



## MINNESOTA VIKINGS TRAINING CAMP

Mega-Tandem™ 3-in-1 System Serves as a Formidable Wall for New Vikings Headquarters

### LOCATION:

Eagan, Minnesota

### PRODUCTS:

Mega-Tandem 3-in-1 System

### INSTALLED AREA:

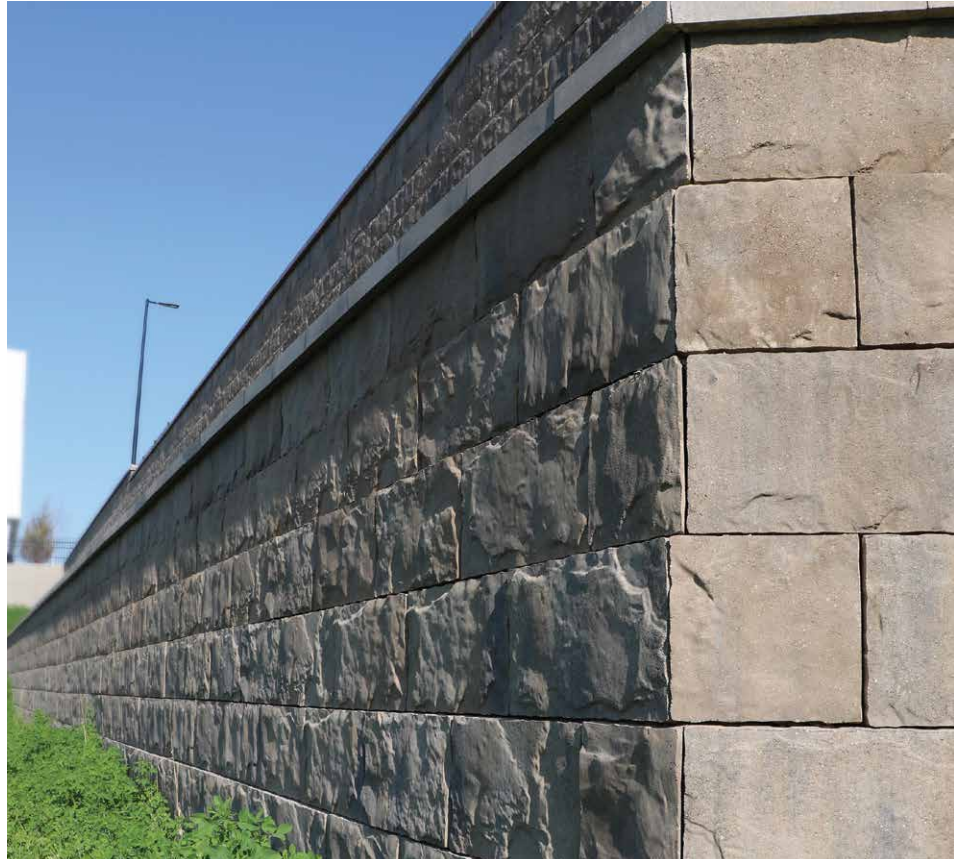
16,000 sq. ft.

### ENGINEER & DESIGN:

Gray Engineering, LLC, and ANCHOR Diamond® Engineering

### CONTRACTOR:

Kraus Anderson



### Background

In 2017, the Minnesota Vikings football franchise began the construction of their new headquarters and practice facility. The 40-acre complex that would become known as Twin City Orthopedic (TCO) Performance Center would eventually include a 6,000-seat outdoor stadium, five practice fields and a team auditorium. For a team renowned to have one of the strongest defenses in the NFL, it became clear that the organization would need the support of an equally strong retaining wall system to optimize the mammoth site for the new facility.

### The Challenge

"This project is on a massive site that features an extensive amount of grade change," said Don Armstrong, PE, sales engineer for Belgard® Commercial. "When you combine the building itself along with the stadium and the five practice fields, we knew it would require a number of significant retaining walls in order to provide stability for the proposed structures."

### The Solution

The project was initially planned with wetcast, precast modular wall units, but

the design team discovered Belgard's Mega-Tandem 3-in-1 system could provide the stability they needed with an added benefit — a much more attractive look. With the appearance of chiseled stone, Mega-Tandem is an innovative, versatile system that can be used to create attractive, curved or straight retaining and freestanding walls. The system also offers long-term durability with compressive strengths in excess of 8,500 PSI, making it an ideal system for the harsh freeze/thaw of Minnesota winters. "The landscape architect loved the look, and that's really what helped sell the system," said Armstrong. "The natural stone texture of

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the face, the color patterns—there's nothing else like it on the market."

**It's a great product that looks awesome and will perform well withstanding the extreme winters we have here in Minnesota.**

*Matt Barron  
Owner, Hardscape Construction*

**The Result**

Construction of the retaining wall systems for the TCO Performance Center site was completed in the spring of 2018. Ultimately, the 40-acre campus would also include administrative offices, a media center, a

locker room, weight and equipment facilities, cardiovascular speed rooms, a hydrotherapy room, and post-workout recovery rooms. The Performance Center facility was the first phase in an overall 200-acred planned development expected to include an on-site orthopedics center, offices, retail, residential, hospitality and a conference center for the Vikings headquarters as a development anchor. Construction of the next phase included Twin City Orthopedics, an 88,000-square-foot fullservice on-site orthopedics center. Introduced in 2013 and still a relatively new product in the Minnesota market, this was the first Mega-Tandem™ installation for the hardscape installation contractor. The Belgard® Commercial team provided technical support to both help with the design and facilitate a smooth installation.

**About Belgard Commercial®**

Belgard Commercial, part of Oldcastle® APG, offers a complete collection of paver and wall products for plazas, terraces, parking areas, roadways, rooftops and retaining walls. Available in a range of styles, premium Belgard Commercial products have been found in the nation's finest developments and award-winning commercial and retail properties since 1995.

Oldcastle APG is part of CRH's Building Products division. As the largest building materials company in North America, CRH provides a single-source solution for commercial construction projects with a full portfolio that also includes structural masonry, masonry veneers, dry mix products, hardscape jointing sands and sealants, stormwater management systems, concrete infrastructure, architectural glass, lawn & garden products, and composite decking.

