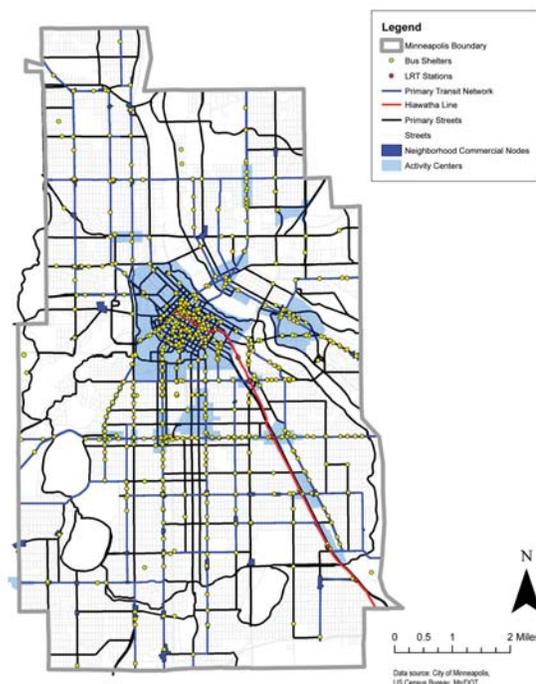
What furniture elements are being considered for the program?

Base Elements

- Transit Shelters
- Litter/ Recycling Receptacles
- Benches
- Newspaper Corrals

Optional Elements

- Wayfinding Structures
- Neighborhood/ District Information Kiosks
- Bicycle Parking Units
- Public Washrooms



Current Street Furniture in Minneapolis

The images below illustrate the wide variety of street furniture around the city.



Design Guidelines and Evaluation

Of utmost importance is how well the street furniture elements suit the needs of the transit riders and users. The following design guidelines were developed by the Design Jury for the RFP. Please consider these attributes while evaluating the street furniture elements.



Function: Street furniture is of consistently high quality, placed where needed and oriented in a manner to serve its users and the public, as opposed to simply providing a medium for advertising.

Flexibility: Innovative and flexible furniture design is strongly encouraged.

Modularity: The concept of modularity should also be a foundation of design.

Identifiable: Furniture in different locations should conform to the city's design palette yet incorporate components that capture the physical character of different areas of Minneapolis.

Durable: A cornerstone of the program is furniture that has been proven to be durable, using high quality materials and assembly.

Green Technology: The use of green technology having equally noteworthy maintenance and aesthetic qualities is strongly encouraged

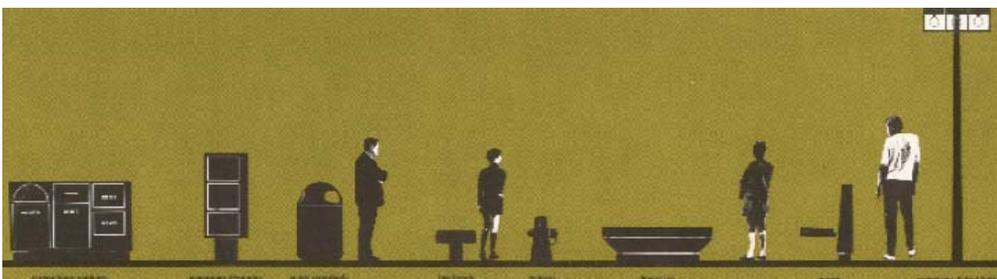
Maintainability: Designs must ensure ease of use and maintenance.

Accessible: Accessibility of street furniture elements for persons with disabilities, the very young and the elderly are of utmost priority.

Safety: Safety for furniture users and members of the traveling public, whether on foot, on bikes or in cars must be integral to any design.

Public Art: Proposers should identify a zone on the street furniture for public art and/or local customization.

The *Metro Center'85* plan from 1970 provided a concise description of the importance of street furniture design



STREET FURNITURE

In general, street furniture should complement the street and landscape and be part of the total scheme. A coordinated street furniture system should be developed which provides design standards and order, but allows for diversity within individual districts.

Principals and standards

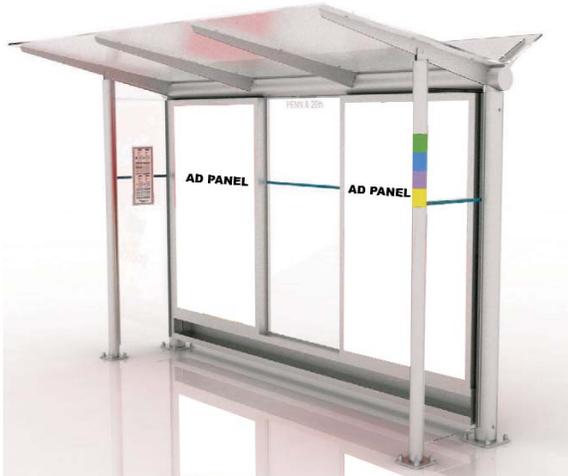
Most of the street furniture should be redesigned and standardized so that the style, scale, shape, color, materials, and placement are interrelated.

Base Elements

Shelters

- Which shelter roof design would best protect you from the rain and snow?
- Which shelter appears to be the safest?
- Which shelter is most functional for bus riders?
- Which shelter design would you want in your neighborhood?

A1



A2



B1



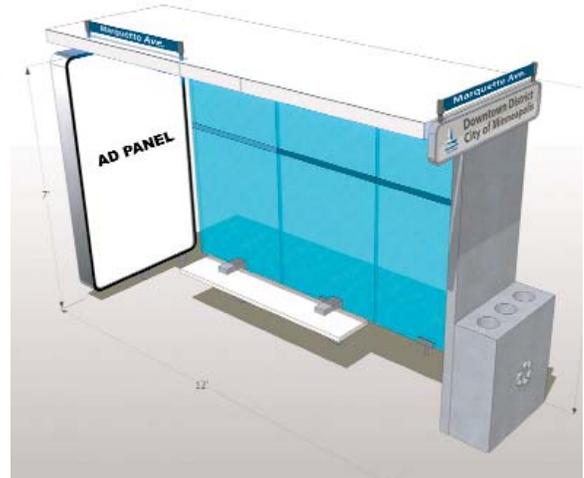
B2



C1



C2

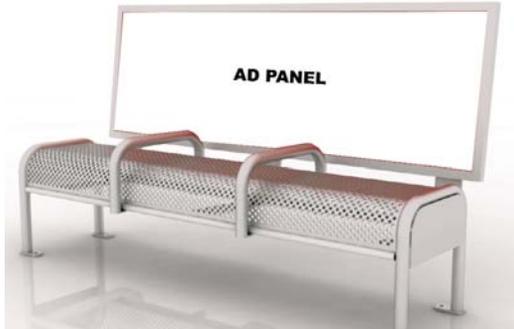


Base Elements

Benches

- Which bench looks most comfortable to sit on?
- Which bench is most functional for bus riders?
- Which bench design would you want in your neighborhood?

A3



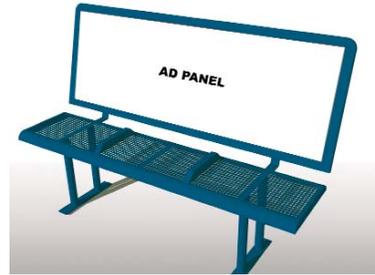
B3



C3



C4



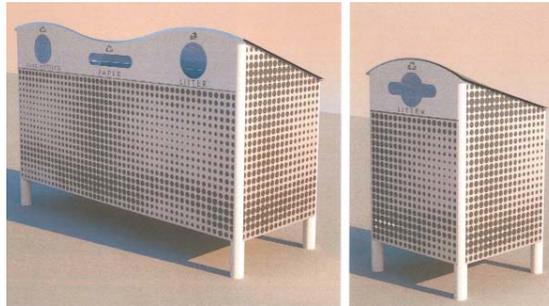
Trash/Recycling Bins

- Which design appears to be the easiest to maintain?
- Which design appears to be the easiest to keep clean?
- Which trash/recycling bin design would you want in your neighborhood?

A4



B4



C5



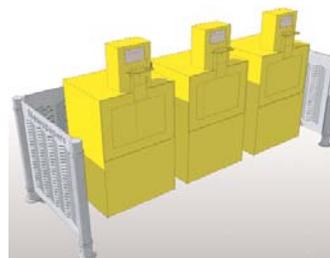
Newspaper Corral

- Which Newspaper corral would best organize newspaper and free publication boxes?
- Which newspaper corral design would you want in your neighborhood?

B5



C6



Optional Elements

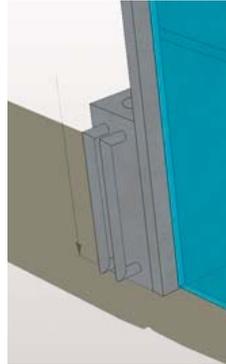
Bicycle Parking Units

- Which bicycle parking unit would you most likely use?
- Which bicycle parking unit is the most functional?
- Which bicycle parking unit(s) would not be compatible with your bike lock?
- Which bicycle parking unit design would you want in your neighborhood?

B6



C7



Neighborhood Kiosk

- Would this be useful in your neighborhood?
- Which neighborhood kiosk design would you want near your home?

B7



C8



Wayfinding Kiosk

- Would this wayfinding kiosk be useful to you?
- Would this wayfinding kiosk be useful to tourists?

B8



Furniture Suites

Coordination

- Which furniture suite is most coordinated in terms of design?
- Which design suite would you want in your neighborhood?

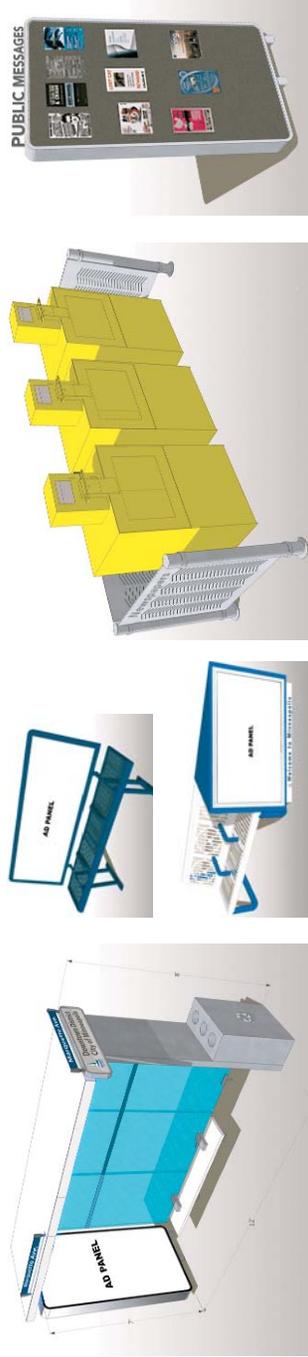
Group A



Group B



Group C



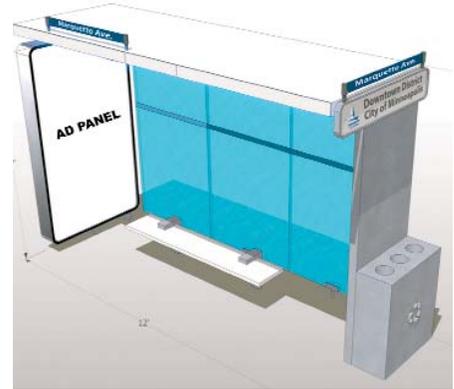
Materials



Structure: Powder coated
Sides: Plexiglas
Roof: Fiberglass



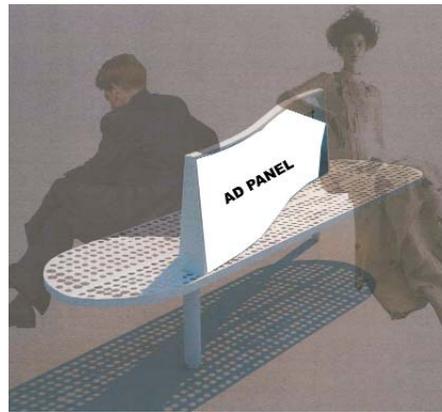
Structure: Galvanized steel
Sides: Tempered glass
Patterned side panel: 3form
ecoresin or glass
Roof: 3form chroma
Ad Panel: Aluminum



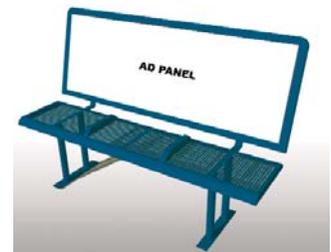
Structure: Galvanized and
stainless steel
Sides: Tempered glass
Roof: Acrylic plastic
Ad Panel: Stainless steel



Powder coated



Steel and perforated steel



Top: Steel with baked
enamel
Bottom: Painted
galvanized steel