



One important feature of Hastings' historic districts and neighborhoods is the original layout of grid-plan streets, alleys, and sidewalks and the regular division of blocks and lots. The resulting network of spaces is a part of the city's historic character. The maintenance and repair of streets, sidewalks, planting strips, retaining walls, and fencing requires public engineering standards that are sensitive to the scale and appearance of historic areas.

### Design Guidelines

1. The maintenance and design of existing or new streets in or adjacent to historic districts should respect the original plan of interconnected streets, sidewalks, and alleys. Streets should not be widened to accommodate through traffic and alleys should not be vacated. Cul-de-sac and dead-end streets should not be created in existing grid-plan areas.
2. Preserve the mature neighborhood tree canopy wherever possible, and replant with regularly-spaced trees where necessary. Planting strips and sidewalks should be preserved and maintained at maximum width.
3. Retaining walls should be compatible with traditional walls in Hastings, which were primarily limestone, brick, and poured concrete. While split-face (rock-face) concrete block is appropriate for the construction of new retaining walls, block with a round, striated, or polygonal profile should be avoided.
4. Iron or steel fencing should have appropriately scaled and detailed masonry or steel piers.
5. Surface parking lots should be screened with landscaping, low masonry walls, or iron or steel fencing of appropriate design.



*A new fence edges W. Second Street, 2002.*