[Lilac] “Rock Island” Park on Hwy 100 Vegetation & Stabilization

Andrea Weber| Historic Roadside Property Program Manager

Jessica Oh| Highway Sponsorship Program Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Purpose of Meeting

- Current Status
- Vegetation Management
- Volunteer Involvement
- Discussion and Questions

Current Status

Owned by MnDOT

City of St. Louis Park Council passed a resolution that No City Resources be spent on Rock Island.

Scope of MnDOT Future Work

One Time Removal of:

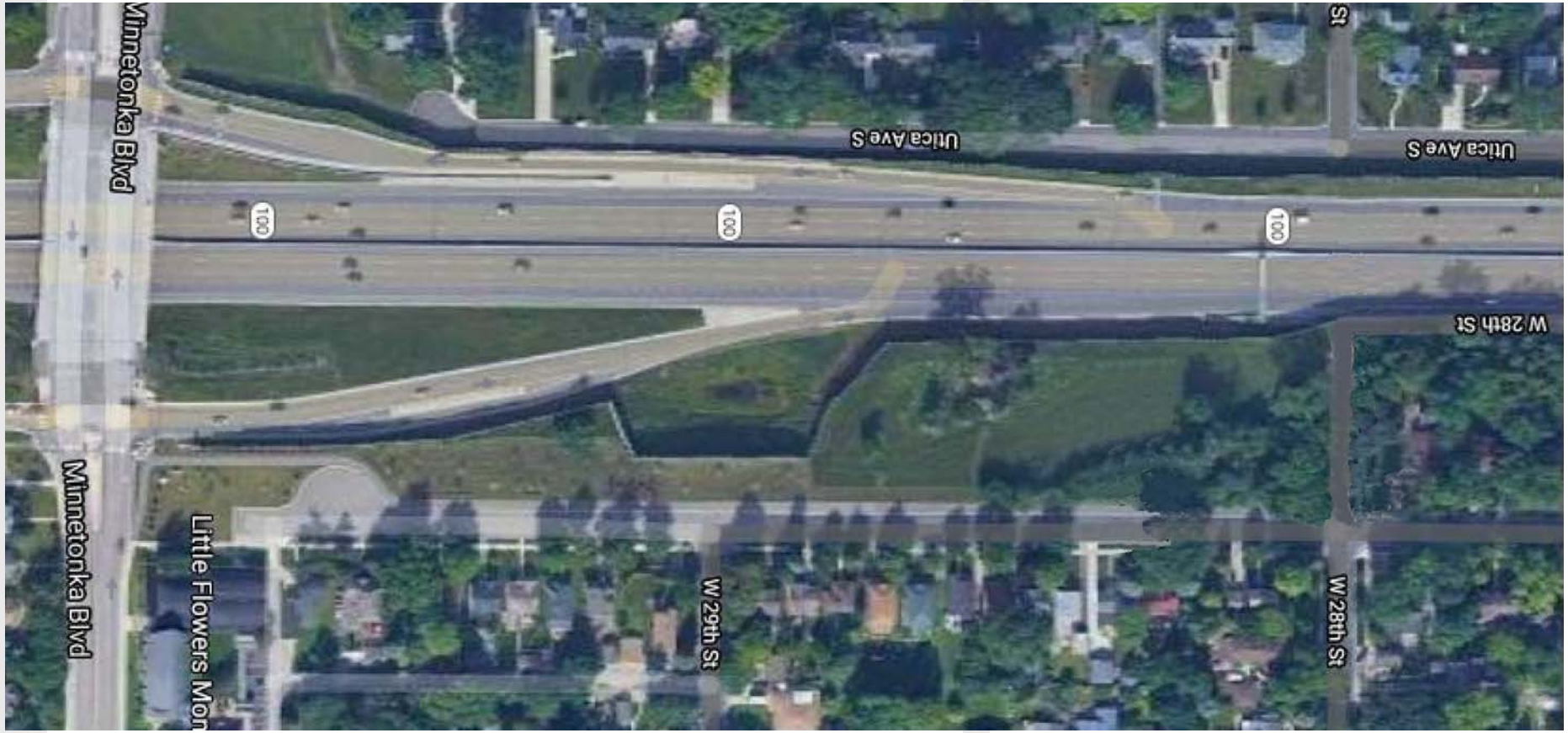
- Diseased trees
- Damaged and Dying trees
- Volunteer trees

Scope of Future MnDOT Work

Limited Vegetation Management

- Invasive Species
  - Buckthorn
  - Common mulberry
  - Honeysuckle
- Mowing

Removal Areas



- NE corner
- Rock garden area
- Access paths

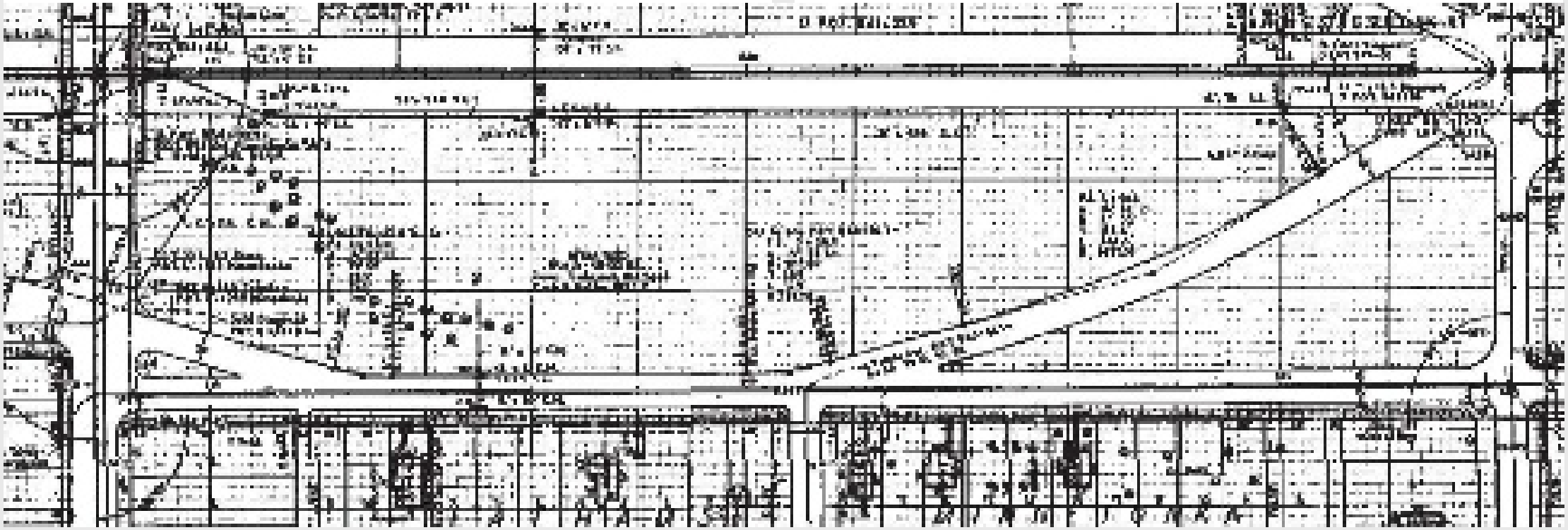
(North is to the right)

Historic Design

Carl Graeser-Hwy 100 Engineer
Arthur Nichols-Landscape Architect
1941 WPA and MHD construction

SP 2735-02 (1939 plan) Plantings: trees, deciduous shrubs

Stone Structures: "oven type" fireplace –aka the Beehive, stone picnic tables, rock garden, Bituminous and flagstone walks , Stone wall, parking



Historic Design

SP 2735-

1962 survey

Plantings: trees, deciduous shrubs

Parking loop off ramp at 29th St

Table

Preservation Standards

- Do No Harm
- Maintain existing materials, repair over replace
- New materials should not detract from site and should not create “false history”

Highway Sponsorship License

Setting up an Agreement for Vegetation Maintenance

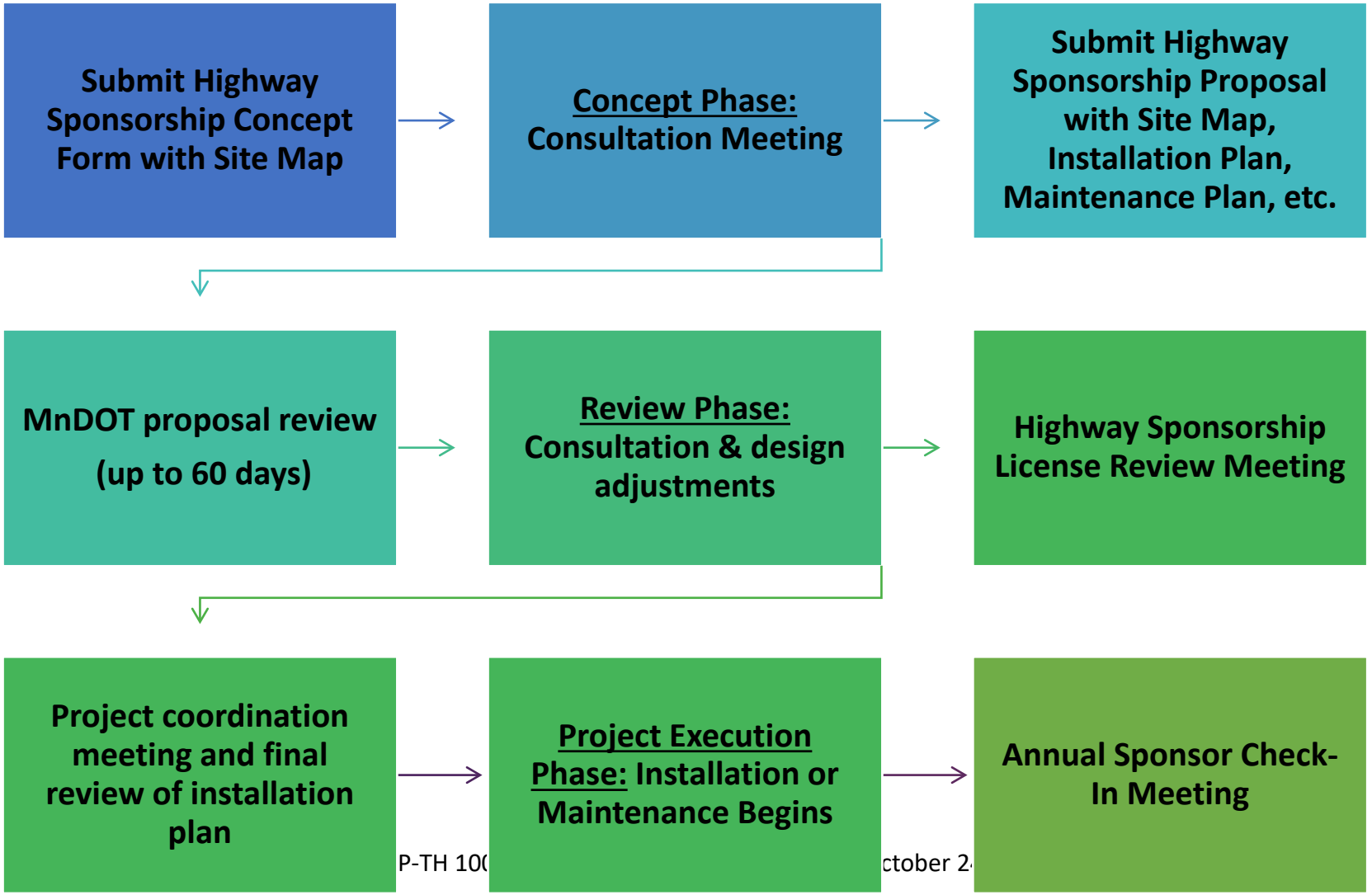
Jessica Oh| Highway Sponsorship Program Director

MnDOT HRP-TH 100 Lilac-Rock Island Park Public Mtg, October 24, 2020

Origin of MN §160.801 Highway Sponsorship Statute (2017)

- Allows agreements with businesses, civic organizations and individuals to enhance and maintain highway right of way
- Improve highway aesthetics and sustainability statewide
- Leverage taxpayer dollars by activating outside resources, reduce maintenance liabilities for MnDOT
- Create and maintain critical pollinator habitat
- Includes bicycle and pedestrian trails, roadside monuments, and historic sites.

90-180 Day Pre-Development process for highway sponsorship projects

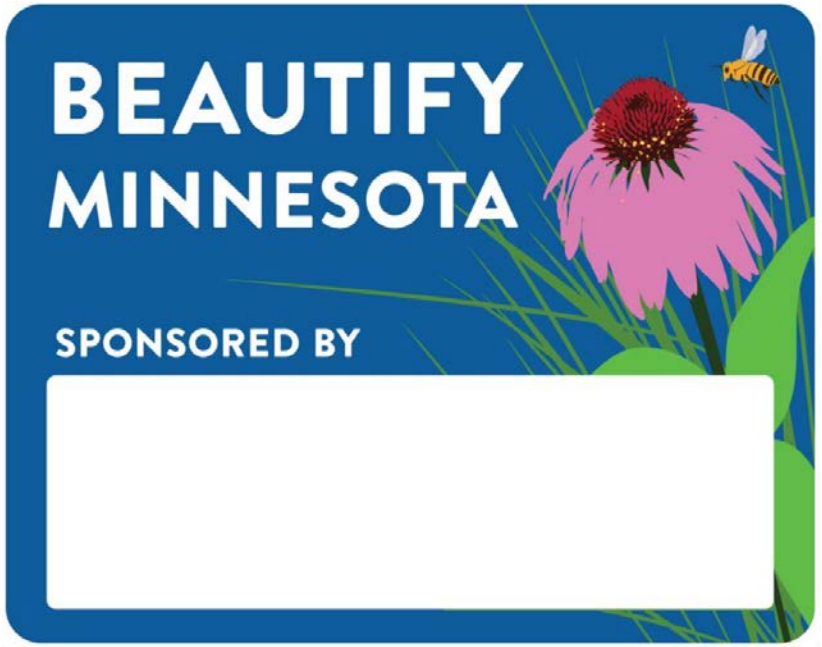


Visible Investments in Communities: Sponsor Acknowledgement Sign

The sponsoring organization is responsible for underwriting the full cost of the vegetation project, including landscaping design, purchase of plant material, installation and on-going maintenance activities.

Highway Sponsorship Licenses are typically 2-5 years in duration, or up to 10 years.

Sponsored projects may be eligible for a roadside Sponsor Acknowledgement Sign displaying the name or logo of (1) partner organization.

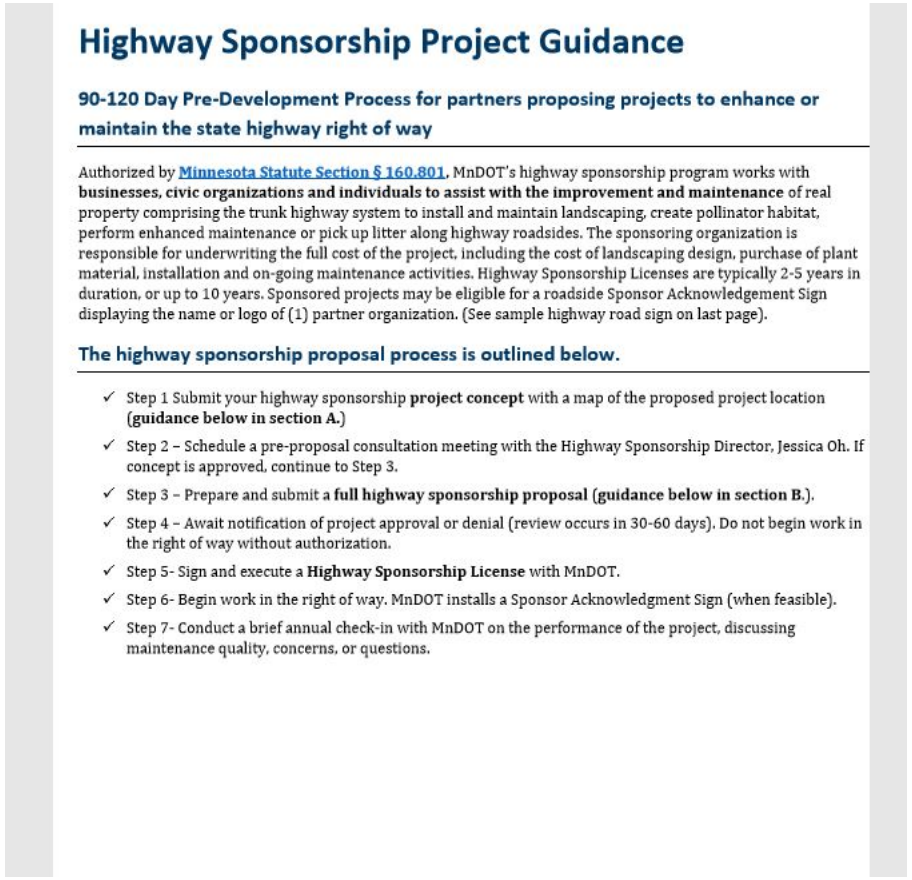


A snapshot of Highway Sponsorship License Terms and Conditions

- Agreed-Upon Planting Plan: Species and Materials
- Herbicide Use: Commercial Applicator License
- Agreed-upon removal of trees and plants
- Indemnification requirements

- No volunteers under the age of 12 will be allowed to perform sponsorship activities in the right of way. For each volunteer between the ages of 12 and 17, Sponsor will obtain the written consent of the volunteer's parent or legal guardian to participate using the Consent Form for Volunteers under the Age of 18. Sponsor will provide one adult supervisor for every 3 participants between the ages of 12 and 17. The Sponsor must provide copies of all signed Consent Forms for volunteers under 18 to MnDOT's Highway Sponsorship Director prior to entrance on the Sponsorship Area.
- Sponsor is required to carry 2 Million in commercial general liability insurance, and other insurance coverage requirements specified in the highway sponsorship license.

Next Steps



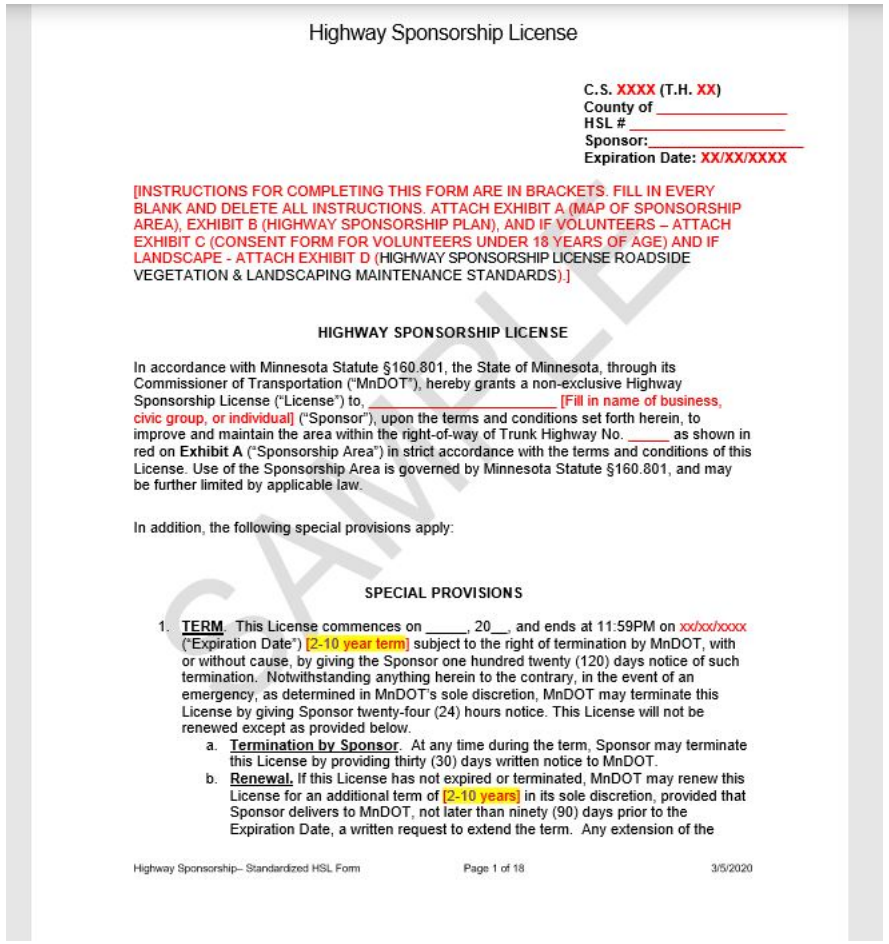
Highway Sponsorship Project Guidance

90-120 Day Pre-Development Process for partners proposing projects to enhance or maintain the state highway right of way

Authorized by Minnesota Statute Section § 160.801, MnDOT's highway sponsorship program works with **businesses, civic organizations and individuals to assist with the improvement and maintenance** of real property comprising the trunk highway system to install and maintain landscaping, create pollinator habitat, perform enhanced maintenance or pick up litter along highway roadsides. The sponsoring organization is responsible for underwriting the full cost of the project, including the cost of landscaping design, purchase of plant material, installation and on-going maintenance activities. Highway Sponsorship Licenses are typically 2-5 years in duration, or up to 10 years. Sponsored projects may be eligible for a roadside Sponsor Acknowledgement Sign displaying the name or logo of (1) partner organization. (See sample highway road sign on last page).

The highway sponsorship proposal process is outlined below.

- ✓ Step 1 Submit your highway sponsorship **project concept** with a map of the proposed project location **(guidance below in section A.)**
- ✓ Step 2 – Schedule a pre-proposal consultation meeting with the Highway Sponsorship Director, Jessica Oh. If concept is approved, continue to Step 3.
- ✓ Step 3 – Prepare and submit a **full highway sponsorship proposal (guidance below in section B.)**.
- ✓ Step 4 – Await notification of project approval or denial (review occurs in 30-60 days). Do not begin work in the right of way without authorization.
- ✓ Step 5- Sign and execute a **Highway Sponsorship License** with MnDOT.
- ✓ Step 6- Begin work in the right of way. MnDOT installs a Sponsor Acknowledgment Sign (when feasible).
- ✓ Step 7- Conduct a brief annual check-in with MnDOT on the performance of the project, discussing maintenance quality, concerns, or questions.



Highway Sponsorship License

C.S. XXXX (T.H. XX)
County of _____
HSL # _____
Sponsor:_____
Expiration Date: XX/XX/XXXX

[INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM ARE IN BRACKETS. FILL IN EVERY BLANK AND DELETE ALL INSTRUCTIONS. ATTACH EXHIBIT A (MAP OF SPONSORSHIP AREA), EXHIBIT B (HIGHWAY SPONSORSHIP PLAN), AND IF VOLUNTEERS – ATTACH EXHIBIT C (CONSENT FORM FOR VOLUNTEERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE) AND IF LANDSCAPE - ATTACH EXHIBIT D (HIGHWAY SPONSORSHIP LICENSE ROADSIDE VEGETATION & LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE STANDARDS).]

HIGHWAY SPONSORSHIP LICENSE

In accordance with Minnesota Statute §160.801, the State of Minnesota, through its Commissioner of Transportation ("MnDOT"), hereby grants a non-exclusive Highway Sponsorship License ("License") to, _____ [Fill in name of business, civic group, or individual] ("Sponsor"), upon the terms and conditions set forth herein, to improve and maintain the area within the right-of-way of Trunk Highway No. _____ as shown in red on **Exhibit A** ("Sponsorship Area") in strict accordance with the terms and conditions of this License. Use of the Sponsorship Area is governed by Minnesota Statute §160.801, and may be further limited by applicable law.

In addition, the following special provisions apply:

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. **TERM**. This License commences on _____, 20__, and ends at 11:59PM on xx/xx/xxxx ("Expiration Date") [2-10 year term] subject to the right of termination by MnDOT, with or without cause, by giving the Sponsor one hundred twenty (120) days notice of such termination. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in the event of an emergency, as determined in MnDOT's sole discretion, MnDOT may terminate this License by giving Sponsor twenty-four (24) hours notice. This License will not be renewed except as provided below.
   a. **Termination by Sponsor**. At any time during the term, Sponsor may terminate this License by providing thirty (30) days written notice to MnDOT.
   b. **Renewal.** If this License has not expired or terminated, MnDOT may renew this License for an additional term of [2-10 years] in its sole discretion, provided that Sponsor delivers to MnDOT, not later than ninety (90) days prior to the Expiration Date, a written request to extend the term. Any extension of the

Highway Sponsorship– Standardized HSL Form Page 1 of 18 3/5/2020

SAMPLE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Questions?

Discussion and Questions

Andrea Weber| Historic Roadside Property Program Manager

Jessica Oh| Highway Sponsorship Program Director

Thank You!

Andrea Weber, Historic Roadside Properties

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http://www.dot.state.mn.us/roadsides/historic/index.html

651-403-3746

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