

Elizabeth Mursko

From: Ben Gutknecht
Sent: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Elizabeth Mursko
Subject: Columbus Sign and DOT ROW Landscaping Update

Categories: Waiting for Response

Hi Elizabeth!

I wanted to write out and go over some of the main points from my update with Todd over at MNDOT. I've just gotten off the phone with him a minute ago.

First, he stated that if the **Sign is still proposed to be in the MN ROW, we will need to complete a ROW permit.** When we were talking about this, he wanted to confirm where the Sign is going to be located to ensure that it will be where we previously discussed, and that Todd will double check with his staff that the proposed location is compliant.

-So, with that in mind, **did the location discussed at the EDA remain the same?** (I believe it was on the off ramp on the west side of I-35?) and if so, is there a figure/map I can send Todd for his confirmation as well?

The second thing we discussed was DOT's timeline, they actually have contractors in the field/along the ROW right now, staking the area and doing minor prep work for planting in the spring. Todd himself anticipates **going out in the field on Thursday.**

He mentioned that if we were able to get a **sign in the ground April/early May that work great,** as it would be right before planting. Otherwise, they can do their best to anticipate the signs location to mitigate any potential plant removal if we aren't able to put something in until after.

Third, I actually spoke with him regarding cost and he expressed that in his experience most signs these days, especially with masonry, tend to run **\$30,000-\$40,000.** This then led to him stating he may actually be able to assist in the design process, depending on timing. He said **DOT may be able to help design a sign concept with Columbus (if it is being placed in the MNROW) at no cost to us because DOT has an interest with what is going in MN ROW.** The City would then have to find a contractor to draft the formal drawing and do the install. Just thought that might be something to run by the EDA if they're interested and if they haven't already heard from him.

Just some things to think about or run by the EDA, we can discuss a little later as well!

Ben Gutknecht,

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