



NORTH BAY NEWS

2025 PUBLIC SAFETY EDITION

Monday, September 22nd, 2025

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CONSTABLE & PUBLIC WORKS

Constable Rocco Castellano & Public Works Trustee Schroeder

SEEKING RESIDENT COOPERATION TO MAINTAIN SAFE PASSAGE ON PUBLIC STREETS & PRIVATE ROADS:

In 2024, the July and August Village Newsletters included articles from Public Works Trustee Schroeder that requested residents' cooperation concerning trimming vegetation adjacent to and above both public streets and private roads. Clear access allows contracted service providers safe access, including but not limited to first responders, waste management and snow removal.

Recently, the Caledonia Fire Department (CFD) informed the Village about significant access issues in the Village. CFD **will** make it to every house in an emergency. As part of their protection, prevention, and education, they alerted the Village that impeded access may delay them from reaching your home in an emergency.

This article offers more detailed information. When fire breaks out and every second counts, access can mean the difference between safety and tragedy.

CLEAR VEGETATION AROUND FIRE HYDRANTS:

Fire hydrants need a **36-inch clearance around their entire circumference**, year-round, to ensure fire department access. If a fire hydrant is on your property, it is your responsibility to clear any obstructing vegetation. Failure to do so could have devastating consequences for you and your neighbors.



VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL MINIMUM CLEARANCE:

A clear corridor to allow firetrucks and ambulances to respond to an emergency is critical. The same is true for service providers that require the use of large vehicles. Please help them do their job and **maintain the minimum clearances noted below**.

1. **Vertical clearance: Minimum 14 feet.**
2. Horizontal clearance **from the end of the pavement: Minimum 2 feet on each side.**

NOTE: When trimming vegetation, be sure to allow for growth so clearance is maintained throughout the year.

PAVEMENT & DRAINAGE:

To ensure access for emergency vehicles, public roads, private drives, and drainage culverts running below and/or next to pavement must be maintained. The heaviest fire equipment can weigh up to 78,000 pounds.

INTERSECTION SAFETY:

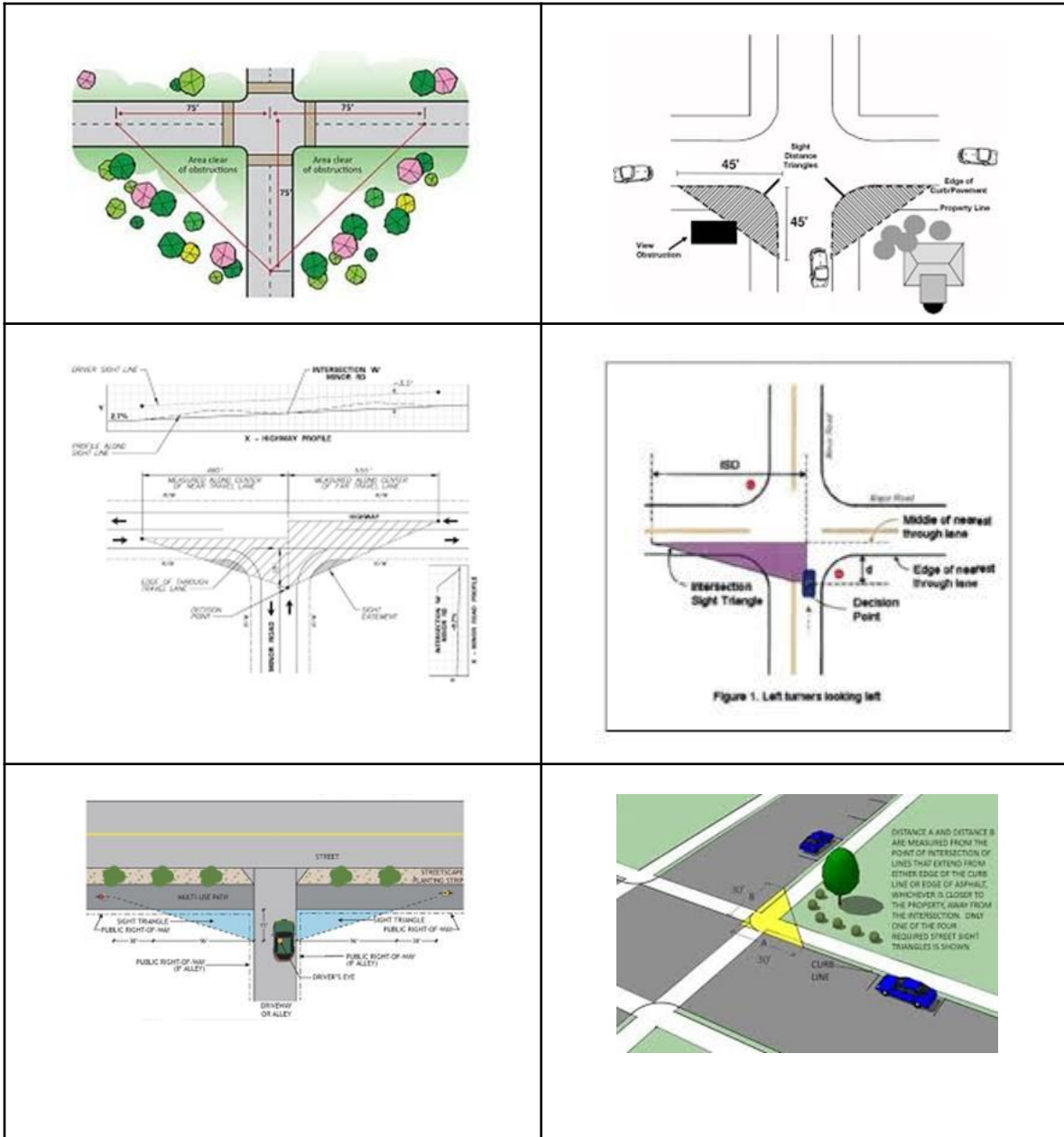
Sight triangles are a crucial concept in roadway and intersection design, ensuring that drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians have clear visibility to make safe decisions. The Federal Highway and/or Wisconsin Department of Transportation define safe standards related to vegetation on streets and/or intersections. Here is a breakdown:

- **WHAT IS A SIGHT TRIANGLE?** A sight triangle is a designated area at an intersection that must remain free of visual obstructions so that drivers can see approaching traffic and pedestrians. It's called a triangle because it's formed by:
 - The intersection point of two roads or a driveway and a street
 - The edges of the intersecting roads
 - The lines of sight extending from the driver's position along each approach

This creates a triangular zone where visibility must be maintained.

- **TYPES OF SIGHT TRIANGLES**
 - Approach Sight Triangle: Ensures that drivers approaching an intersection can see vehicles on the cross street before entering.
 - Departure Sight Triangle: Ensures that drivers stopped at an intersection can see oncoming traffic before pulling out.
 - Pedestrian/Vehicle Sight Triangle: Applied near driveways or parking garages to ensure drivers can see pedestrians before exiting.
- **WHY THEY MATTER**
 - Prevent collisions at intersections
 - Allow drivers to make safe turning and crossing decisions
 - Adjusted based on speed limits—higher speeds require larger sight triangles for adequate reaction time
- **COMMON OBSTRUCTIONS**
 - Fences, walls, etc.
 - Vegetation (hedges, shrubbery, trees, tall perennials, etc.)
 - Parked vehicles
 - Utility boxes or signage

SIGHT TRIANGLE EXAMPLES. The examples below provide clear visual examples of sight triangles that illustrate how they function at intersections:



Example Description

A basic diagram showing the required clear area at a corner lot intersection
Shows how sight triangles apply to driveways and intersections
A more technical breakdown of sight distance and triangle geometry

Source

City of Bismarck
City of Waupaca, WI
Mike on Traffic

VILLAGE HALL | Clerk Dori A. Panthofer

CONTACT INFO

Visit <https://northbay-wi.us/contacts/> for the list of Executive Board Members (Elected Officials), Appointed Officials and Service Providers.

VILLAGE MEETINGS | Meetings that are scheduled as of this publication appear in the Upcoming Village Meetings table on the next page. Stand Up, Planning Commission and Board of Appeals meetings are scheduled as needed and announced with proper notice.

Meetings are held at Village Hall located at 3615 Hennepin Place. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Village Hall and the Village website under [News and Announcements](https://northbay-wi.us/news-announcements/) at least 24 hours prior to the meeting (News & Announcements URL: <https://northbay-wi.us/news-announcements/>) Dates and times of meetings are subject to change with proper notice.

Village meetings are open to the public. Please note, public comment may only be given orally and in person. Visit the [Village Meetings](#) page of the Village website for more information.

UPCOMING VILLAGE MEETINGS | Village calendar URL: <https://northbay-wi.us/calendar/>

Monday, October 13th, 2025	7:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, October 27th, 2025	7:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, November 24th, 2025	7:10 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting 7:10 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting
January 12th, 2026	7:00 PM - Village Caucus 7:10 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting