DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

June 24, 2014

Case Number

DRB2014-20

Applicant/Owner

Dan Billmark Accessible Space, Inc.

Representative

Michael D. Knisely, Distyle Design, P.C.

Jana Cooper, PLA TD&H Engineering

Property Location

1630 Division Road

Requested Action

Design Review of a proposed three story, 38-unit, affordable, senior rental development

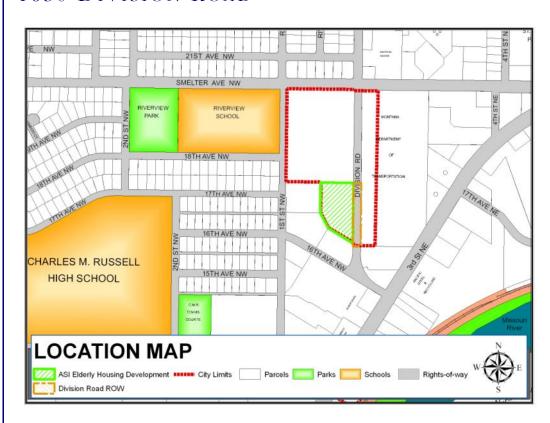
Recommendation

Approve design with conditions

Project Planner

Charles Sheets, CFM

VOYAGEUR APARTMENTS, LP 1630 DIVISION ROAD



Project Description

The project is being developed by Accessible Space, Inc. (ASI), one of the nation's premier nonprofit developers and operators of accessible, affordable, service-enriched housing for people with physical disabilities, including the frail elderly. The basic design for the building and site is to strike a balance between the building height and impact on the land, preserving existing native grass areas of the site for walking paths, water detention ponds, and landscaping. The site is located just north of Great Falls Clinic Northwest Facility, and the west boundary line abuts ASI's Meadow Lark Apartments.

Background

- Legal Description: Lot 5A, Block 1, Division Addition
- Property Area: \pm 102,802 square feet or \pm 2.36 acres
- Property Zoning: R-6 Multi-family high density district

Project Overview

ASI currently operates 11 accessible, affordable and supportive housing developments in Montana including three apartment buildings in Great Falls. Two of those developments, Meadow Lark Apartments and Southwinds Estates, are designed for very low income adults with physical disabilities. These two developments were made possible through funding grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 811 Program and the City of Great Falls HOME Program. ASI's other apartment building in Great Falls, "The Portage", is a 48 unit wheelchair accessible, affordable apartment building for seniors. The Portage opened in 2001 and was made possible through funding grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 202 Program and the City of Great Falls HOME Program.

The proposed Voyageur Senior Housing Development is a three story, 38-unit accessible, affordable senior rental development located on 2.36 acres on the west side of Division Road, north of 16th Avenue NW. The project is generally consistent with the recommended goals of the Great Falls 2013 Growth Policy. The project is an infill development within a larger unincorporated enclave. This type of housing development promotes continued growth and economical benefit for the City. The Growth Policy also calls for promoting redevelopment and infill as the primary community development mechanism. The Growth Policy states that the City should regulate new development to achieve a high degree of self containment and bringing substandard properties into compliance with City Code.

New Construction: Exhibit 28-1 Standards and Guidelines for specific projects and buildings

The proposed new construction complies with the standards and guidelines for design review of new construction contained within Exhibit 28-1. The property is relatively flat and the placement of the building positively addresses the terrain and proximity to adjoining buildings. The proposed primary entrance and public access to the parking lot faces east. The landscaping consists of a mix of trees, shrub, perennial beds, boulders, turf and native grass areas and complements the entire site. Site amenities for the residences include a walking path, benches, gardening beds, freestanding pergola, and outdoor patio and canopy.

Storm water detention ponds are designed into the site and work with the natural looking drainage swales along the west and south property lines. The storm water ponds will then release into the existing storm drainage system.

Division Road is a paved rural road that will be improved with sidewalks, curbing, paving section, water main and sanitary sewer mains along the frontage of the development. Two driveway approaches onto Division Road will provide good public and emergency vehicle access and circulation.

The new wood framed building will be constructed to high standards consistent with the current building codes and with energy efficient design. There are four major material areas on the building including the brick veneer base material, precast concrete lintels, wood fiber shake siding, stucco panels, and contrasting vertical siding. The exterior scheme and colors are represented on the rendering included within this Staff Report (Exhibit D). Additional architectural features like the entrance canopy, prefinished fascia and soffit, roof gable ends and false balconies enhance the visual quality of the building. The proposed exterior material, primary entry, façade design and colors create visual interest and appeal.

The electrical service equipment is being screened by a six-foot wood fence and landscaping.

Building exterior lighting is being added in the form of under canopy lights at the entrance, and pole mounted area lighting along the sidewalks and within the parking lot.

The storage/maintenance shed that is located on the southern edge of the parking lot will be constructed to match the main building. The project includes an internal refuse system for the residents to use and roll-out containers will be utilized for sanitation collections.

The proposed landscape plan includes 43 trees, including those proposed in the boulevard, and 200 shrubs that surround the exterior boundary of the site and are also within the vehicle use area.

Conformance with Title 17

The proposed project is in conformance with the relevant requirements of Title 17 Land Development Code including but not limited to zoning, setbacks, building height and lot coverage. Sign information for the project has not been provided at this time, but all signage would be subject to review and permit by the Planning and Community Development Department.

Conformance with Title 15

The applicant shall develop plans and specifications in conformance with the relevant requirements of Title 15 Building and Construction.

Summary

The construction of the new multi-family high density apartment building is compatible with nearby properties, natural features, and identified housing needs. The development of the subject property from a vacant undeveloped property to the proposed Senior Housing Development reduces the size of the unincorporated enclave, provides new housing opportunities, and will eventually promote development opportunities in Great Falls on the adjoining lot to the north. Staff supports approval of this application.

Suggested Motion

Board Member moves:

- 1. "I move that the Design Review Board (approve/approve with conditions) the Design Review Application of Voyageur Senior Housing Development, as shown in the conceptual development plans contained within this report and provided by the project representatives, subject to the follows conditions:
 - A. The proposed project shall be developed consistent with the conditions in this staff report, all codes and ordinances of the City of Great Falls, the State of Montana, and all other applicable regulatory agencies.
 - B. If after the approval of the concept development plan as amended by this Board, the owner proposes to expand or modify the conceptual development plans, the Director of the Planning and Community Development Department shall determine in writing if such proposed change would alter the concept for one or more review criteria. If such proposed change would alter the plan, the proposal shall be resubmitted for review as a new application.

The applicant shall develop plans and specifications in conformance with the relevant requirements of itle 15 - Building and Construction, of the Official Code of the City of Great Falls.					

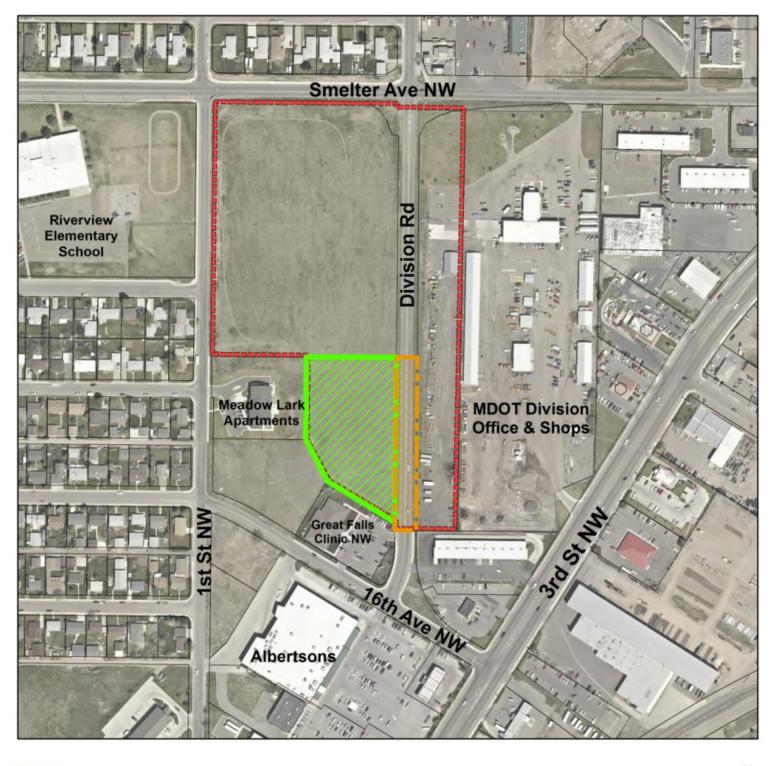
- 2. Chairman calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls the vote.
- CC Dave Dobbs, City Engineer
 Patty Cadwell, Neighborhood and Youth Council Coordinator
 Todd Seymanski, City Forester
 Jana Cooper, PLA, TD&H Engineering, jana.cooper@tdhengeneering.com
 Michael D Knisely, Distyle Design, PC, mkinsely@distyledesign.com

EXHIBIT A - APPLICATION

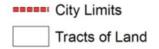
CITY OF GREAT FALLS PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.	Submittal Date:			
PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT. P.O. BOX 5021, GREAT FALLS, MT, 59403-5021 406.455.8430 • WWW.GREATFALLSMT.NET				
LOGESTAGEN (Logentie N. a Bronner ab)				
VOYAGEUR APARTMENTS				
Name of Project / Proposed Use: VOY AGEUR APARTIMENTS, L Owner Name:	.e			
2550 UNIVERSITY AVE W.,	STE 330N, ST. PAUL, MN 55114			
Mailing Address: 651 645 7271	dbillmark Gaccessible space or			
Phone:	Email:			
MICHAEL D. KNISELY (DISTYLE DESIGN, P.C. Representative Name: 3410 ININNETKA AVE. N., STE 103, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55427				
Phone:	Emall:			
PROJECT LOCATION: 100 DIVISION ROAD (APPROSI	WHIMATE ADD RESS)			
102,130	43,941			
Sq. Ft. of Property:	Sq. Ft. of Structure:			
LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
LOT 5, BLOCK SECTION 2. Mark/Lot: Section:	TWP 20 NORTH RANGE 3 EAST Township/Block Range/Addition			
I (We), the undersigned, attest that the above information Further, I (We) chart of said property authorize the above application DAN B. L. LANGE DE STORT	ove listed representative to act as my agent in this			
MKMBUY	5/21/2014			
Representative's Signature:	Date:			

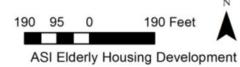
Form Creation Date: 01.26,2012

EXHIBIT B - AERIAL MAP









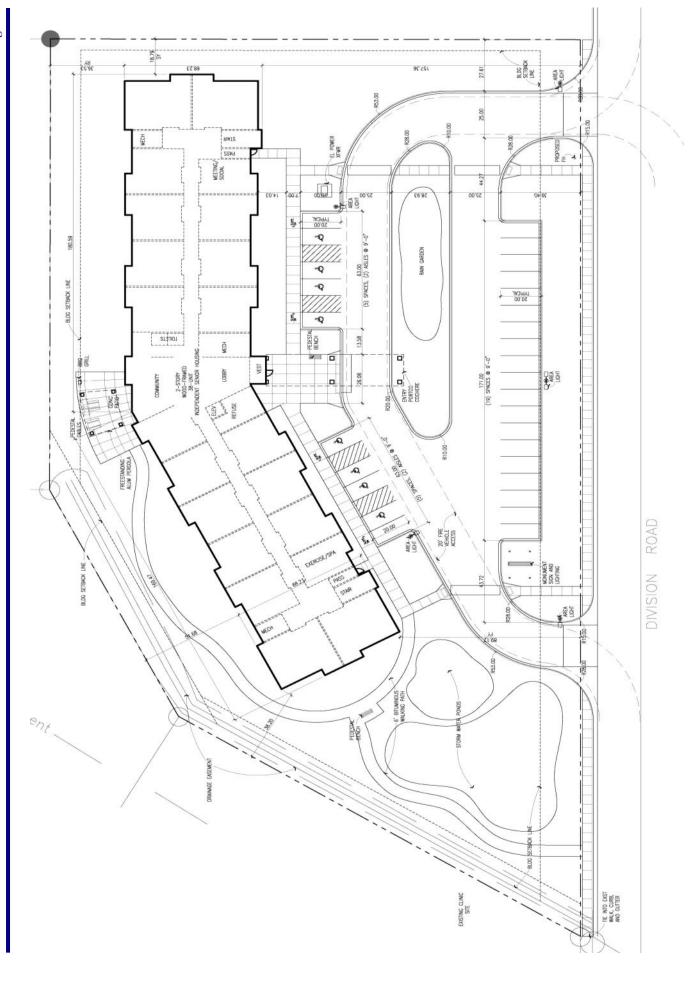




EXHIBIT E - ELEVATIONS

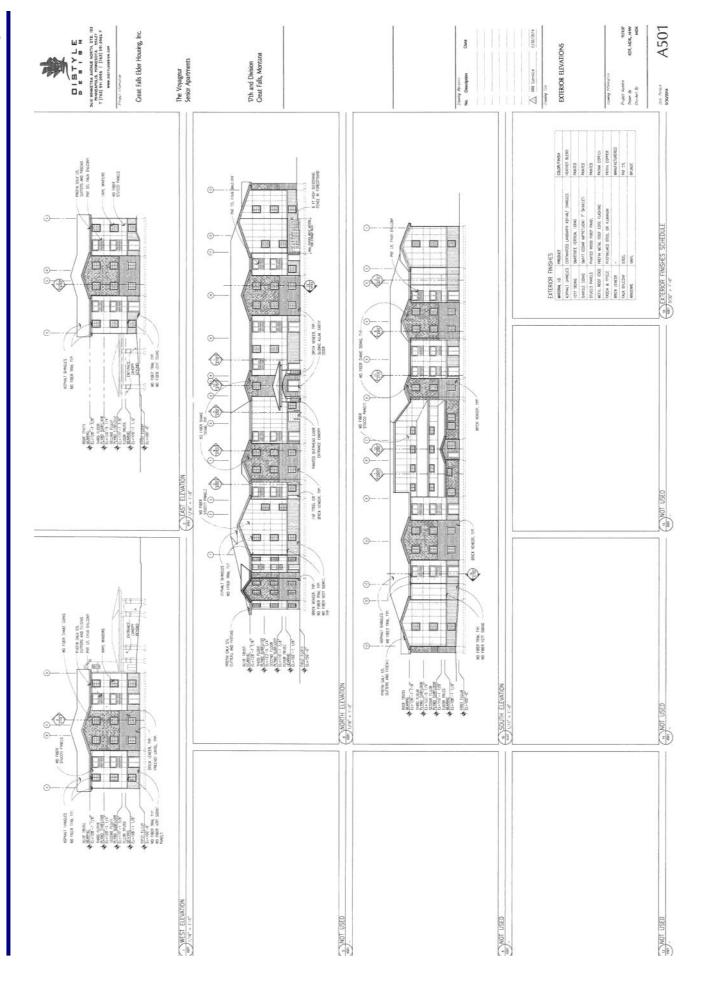


EXHIBIT F - LANDSCAPE PLAN

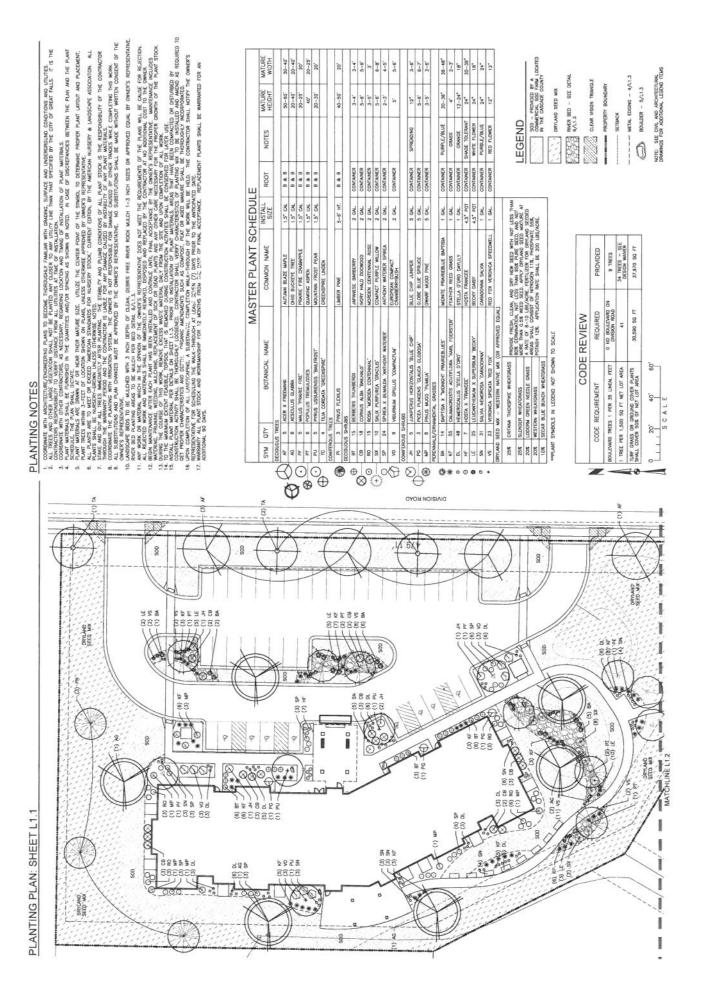


EXHIBIT G - MAINTENANCE BUILDING ELEVATIONS

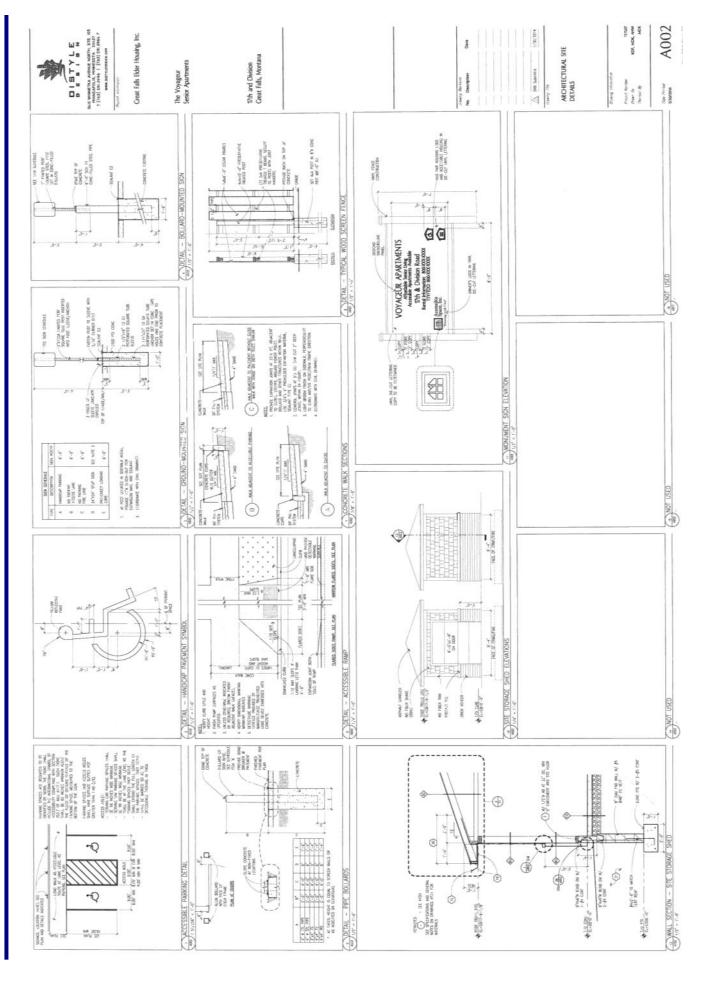


EXHIBIT H - SITE PHOTOS



View south along the subject property and Division Road.



View north along the subject property and Division Road.