

# THE COMMONS

Belgard® Pavers Play a Starring Role in New Downtown Minneapolis Signature City Park

#### LOCATION:

Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **PRODUCTS:**

Moduline Series  $^{\circ}$  6" x 12" x 31%" and Holland Permeable Pavers 5" x 10" x 31%"

### **COLORS:**

Belgard Colors Rust, Truffle and Suede. Holland Permeable Pavers, 4 different shades of Red Colors

### **INSTALLED AREA:**

15,000 sq. ft. Moduline Series Pavers, 4,500 sq. ft. Holland Permeable Pavers

## **DESIGN LEAD:**

Hargreaves Associates

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

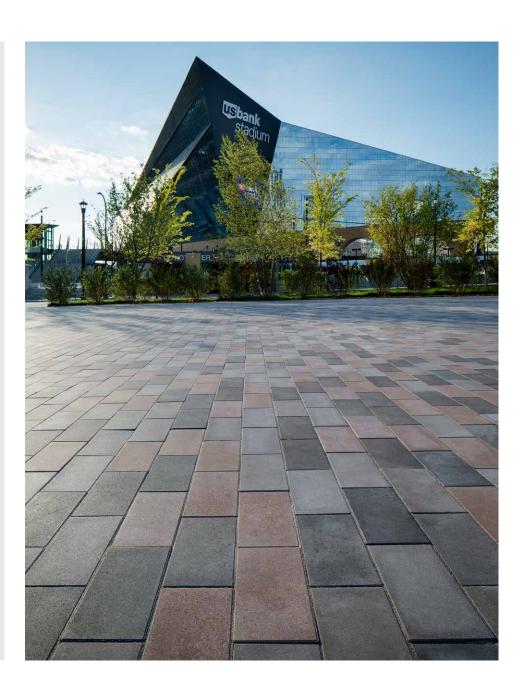
Damon Farber

## INSTALLER:

Structures Hardscape Specialist, Inc.

### **GENERAL CONTRACTOR:**

Ryan Companies



## Background

The Commons is a 4.2 acre public space in downtown Minneapolis located amidst new office and residential buildings, the Wells Fargo Campus, and adjacent to the new US Bank Stadium, home of the Minnesota Vikings. As the city's signature park, The Commons is a welcoming place for respite, as well as everyday activities and special events for residents, workers and visitors. The City of Minneapolis hired a world-renowned team led by landscape architects Hargreaves Associates to design the \$20-million venue, which opened July 21, 2016.



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## The Challenge

The design team needed pavers that could support both heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic, while also being able to stand the test of time through Minnesota's harsh winters. In addition, since this is one of the premier public spaces in the city, the pavers needed to add to the overall beauty of the park's unique design.

## The Solution

Belgard® was chosen to supply a total of 19,500 square feet of pavers for specific locations within the park including right of way areas, around tree trenches and pavement surrounding the park's stage area to accommodate vehicular traffic. The project team from Belgard Commercial presented a variety of paver systems from which the client chose the Moduline Series® in three solid colors: Rust. Truffle and Suede. Developed to create the ultimate in design versatility, all Moduline Series paver units are based on true three-inch dimensional increments. Moduline also offers a unique aesthetic texture that allowed the design team to field blend the pavers and create beautiful accents and highlights.

"The Belgard unit pavers add a nice textural and color quality to The Commons," stated

Chuck Evens, Senior Associate, PLA of Damon Farber, which led the landscape architecture design on the project. "The Moduline Series" Paver provided the right scale, quality and long-term durability that the design team sought."

Belgard permeable interlocking concrete pavers were specified for the tree wells set within The Commons. Rather than draining rainfall away, this paver system allows water to reach the tree roots and infiltrate into the subsurface. Belgard initially presented four shades of one color paver to the designers. Rather than choose one, the design team used all four to hand mix in the field for a unique, random look.

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Chuck Evens Senior Associate, PLA of Damon Farber

## The Result

Ultimately, 15,000 square feet of Moduline Pavers and 4,500 square feet of Holland

Permeable Pavers were used to complete the system. "In addition to the quality and aesthetics, selecting pavers that were locally manufactured, streamlined the product sourcing and limited the delivery distance, which was also an important consideration," said Evens. "Overall, Belgard was a great choice."

## 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.



