



Public Arts Commission

November 05, 2025

6:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Ave N.E.

Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. October 1, 2025 Public Arts Commission Minutes

New Business

2. Commons Park Sculpture Concept Review with Artist Ken McCall
3. Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program Policy and Guidelines

Old Business

Other Items

Adjournment

Accessibility Notice:

- If you need free interpretation or translation assistance, please contact City staff.
- Si necesita ayuda de interpretación o traducción gratis, comuníquese con el personal de la ciudad.
- Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus los sis txhais ntaub ntauv dawb, ces thov tiv tauj rau Lub Nroog cov neeg ua hauj lwm.
- Haddii aad u baahan tahay tarjumaad bilaash ah ama kaalmo tarjumaad, fadlan la xiriir shaqaalaha Magaalada.

Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in any City of Fridley services, programs or activities. Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons who require auxiliary aids should contact CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov or (763) 572-3450.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 5, 2025

Meeting Type: Public Arts Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

October 1, 2025 Public Arts Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the October 1, 2025 Public Arts Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the October 1, 2025 Public Arts Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- October 1, 2025 Public Arts Commission Minutes.

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Public Arts Commission Meeting

October 1, 2025

6:00 PM

Commons Park, 6249 7th Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432

Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Collins called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Josh Collins, Chair
 Ryan Fugleberg, Vice Chair
 Gary Osterbauer
 Gary Swanson
 Maija Sedzielarz
 Frank Sedzielarz
 Kara Ruwart

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
 Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician
 Councilmember Ann Bolkcom
 Councilmember Luke Cardona
 Scott Lund representing Fridley Creative Arts Foundation
 Maklyn Koep, representing Rum River Art Center and Creative Flow Art Center

1. Approve Public Arts Commission Minutes for September 3, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Fugleberg to approve the September 3, 2025 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner M. Sedzielarz. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

2. Commons Park Construction Site Tour

Mike Maher and Jesslyn Quiram led the Commission and guests on a walking tour of the Commons Park construction site. The group visited the recreation building, playground, splash pad, winter recreation area and pavilion sites. Special attention was paid to the future installation site of a sculpture being commissioned by artist Ken McCall.

The Commission took no formal action on this agenda item.

Open Forum

Maklyn Koep, representing Rum River and Creative Flow Art Centers, was in attendance to present an update on the grand opening celebration for Creative Flow Art Center, scheduled for Friday, October 10th

New Business

3. Moore Lake Park Sculpture Reflection

The Commission discussed learning opportunities from the project completed at Moore Lake Park in partnership with artist Jessica Turtle and Rice Creek Watershed District, including:

- Increased advertising and promotion for ribbon cutting celebrations including using message board trailers
- Perhaps there was too much reliance on Facebook for advertising the ribbon cutting
- Expand marketing and get the word out through block captains
- Using quick social media "blasts" 24-48 hours prior to event
- Share information through network of partner organizations
- A more transparent process is desired for selection of artist and partner organizations
- The contract with the artist should include more milestones and check-ins on the progress of the artwork
- Pre-determine the location of the artwork prior to issuing the request for qualifications and selecting an artist

No formal action was taken on this agenda item.

4. Utility Box Wrap Program Implementation Process

Staff reviewed information on the possibility of installing artist-designed utility box wraps on new utility boxes installed along University Avenue. Staff reported that the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation voted to fund the project and the next step would be to seek approval from City Council.

Staff agreed to draft a policy and project framework for the Commission to review and provide input on at the November meeting. Several general project guidelines were discussed including:

- A \$500 stipend for selected artists
- Development of a template for artists to use for design dimensions
- Provide an opportunity for youth submissions
- The Commission would select up to six awards from the received submissions

No formal action was taken by the Commission on this agenda item.

5. Workplan Review

Staff presented an updated workplan to track projects and priorities identified by the Commission.

Commissioner Frank Sedzielarz asked that the workplan track items completed or removed from the plan. He asked for clarification on a request that had come to the Commission earlier in the year regarding a mural on the Commons Park basketball court. Staff indicated that there has not been any follow up from the group and that a future project on the workplan is to develop a policy regarding memorials and tributes for the public art program. Staff indicated that they would verify that no emails had come through to the recently retired Community Development Director regarding the court mural proposal.

No formal action was taken by the Commission on this agenda item.

Old Business

Other Items

The Commission briefly discussed upcoming agenda items and noted that a meeting with artist Ken McCall would be held at the November meeting and discussion on a vision for the Mississippi St. underpass would be planned for the December meeting agenda.

Adjournment

Commissioner Maija Sedzielarz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. A second was made by Commissioner Osterbauer. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Recording Secretary



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 5, 2025

Meeting Type: Public Arts Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director, Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician

Title

Commons Park Sculpture Concept Review with Artist Ken McCall

Background

Artist Ken McCall has been selected to create a work of sculpture for Fridley's Commons Park. The agreement with the artist outlines that the conceptualization of the art piece will be done, in part, through a community engagement process. The Public Arts Commission provided guidance to the artist and 25 community surveys were received and used to inform the process.

Mr. McCall has prepared a concept for the sculpture and will present the concept to the Public Arts Commission at 6:15 pm, central time on November 5, 2025. The Commission will connect with Mr. McCall from the Banfill Conference Room at Fridley City Hall through a virtual meeting platform, Microsoft Teams.

Financial Impact

The sculpture being created for Commons Park will be funded by the non-profit Fridley Creative Arts Foundation at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

- Commons Park Sculpture Concept Presentation Document
- Compiled community surveys

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

Commons Park Artwork

Fridley, MN

Design Proposal
Ken McCall

Inspired by the idea of harmony in multiplicity, *Manoomin* is envisioned as a landmark for Commons Park—a vibrant symbol of the city’s welcoming spirit, rich history, and commitment to diversity. Named after the Ojibwe word for wild rice while also paying tribute to Fridley’s original name, Manoomin, the sculpture seeks to honor cultural heritage, foster connection, and serve as an invitation for all residents and visitors to gather, reflect, and celebrate community values. The sculpture’s presence in Commons Park will be a daily reminder of Fridley’s shared story: a city shaped by agricultural traditions, natural beauty, and the enduring bonds among its residents - cultivating hope and connection for the future.

COMMONS PARK

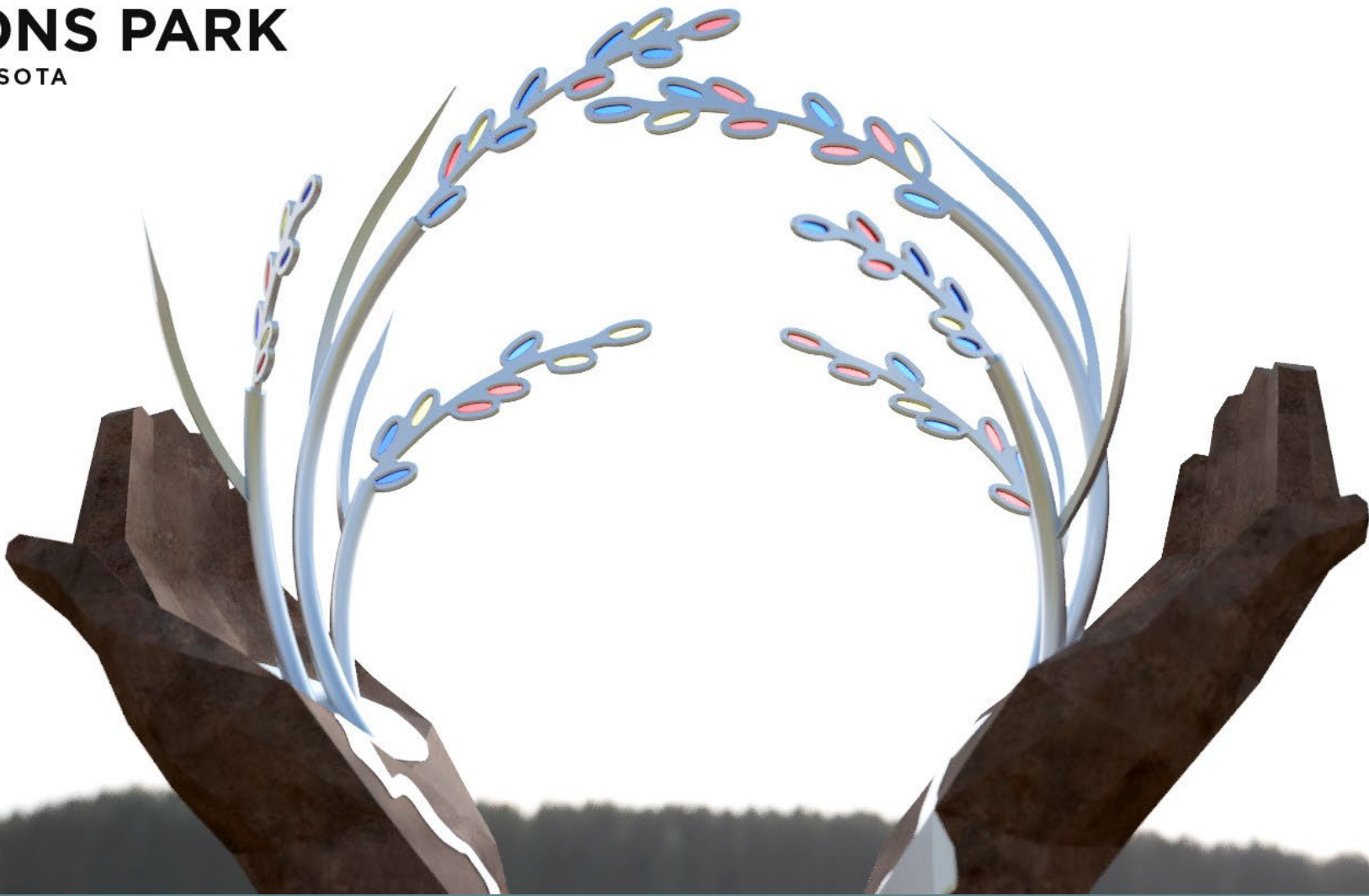
FRIDLEY MINNESOTA



COMMONS PARK

FRIDLEY MINNESOTA

Item 2.



At the heart of the design are hands, representing Fridley's friendly and inclusive atmosphere. These hands reach out and cradle sprouting rice, a direct nod to the city's agricultural roots and the native wild rice that sustains both land and community.

Overlaying the corten steel arms and hands is an artistic mapping of Rice Creek, accurately rendered to pay tribute to an essential natural feature and its influence on local life.

Item 2.

COMMONS PARK

FRIDLEY MINNESOTA





Every element of *Manoomin* carries layered meaning:

Welcoming Hands: The open hands are a universal gesture of friendship and hospitality, embodying Fridley’s reputation for being a warm, inclusive community. They invite interaction, reflection, and a sense of belonging.

Wild Rice (Manoomin): The rice sprouting from the hands connects the piece to Fridley’s agricultural heritage and the native wild rice that grows in Minnesota’s wetlands. ‘Manoomin’ acknowledges the Ojibwe people, for whom wild rice is a sacred and sustaining food, celebrating their enduring cultural legacy.

Rice Creek Depiction: The sculpted map of Rice Creek pays homage to the local environment, serving as a reminder of the community’s connection to its natural resources and the importance of stewardship.

Unity and Diversity: By intertwining references to native traditions, agricultural abundance, and a welcoming spirit, the sculpture conveys a message of unity in diversity, a vision for a community that cherishes its roots while embracing change and growth.

COMMONS PARK

FRIDLEY MINNESOTA

Item 2.



Created from an expressive combination of corten steel, stainless steel, aluminum, and acrylic, the sculpture will embody both resilience and grace. Corten steel's earthy patina will evoke the natural landscape and longevity, while stainless steel and aluminum will add brightness and modernity. Acrylic elements will provide vivid accentuation, allowing natural light to interact dynamically with the sculpture throughout the day.

The acrylic panels of the *Manoomin* will cast beautiful mosaics onto the ground, creating timeless interactions with both nature and viewers. Every moment, the mosaic on the ground shifts—rippling with the wind, brightening with the sun, or fading into subtlety beneath drifting clouds. This ever-changing quality ensures that no two experiences are quite alike. In this convergence of light, color and form, the sculpture becomes not only an object to be seen but a catalyst for experience.

Item 2.

COMMONS PARK

FRIDLEY MINNESOTA



COMMONS PARK

FRIDLEY MINNESOTA

Item 2.



12' 4"

*APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS



Manoomin will stand approximately 12' 4" tall and be about 6' 6" wide at the base.



Budget

Engineering	\$2,000
Insurance	\$500
Materials	\$22,000
Fabrication	\$14,000
Travel/Transportation	\$3,000
Concrete/Installation	\$6,000
Community Engagement	\$500
Artist Design Fee	\$2,000
Total	\$50,000

COMMONS PARK

FRIDLEY MINNESOTA

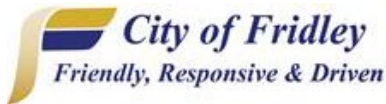
Item 2.



Thank you for the opportunity to create a design proposal for artwork at Commons Park.

From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:59:47 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 6:10 AM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

We have a hospital which represents wellness health restoration, a beautiful river and walkable parks and trails
Churches that reach out to community with food meals support

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

All races represented, children celebrated of all races colors and creeds

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

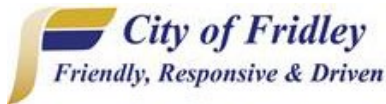
My personal favorite is the statue at the main entry of Unity. A woman reaching up.
Something representing community and families together
Include the river connecting, bringing life, restoration, recreation

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:59:36 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 31, 2025 7:30 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

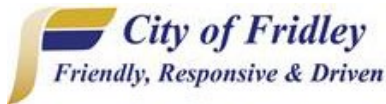
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **Paying respects to those who survived and those who died on may 6th 1965.**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:59:27 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 31, 2025 6:43 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? **Fridley Tigers! It's our mascot. It represents our resilience and strength as a community.**

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? **The tiger says it all, as Fridley is a melting pot of cultures and it is represented in the diversity of our schools.**

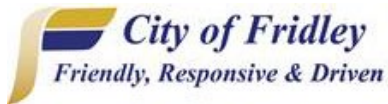
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **Supporting our people, our community, our children (our schools).**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:59:17 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 31, 2025 7:53 AM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? **River, ox carts, wild rice.**

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? **River, creek, wild rice.**

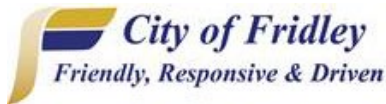
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **History.**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Ouiram, Jesslyn](#); [Maher, Mike](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:59:08 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 11:00 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Being in nature, with springbrook nature center, the rice creek area, Moore lake and being on the Mississippi we definitely have solid choices to be a part of nature. We are deemed "friendly Fridley" but I don't feel we live up to that moniker as much.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Reclaimed wood, representation of the Mississippi river/rice creek

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Would love to see a beautiful representation of nature. City meets green spaces showing a blend of both worlds. City life with the opportunity to slow down and smell the roses. But a touch of whimsy too.

Examples 2, 12, 17, or 38 in this link.

<https://streetartutopia.com/2025/07/27/when-street-art-meets-nature/>

Or look at project 412 in Detroit Lakes, their latest installation "Of the earth" is a great compliment to the Thomas dambo trolls in the area.

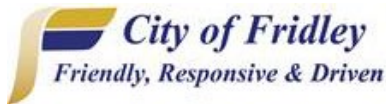
You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:58:59 AM

Brooke Hall

Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 8:32 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Nature, Parks, Family, Diversity

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Rivers & creeks, Trees, Prairie plants, Color, Music, Parks

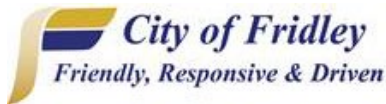
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Growing & ever changing, Community, Friendly, Movement

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:58:50 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 6:50 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

Fridley is a great community for outdoor activities and appreciating nature. What about some of those things. How about parts of a bicycle, and a skateboard, how about representations of squirrels, rabbits, trees.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

What about a composition using metal and wood? What about an interactive sculpture? How about you can spin the bike wheel and you can use a lever to make the squirrel go up a tree trunk.

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

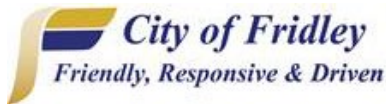
Fridley is nature friendly.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:58:42 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 3:18 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

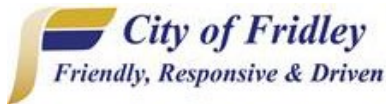
- What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? **The diversity of cultures represented in Fridley**
- Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? **The Mississippi River**
- If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **Unity; a community that is strong because of our differences**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Quiram, Jesslyn](#); [Maher, Mike](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:58:34 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 2:53 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Nature, the Mississippi river and Moore lake

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Lakeshore plants like cattails and tall grasses with birds

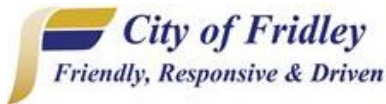
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Calm nature

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:58:13 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 1:12 AM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? **Cultural diversity**

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? **Multiple cultures**

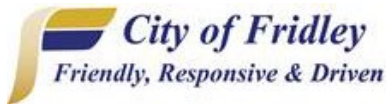
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **Community**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Ouiram, Jesslyn](#); [Maher, Mike](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:58:06 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 6:57 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? **Small town feel, Mississippi River.**

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? **The Mississippi River, birds, and we have beautiful green spaces throughout.**

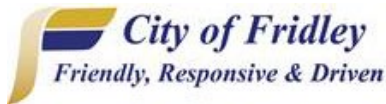
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **Nature.**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:57:55 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 6:28 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Nature/water, cultural diversity

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? River/Creek, owls, turkeys

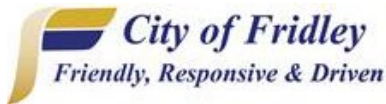
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? People coming together in nature!

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:57:44 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 3:08 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Diversity. Interconnectedness. Work ethic.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Osprey, eagles, swans and herons.
The intersection of rivers, creeks, and highways.
The full breadth of seasons and temperatures.

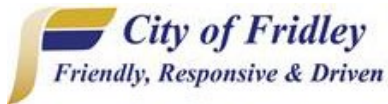
If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Together on the river.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Hall, Brooke](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: FW: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:57:39 AM

Brooke Hall
Communications Coordinator
City of Fridley
Direct: 763-572-3548
7071 University Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432
Brooke.Hall@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 3:07 PM
To: City of Fridley Communications Division <communications@fridleymn.gov>
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Racial diversity, parks/outdoors/wildlife, garage sales! :D

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Mississippi River!

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Inter generational family

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 1:41:16 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Helping and supporting. Especially of people of color.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Water representation because of the Mississippi and Rice Creek

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Joy

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 11:19:24 AM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Water, trees, community

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? Trees/water

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? Calming

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 7:36:19 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? **Spend the money somewhere else**

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture? **Spend elsewhere**

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? **Spend else where**

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 8:29:23 AM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

Inclusion, Acknowledging the indigenous land we are on, education,

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

The rice creek, Mississippi River,

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

A knowing our indigenous roots and moving toward a wisdom progressive future

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 8:57:14 AM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

Friendly Fridley
Meandering Waters representing the changes of time that keep Fridley a vital city and a good place to live. Moore Lake for its grounding, calm and steady influence.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

Mississippi River, Rice Creek, Springbrook Creek, Glen Creek.
The water of Moore Lake.

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

A friendly community embraced by beautiful waters.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 11:32:14 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent
Fridley or Fridley's community spirit? Diversity. Tigers. Families.

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the
sculpture, what would it be? Inclusion

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 10:48:09 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

Public art is not a valuable use of my tax dollars. Public art should be a donation from a local artist.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

No. I would like you to not spend my tax dollars on art when we can't fully fund raises and equipment for for our police officers and firefighters.

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

Imaginary. Non-existent and free. This is not a necessary expense and an irresponsible use of our tax dollars.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 10:31:17 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be? The diversity of our community.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 10:02:31 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

Water because of Moore lake, the river and rice creek. Sand, the soil is very sandy here and much of the area near Moore lake was once sand dunes. Weather is also an iconic thing in Fridley, there was a couple large tornados (one near commons park) that could be a neat theme.

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

I'd love for the art to be done by a local artist.

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

Community

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: [Jotform](#)
To: [Maher, Mike](#); [Quiram, Jesslyn](#)
Subject: Re: Commons Park Public Art Opportunity
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 7:23:26 PM



Commons Park Public Art Opportunity

What themes or symbols do you feel represent Fridley or Fridley's community spirit?

Water fowl
Wetland animals
Prairie plants
Diversity

Are there particular natural elements or local culture you would like to see reflected in the sculpture?

Anything that reflects our lakes, rivers and creeks I think would be very fitting!

If you could see one feeling or idea brought to life in the sculpture, what would it be?

Togetherness, working together, community

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 5, 2025

Meeting Type: Public Arts Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Jesslyn Quiram, Engineering Technician

Title

Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program Policy and Guidelines

Background

As part of a recently completed lighting project along University Avenue in Fridley, six new utility boxes owned by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT), were installed. MNDOT will allow the City to install and maintain art-printed vinyl wraps on the utility boxes.

Staff presented this option to the Commission and discussed the option of initiating a pilot program for utility box wraps in the city with an estimated cost of \$1,400 per box assuming there is \$500 stipend for artists and the City prints and installs the vinyl using existing equipment and staff at an estimated \$900 per box.

The Public Arts Commission provided a recommendation to pursue the program for the six utility boxes identified for the pilot program and the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation voted to fund the pilot program. Staff conducted research on similar programs in other communities and created a policy and guideline document to provide parameters for the program and information for artists that may wish to submit designs for the project.

Financial Impact

The Fridley Creative Arts Foundation has agreed to fund the utility box art wrap pilot program.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Commission consider a motion to recommend approval of the utility box art wrap pilot program policy and guidelines

Attachments and Other Resources

- Utility Box Art Wrap Program Policy and Guidelines

Vision Statement

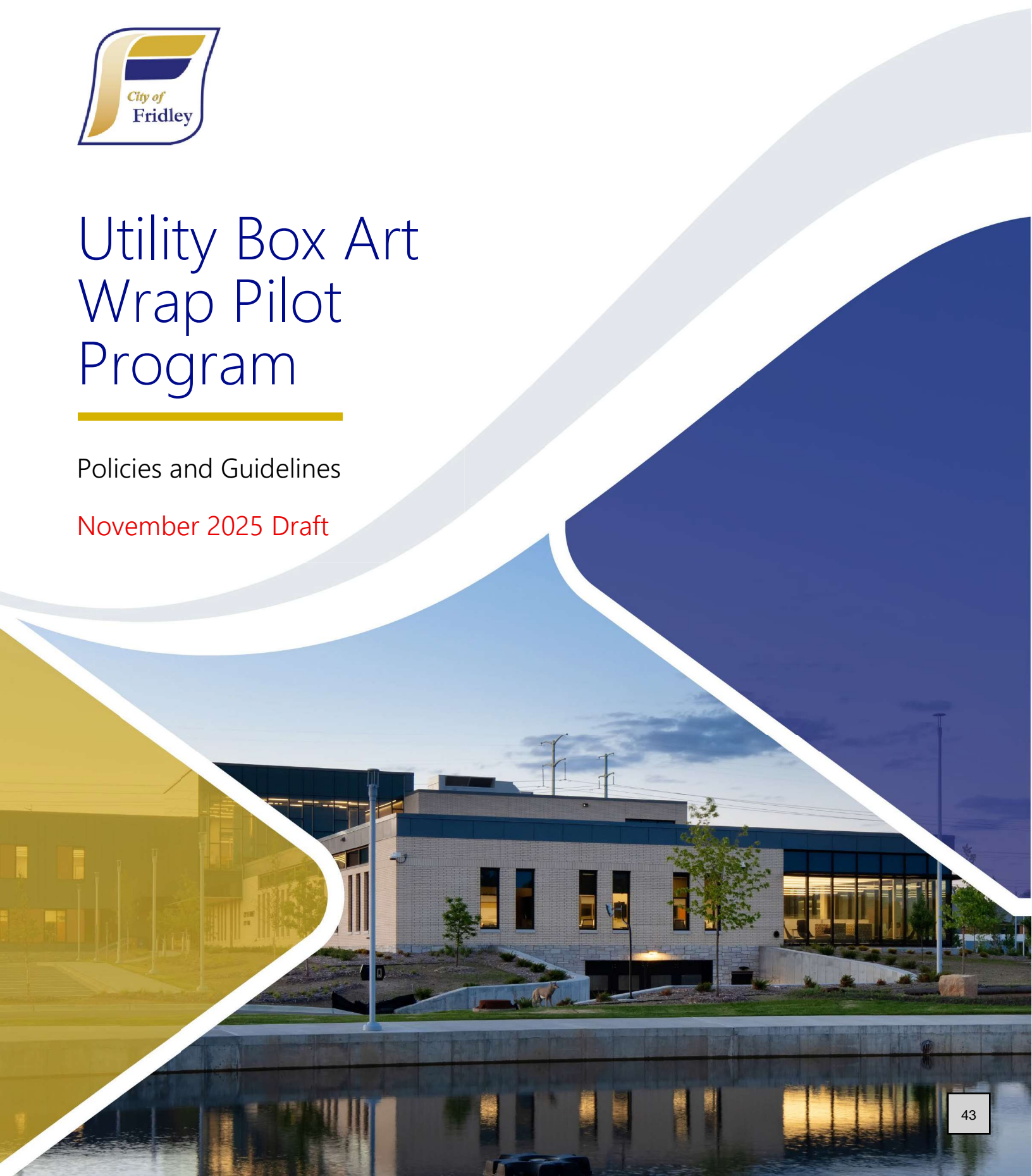
We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program

Policies and Guidelines

November 2025 Draft





Utility Box Art Wrap Program

Policies and Guidelines

Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program Policies and Guidelines:

The City of Fridley Utility Box Art Program is a public art program designed to transform utility boxes in the City into distinctive works of art, creating a more welcoming, vibrant, and attractive landscape. The City is seeking original designs by artists to wrap up to six designated utility boxes in Fridley.

The City of Fridley has identified six utility boxes along University Ave. (HWY 47) that will serve as a pilot program for utility box wraps to assist in evaluation of an expanded program. The pilot program implementation period will span from 2025-2027 and will allow staff, Commissions and Council to evaluate the selection process, program impact and maintenance responsibilities prior to possible program expansion.

Program Objectives:

- Distinguish the City of Fridley as a community with a growing public art program.
- Provide access across the community to public art in a high-traffic area.
- Determine the feasibility of an expanded utility box art wrap program.
- Strengthen civic pride and engage residents in the arts.
- Enhance the lives of residents and visitors through exposure to the arts.
- Provide a public venue for artists and aspiring artists to showcase their talents and bring a sense of community and belonging by promoting community pride, civic engagement, and cultural history.

Application and Selection Guidelines:

- Individuals of all ages may apply but minors must have a legal guardian submit the application on their behalf.
- Fridley-based non-profit organizations may apply.
- Submissions must be in the specified digital format and resolution. Minors who wish to submit artwork but are unable to convert the artwork to the specified format may apply, however the selection committee may choose not to select submissions of this nature if the cost to the City is prohibitive to convert submissions to the appropriate format. No more than one submission requiring graphic design work of this nature will be selected.
- Artists must submit their application and design by the deadline date. No exceptions.
- Artists may submit more than one design for consideration.
- Selection scoring by the Public Art Commission may include preference for City of Fridley residents or youth submissions.
- Final acceptance of the recommendations for selection by the Public Arts Commission are subject to final approval by the Fridley City Council.
- Selection will be based on artistic excellence, creativity and originality with further consideration towards visual impact and may be weighted towards Fridley residents.



Utility Box Art Wrap Program

Policies and Guidelines

Stipend and Incentives:

- City, in partnership with the Fridley Creative Arts Foundation, will provide a stipend of \$500 to selected artists or organizations.
- Program funding is provided by the non-profit Fridley Creative Arts Foundation.

Call for Art Process and Timeline:

- Application Submission Deadline: Friday, February 27, 2026.
- Anticipated Selection of Artwork: April 1, 2026, meeting of Fridley Public Arts Commission.
- Final Design Notice to Artists: Week of April 13, 2026.
- Artwork Installed: Summer 2026.
- Project timeline is subject to change.

Displaying the Artwork via the City's Website:

Representations of the selected artwork and/or photographs of the installed art wraps will be displayed on an interactive map of public art on the City of Fridley website and will include the location of the installation along with the name of the artist.

Artist Responsibilities:

- It is the responsibility of the artist to submit a complete application by the due date listed on the application, as well as to include all required artwork in the specified format.
- The artist must provide a final original design meeting the specifications pertaining to dimension, layout, resolution and content. The artwork may include an artist signature on one face of the design and may not be larger than 36 square inches on the final printed product.
- Youth submissions needing additional formatting must be clearly labeled as such and be submitted by a legal guardian on behalf of the youth artist.
- The artist retains the copyright of the artwork; however, the City is provided with an irrevocable license for its non-commercial use.
- The artist must execute the City's Artist Agreement.

City Responsibilities:

- Provide the template of the utility box layout for original artwork with specifications on accepted file types and resolution.



Utility Box Art Wrap Program

Policies and Guidelines

- The City will install the selected designs as a vinyl wrap and make the determination on which designs will be assigned to specific utility box locations.
- The City is responsible for the maintenance of artwork and expects a lifespan of 8-10 years for the applied vinyl wraps.
- The City has the right to copy, reproduce and adjust the artwork as it sees fit, in perpetuity.
- The City has the right to transfer ownership of the vinyl wrap and non-commercial rights for artwork to the Minnesota Department of Transportation if necessary to comply with requirement of the right of way for University Ave. (Hwy. 47)
- The City has the right to remove, replace or adjust the artwork as necessary for the duration of the project and/or the artwork.
- Coordinate inter-agency permitting and agreements related to installation, maintenance and removal/replacement of vinyl art wraps.
- The City has the discretion to select or reject any artwork.

Design Criteria and Guidelines:

- All artwork must be an original created by the artist.
- Art should be bright, bold, and inviting. Dark colors should be used sparingly due to the potential of overheating utility boxes. Artwork that contains majority of dark colors may not be considered.
- Art should be visible from a distance.
- Artwork must not contain:
 - Political statements or specific persons
 - Discriminatory imagery or language
 - References, symbols, or numerology specific to any religion
 - Copyrighted or trademarked material
 - Corporate or organizational branding (with the possible exception of Fridley-based non-profit organizations)
 - Images of illegal activity
 - References or imagery deemed offensive or controversial by the selection committee
 - Representation of traffic signals, signs, or other imagery that may distract or confuse pedestrians or motorists
 - Attachments of objects other than the printed vinyl wrap to the utility box



Utility Box Art Wrap Program

Policies and Guidelines

Program Resources:

Staff contacts for the Utility Box Art Wrap Pilot Program are:

Mike Maher

Parks and Recreation Director
(763)572-3575

Mike.Maher@FridleyMN.Gov

Jesslyn Quiram

Engineering Technician
(763)572-3546

Jesslyn.Quiram@FridleyMN.Gov

Design Specifications and Template:

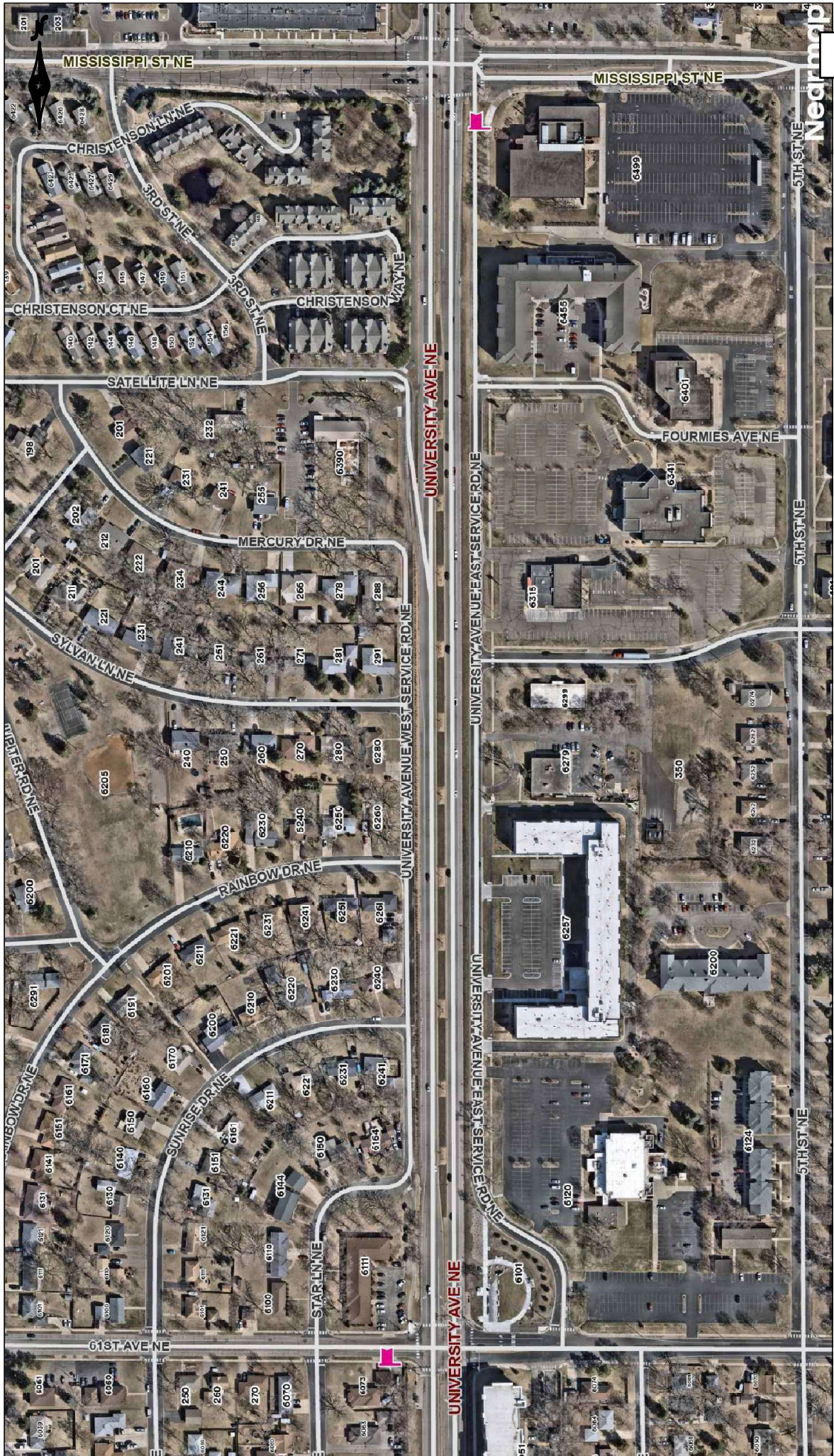
In development as of 10/27/2025 – Insert when complete

Utility Box Locations:

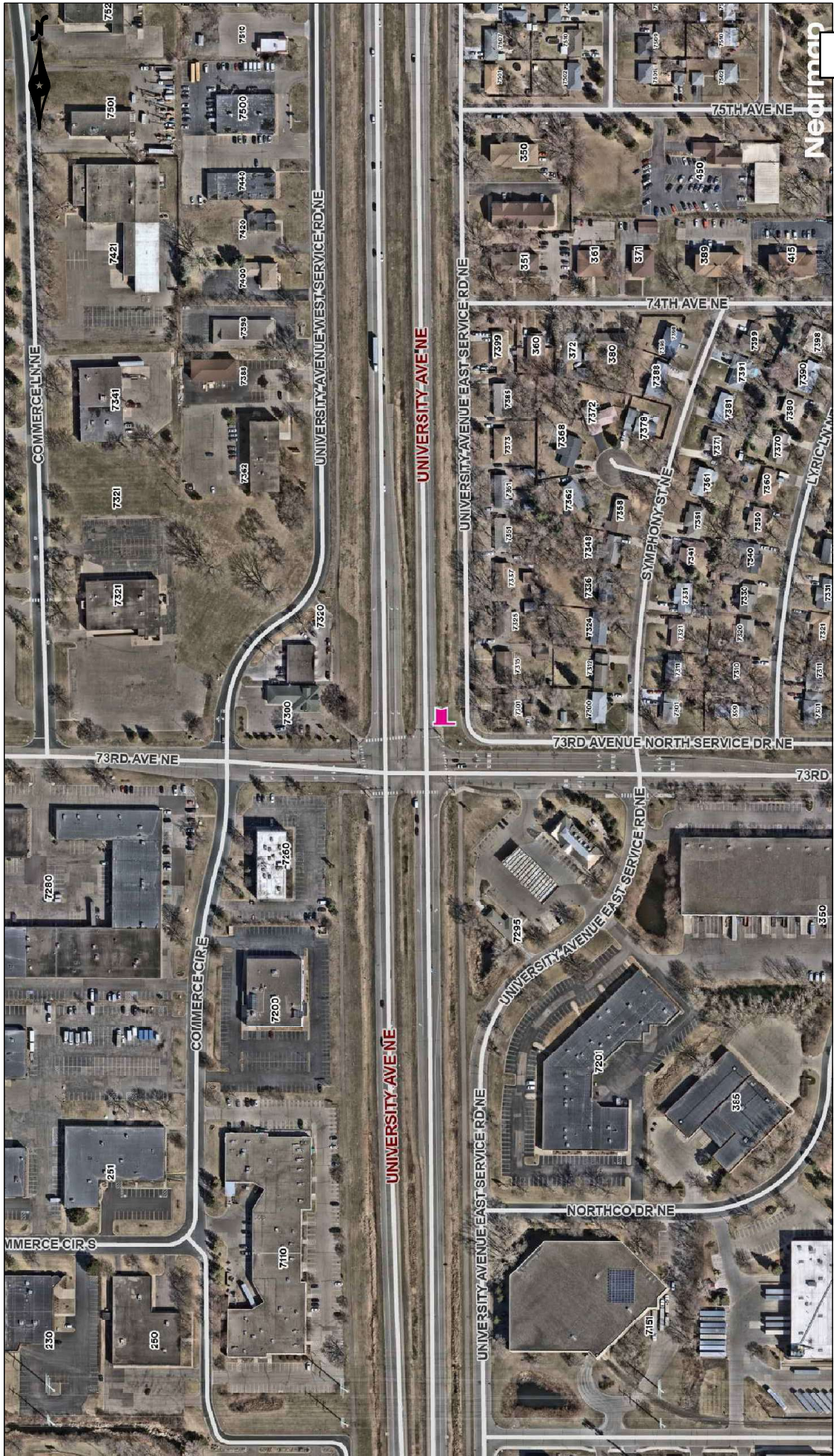
Attached



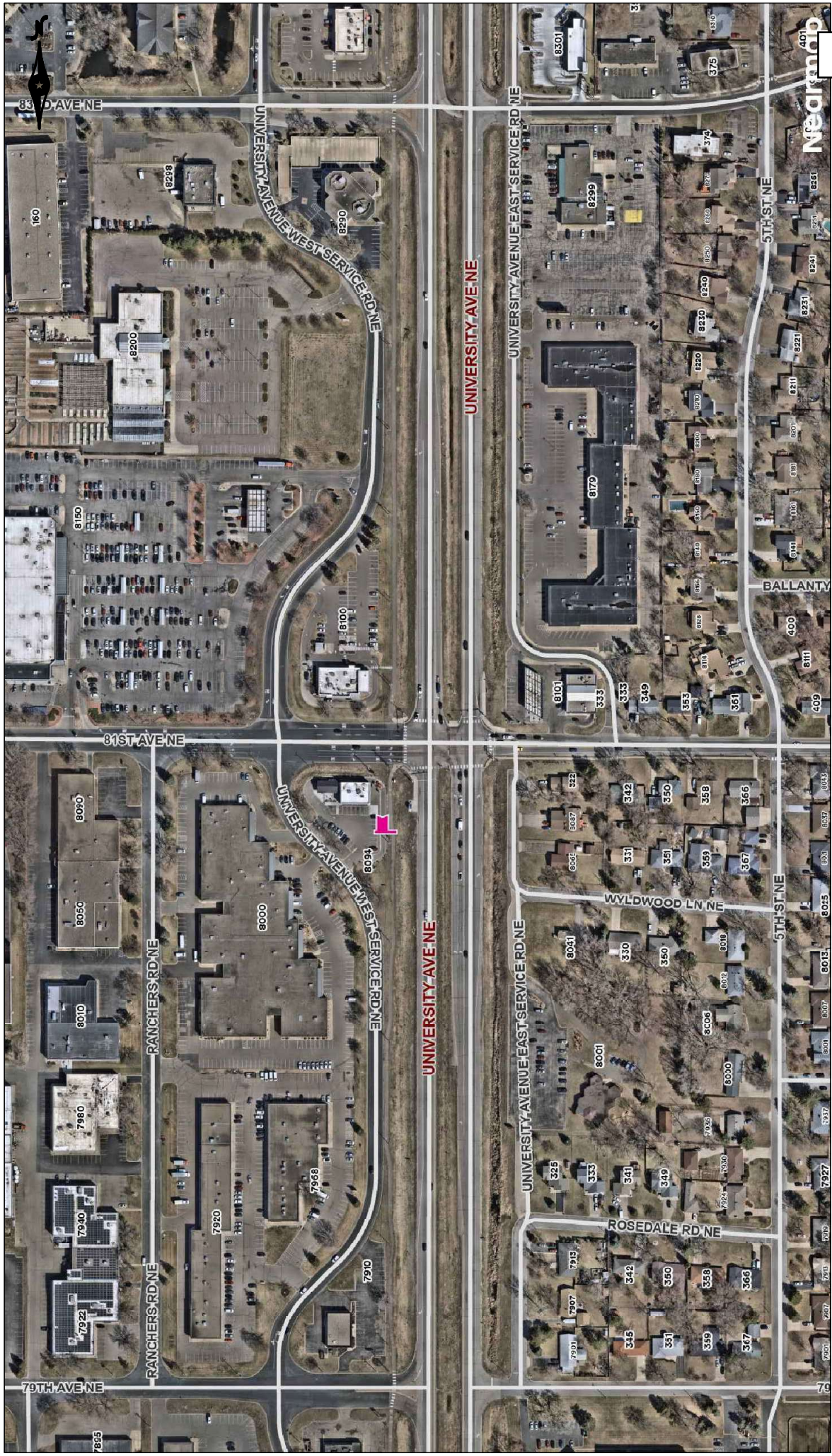
Item 3.



Item 3.



Item 3.



Item 3.

UTILITY BOX - INSTALLATION INFORMATION

UNIVERSITY LIGHTING PROJECT

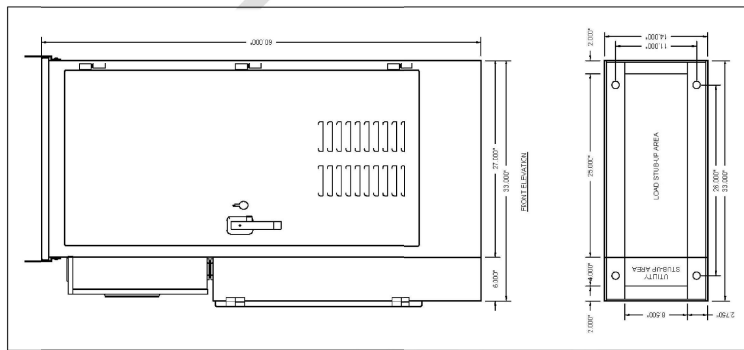
JULY 23, 2025



16 CABINET DRAWINGS AND SCHEMATICS

All example drawings provided in this section are for informational purposes only.

16.1 Front View L1 and L2 120/240 or 240/480 VAC



Page 25 of 31