

Date Received: _____
Received By: _____
Permit #: _____



651-747-3900
3800 Laverne Avenue North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

VARIANCE APPLICATION

Applicant: _____
Address: _____
Phone # _____
Email Address: _____

Fee Owner: _____
Address: _____
Phone # _____
Email Address: _____

Engineer: _____
Address: _____
Phone # _____
Email Address: _____

Property Location (Address): _____
Complete Legal Description: _____

PID#: _____

Detailed Reason for Request: _____

*Variance Requests: As outlined in LEC Section 103.00.110 (c), the applicant must demonstrate practical difficulties before a variance can be granted. The practical difficulties related to this application are as follows: _____

In signing this application, I hereby acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the applicable provisions of the Zoning ordinance and current administrative procedures. I further acknowledge the fee explanation as outlined in the application procedures and hereby agree to pay all statements received from the City pertaining to additional application expense.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of fee owner: _____ Date: _____

VARIANCE PROCEDURE¹ FOR THE CITY OF LAKE ELMO

The Lake Elmo City Code was established to protect both current and future residents from the negative impacts of improper development and to ensure a positive future for the city. A variance request is the mechanism that allows the City Council to determine whether a project deviating from code should be permitted per LEC 105.12.320. In order to successfully receive a variance, there are a number of steps that must be followed:

1. Contact city staff to discuss your proposed variance and obtain a land use application form from City Hall.
2. Put together an informational packet (described herein) that outlines your request and outlines all reasons as to why the variance should be granted.
3. Submit your completed packet to staff by the applicable due date for review. Staff will examine your information to determine if the application is complete, and contact you if additional information is required or was omitted. It is to your advantage to submit your materials as early as possible so staff can assist you in meeting all requirements. Applications found to be incomplete will be returned to the applicant.²
4. Staff will address completed applications by requesting comments from partnering agencies, scheduling meetings, writing reports, and noticing a public hearing.
5. The Planning Commission will hold the scheduled public hearing (2nd or 4th Monday of the month³); and will forward recommendations to the City Council for consideration (1st or 3rd Tuesday of the month³). Applicants are advised to attend both the commission and Council meetings and be open to questions regarding the request.
6. The City Council will consider the request and either grant or deny the variance.

Above all else, it is imperative that an applicant begin preparations as early as possible to ensure the application is submitted by the due date in any given month. Please anticipate that review by the Planning Commission will not occur until at least one month has passed from the date of submittal.

The City Council has established a **non-refundable fee**⁴ for processing variance applications, contact City Staff to inquire about relevant application and escrow fees.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide all required information and to illustrate all reasons why the requested variance should be granted. City staff is not authorized,

¹ The information provided in this document is intended to be a correct statement of the law as set forth in the Lake Elmo City Code and the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, the applicant should refer to the actual sources and consult with their own legal advisor regarding applicability to their application. In providing this information, the City makes no representations nor provides any legal advice or opinion.

² Minnesota State Statute 15.99 requires local governments to review an application within 15 business days of its submission to determine if an application is complete and/or if additional information is needed to adequately review the subject request.

³ Staff will determine when applications are reviewed based on the time needed to review the application and the number of items already scheduled on future agendas. Please note that meeting dates are subject to change due to holidays, lack of quorum, etc. Please contact City Hall to confirm all dates and times.

⁴ Applicant is also responsible for any additional fees incurred by the City (i.e. engineering, planning, postage, legal expenses, et cetera).

nor permitted, to prepare applications since the “burden of proof” rests with the applicant to justify the specific request.

At a minimum, the following materials must be submitted prior to deeming an application complete.

- | <u>Sub:</u> | <u>Req:</u> | <u>Item:</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| ☐ | ☐ | 1. A completed land use application form signed by all property owners and applicants along with payment of the proper filing fee. |
| ☐ | ☐ | 2. Written statements providing information regarding your proposal. <u>Please provide a separate answer for each of the lettered items listed below</u> (answers must be submitted in both hard copy and electronic form--.txt files or MS Word format): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A list of all current property owners (if individually owned), all general and limited partners (if a partnership), all managers and directors (if a limited liability company), and/or officers and directors (if a corporation) involved as either applicants or owners. b. A listing of the following site data: legal description of the property, parcel identification number(s), parcel size (in acres and square feet), existing use of land, and current zoning. c. State the provision(s) of the Lake Elmo City Code for which you seek a variance. <i>(For example, Section 300.07 Zoning Districts, Subd (4b3) – Minimum District Requirements)</i> d. A <u>specific written description of the proposal</u> and how it varies from the applicable provisions of Lake Elmo Code. e. A narrative regarding any pre-application discussions with staff, and an explanation of how the issue was addressed leading up to the application for a variance. f. Explain why the strict enforcement of this chapter would cause practical difficulties because of circumstances unique to the individual property under consideration. g. Explain why the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property and not created by the landowner. h. Justify that the granting of the variance would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. |
| ☐ | ☐ | 3. Verification of ownership (a copy of a current title report, purchase agreement, etc.) |

Sub: Req: Item:

☐ ☐ **4. Address labels:** A certified list of property owners located within five hundred (500' feet of the subject property obtained from and certified by a licensed abstractor or through Washington County (see attached form).

☐ ☐ **5. Three (3) plan size copies (11x17 or larger), Three (3) reproducible copies (8½ x 11), and one (1) electronic copy of a certified survey** depicting the lot upon which a variance is requested. Survey shall be at a readable and measurable engineering scale⁵, be pre-folded for distribution, include the following information⁶:

- ☐ Location, Floor Area, and Building Envelope of Existing & Proposed Structures
- ☐ Lot Lines
- ☐ Parcel Size in Acres & Square Feet
- ☐ Building Setbacks (Front/Rear/Side/Lake): closest point of building to each property line
- ☐ Actual elevations for Garage Floor, Basement Floor, Foundation Top, & Building Height
- ☐ Lowest Floor Elevation if any part of property is in flood plain
- ☐ All Water Features: Floodplain, Floodway Delineations, Ordinary High Water Mark
- ☐ Elevations, Wetlands, Watercourses, Reservoirs, Ponds, & Other Bodies of Water **Existing**
- ☐ topographic character of land showing contours at **2' intervals**
- ☐ **Proposed** topographic character at **2' intervals**
- ☐ Flow arrows indicating direction of drainage
- ☐ General location of wooded or heavily vegetated areas
- ☐ All Adjacent Structures Within 100 Feet of Property
- ☐ All Easements (Road, Utility, Drainage, etc.)
- ☐ Public Right-of-Way Name (street name)
- ☐ Proposed driveway location and proposed driveway grades
- ☐ Wells & Neighboring Wells if New Drainfield is Installed
- ☐ Septic System & Drainfield, or Sanitary Sewer Connection
- ☐ Percolation Test & Soil Boring Holes (if applicable)
- ☐ Hardcover Calculations--% and square footage of:
- ☐
 - Building coverage
 - Driveway and parking
 - Public street right-of-way
 - Open space and/or landscaped area
- ☐ Proposed Treatment of the Perimeter, including Screens, Fences, Walls, & Landscaping
- ☐ Location of adjacent Municipal boundaries

⁵If your survey must be larger than 11x17 to be fully legible and to scale, we ask that three (3) copies be in the large format.

⁶ Please consult with staff on exactly what to include on your survey. Every application is unique and may require more or less information than what is listed in this handout. Staff reserves the right to require additional information.

Survey requirements continued:

- ☐ Shoreline and/or tops of bluffs (if applicable)
- ☐ Administrative Information:
 - Scale
 - North Point
 - Signature of Surveyor
 - Date of Preparation (THE REVISION BOX MUST BE CONTINUALLY UPDATED AS CHANGES OCCUR!!!)
 - PID Number
 - Site Address
 - Legal Description
 - Subdivision Name (if applicable)
 - Zoning Classification

- ☐ ☐ 7. Any **other information** required by city staff, commissioners, or council members necessary to provide a complete review of the variance request. Information deemed critical to the review process not listed in this handout may be requested⁷. Staff will list other requirements below:

☐ ☐ _____

☐ ☐ _____

If you have any further questions that are not covered by this handout, please contact the Planning Department at Lake Elmo City Hall: (651) 747-3912. We look forward to assisting you.

⁷ Number of copies, size, and other such administrative details may also be imposed when requiring additional information.



PARCEL SEARCH APPLICATION

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

SURVEY DIVISION

11660 Myeron Road North Stillwater, Minnesota 55082
PHONE (651) 430-4300 EMAIL Publicworks@co.washington.mn.us

Parcel Search File No: _____

Checks payable to **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

Payment Date: _____

Payment Type: _____

REQUEST FOR SURROUNDING PROPERTY OWNERS AND ADDRESSES

Applicant Name	Business (if applicable)		
Mailing Address – City, State and Zip		Phone	
Email		Fax (if applicable)	
List of owner names and addresses for parcels located within _____ feet of:			
Parcel Identification Number(s):			
Property Owner (if different)		Physical Address (if different) – City and Zip if unassigned address	
Date needed: _____		Delivery Method:	
# sets of mailing labels _____ (no labels if emailed / faxed)		____ Pick up ____ Mail* ____ Email** ____ Fax**	

Parcel Search Fees (to be completed by Survey Division – based upon results of search)

1st 25 parcels, including subject parcel (\$50.00) \$ _____
Non-Radius / Labor per hour after first (\$93.00) \$ _____
of additional parcels _____ x \$.50 \$ _____
Sheet(s) of labels (up to 30/sheet) _____ x \$1.00 \$ _____
Extra set(s) of labels (\$1.00 per page) \$ _____

*Postage Fee \$2.00 \$ _____
**Email / Fax (no printed labels) \$2.00 \$ _____

Amount due: \$ _____

Total # of parcels _____
Total # of labels _____
Completion date _____
Service Rep _____

THIS INFORMATION WAS COMPILED FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY SURVEYOR MAPS AND COUNTY ASSESSOR DATA FILES.
THE SURVEYOR'S OFFICE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INACCURACIES IN THE INFORMATION RELIED UPON IN THIS PARCEL SEARCH.



City of Lake Elmo
Escrow Agreement for Municipal Review Services
Deposit Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is made this ____ day of _____ 20 __, by the Applicant and Owner (hereinafter individually and collectively referred to as “Applicant”) in favor of the City of Lake Elmo, a municipal corporation of Minnesota (hereinafter referred to as “City”).

A. “Applicant” whose name and address is:

B. “Owner” whose name and address is:

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Applicant has applied to the City for approval for one or more of the following: (Select All That Apply)

Plat (Sketch, Preliminary, Final)	Variance
PUD/OP-PUD (Pre-Application, Preliminary, Final)	Minor Subdivision
Vacation	EAW Review
Conditional Use Permit	Zoning Text or Map Amendment
Interim Use Permit	Wind Generator
Comprehensive Plan Amendment	Wireless Communication Permit (co-location)

WHEREAS, the Applicant acknowledges the receipt of benefit to the property, from the City’s technical and compliance review of the application; and

WHEREAS, under authority granted to it, including Minnesota Statutes Chapters 412 and 462, the City will process the application on the condition that the Applicant enter into this Deposit Agreement, which agreement defines certain duties and responsibilities of the Applicant, as well as the City; and the Applicant shall provide cash to the City in the amount satisfactory to the City; and provide security to the City for the payment of all review costs incurred by the City.

NOW THEREFORE, the City and Applicant agree as follows:

1. **Requirement.** The Applicant is required to make the necessary deposits prior to the process of municipal planning, public works, legal & engineering review commences.
2. **Review Process.** Applicant acknowledges and agrees that the City shall commence to review and process the review request checked above at such a time that this Agreement is executed by all parties and the cash required for the specific review is deposited and posted by the City's Finance Department. The City may provide a review completion schedule to the Applicant at the time of deposit. The City reserves the right to modify the schedule based on the completeness of the application, the need for additional information for review, or revisions to the application that may occur during the scheduled review.
3. **Use of Deposited Funds.** The City may draw upon the deposits to pay the costs it incurs in connection with reviewing the application. The City shall determine all of its costs, including both administrative and consulting services, at the rates charged by the City or its consultants, determined according to the City's adopted fee schedule. A copy of the current administrative and consulting rates is attached as Exhibit "A", which rates are subject to change by the City, without notice to the Applicant. Exhibit "A" should not be construed as an exhaustive list of consultants and Applicants shall be responsible for all other consulting fees related to the application. The City shall provide Applicant with the applicable rates for consultants used in the review prior to commencement. This Agreement does not pertain to ancillary charges incurred by reviewing of other governmental bodies, including but not limited to, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Washington County Government, Water Shed, or any other unit of government that may, by right, have review authority.
4. **Conditions of Deposit.** The following stipulations and conditions shall apply to the deposit account for review services contemplated under this Agreement.
 - a. Payment shall be made to City consultants, included but not limited to legal and planning, in the amounts billed to the City, according to consulting rates in effect at the time of the execution of the agreement. Such consulting deemed necessary for the proper review of the application shall be at a usual and customary rate as it relates to the subject matter of the application for payment as determined by the City.
 - b. The City shall reimburse itself from deposit accounts for all costs and expense incurred by the City in connection with the implementation and enforcement of this Agreement. Reimbursement shall occur on a monthly basis and the City's Finance Department shall notify Applicant of the reimbursement via account reconciliation report.
 - c. The City shall not be responsible for paying any interest on the money deposited under the Agreement.
 - d. If in the discretion of both the City's Finance Department and the Community Development Department, there is deemed to be an inadequate balance in the deposit account to pay for all fees and costs incurred by the City, the City will notify the Applicant for the need for an additional deposit. The total of the additional deposit shall be calculated by City staff based on the amount of work yet to be completed in the review of the application. Applicant

agrees to make the additional deposit within (10) days of a receipt of such notice. For purposes hereof, receipt of notice shall be deemed made upon the depositing of the notice in the U.S. Mail, postage paid. In the event, the Applicant fails to make the additional deposit with (10) days of receipt of the notice, the City will terminate its review process and not re-commence until the appropriate deposit is made and posted by the City's Finance Department.

e. No applications will be processed or forwarded to the appropriate governing reviewing body by the City until all amounts due under this Agreement have been paid in full.

5. **Positive Balance in Escrow Accounts.** Upon the happening of any of the following events, the balance in the deposit account less outstanding fees shall be paid to the Applicant within (90) days of receipt by the City of a written request by the Applicant for payment: (1) completion of the development process; or (2) the application is withdrawn by the Application; (3) the applicant is denied by the City for any reason.
6. **Deposit Amounts.** The initial deposit amount contemplated for each the purposes described under the Agreement, which may be revised by the City from time to time, are set forth for Exhibit "B" attached hereto.
7. **Accounting.** If there has been activity in the account, the City will provide a monthly accounting of all expenses charged against the account or when requested by the Applicant. An accounting will also be provided when the City notices the need for an additional escrow deposit.
8. **Terms of Breach.** In the event of any terms of this Agreement are breached by the Applicant, including, but not limited to failure to make additional deposits when required by the City, the City may cease processing any application submitted by the Applicant or order the Applicant to cease any further development or progress under the terms of this Agreement, or both. Applicant indemnifies and holds the City harmless from any liability, claim, action or suit by or any obligation to the Applicant arising from or in connection with the City exercising or enforcing the terms and conditions of this Agreement or action on the Application. The Applicant shall pay all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees and suit costs, incurred by the City arising from or in connection with the City any terms and conditions of this Agreement.
9. **Validity.** If any portion, section, subsection, sentence, clause, paragraph or phrase of this Agreement is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Agreement.
10. **Binding Agreement.** The parties mutually recognize and agree that all terms and conditions of this Agreement shall run with the land herein described and shall be binding upon the heirs, successors, administrators and assigns of the parties referenced in this Agreement.
11. **Amendments.** The terms of this Agreement shall not be amended without the written consent of the City and all parties hereto.

[Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals.

APPLICANT

OWNER:

By: _____
Its: _____

By: _____
Its: _____

By: _____
Its: _____

By: _____
Its: _____

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)

On this _____ day of _____, 20____, before me a Notary Public within and for said County, personally appeared _____ and _____ to me personally known, to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that he / she/ they executed that same as his / her / their free act and deed.

Notary Public

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)

On this _____ day of _____, 20____, before me a Notary Public within and for said County, personally appeared _____ and _____ to me personally known, to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that he / she/ they executed that same as his / her / their free act and deed.

Notary Public



651-747-3900
3800 Laverne Avenue North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

This is to certify that I am making application for the described action by the City and that I am responsible for complying with all City requirements with regard to this request. This application should be processed in my name and I am the party whom the City should contact regarding any matter pertaining to this application.

I have read and understand the instructions supplied for processing this application. The documents and/or information I have submitted are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I will keep myself informed of the deadlines for submission of material and of the progress of this application.

I understand that this application may be reviewed by City staff and consultants. I further understand that additional information, including, but not limited to, traffic analysis and expert testimony may be required for review of this application. I agree to pay to the City upon demand, expenses, determined by the City, that the City incurs in reviewing this application and shall provide an escrow deposit to the City in an amount to be determined by the City. Said expenses shall include, but are not limited to, staff time, engineering, legal expenses and other consultant expenses.

I agree to allow access by City personnel to the property for purposes of review of my application.

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Name of applicant _____ Phone _____
(Please Print)

Name and address of Contact (if other than applicant) _____



651-747-3900
3800 Laverne Avenue North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

AFFIRMATION OF SUFFICIENT INTEREST

I hereby affirm that **I am the fee title owner** of the below described property or that I have written authorization from the owner to pursue the described action.

Name of applicant _____
(Please Print)

Street address/legal description of subject property _____

Signature Date

If you are not the fee owner, attach another copy of this form which has been completed by the fee owner or a copy of your authorization to pursue this action.

If a corporation is fee title holder, attach a copy of the resolution of the Board of Directors authorizing this action.

If a joint venture or partnership is the fee owner, attach a copy of agreement authorizing this action on behalf of the joint venture or partnership.