# GENERAL PLAN DEVELOPMENT

THE OXBOW

A multifamily residential development in WATERTOWN, WI





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#### INTRODUCTION

#### NORTH TOWN PARTNER'S DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

North Town Partners started in the automotive business. Van Horn Automotive Group operates 18 new and used car dealerships in Wisconsin and Iowa. While the primary business was selling vehicles, getting that job done required beautiful showrooms in great locations. As the company prospered, the scope of these real estate activities grew. Somewhat unknowingly, Van Horn Automotive developed a strong property management organization.

To take advantage of these newly developed competencies, Chuck Van Horn, CEO of Van Horn Automotive Group, merged these two functions into a business unit, Van Horn Real Estate Development. Van Horn Real Estate Development was renamed to North Town Partners to reflect the businesses' separate focus from the automotive group.

Currently, North Town Partners' portfolio includes \$85M under management with several others under active construction & development. North Town Partners manages and operates all our communities to ensure the on-site Property Management is first-class.

North Town Partners is committed to developing INSPIRED, ENGAGED & DETAILED real estate experiences that provide value to the community. North Town Partners seeks to bring another such experience to the Watertown community with; THE OXBOW



Figure 1: Proposed Community Logo



#### PROJECT NARRATIVE

#### **Project Introduction**

North Town Partners (North Town) has an agreement in place with CADY EMERALD LLC to acquire the old Johnsonville Meat Processing Plant at the intersection of E Division St. & N 2nd St with the intent to build a 68-unit market-rate, luxury apartment & townhome community known as The Oxbow.

#### Community Overview

North Town's proposed community includes 68 homes within 2 residential buildings. The primary building will be a 4-story, 65-unit apartment building. A smaller 3-unit, 3-story townhome building will front along 2nd Street, with an attached garage on the lower level. Both buildings will be under single commercial ownership all units are rentable as a singular multifamily community and no unit is individually for sale.

A variety of housing types was a guiding principle of this community. 36 One-bedroom, 18 Two-bedroom, and 14 Three-bedroom homes will be provided as detailed in the table inset at right. However, the Three-bedroom homes will be split amongst traditional apartment style, a hybrid townhome style unit within the apartment building, and a traditional townhome style home along 2nd street.

Туре	#	%
3-Bed Townhome	9	13
1-Bedroom Apt	36	53
2-Bedroom Apt	18	26
3-Bedroom Apt	5	7

#### PROPOSED PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

#### General Project Themes and Images



Figure 2: Watertown Public Library

North Town Partners collaborated with Abacus Architects to bring the Oxbow project to life. After several visits to Watertown, the project team was inspired by the Public Library, which served as the foundation for the project's theme. The design aesthetic of the Oxbow will reflect clean, classic, and simplistic elegance, skillfully blending elements of historic and classical architecture with modern touches.



Along with the design inspiration, the project team also wanted to incorporate a color palette that would stand the test of time and not select a design trend that with fall out of style within a decade. Again,

utilizing the library as an example, a warm neutral palette was selected along with a cream-colored masonry which appears to be the predominant masonry theme in Watertown.

Lastly, the team focused on the active open space to provide an enhanced quality of life & a sense of community that encourages community interaction with the natural and surrounding amenities. The obvious aspect of this is the activation and use of the riverfront to tie the community to the surrounding area. However, this also includes balcony and patio spaces for the units including large rooftop patios on the tiered, endcap, hybrid townhome units. This also achieved the desired effect of stepping the building down at the periphery to better blend a higher density building into the surrounding residential areas.



Figure 3: Proposed Color Palette

Below is a rendered exterior elevation of the front of the building. Please see Exhibit A for the complete Architectural renderings of the proposed development and Exhibit B for the Site Plan.



Figure 4: Exterior Rendering



#### General Mix of Dwelling Unit Types and Land Uses

As mentioned in the Project narrative the general mix of dwelling types is included in the table to the right. Land use will be exclusively Residential (Central Business Apartments).

Туре	#	%
3-Bed Townhome	9	13
1-Bedroom Apt	36	53
2-Bedroom Apt	18	26
3-Bedroom Apt	5	7

#### **Residential Densities**

The residential density of the proposed development is described by the various intensity calculations below:

- Dwelling Units per Acre [ 38.9 ]
- Floor Area Ratio [ 0.36 ]
- Impervious Surface Area Ratio [ 0.62 ]

#### Natural Features

As alluded to earlier in the narrative the existing site condition is a vacant, partially paved & graveled site that generally slopes from N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street down to the Rock River. The site was the existing location of a Johnsonville meat processing plant that has since been demolished, filled in, and rough-graded to its current state. Based on Aerial Images and historical records the site was fully improved and impervious to the river except for the NW flag parcel that has since been incorporated into the property.

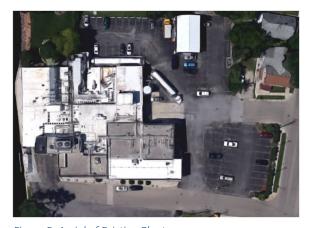


Figure 5: Aerial of Existing Plant

Figure 6: Current Site Conditions

All wet and dry utilities are already available and stubbed into the property given its existing use. Of note, there is a sewer line that crosses under the Rock River along the direction connecting Rock Street to Cole Street and then a lateral extends north running parallel to the river. The proposed building orientation and setback account for this sewer line to ensure no part of the building is over the sewer line and any easement.

Given the sloping topography of the site, the team is proposing a lower parking level, exposed on the west side and underground on the east side. This will allow the community to be developed with reduced impact on the overall mass grading of the site.

Lastly, it should be noted that this property is bisected by the county line separating Dodge and Jefferson counties. Additional considerations are being made to account for this demarcation as it will affect



municipal reporting, voting districts, zoning requirements, etc.

#### Relationship to Nearby Properties and Public Streets

The site is bounded by a mix of business & single-family homes to the north, Cole Street to the south, N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to the east, and finally by the Rock River to the west. The table to the right notates the various setback information. To better blend the building into the surrounding residential areas, the apartment building will step down on the edges. The Townhome building

Setback	Feet
North (Side-Residential)	10
South (Side-Street)	0
East (Front-Street)	3
West (Rear)	64

will front N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in a traditional reduced setback nature to provide that sense of urban/suburban living while still providing access to rear-loaded attached garages. A Location Map provided in Exhibit C also provides further details on the surrounding area.

As part of the development process, North Town partners will seek the discontinuance of the northern half of the Cole Street ROW. Vacating this ROW will allow the community to provide additional Townhome units along N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, increased setbacks, and better orientation of the overall property. Cole Street will serve as the primary access road to the garage opening to the lower parking level while the main entrance at the surface level will be aligned with the E Division Street extension to the property.

#### Cohesion to Watertown's Guiding Principles

The Oxbow will contribute to and reinforce Watertown's 2040 Vision Statement and its Overarching Plan Recommendations such as:

- Promote high-quality design in any new multi-family, mixed-use, commercial, and industrial development, traditional neighborhood development, and interconnected neighborhoods.
- Facilitate smart growth by utilizing opportunities for redevelopment throughout the city
- Focus investment downtown and along the Rock River
- Encourage redevelopment of brownfield sites

Watertown boasts impressive community assets that enhance its appeal to residential development. Located midway between Milwaukee and Madison, the city sits along the Rock River, featuring an up-and-coming downtown area and a beautiful riverwalk. The Oxbow will seek to tap into these assets and design esthetics, amenities, and connectivity around these features.

The main focus will be the Rock River. The Oxbow will be oriented to maximize views of the Rock River, both to the immediate west and the north. A sanitary sewer line running parallel to the river will inherently create a greenspace that will be activated with public-private features. A promenade, grilling stations, a fire pit, and lounge areas will not only provide great community amenities but will also provide access for sanitary line maintenance if required.

Although not located on the main downtown corridor, the Oxbow aims to enhance the overall downtown area. By redeveloping an underutilized brownfield site, the Oxbow intends to serve as a catalytic development that will draw further investment into this part of Watertown. This site is identified in various downtown planning efforts as a key area for pedestrian connectivity. North Town Partners will collaborate with the City to establish a pedestrian corridor anchor and hopes to bring the envisioned riverwalk to fruition.



According to RINKA's Downtown River Corridor Opportunity Analysis & Strategic Development Plan, respondents prioritized high-quality public amenities, investment opportunities, and walkability/connectivity. The Oxbow will address these priorities while leveraging residential density to support existing businesses. The spending power of future residents is expected to bolster local businesses and retailers, contributing to economic and employment growth. Exhibit D presents the estimated annual spending by residents of The Oxbow, showing a total estimated spending by households of around \$5,500,000.

Furthermore, housing demand is significantly driven by the need to provide accommodations for a growing population, along with a variety of housing options for a diverse community. The Oxbow offers a range of new housing options that specifically address these needs for current and future residents. With one to three-bedroom apartment units, hybrid apartment townhomes, and traditional townhome units, the proposed community will attract young professionals, provide new opportunities for current City residents, and allow residents to age and thrive in place.

#### Planned Development Rationale

North Town Partners respectfully requests that the City consider this development, as outlined in the accompanying information and drawings. In alignment with the City's overarching principles, North Town Partners aims to create inspired, detailed, and engaged communities that feature dynamic, community-oriented amenities. This approach is designed to enhance the area's character, foster a sense of place, and support future investments. Maximizing the overall density of the community is essential for the financial viability of the project. To ensure a high-quality, well-amenitized, and efficiently managed operation, we are seeking a minimum of 70 to 80 residential units. Achieving this density on a prioritized brownfield redevelopment site of just 1.6 acres presents challenges that conflict with standard zoning regulations. The overall impact of this project is intended to catalyze revitalization in the Downtown River Corridor and fulfill one of the City's top three priorities as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. To accomplish this goal, North Town Partners is requesting the proposed PD zoning with requested exemptions as listed below.



#### **Zoning Standards Comparison**

Listed below are the zoning standards listed for the Central Business District and how they compare to the proposed Planned Development:

#### **Residential Land Use Standards**

Central business apartments (more than 12 dwelling units).	Proposed PD
This dwelling unit type consists of an attached, multifamily residence that takes access from a shared entrance or hallway.	Meets
Dwelling units are allowed on the first floor.	Utilized
A minimum building code required fire-rated wall assembly division, separating living areas from the lowest level to the underside of the roof is required between each dwelling unit.	Meets
No fewer than 12 dwelling units may be located in a building.	Meets
Central business apartments shall only be allowed within the Central Business Zoning District.	Meets
Central business apartments shall not be allowed on a historic site or a contributing property located within a historic district regulated under Chapter 325 of the City of Watertown Municipal Code.	Meets (subsections do not apply)
Central business apartments shall also be required to go through the planned unit development process under § 550-152.	Meets
Access limitation of dwelling unit to commercial uses. No dwelling unit shall open directly into or shall be used in conjunction with a principal or accessory commercial land use.	Meets

#### **Bulk Standards**

Minim		Minimum Minimum	Minim	Minimum Setbacks (feet)				Maximum
Zoning District	Lot Area	Lot Width (ft)	Front / Street; Side	Rear	Side/Rear from Accessory	Pavement	Building Separation (feet)	Building Height (feet)
Central Business	2000	10	Maximum setback of 0 feet or block average, except per Plan Commission as a component of site design; side yard is 10 feet from residential	0/10 <sup>1</sup>	3/5²	03	Maximum is 0, except per Plan Commission	50; minimum is 20, except per Plan Commission
Proposed PD	70,567	225	3 Front, 4 side (street), 10 side (residential)	64	NA	14	NA	49'-3" - 59'-3"

#### Notes:

- 1 Ten feet from residential districts
- 2 Accessory buildings shall be three feet from the property line, five feet from an alley
- Five feet from side and rear lot lines, except where modified along district boundary by required buffer yard; see § 550-99; 10 feet from front or street line.



Regarding the parking and loading standards, it's important to note that "within the Central Business (CB) District, the parking requirements of this chapter are hereby waived" §550-107G(4). Nevertheless, the team aims to comply with the guidelines outlined in this chapter to the best of their ability. The proposed standards related to the code are listed in the table below.

**Off-street Parking Layout Dimensions** 

	Parking lot design standards (90-degree parking angle) (feet)					Parking module width (feet)	
Description	Stall width at parking angle	Stall width parallel to aisle	Stall depth to wall	Stall length (including 1.5- foot curb overhang)	Aisle width	Wall to wall (single- loaded)	Wall to wall (double- loaded)
Code	9	9	18.5	18.5	26	44.5	63
Proposed	9	9	exceeds	19.5	24	42	60

Below are the Density and Intensity standards comparison tables for review:

#### **Density Standards**

Zoning District	Development Gross Option Density (MGD)		Minimum Lot Area (MLA)	Minimum Zoning District Area	Minimum Landscape Surface Ratio (LSR)
Central Business	Institutional	Up to 50 du/acre per the limits of the conditional use permit	9,000 sf	9,000 sf	0%
Proposed PD	Institutional	38.9 du/acre	70,567 sf	70,567 sf	38%

#### **Non-Residential Intensity Standards**

Zoning District	Maximum Number of Floors	Minimum Landscape Surface Ratio (LSR)	Maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	Minimum Lot Area (MLA)	Maximum Building Size (MBS)
Central Business	4	0%	3.00	2,000 sf	NA
Proposed PD	4+1	38%	0.36	70,567 sf	27,798 sf



#### **Requested Exemptions**

As shown in the previous section, the project team has designed the Oxbow community to almost all of the standards listed for the Central Business District. The exception is the maximum building height. Due to the sloping nature of the site and the exposed lower parking level the height of the building from the west exceeds the 50 feet maximum, while from the east it is below. Measuring the 1st floor to the highest point is 49'-3" while measuring the garage floor to the highest point is 59'-3". The team requests a maximum height exemption from the Plan Commission.

Lastly, the Team has provided some conceptual landscaping within the architectural renderings but understands that the City of Watertown has robust landscaping calculations and standards listed per code. The Team plans to meet or exceed these requirements upon full buildout of the Site Landscaping Plans.

## **EXHIBIT A**

Architectural Renderings &

General Conceptual Landscaing

























**EXHIBIT B** 

Site Plan

&

General Floor Plans



SITE PLAN

Watertown, WI Proj. No.



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SITE PLAN

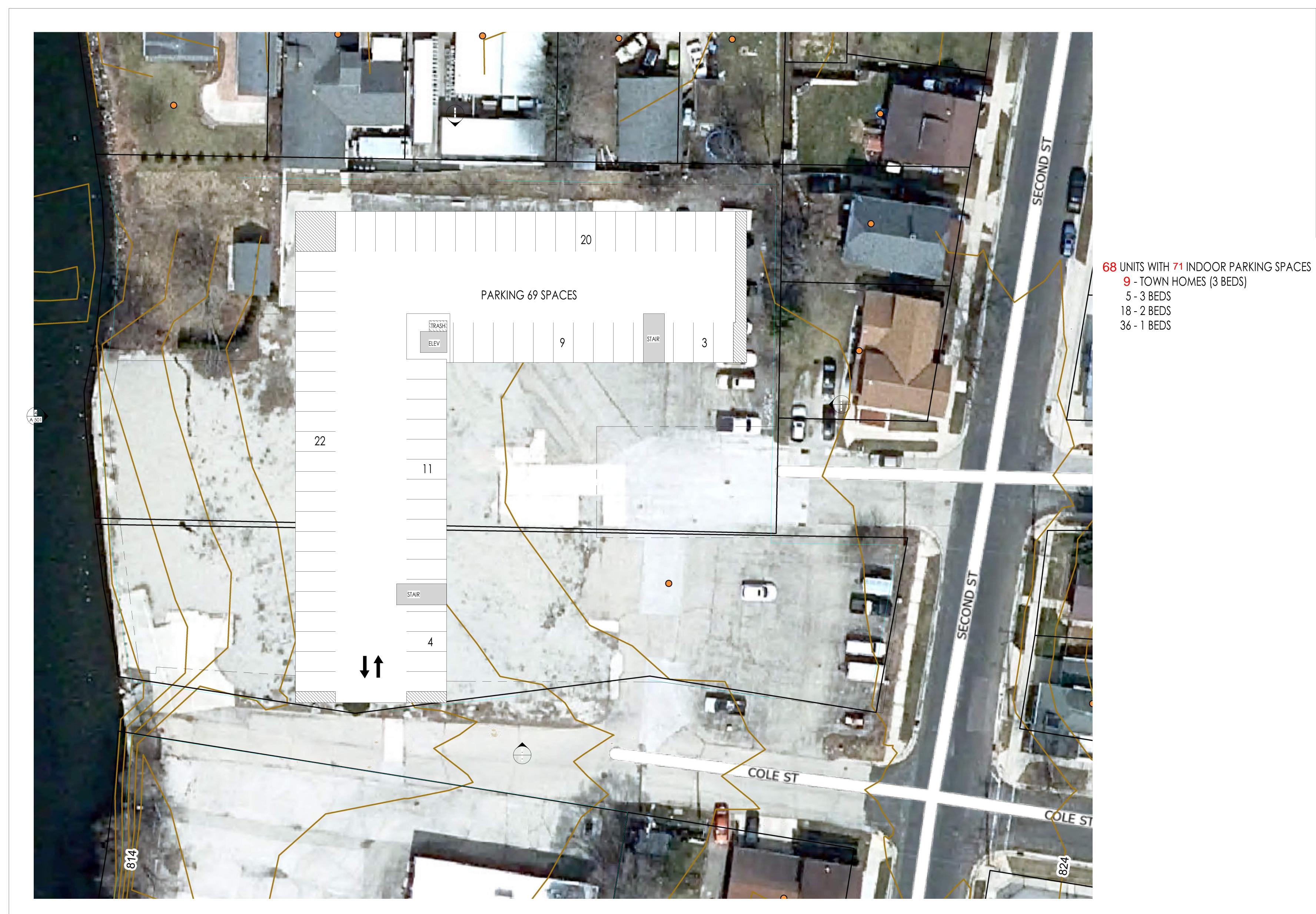
Watertown, WI Proj. No.



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REVISIONS: \_\_\_\_ DATE ISSUE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
BIDDERS SHALL REVIEW ALL DRAWINGS AND
SPECIFICATION SECTIONS TO DETERMINE THE IMPACT OF
OTHER SECTIONS OF WORK ON THEIR OWN WORK

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9 - TOWN HOMES (3 BEDS)

5 - 3 BEDS 18 - 2 BEDS

36 - 1 BEDS

PRELIMINARY - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

LOWER LEVEL

A 300

PROJ. NO. XXXX-XX

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"





REVISIONS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE ISSUE

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OTHER SECTIONS OF WORK ON THEIR OWN WORK

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# 20 UNITS

- 3 TOWN HOMES (3 BEDS)
- 2 3 BEDS
- 6 2 BEDS
- 9 1 BEDS

- NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

PROJ. NO. XXXX-XX

301

FIRST FLOOR





REVISIONS: \_\_\_\_ DATE ISSUE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

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OTHER SECTIONS OF WORK ON THEIR OWN WORK

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20 UNITS

6 - TOWN HOMES (3 BEDS)

1 - 3 BEDS

4 - 2 BEDS

9 - 1 BEDS

- NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION **PRELIMINARY** 

SECOND FLOOR

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

F	4
30	)2

SECOND FLOOR





14 UNITS

1 - 3 BEDS

4 - 2 BEDS

9 - 1 BEDS

ABACUS ARCHITECTS
REVISIONS:
DATE ISSUE

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		WN BY			thor	

THIRD FLOOR

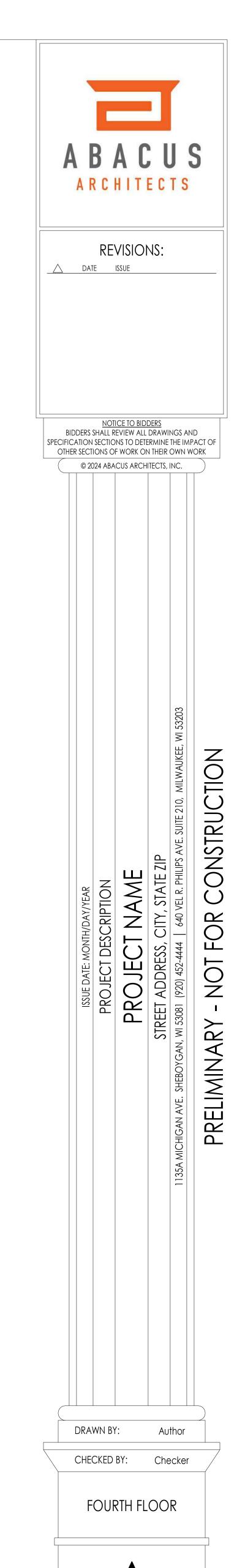
A 303

PROJ. NO. XXXX-XX





14 UNITS



FOURTH FLOOR
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

S

PROJ. NO. XXXX-XX	

**EXHIBIT C**Location Map



LOCATION MAP

Watertown Apartments

Watertown, WI Proj. No. 2024-171



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## **EXHIBIT D**

Estimated Annual Spending by Residents

### **Estimated Annual Spending by Residents**

*The Oxbow* Watertown, WI

February-25

Cataorgy	Avg. Annual Expenditure
Food	\$ 10,100
Alcoholic beverages	\$ 626
Housing	\$ 25,758
Apparel and services	\$ 2,036
Transportation	\$ 13,310
Healthcare	\$ 6,263
Entertainment	\$ 3,680
Personal care products and services	\$ 940
Reading	\$ 157
Education	\$ 1,644
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	\$ 391
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,253
Cash contributions	\$ 2,427
Personal insurance and pensions	\$ 9,708
Total Average Annual Expenditures per HH	\$ 78,292
LESS "Homeowner Expenses"	
Mortgage Payment & Basics	\$ 13,811
Maintenance & Remodeling Services	\$ 4,639
Maintenance & Remodeling Materials	\$ 752
Lawn & Garden	\$ 662
Subtotal	\$ 19,864
SUBTOTAL - Annual Expenditures per Renter Household Excluding Rent	\$ 58,428
Average monthly rent at The Oxbow	\$ 2,030
PLUS Ave. Annual Rent	\$ 24,360
TOTAL - Annual Expenditures per Oxbow Household	\$ 82,788
Total Homes in the Oxbow Community  Adjusted for (95% occupancy)  Total Residents (avg. household size of 2.4)	69 <b>66</b> <b>158</b>
TOTAL Annual Expenditures by The Oxbow Households	\$ 5,500,000

 $Source: North\ Town\ Partners\ analysis,\ Bureau\ of\ Labor\ Statistics\ \&\ ESRI\ "Retail\ Goods\ \&\ Services\ Expenditures"\ report$ 

# **EXHIBIT E**General Signage Plan



Marshall Sign
920.526.3100 • marshallsign.com

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ACCOUNT: The Oxbow	REVISIONS
ACCT. REP: Jim Marshall	2
DATE: 2-19-24	

Qty: 1 Single Sided Address Sign

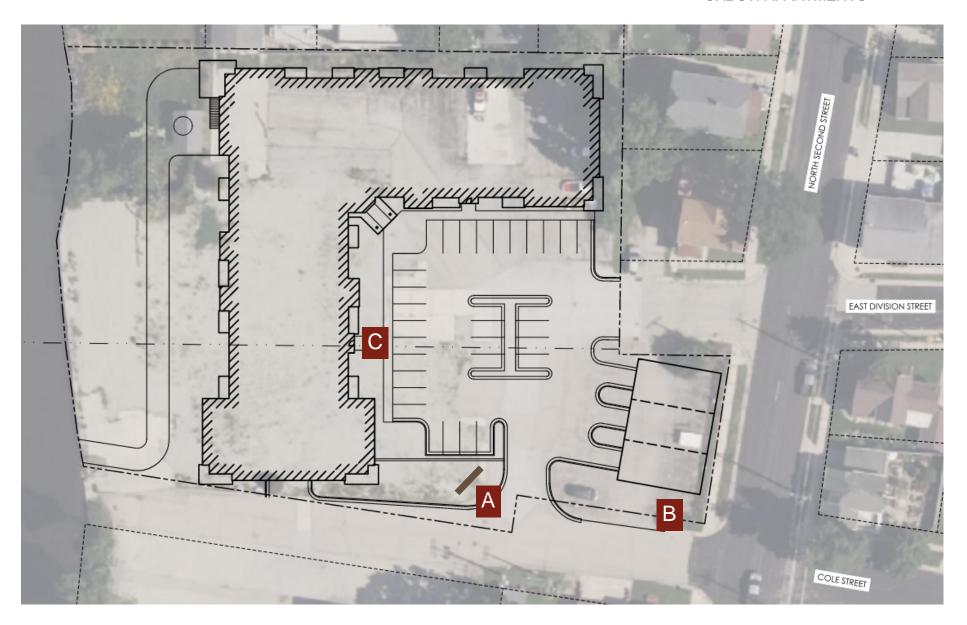


Qty: 1 Halo Illuminated Letters











ACCOUNT: The Oxbow	REVISIONS
ACCOUNT: THE CADOW	w
LOCATION:	<u>                                   </u>
ACCT. REP: Jim Marshall	<u>                                   </u>
	8
DATE: 2-19-24	4
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