

COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM



Meeting Date: February 21, 2017 Work Session

Action Requested: Trunk Highway 197 Crosswalks

Prepared By: Craig Gray, City Engineer

Background:

The City is slated to receive federal funds in 2018 to construct thermoplastic colored crosswalks at the TH 197 intersections of 2nd Street, 3rd Street and 5th Street. The intent of the crosswalks is twofold:

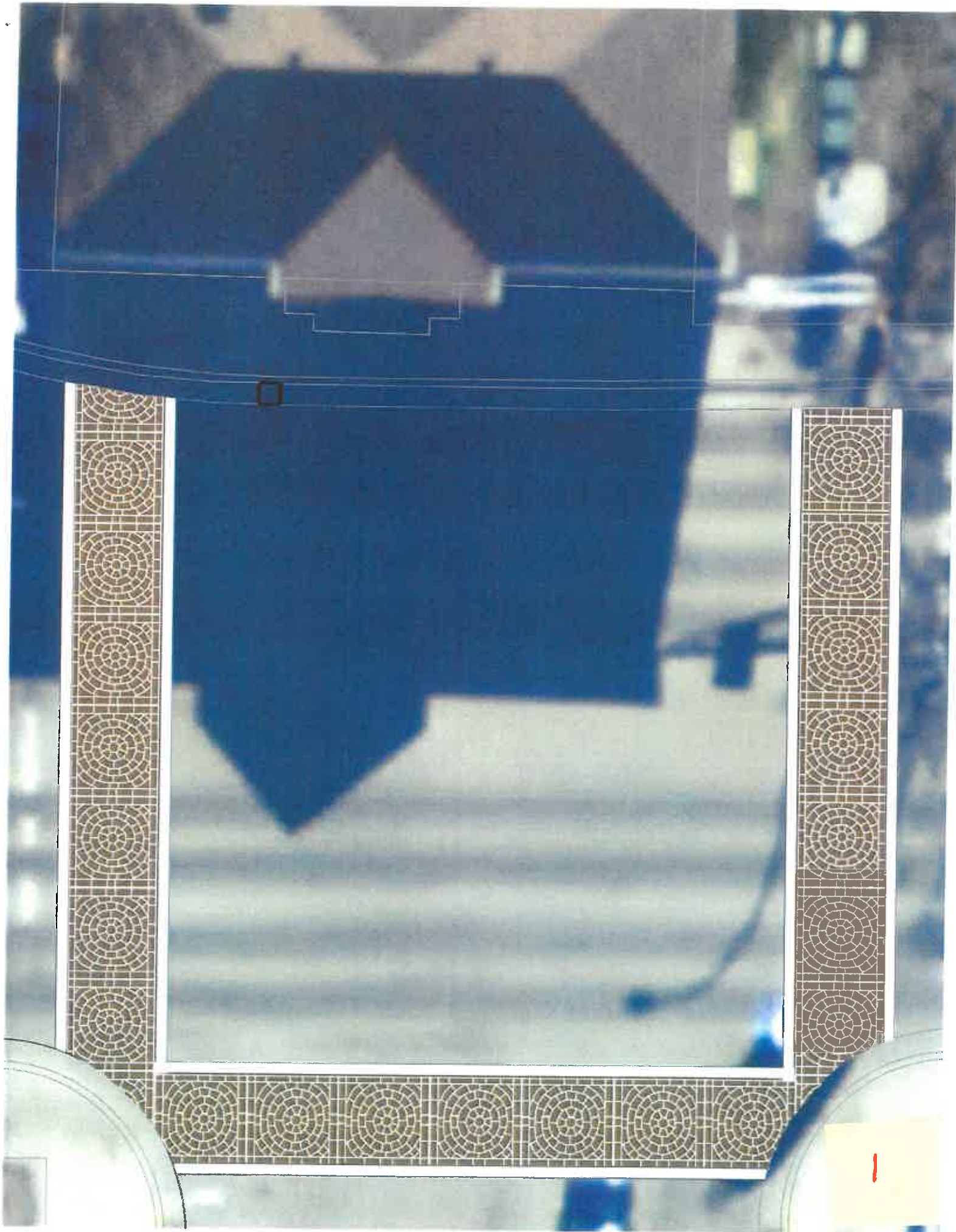
1. Make vehicular traffic more aware of the pedestrian crossings.
2. Provide a pedestrian crossing to downtown.

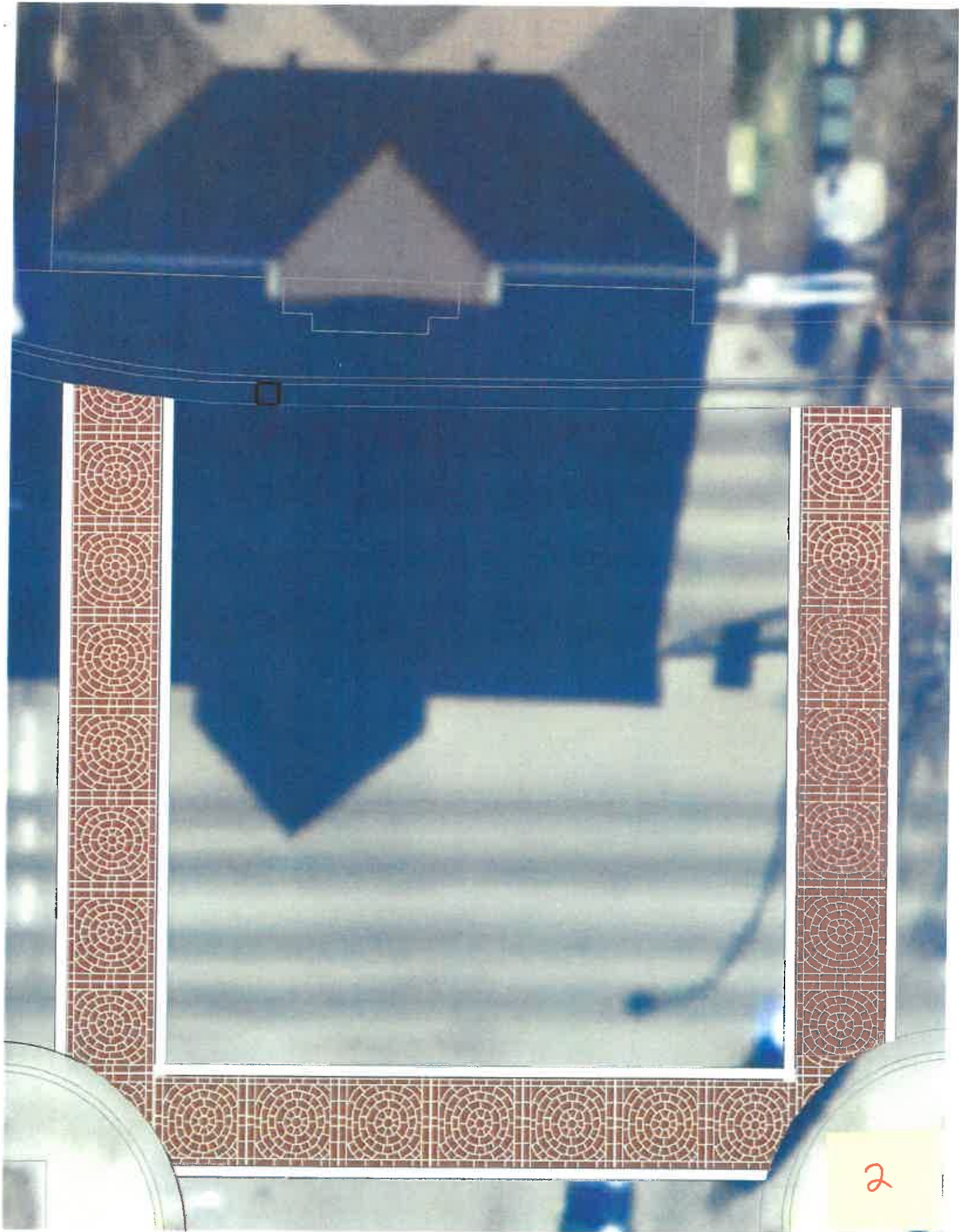
Federal funds will cover 80% of the construction cost and the city is responsible for 20% of the construction and 100% of the design and inspection costs. We currently have \$70,000 in the city's CIP for our share of the project.

We have spent the last couple of months working on design options for the crosswalks. I meet with the Bemidji Downtown Alliance on February 8 to present options and we also provided options to the Parks & Trails Commission on February 14. Many of the options that the BDA liked were determined by MnDOT to be too distracting and would not meet Federal Highway Authority guidelines. They did comment that they liked more of the north woods look.

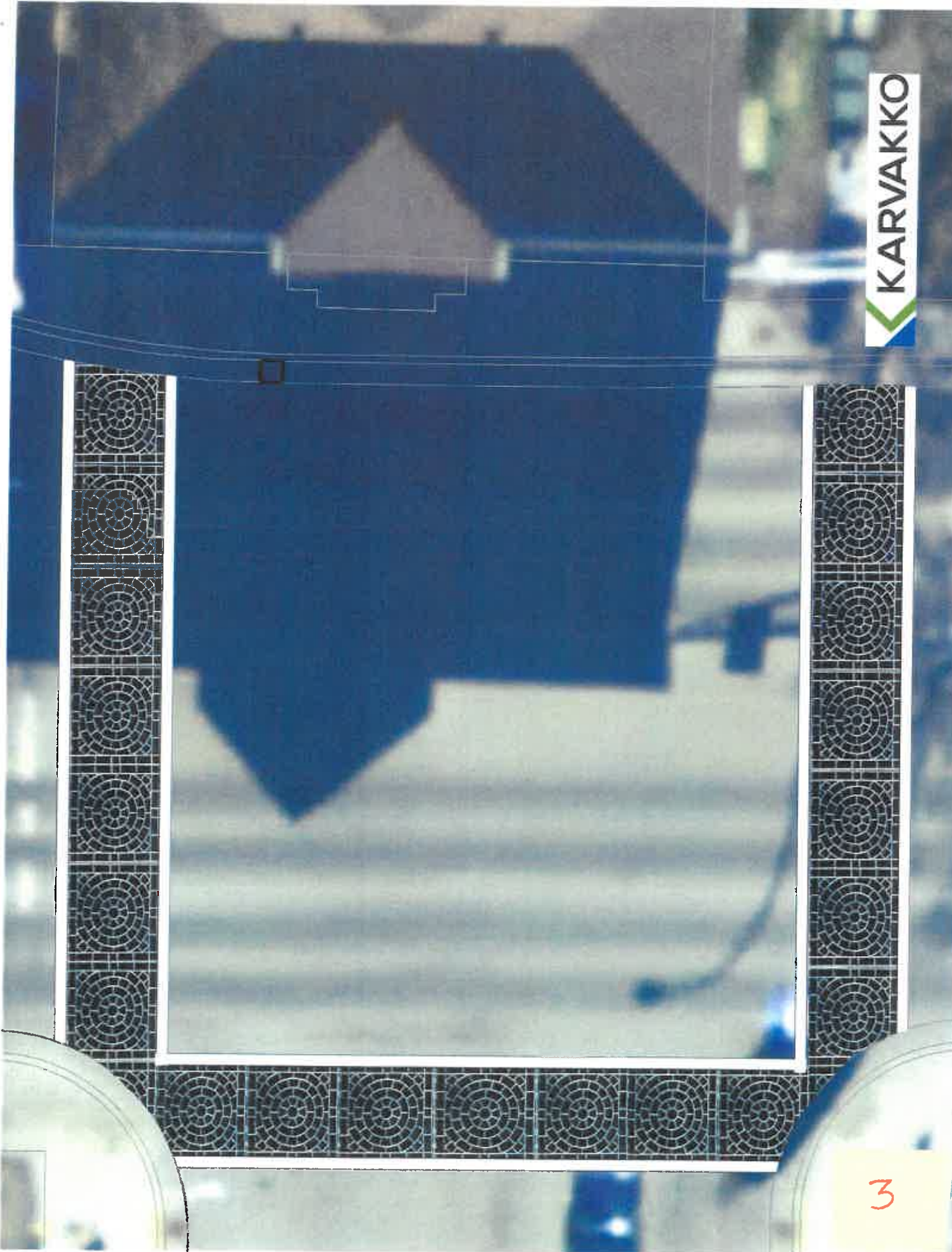
The attached 8 drawings show options that MnDOT says could be installed and that the Parks & Trails Commission also liked. As you can see a couple of these are just variations on a brown/red color scheme, which ties in with the colors used in the Paul Bunyan park.

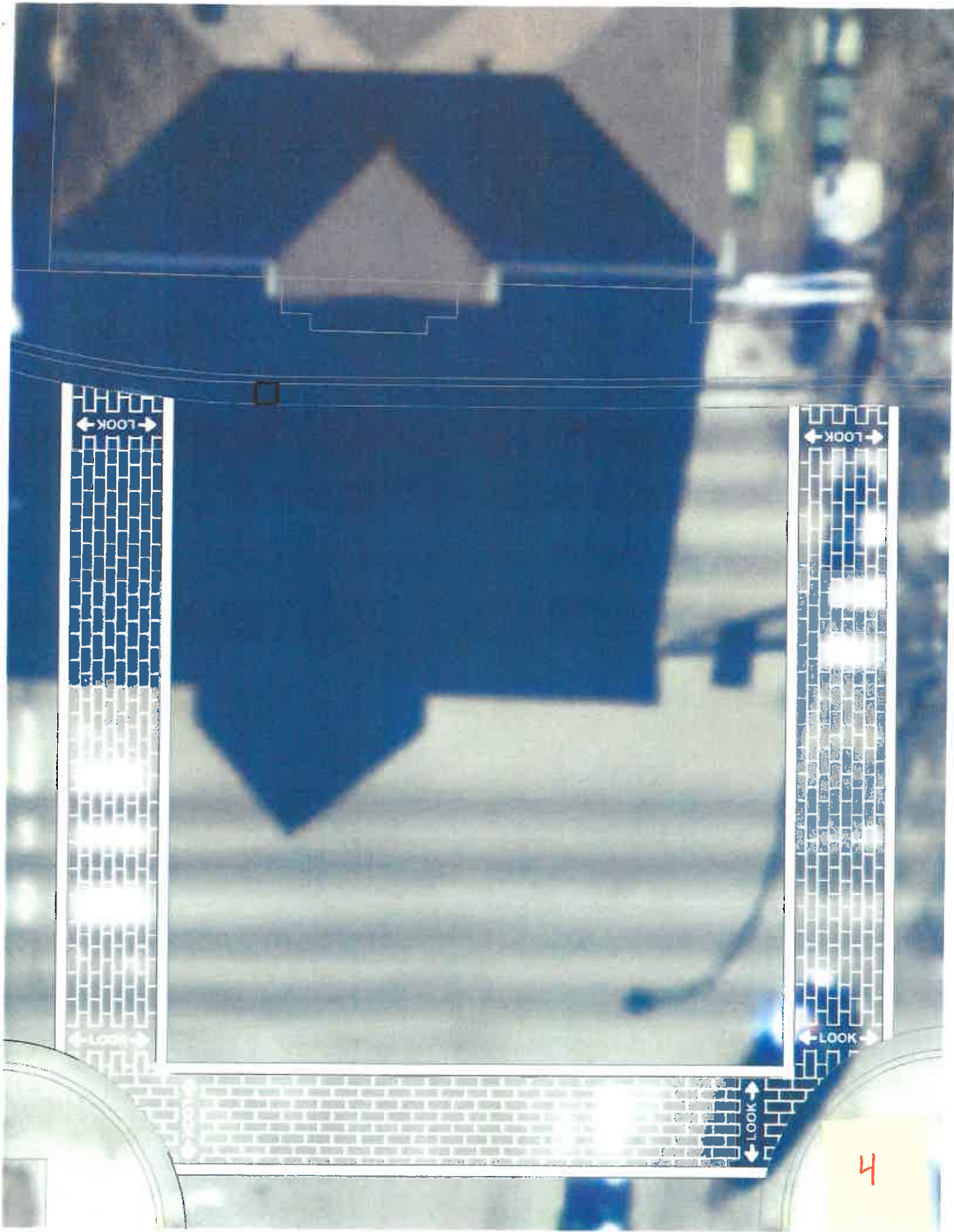
The intent tonight is to have the city council select an option that we can incorporate into our final plans and specifications. We need to have the plans submitted to MnDOT by the first part of March.



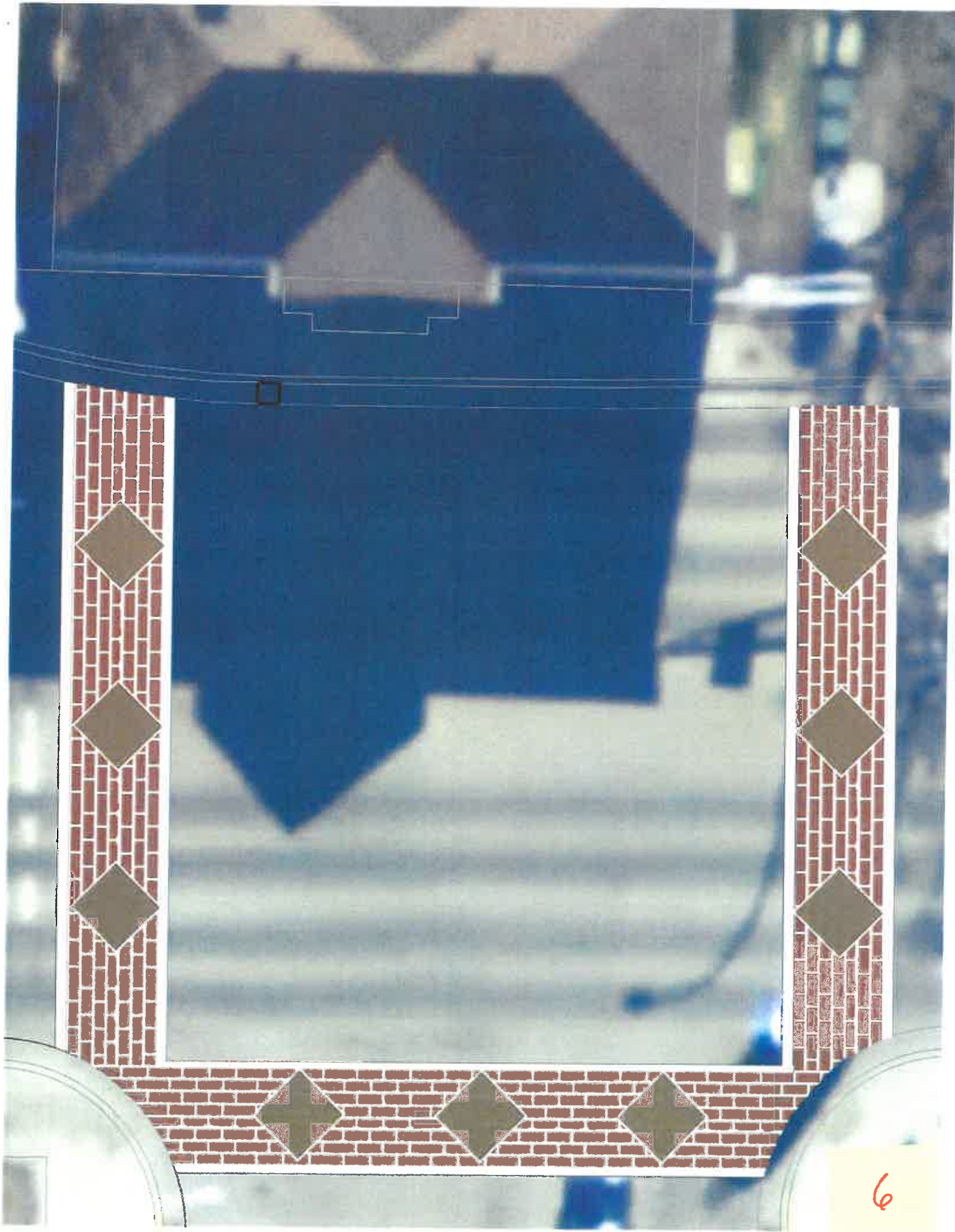


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