

## Chapter 24 SUBDIVISIONS<sup>1</sup>

### *ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL*

#### **Sec. 24-1. Authority and enactment.**

The authority to adopt subdivision regulations is conferred by G.S. 160A-371 et seq.  
(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 101)

#### **Sec. 24-2. Title.**

These regulations shall be known, cited, and referred to as the "subdivision regulations" of the Town of Spring Hope, North Carolina.  
(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 102)

#### **Sec. 24-3. Policy.**

- (a) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the town to consider the subdivision of land and the subsequent development of the subdivided plat as subject to control of the town pursuant to the prevailing comprehensive plan in an effort to ensure that orderly, planned, and efficient growth is realized.
- (b) Land to be subdivided shall be of such character that it can be used safely for building purposes without danger to health or peril from fire, flood, or other menace and land shall not be subdivided until available public facilities and improvements exist and proper provision has been made for drainage, water, sewerage, and capital improvements such as schools, parks, recreation facilities, transportation facilities, and improvements.
- (c) The proposed public improvements to be encumbered by the developer shall conform to the recommendations of the prevailing comprehensive plan or other applicable studies which address said improvements.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 103)

#### **Sec. 24-4. Purpose.**

The regulations as herein described are adopted for the following purposes:

- (1) To establish procedures and standards of design for the development and subdivision of land within the territorial jurisdiction of the town.
- (2) To protect and provide for the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the town and to its extraterritorial jurisdiction.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference(s)—Subdivision regulations, G.S. 160A-371 et seq.

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- (3) To provide for the orderly growth and development of the town planning area in accordance with the prevailing comprehensive plan.
  - (4) To prevent the pollution of air, streams, and parks; to secure safety from fire, flood, and danger; to ensure the adequacy of drainage facilities; to protect the water table; and to encourage the rational and efficient utilization and management of natural resources in order to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the community and the value of the land.
  - (5) To coordinate the use of land and buildings and the circulation of traffic, with particular regard for the avoidance of congestion in the streets and highways, and the creation of pedestrian facilities appropriate for the various uses of the land and buildings.
  - (6) To facilitate adequate provision of water, sewerage, schools, parks, playgrounds, recreation and other public requirements and facilities sufficient to accommodate the needs of the proposed subdivision.
  - (7) To provide for the dedication or reservation of recreation areas and open spaces serving residents of the immediate neighborhood within the subdivision and of rights-of-way or easements for street and utility purposes.
  - (8) To protect and conserve the value of land, the value of buildings or other improvements thereupon, and to minimize the conflicts among the uses of land and buildings.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 104)

#### **Sec. 24-5. Jurisdiction.**

- (a) The subdivision regulations shall govern each and every subdivision of land lying within the town and its extraterritorial jurisdiction.
- (b) No land shall be subdivided within the subdivision jurisdiction of the town until said subdivision has received the approval of the town, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
- (c) No plat for the subdivision of land within the town shall be filed, accepted for recording, or recorded, nor shall the clerk of the superior court order the recording of a plat until it has been submitted to and approved by the town.
- (d) No building permit, certificate of occupancy or any other permit required by other applicable laws or ordinances shall be issued for any parcel or plot of land which was created by subdivision after the date of the ordinance from which these regulations are derived, and not in conformity with the provisions of these regulations, and no excavation of land or construction of any public or private improvements shall commence except in accordance with the provisions as herein expressed.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 105)

#### **Sec. 24-6. Conditions.**

Regulation of the subdivision of land and the attachment of reasonable conditions thereupon is a valid exercise of the policy power granted to the town by the state. The developer must encumber the responsibility to comply with conditions imposed by the planning board and/or board of commissioners for design, dedication, improvement, and restrictive use of the property in question.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 106)

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## Sec. 24-7. Compliance with zoning.

Subdivisions of land must comply in all respects with the requirements of chapter 26, zoning, in effect in the area to be subdivided, and any other officially adopted plans.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 107)

## Sec. 24-8. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Accessory building* means a detached subordinate structure operated and maintained under the same ownership and located on the same lot as the principal structure and is not used for residential occupancy.

*Alley* means a minor right-of-way, privately or publicly owned, primarily for service access to the rear or side of properties which have principal frontage on some other street.

*Block* means a tract of land bordered by streets, or by a combination of streets and public parks, cemeteries, railroad rights-of-way, shorelines or watercourses or boundary lines of municipalities.

*Board of commissioners* and *governing body* refer to the board of commissioners of the Town of Spring Hope.

*Bond* means any form of security including a cash deposit, surety bond, collateral, property, or instrument of credit in an amount and form satisfactory to the town.

*Buffer strip* means an area within a property or site, generally adjacent to and parallel with the property line, either consisting of natural existing trees, shrubs, fences, and/or berms, designed to limit continuously the view of and/or the sounds from the site to adjacent sites and properties.

*Building* means any structure, either temporary or permanent, having a roof or other covering, and designed or used for the shelter or enclosure of any person, animal or property of any kind, including tents, awnings, or vehicles situated on private property and used for purposes of building. The term "building" includes the term "structure."

*Building inspector* means the person designated by the town to enforce the building codes within its territorial jurisdiction.

*Building permit* means a permit which is issued by the building inspector before a building or structure is started, improved, enlarged or altered as proof that such action is in compliance with the building code.

*Building setback line* means a line located a minimum horizontal distance from the right-of-way line of a street or property line parallel thereto between which and the street right-of-way line or property line, no building or parts of a building may be erected, altered, or maintained except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

*Capital improvements* means any building or infrastructure project that will be owned by a governmental unit and purchased or built with direct appropriations from the governmental unit, or with bonds backed by its full faith and credit, or in whole or in part, with federal or other public funds, or in any combination thereof.

*Central sewer system* means any sewage disposal system, whether operated publicly or privately, other than a pit privy or a septic tank located on the lot and approved by the county health department.

*Central water system* means a system operated publicly or privately, whereby the watercourse is not located on the lot of the consumers, and the number of connections must be at least ten and approved by the county health department.

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*Certificate of occupancy* means a statement signed by the zoning administrator setting forth that the building, structure or use complies with chapter 26, zoning, and any applicable construction codes, and that the same may be used for the purposes stated in this chapter.

*Common area* means land within a development, not individually owned or dedicated for public use, which is designed and intended for the common use or enjoyment of the residents of the development. The term "common area" may include complementary structures and improvements.

*Condominium* means an estate in real property consisting of an undivided interest in common in a portion of a parcel in real property, together with separate interest in the space in a residential, industrial, or commercial building on such real property such as an apartment, office, or store.

*Construction plan* means the maps of drawings accompanying a subdivision plat, depicting the specific location and design of improvements to be installed therein.

*Crosswalk* means a public right-of-way used primarily for pedestrian travel through or across any portion of a block.

*Dedication* means an offer of real property by its owner and its acceptance by the town for any general or public use.

*Developer* means the owner of land proposed to be subdivided or his representative.

*Dwelling* means a building or structure or portion thereof designed for occupancy by one household for residential purposes. In no case shall a motor home, trailer coach, automobile chassis, tent, or other portable building be considered a dwelling.

*Easement* means authorization by a property owner for the use by another, and for a specified purpose, of any designated part of his property.

*Extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ)* means an area adjacent to and outside of the town in which the town has authority to exercise planning, zoning, and subdivision regulations.

*Fee in lieu dedication* means cash payments that may be required of an owner or developer as a substitute for dedication of land or physical improvements.

*Frontage* means all property abutting on one side of a street measured along the street line.

*Grade* means the slope of a road, street, or other public way specified in percentage terms.

*Grading* means the act of excavating, filling, or any combination thereof, or any leveling to smooth horizontal or sloping surface on a property.

*Improvements.* See *Lot improvement*.

*Individual sewage disposal system* means a septic tank, seepage tile sewage disposal system or any other approved sewage treatment device.

*Individual water system* means the provision of a potable water system by means of an on-site well.

*Lot* means a contiguous parcel of land in identified ownership throughout, bounded by other lots or streets, and used or set aside and available for use as the site of one or more buildings or other definite purpose. The term "lot" includes the term "plot," "parcel," or "tract."

*Lot area* means the parcel of land enclosed within the boundaries formed by the property lines plus one-half of any alley abutting the lot between the boundaries of the lot, if extended.

*Lot, corner,* means any parcel of land having frontage on more than one street (road) which abuts an intersection of those streets (roads).

*Lot depth* means, for the purpose of this chapter, the distance measured in the mean direction of the side lines of the lot from the midpoint of the front line to the midpoint of the opposite lot line.

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*Lot, double frontage*, means a continuous lot of the same depth as the width of a block, accessible from both rights-of-way upon which it fronts.

*Lot, flag*, means a tract or lot of land of uneven dimensions in which the portion fronting on a street is less than the required minimum width required for construction of a building or structure on that lot.

*Lot improvement* means any building, structure, place, work of art, or other object, or improvement of the land in which said improvements is situated which contributes a physical betterment of real property or any part of such betterment.

*Lot line* means any boundary of a parcel of land.

*Lot line, front*, means any boundary line of a lot running along a street right-of-way line.

*Lot line, rear*, means the property line which is opposite the front property line. If no property line is deemed to be opposite the front property line and no minimum building line exists on the final plat to establish a rear lot line, then there shall be no rear lot line; however, the rear yard setback shall be maintained from the point (apex) on the property's perimeter which is the furthest removed from the midpoint of the front line. The rear yard minimum building line shall be a line perpendicular to a straight line connecting said apex and the midpoint of the front lot line.

*Lot line, side*, means a boundary line, which is not defined as a front or rear lot line, which intersects a front lot line.

*Lot of record* means a lot which has been recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county or a lot described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been recorded in the aforementioned office.

*Lot width* means the horizontal distance between the sidelines measured along the front building line as specified by the applicable front yard setback in this chapter.

*Nonresidential subdivision* means a subdivision having intended use other than residential, such as commercial or industrial or recreational.

*Office plan* means any plan officially adopted by the board of commissioners of the town as a guide for the development of the town consisting of maps, charts and/or texts.

*Open space* means land or water areas retained for use as active or passive recreation areas or for resource protection in an essentially undeveloped state.

*Ordinance* means any legislative action, however denominated, of a local government, which has the force of law, including any amendment or repeal thereof.

*Owner* means any person, firm, partnership, association, estate, trust, or corporation or any other legal entity having legal title to or sufficient proprietary interest in the land sought to be subdivided under these regulations.

*Planning board* refers to the planning board of the Town of Spring Hope, North Carolina.

*Plat* means a map or plan of a parcel of land which is to be, or has been, subdivided.

*Plat, final*, means the final map or plan of a subdivision and any accompanying material as described herein submitted to the subdivision administrator and in such a form as required by the county for the purpose of recording.

*Plat, preliminary*, means the preliminary map or plan and any accompanying material described herein, indicating the proposed manner or layout of the subdivision, to be submitted to the subdivision administrator, in the case of a minor subdivision, and to the planning board, in the case of a major subdivision, for approval.

*Private street* means a vehicular right-of-way not dedicated or offered for dedication as a public street, serving residential lots within a subdivision and dedicated for the exclusive use of property owners abutting

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the street and permitted guests. Private road maintenance responsibilities are shared jointly by abutting property owners.

*Public improvement* means any drainage ditch, roadway, parkway, sidewalk, pedestrian way, tree, lawn, off-street parking areas, lot improvement, or other facility which the local government may ultimately assume for the maintenance or operation thereof, or which may affect an improvement for which the local government responsibility is established.

*Public street* means a dedicated public right-of-way for vehicular traffic which has been accepted by the state department of transportation (NCDOT) or the town for maintenance, or has not yet been accepted, but in which the roadway design and construction have been approved under public standards for vehicular traffic. Alleys are specifically excluded.

*Reserve strip* means a narrow strip of land overlying a dedicated street for the purpose of controlling access to adjacent property.

*Resubdivision* means a change in a map of an approved or recorded subdivision plat if such change affects any street layout or such map or area reserved thereon or public use or if said resubdivision reduces any lot or other tract of land smaller than the area as originally depicted.

*Right-of-way* means a strip of land dedicated for use as a public way. In addition to the roadway, the term "right-of-way" normally incorporates the curbs, crosswalks, lawn strips, sidewalks, lighting, and drainage facilities.

*Right-of-way width* means the distance between property lines measured at right angles to the centerline of the street.

*Road.* See *Street*.

*Same ownership* means ownership by the same person, corporation, firm, entity, partnership, or unincorporated association; or ownership by different corporations, firms, partnerships, entities or unincorporated associations, in which a stockholder, partner, or associate, or a member of his family owns an interest in each corporation, firm, partnership, entity or, unincorporated association.

*Setback* means the distance between the minimum building line and the street right-of-way line. Where no street right-of-way is involved, the property line shall be used in establishing the setback.

*Sidewalk* means an improved pedestrian surface that is typically located adjacent to a roadway.

*Site* means a lot or group of lots with frontage on a street, devoted or intended for use or occupied by a building or group of buildings.

*Site triangle* means a triangular-shaped portion of land established at street intersections in which nothing is erected, placed, planted, or allowed to grow in such a manner as to limit or obstruct the sight distance of motorists entering or leaving the intersection.

*Sketch plan* means a rough sketch of a proposed subdivision or site, showing roads, lots, and any other information of sufficient accuracy to be used for discussion of the road system and the proposed development pattern.

*Street* means a public thoroughfare which affords access to abutting property and is recorded as such in the office of the county register of deeds. The term "street" includes the terms "road" and highway." Particular kinds of streets are as follows:

- (1) *Collector street* means a street whose principal function is to carry traffic between local streets and streets of higher classification, but which may also provide direct access for abutting properties.
- (2) *Cul-de-sac* means a short local street having one end open to traffic and the other end permanently terminated by a vehicular turnaround.

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- (3) *Dead end street* means a street generally less than 2,500 feet in length, open only at one end without special provision for turning around and have no collector characteristics.
  - (4) *Residential collector* means a street whose principal function is to provide access to abutting properties, but which is also designed to be used or is used to connect local streets and streets of higher classification.
  - (5) *Residential street* means a street which has been designed primarily to afford access to abutting properties.
  - (6) *Marginal access street* means a minor street which is parallel to and adjacent to major highways and which provides access to abutting properties and protection from through traffic.
  - (7) *Major thoroughfare* means a thoroughfare consisting of interstate, other freeway, expressway, or parkway links, and major streets that provide for the expeditious movement of high volumes of traffic within and through urban areas.
  - (8) *Minor thoroughfare* means a thoroughfare that collects traffic from collector and local streets and carries it to the major thoroughfare system. Minor thoroughfares may be used to supplement the major thoroughfare system by facilitating movement of moderate volumes of traffic within and through urban areas and may also serve abutting property.

*Stub street* means a nonpermanent dead-end street intended to be extended in conjunction with the subdivision and development of the adjacent land.

*Subdivider* means any person, firm, partnership, association, estate, trust, or any other group or combination, acting as a unit, dividing or proposing to divide land so as to constitute a subdivision, as defined in this section, and including any agent of the subdivider.

*Subdivision.*

- (1) The term "subdivision" means all divisions of a tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, building sites, or other divisions when any one or more of those divisions is created for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale or building development, and all division of land involving the dedication of new streets or a change in existing streets.
- (2) The term "subdivision" does not include the following:
  - a. The combination or recombination of portions of previously subdivided and recorded lots where the total number of lots is not increased and the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards as contained herein.
  - b. The division of land into parcels greater than ten acres where no street right-of-way dedication is involved.
  - c. The public acquisition by purchase of strips of land for the widening or opening of streets.
  - d. The division of a tract in single ownership whose entire area is no greater than two acres into not more than three lots, where no street right-of-way dedication is involved and where the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards as prescribed herein.
  - e. The division of land for use as gravesites.

*Subdivision, major,* means all subdivisions not classified as a minor subdivision, including but not limited to subdivisions of five or more lots, or any size subdivision requiring any new street or extension of local government facilities, or the creation of any public improvements.

*Subdivision, minor,* means any subdivision containing not more than four lots fronting on an existing street, not involving any new street or road, or the extension of municipal facilities, or the creation of any public improvements and not adversely affecting the remainder of the parcel or adjoining property, and not in conflict with any provisions or portion of the comprehensive plan and chapter 26, zoning.

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*Use*, as applied to any land or building, shall be construed to include the term "intended," "arranged," or "designed to be used."

*Vested right* means the right to undertake and complete the development and use of property under the terms and conditions of an approved site specific development plan or an approved phased development plan. (Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), §§ 201—203)

### **Sec. 24-9. Penalties.**

- (a) Any person who, being the owner or agent of the owner of any land within the subdivision regulation jurisdiction of the town as defined herein, thereafter subdivides his land in violation of this chapter or hereafter transfers or sells land by reference to, exhibition of, or any other use of a plat showing a subdivision of land before such plat has been properly approved under this chapter and recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county, shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.
- (b) The description by metes and bounds in the instrument of transfer or other document used in the process of selling or transferring land shall not exempt the transaction from such penalties.
- (c) The town, through its town attorney or other official designated by the board of commissioners, may bring an action for injunction of any illegal subdivision, transfer, conveyance, or sale of land, and the court shall, upon appropriate findings, issue an injunction and order requiring the offending party to comply with this chapter.
- (d) Building permits required pursuant to G.S. 160A-417 may be denied for lots that have been illegally subdivided. In addition to other remedies, the town may institute any appropriate action or proceedings to prevent the unlawful subdivision of land, to restrain, correct, or abate the violation, or to prevent any illegal act or conduct.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 507)

### **Secs. 24-10—24-56. Reserved.**

## ***ARTICLE II. PROCEDURES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SUBDIVISIONS***

### **Sec. 24-57. Applicability and definition of subdivision; exceptions.**

- (a) The provisions of this section apply to any subdivision as defined in this section. The term "subdivision" means any division of a tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, building sites, or other divisions when any one or more of those divisions is created for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale or building development, and includes all division of land involving the dedication of new streets or a change in existing streets.
- (b) The following divisions of land are not included in this definition and are not subject to this article:
  - (1) The combination or recombination of portions of previously subdivided and recorded lots where the total number of lots is not increased and the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards as contained herein.
  - (2) The division of land into parcels greater than ten acres where no street right-of-way dedication is involved.
  - (3) The public acquisition by purchase of strips of land for the widening or opening of streets.



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- (4) The division of a tract in single ownership whose entire area is no greater than two acres into not more than three lots, where no street right-of-way dedication is involved and where the resultant lots are equal to or exceed the standards as prescribed herein.
  - (5) The division of land for use as gravesites.
  - (6) In subsections (b)(2) and (4) of this section, the terms "where no street right-of-way dedication is involved" and "where no widening or opening of streets is involved" mean that adequate access to such lots is provided by an approved existing street (public or private) without the need for additions or improvements to existing street rights-of-way or easements.
- (c) Pursuant to G.S. 160A-373, no final plat of a subdivision within the jurisdiction of the town shall be recorded by the register of deeds of the county until it has been approved as provided by the requirements of this article. To secure such approval of a final plat, the subdivider shall follow the procedures established in this article.
- (d) Plats deemed an exception to the provisions of this article as specified in subsection (a) of this section, or divisions of land not involving immediate or future building development or sale of lots, such as court ordered settlements, may be recorded provided the owner desiring to record such plats shall obtain a certificate of exception, to be shown on the face of the plat, from the subdivision administrator or his designee, as provided for in appendix 2 of this chapter. The owner shall present such plat showing the certificate of exception to the recorder as proof the exception condition is present.
- (Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 301)

#### **Sec. 24-58. Minor subdivision; review procedures.**

- (a) *Applicability and general procedures.*
- (1) Procedures as expressed herein are established in an effort to condense and simplify the review process for routine minor subdivisions with due regard to protection of the public interest.
  - (2) As defined in section 24-8, a minor subdivision constitutes any subdivision of land containing not more than four lots, including all contiguous land under the ownership of the sponsor, fronting on an existing street, not involving any new street or road, or the extension of municipal facilities, or the creation of any public improvements and not adversely affecting the remainder of the parcel or adjoining property, and not in conflict with any provision or portion of the comprehensive plan and chapter 26, zoning.
  - (3) The applicant for minor subdivision plat approval is encouraged to confer with the subdivision administrator prior to submitting a minor subdivision plat for a determination of whether the approval process authorized by this section can and should be utilized. The subdivision administrator may require the applicant to submit information necessary to determine whether or not the proposed subdivision is eligible for approval under the minor subdivision approval process.
- (b) *Preliminary plat review and approval.*
- (1) In lieu of the procedural requirements contained herein for major subdivisions, the subdivider may receive preliminary approval for any minor subdivision through procedures expressed in this section.
  - (2) Procedural requirements for procuring minor preliminary subdivision plat approval are as follows:
    - a. The subdivider shall submit to the subdivision administrator or his designated agent any required application form, application fee, and six blue-line prints of the plat of the proposed minor subdivision. Copies of the plat may be distributed to a representative of the health department, soil conservation service, and tax office for perusal and compliance with other applicable standards.

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- b. The minor preliminary plat shall be prepared by a registered land surveyor or engineer licensed to render said service in the state at a scale of no less than one inch to 100 feet and shall contain all information outlined in appendix 1 of this chapter.
  - c. The subdivision administrator may waive the topographical requirements of a minor subdivision plat if, after making a field investigation with the soil conservationist and a representative of the county health department, it is evident beyond a doubt that the topography of the site is such that a survey showing contours is not required.
- (3) The subdivision administrator or his designated agent shall review the preliminary plat of the proposed minor subdivision and shall render the determination that the proposal constitutes a minor subdivision and meets all requirements for minor subdivisions. Based upon those findings, the subdivision administrator shall approve, disapprove or conditionally approve the preliminary minor subdivision plat. The subdivision administrator shall render a decision within ten working days after receipt of the proposed minor subdivision. Failure of the subdivision administrator to render a decision within said time shall constitute approval thereof.
  - (4) If the subdivision is disapproved or conditionally approved, the subdivision administrator shall promptly furnish the applicant with a written statement of the reasons for disapproval, or in the case of conditional approval, the items necessary to bring the plat into compliance with this chapter.
  - (5) If approval is granted, written confirmation shall be made on three copies of the preliminary plat. One copy of the approved preliminary plat shall be returned to the applicant and two copies retained on file with the town. Preliminary plat approval shall be valid for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of the plat by the subdivision administrator unless a longer time period is established under the vested right provision. Preliminary plats whose approval has lapsed shall be resubmitted in accordance with this subsection.
  - (6) The decision of the subdivision administrator may be appealed to the planning board by the subdivider.
- (c) *Final plat review and approval procedures for minor subdivisions.*
- (1) In lieu of the procedural requirements establishment herein for major subdivisions the developer may procure final approval for minor subdivisions pursuant to the requirements expressed herein.
  - (2) The procedural requirements for procuring minor final subdivision plat approval are as follows:
    - a. The subdivider shall submit to the subdivision administrator or his designated agent at least six blue-line prints of the plat of the proposed minor subdivision of a size that is acceptable for recording by the county register of deeds.
    - b. The minor final plat shall be prepared by a registered land surveyor or engineer licensed to render said service in the state at a scale of no less than one inch to 100 feet and shall contain all information outlined in appendix 1 of this chapter, and all applicable certificates required in appendix 2 of this chapter.
  - (3) The subdivision administrator or his designated agent shall review the final plat of the proposed minor subdivision and shall render the determination that said plat does constitute a minor subdivision and meets all requirements for minor subdivisions. Based upon those findings, the subdivision administrator shall approve or disapprove the proposed final minor subdivision plat. The subdivision administrator shall render a decision within ten working days after receipt of the proposed minor subdivision. Failure of the subdivision administrator to render a decision shall constitute approval thereof.
  - (4) If the subdivision is disapproved, the subdivision administrator shall promptly furnish the applicant with a written statement of the reasons for disapproval, specifying the provisions of this chapter with which the final plat does not comply.

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- (5) If approval is granted, written confirmation shall be made on four copies of the final plat. Two copies of the plat shall be returned to the subdivider and two copies shall be filed with the town.
  - (6) The decision of the subdivision administrator may be appealed to the planning board by the subdivider.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 302)

### **Sec. 24-59. Major subdivision review procedures; applicability.**

- (a) As defined in section 24-8, a major subdivision includes all subdivisions not classified as a minor subdivision, including but not limited to subdivisions of five or more lots, or any size subdivision requiring any new street or extension of local government facilities, or the creation of any public improvements.
- (b) The procedures for the review of a major subdivision generally involve:
  - (1) Sketch plan review (required for all subdivisions of 30 or more lots);
  - (2) Preliminary plat review and approval by the technical review committee (TRC) and planning board; and
  - (3) Final plat review and approval by the subdivision administrator.
- (c) In the event that a subdivision is to be developed in phases, a preliminary plat shall be submitted for the entire development. A final plat may be submitted separately for each phase of the subdivision.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 303.1)

### **Sec. 24-60. Sketch plan submission.**

- (a) Procedural requirements. It is recommended that the applicant for subdivision approval submit a sketch/concept plan for review by the subdivision administrator or his designee and a subcommittee of the planning board. This plan should, in simple sketch form, show the location of the development, size of the property, proposed layout of streets, lots and other features, and location of the property in relation to existing streets and surrounding areas.
- (b) Sketch plans shall be a requirement for any subdivision of 30 lots or more.
- (c) The subdivider shall submit four copies of the proposed sketch plan, prepared in accordance with the requirements of this chapter, to the subdivision administrator or his designated agent. Within ten days following the submission, the subdivision administrator will schedule a meeting with the subdivider to review and discuss the sketch plan proposal.
- (d) The subdivision administrator shall review the sketch plan for general compliance with the requirements of the subdivision and zoning ordinances, and shall advise the subdivider of the regulations applicable to the proposed subdivision and procedures to be followed in preparation and submission of the preliminary plat. This review shall in no way be construed as constituting an official action of subdivision approval. No review fee shall be required for pre-application conferences or sketch plans.
- (e) The sketch plan shall include all information required in appendix 1 of this chapter. The subdivision administrator may waive specific information required on sketch plans as specified in appendix 1 of this chapter, if such information is not necessary to convey a general overview of the proposed size, layout, and lot features of the subdivision. No specific size requirements apply to sketch plans and no certification is required.
- (f) Following the sketch plan review, two copies of the sketch plan shall be retained on file with the town, and the other two copies returned to the subdivider.

**Sec. 24-61. Major subdivisions—Preliminary plat review and approval procedures.**

- (a) Submission requirements.
- (1) The subdivider shall submit ten blueline prints of the plat of the proposed subdivision, prepared in accordance with the requirements of this chapter, to the subdivision administrator or his designated agent no less than 25 working days prior to the regularly scheduled planning board meeting at which time the plat will be considered. The applicant shall also submit any required application forms and fee.
  - (2) If the subdivision includes a new public road or an extension of an existing road, four complete sets of road construction plans in conformance with the most current road standards for the town and state division of highways shall be submitted with the preliminary plat.
  - (3) The major preliminary plat shall be prepared by a registered land surveyor or engineer licensed to render said service in the state at a scale of no less than one inch to 100 feet and shall include all information included in appendix 1 of this chapter.
- (b) Review and recommendation by technical review committee.
- (1) The preliminary plat shall conform substantially to the sketch plan, if applicable.
  - (2) Upon receipt of the requisite copies of the preliminary plat, the subdivision administrator or his designated agent shall distribute copies of the preliminary plat of the proposed major subdivision to various agencies representing the technical review committee (TRC) for review of street design, erosion and sedimentation control, sewage disposal systems, water and sanitary sewer systems, stormwater management, public safety, and public services.
  - (3) The subdivision administrator shall consult with members of the technical review committee (TRC) to review the preliminary plat. Following its review, the TRC shall provide its findings and recommendations in writing to subdivision administrator.
  - (4) The subdivision administrator shall forward the TRC findings and recommendations, along with the preliminary plat of the major subdivision, to the planning board for review and approval at least five days prior to the planning board meeting. If the TRC determines that the preliminary plat is incomplete, the subdivision administrator shall notify the applicant of the deficiencies in writing. Preliminary plats shall not be forwarded to the planning board until all deficiencies have been corrected.
- (c) Planning board review and approval. After considering any input and/or recommendations received in connection with the proposed subdivision, in addition to any comments the subdivider may have, the planning board shall approve, disapprove or conditionally approve the proposed major subdivision preliminary plat in accordance with the following:
- (1) If the planning board grants the conditional approval of the preliminary plat, the conditions and reasons thereof shall be stated in writing.
  - (2) If the planning board disapproves the preliminary plat, the reasons for disapproval shall be stated in writing and references shall be made to the specific sections of this chapter with which the plan does not comply. The subdivider may make the recommended changes and resubmit the revised preliminary plat in accordance with this subsection.
  - (3) If approval is granted, written confirmation shall be made on three copies of the preliminary plat. One copy of the approved preliminary plat shall be returned to the applicant and two copies retained on file with the town.

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- (4) Failure of the planning board to render a decision within 65 days after the preliminary plat is received by the subdivision administrator shall constitute approval thereof.
  - (d) Preliminary plat approval shall be valid for a period of 12 months from the date of approval by the planning board. The planning board, at its discretion, may grant an extension for a period not to exceed two years beyond the date of original preliminary plat approval. Due consideration shall be given for the health, safety, and welfare of the public in granting extensions. Preliminary plats whose approval has lapsed shall be resubmitted in accordance with this section.
  - (e) Following planning board approval of the preliminary plat, the developer is authorized to proceed with the installation or arrangement for the required improvements and the preparation of a final plat. Prior to approval of the final major subdivision plat, the subdivider shall have installed the improvements specified on the plat or guaranteed their installation as provided for in section 24-66.
  - (f) No preliminary plat approval shall be granted with respect to any development that would cause land disturbing activity requiring prior approval of an erosion and sedimentation control plan by the state sedimentation control commission under G.S. 113A-57(4) unless the commission has certified to the town, either that:
    - (1) An erosion control plan has been submitted to and approved by the commission;
    - (2) The commission has examined the preliminary plans for development and it reasonably appears that an erosion control plan can be approved upon submission by the developer of more detailed construction plan. In this case, construction of the development may not begin and no building permits may be issued until the commission approves the sedimentation and erosion control plan.
  - (g) The term "land disturbing activity" means any use of the land by any person in residential, industrial, educational, institutional or commercial development, highway and road construction and maintenance that results in a change in the natural cover or topography and that may cause or contribute to sedimentation except activities that are exempt under G.S. 113A-53(6).

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 303.3)

## **Sec. 24-62. Same—Final plat review and approval procedures.**

- (a) *Submission requirements.*
  - (1) The subdivider shall submit ten blueline prints of the final plat of the proposed subdivision, in a size acceptable to the county register of deeds and prepared in accordance with the requirements of this chapter, of the proposed subdivision to the subdivision administrator or his designated agent. When more than one sheet is required to include the entire subdivision, all sheets shall be made of the same size and shall show appropriate match marks on each sheet and appropriate references to other sheets of the subdivision.
  - (2) The major final plat shall be prepared by a registered land surveyor or engineer licensed to render said service in the state at a scale of no less than one inch to 100 feet and shall contain all information outlined in appendix 1 of this chapter, and all applicable certificates required in appendix 2 of this chapter.
- (b) *Conformance with preliminary plat.* The final plat shall conform substantially to the approved preliminary plat. If the submitted final plat deviates in its overall design from the approved preliminary plat, or if the applicant requests a waiver from any of the standards of this chapter, the subdivision administrator shall consult with the technical review committee and refer the findings and recommendations of the TRC to the planning board for decision. Such review shall follow the same review and approval procedures set forth in section 24-61(c).
- (c) *Review and approval by subdivision administrator.*

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- (1) The major final plat shall be reviewed by the subdivision administrator for compliance with the approved preliminary plat. The subdivision administrator, with the planning board and board of commissioners' concurrence, may appoint an engineer to certify the final plat against the subdivision's actual layout for correctness, charging the costs to the subdivider if the plat is found to be in error.
  - (2) If the major final plat is in compliance with the chapter and consistent with the preliminary plat, or the planning board approved any amendments made from a conditionally approved preliminary plat, the subdivision administrator shall approve the final plat. If approval is granted, written confirmation shall be made on four copies of the final plat. Two copies of the plat shall be returned to the subdivider and two copies shall be filed with the town.
  - (3) If the final plat is disapproved by the subdivision administrator, the applicant shall be furnished with a written statement of the reasons for disapproval and reference shall be made to the specific sections of this chapter with which the plat does not comply.
  - (4) The subdivision administrator shall take expeditious action on a final plat. If the subdivision administrator fails to act within 30 days after the final plat is submitted, the applicant may request that the final plat be reviewed for final plat approval according to the same review and approval procedures set forth in section 24-61(c) for preliminary plats. The subdivision administrator may at any time, however, refer an application for final plat approval to the TRC and the planning board.
- (d) *Required improvements.* No major final plat shall be approved until all improvements are installed as specified in the approved preliminary plat and construction plans, or until the subdivider has issued performance guarantees as established in section 24-66, and the certificates as depicted thereon have been signed. The required improvements include:
- (1) Roads within the subdivision and improvements to existing roads required for safe and adequate access to the subdivision.
  - (2) Public or community water supply and sewage disposal systems.
  - (3) Drainage facilities and easements, and stormwater management devices.
  - (4) Essential utilities.
  - (5) Erosion and sedimentation control devices.
  - (6) Any other improvement required as a condition for preliminary plat approval.
- (e) *Appeals from decision of subdivision administrator.* If a final plat is disapproved by the subdivision administrator, the applicant may appeal the decision by requesting that the final plat be scheduled for review by the planning board according to the same review and approval procedures set forth in section 24-61(c).

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 303.4)

### **Sec. 24-63. Recordation of final plats.**

- (a) *Recording.* Upon procuring approval of the final plat by the subdivision administrator, the subdivider shall file the plat with the county register of deeds within 60 days or such action shall become null and void.
- (b) *Dedication and acceptance.*
  - (1) *Rights-of-way.* The approval and recordation of a final plat does constitute an offer to dedicate, but does not constitute dedication to and acceptance for maintenance responsibility by the town or the public of any public road, alley, or utility or drainage easement shown on such plat. Improvements within such rights-of-way or easements, such as utility lines, road paving, drainage facilities, or

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sidewalks may, however, be accepted for maintenance by the state department of transportation (NCDOT) or by the private utility provider upon compliance with applicable NCDOT and private utility provider guidelines and standards.

- (2) *Open space.* Land designed as public open space on a final plat shall be considered to be offered for dedication until such offer is officially accepted by the town. The offer may be accepted by the town through:
- a. Express action by the board of commissioners;
  - b. Express action by an administrative officer designated by the board of commissioners;
  - c. Conveyance of fee simple marketable title (unencumbered financially and environmentally) of the property to the town at the time of final plat recordation.

Until such dedication has been accepted, land so offered may be used for open space purposes by the homeowner's association. Land so offered for dedication shall not be used for any purpose inconsistent with the proposed public use.

- (c) *Permits and certificates of occupancy.* Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, upon recordation of the final plat, the applicant shall be eligible to apply for building and any other permits required by this chapter, if the roads are determined by the subdivision administrator to be in a passable condition. No certificates of occupancy shall be issued until all improvements are complete and approved by the NCDOT.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 304)

#### **Sec. 24-64. Homeowners' associations; establishment.**

- (a) A homeowner's association shall be established to fulfill the requirement of the North Carolina Condominium Act or to accept conveyance and maintenance of all common areas and facilities within a development containing common areas.
- (b) Where developments have common areas for facilities servicing more than one dwelling unit, these areas shall be conveyed to the homeowner's association in which all owners of lots in the development shall be members. All areas other than public road rights-of-way, other areas dedicated to the town, and lots shall be shown and designated as common areas. The fee simple title of the common area shall be conveyed by the subdivider or developer to the homeowner's association.
- (c) Common areas shall not be subsequently subdivided or conveyed by the homeowner's association unless a revised preliminary plat and a revised final plat showing such subdivision or conveyance have been submitted and approved.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 305.1)

#### **Sec. 24-65. Submission of homeowner's association declaration.**

- (a) *Homeowner's association declaration.* Prior or concurrently with the submission of the final plat for review and approval, the applicant shall submit a copy of the proposed bylaws of the homeowner's association containing covenants and restraints governing the association, plats, and common areas. The submitted documents shall be reviewed by the town attorney and a recommendation made to the planning board as to their sufficiency. The restrictions shall include provisions for the following:
  - (1) The homeowner's association declaration shall be organized and in legal existence prior to the conveyance, lease-option, or other long-term transfer of control of any unit or lot in the development.

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- (2) Membership in the homeowner's association shall be mandatory for each original buyer and each successive buyer of a lot or unit. Provisions shall be made for the assimilation of owners in subsequent sections of the development.
  - (3) The homeowner's association declaration shall state that the association is responsible for:
    - a. The payment of premiums for liability insurance and local taxes;
    - b. Maintenance of recreational and/or other facilities location on common areas; and
    - c. Payment of assessments for public and private improvements made to or for the benefit of the common areas.
  - (4) Default of homeowner's association. Upon default by the homeowner's association in the payment to the town any assessments for public improvements or ad valorem taxes levied against common areas, which default shall continue for a period of six months, each owner of a lot in the development shall become personally obligated to pay to the town a portion of the taxes or assessments in an amount determined by dividing the total taxes and/or assessments due to the town by the total number of lots in the development. If the sum is not paid by the owner within 30 days following receipt of notice of the amount due, the sum shall become a continuing lien on the property of the owner, his heirs, devisees, personal representatives and assigns. The town may either bring an action at law against the owner personally obligated to pay the same, or may elect to foreclose the lien against the property of the owner.
  - (5) Power of the association. The homeowner's association is empowered too levy assessments against the owners of lots or units within the development. Such assessments shall be for the payment of expenditures made by the homeowner's association for the items set forth in this section, and any assessments not paid by the owner against whom such assessments are made shall constitute a lien on the lot of the owner.
  - (6) Easements. Easements over the common areas for access, ingress, and egress from and to public roads and walkways and easements for enjoyment of the common areas, and for parking, shall be granted to each lot owner.
- (b) *Nonresidential condominiums.* If the condominium is a nonresidential condominium, the declaration shall contain the following provision:
- "Parking spaces shall be allocated among the individual lots or units in such a manner that each unit is entitled to a sufficient number of parking spaces to comply with this chapter for the use intended to be located therein. The homeowner's association shall maintain a register listing the total number of parking spaces in the development and the number of parking spaces allocated to each lot or unit. A copy of this register shall be available to the zoning administrator at his request. The homeowner's association shall not reduce the number of parking spaces allocated to an individual lot or unit without the express written consent of the owner thereof, and in no case shall the number of parking spaces allocated to an individual unit be reduced to a number below that required by this chapter."

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 305.2)

## **Sec. 24-66. Performance guarantees.**

- (a) In the event that the required improvements have not been completed prior to the submission of the major final plat, the developer shall guarantee the completion of the required improvements in a subdivision by means of a bond with surety or other guarantees satisfactory to the board of commissioners in an amount equal to 150 percent of the estimated cost of the required improvements whereby improvements may be made and utilities installed within a reasonable period of time as agreed upon by the developer and board of commissioners. One of the following methods may be pursued by the developer to ensure the installation of said improvements:



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- (1) Filing a performance or surety bond with the developer/property owner as principal and a surety approved by the board of commissioners upon recommendation of the planning board;
  - (2) Depositing or placing in escrow a certified check or cash in an amount to be determined by the board of commissioners upon recommendation of the planning board. Portions of the security deposit may be released as the work progresses; or
  - (3) Filing an irrevocable letter of credit guaranteeing payment to the town in the event of default in an amount to be determined by the board of commissioners upon recommendation of the planning board.
- (b) When the required improvements have been completed, the developer shall notify the subdivision administrator. The subdivision administrator shall request comments relative to those improvements from the state department of transportation, the soil conservation service and the county health department, who will notify the subdivision administrator that the improvements have been installed to their satisfaction. The subdivision administrator shall request in writing to the town manager to release the bond, letter of credit or funds from escrow. In the event of default by the developer, the town manager is authorized to call for payment of the bond or letter of credit or to release security from escrow and to utilize such funds for the completion of improvements in a manner as determined by the board of commissioners.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 306)

### **Sec. 24-67. Resubdivision procedures.**

For any replatting or resubdivision of land, the same procedure, rules and regulations shall apply as prescribed herein for an original subdivision except that lot sizes may be varied on an approved plat after recording, provided that:

- (1) No lot or tract of land shall be created or sold that is smaller than the size shown on the approved plat;
- (2) Drainage, easements or rights of-way shall not be changed;
- (3) Street alignment and block sizes shall not be changed;
- (4) The property lines between the back of the lot shall not be changed;
- (5) The rear portion of lots shall not be subdivided from the front part;
- (6) The character of the area shall be maintained.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 307)

### **Secs. 24-68—24-92. Reserved.**

## ***ARTICLE III. DESIGN STANDARDS***

### **Sec. 24-93. General provisions.**

- (a) *Design.* All proposed subdivisions, including group developments, shall comply with this article, shall be designed to promote beneficial development of the community, and shall bear a reasonable relationship to the approved plans of the town.

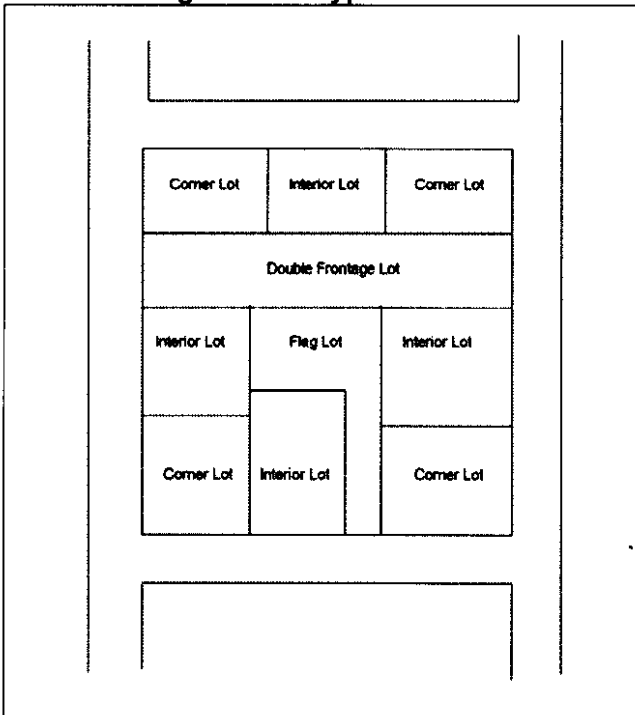
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- (b) *Development name.* In no case shall the name of a proposed subdivision duplicate or be phonetically similar to an existing development name in the town or the county, unless the proposed development lies adjacent to the existing development.
  - (c) *Reasonable relationship.* All required improvements, easements, and rights-of-way (other than required reservations) shall substantially benefit the development or bear a reasonable connection to the need for public facilities attributable to the new development.
  - (d) *Natural features and assets.* In the subdividing of land, due regard shall be shown for all natural features, such as tree growth, watercourses, historic sites, or similar conditions which, if preserved, will add attractiveness to the proposed development and safety from hazards.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 401)

## **Sec. 24-94. Lot dimensions and standards.**

- (a) *Adequate buildable area required.* Lot sizes, shapes, and locations shall be made with due regard to topographic conditions, contemplated uses, and the surrounding area. Each lot shall contain an adequate building site not subject to flooding and outside the limits of any existing easements or required building setback lines. Land subject to flooding, improper drainage or erosion, and land deemed by the board of commissioners to be uninhabitable for other reasons shall not be platted for residential occupancy, nor for such other uses as may increase danger to health, life or property, or aggravate the flood hazard; but such land may be set aside for such uses as will not be endangered by periodic or occasional inundation, or will not produce unsatisfactory living conditions.
- (b) *Conformance with chapter 26, zoning.* All lots shall conform to the minimum standards or dimensions noted herein and those contained in any applicable section in chapter 26, zoning, building codes or other official regulations.
- (c) *Lot remnants.* All remnants of lots left over after subdivision of a larger tract and smaller than the required minimum lot size that is required, must be added to adjacent lots, rather than allowed to remain as separate parcels. The subdivision administrator may permit a lot remnant for a specific purpose such as a detention pond, provided that access and design is appropriate and the lot remnant is restricted to specific non-building uses.
- (d) *Corner lots.* Corner lots for residential use shall have an extra width of ten feet from the side yard that adjoins the side street to allow for adequate building setback from side streets.
- (e) *Double frontage lots.* (See figure 4-1.) All efforts should be made to avoid double frontage lots, except where required to separate residential development from thoroughfares, where a recorded alley provides rear access to lots, or to overcome specific disadvantages of topography or orientation. If double frontage lots must be included, private driveways shall be prevented from having direct access through the lot.

**Figure 4-1: Types of Lots**



- (f) *Flag lots.* No lot shall be approved which constitutes a flag lot except with special approval from the planning board due to extreme topographic or natural circumstances. No flag lots shall be approved in major subdivisions under any circumstance. (See figure 4-1.)
- (g) *Side lot lines.* Side lot lines shall be at or near right angles or radial to curved street lines. No intersection lot lines shall have an angle of less than 60 degrees.
- (h) *Lot lines and drainage.* Lot boundaries shall coincide with natural and pre-existing manmade drainageways to the extent practicable to avoid lots that can be built upon only by altering such drainageways.
- (i) *Access requirements.* Every lot shall front or abut on a dedicated public street and have frontage meeting the requirements set forth in the chapter 26, zoning, except lots of record provided that there is recorded access and the use is limited to only one single-family dwelling and its accessory structures.
- (j) *Lots on roads with capacity deficiencies.* Subdivisions shall not be approved that propose individual residential lots with direct vehicular access to roads that are recognized as having significant traffic mobility concerns as identified by the state department of transportation (NCDOT) functional classification system. This includes all major arterials, major collectors, and minor collectors with a current average daily trips (ADT) over 1,000 (ADT shall be calculated by using the latest NCDOT published data plus three percent for each year in which current information is not available and then adding ten trips per lot proposed in the subdivision), except as follows:
  - (1) The minimum lot width shall at least be at least 1.5 times the minimum width for the zoning district in which the lot is located;
  - (2) The property may not be further subdivided below the required frontage as provided for in subsection (j)(1) of this section; and
  - (3) Only one principal structure is allowed per lot.
- (k) *Water and sewage disposal.*

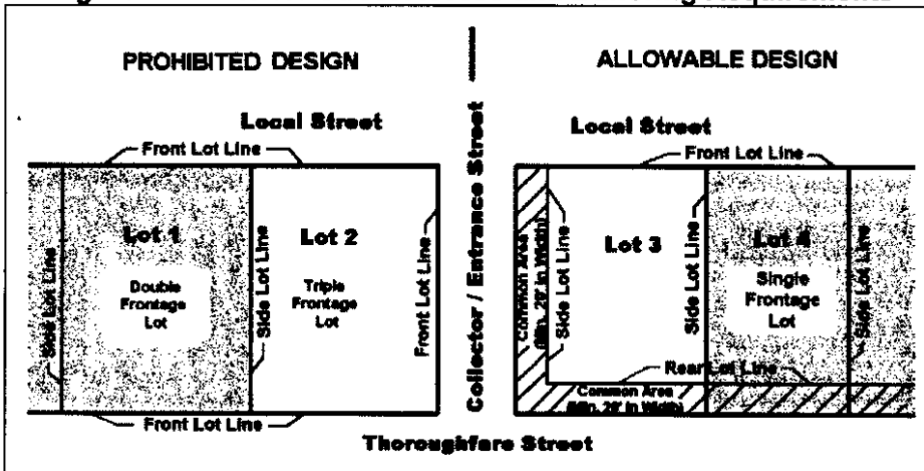
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- (1) Every subdivision lot intended for building purposes shall be served by a central water supply system and central sewage disposal system that:
    - a. Is adequate to accommodate the reasonable needs of the proposed use of the lot; and
    - b. Complies with all applicable health regulations.
  - (2) Where public water and sewer facilities are not available and individual water supplies or individual sewage disposal system are planned, the subdivider, at his own expense, shall have the site investigated under the supervision of the county health department or other person approved by the county health department to determine whether or not such individual facilities are feasible. The subdivider shall present proof to the planning board that appropriate soil tests have been conducted and each lot in the subdivision not served by public water or sewage disposal system has been approved by the county health department for individual water supplies and/or sewage disposal systems.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 402)

### **Sec. 24-95. Street standards.**

- (a) *Conformance with plans.* In any new subdivision, the street layout shall conform to the arrangement, width and location included on any official plans for the town. In areas for which such plans have not been completed, the streets shall be designed and located in proper relation to existing and proposed streets, to the topography, to such natural features as streams and tree growth, to public convenience and safety, and to the proposed use of land to be served by such streets.
- (b) *Dedication of future right-of-way.* Whenever a tract to be subdivided embraces any part of a major thoroughfare, designated in the official plans for the county or the town, such part of such proposed public way shall be platted and dedicated by the subdivider in the location and at the width specified.
- (c) *Conformance with adjoining road systems.* The proposed street layout shall be made according to good land planning practice for the type of development proposed, and shall be coordinated with the street system of the surrounding areas. Proposed streets shall connect to or intersect with adjacent existing streets where possible.
- (d) *Frontage.* All subdivisions shall have direct access from a public street improved to the town and the state department of transportation standards.
- (e) *Access to thoroughfares.* Access to major thoroughfares from lots in the subdivision shall be managed to minimize vehicle conflict points. Where a tract of land to be subdivided adjoins a major thoroughfare, the subdivider may be required to provide a marginal access street parallel to the highway or reverse frontage on an interior street for the lots to be developed adjacent to the highway. The subdivider shall be required to provide a 20-foot easement on the rear and side of the property abutting the higher volume road, parallel and adjacent to the right-of-way of the road. Such easement shall be restricted to the planting of trees or shrubs for screening purposes and shall be in addition to all other easements required by this chapter. See figure 4-2 as follows:

**Figure 4-2: Interior Street Access and Buffering Requirements**



- (f) *Access to adjoining property.* All streets shall provide for the continuation or approximate projection of principal streets in surrounding areas and provide reasonable means of ingress and egress for surrounding acreage tracts.
- (1) A proposed street shall be extended to an adjacent property, or a connecting street shall be provided to the adjacent property as a through road within the local road network. Such street shall be designed and dedicated as public street to the adjacent property and located so as to best ensure the safe, convenient, and efficient movement of traffic within a local road network as well as the orderly development of adjacent properties.
  - (2) Dead-end streets shall be prohibited. Where an existing dead-end street abuts the property proposed for development, the proposed development shall connect to the existing dead-end street. This does not preclude use of stub streets as part of a phased development or in anticipation of future development.
  - (3) All new subdivisions must connect to stub streets when they adjoin the property to be developed.
- (g) *Public streets.* All streets shall be dedicated to the town or the state and shall be built to the standards of this chapter and all other applicable standards of the town and the state department of transportation. Right-of-way dedication and paving of streets in and adjacent to the subdivision shall be in conformance with the minimum street standards in table 4-3 in section 24-96, and within the subdivision regulation jurisdiction of the town shall be designed in accordance with the most recently published state department of transportation (NCDOT), subdivision roads, minimum construction standards. No street shall be accepted for ownership and maintenance by the town in any subdivision for which a plat is required to be approved, unless and until such final plat has been approved by the town.
- (h) *Disclosure statement.* All streets shown on the final plat shall be designated in accordance with G.S. 136-102.6 and designation as a public street shall be conclusively presumed as an offer of dedication to the public. Where streets are dedicated to the public but not accepted into a municipal or state system, a statement explaining the status of the street shall be included with the final plat before the lots are sold.
- (i) *Street ineligible of public dedication.* Public roads ineligible to be put on the NCDOT system because there are too few lots or residences shall, nevertheless, be dedicated to the public and shall be in accordance with NCDOT standards so as the be eligible to be put on the system at a later date. A written agreement with provisions for private maintenance of the road until it is put on the public system shall be included with the final plat and recorded in the office of the register of deeds.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), §§ 403.1—403.9)

**Sec. 24-96. Minimum street right-of-way and pavement widths.**

(a) *Standards.* The following table 4-3 contains the minimum requirements for street rights-of-way and pavement widths:

Table 4-3. Minimum Street Standards

Classification	Travel Lanes	Parking Lanes	Right-of-Way <sup>(A)</sup> (in feet)	Pavement Width <sup>(A), (B)</sup> (in feet)
Primary collector	2—4	0	65	40
Residential collector, lot width				
80—99 feet w/curb & gutter (two-side parking) <sup>(C)</sup>	2	2	60	36
80—99 feet w/curb & gutter (one-side parking)	2	1	50	28
=100 feet w/curb & gutter	2	0	50	24
=100 feet w/no curb & gutter	2	0	50	20
Residential street, lot width				
80—99 feet w/curb & gutter	2	1	50	26
= 100 feet w/curb & gutter	2	0	45	22
= 100 feet w/no curb & gutter	2	0	45	18
Alley, lot width				
80—99 feet w/curb & gutter	1	0	20	12
Residential cul-de-sac radius				
Urban—w/curb & gutter			45	37
Rural—No curb & gutter			50	35
Notes.				
(A) Additional width may be required under section 24-95(a)				
(B) Pavement widths are measured back to back of curb.				
(C) Parking on one side of the street should be sufficient to accommodate visitor parking in residential subdivisions, but the planning board may require parking lanes on both sides of the street depending on the type of subdivision and parking needs beyond the requirements of article IV of chapter 26, zoning.				

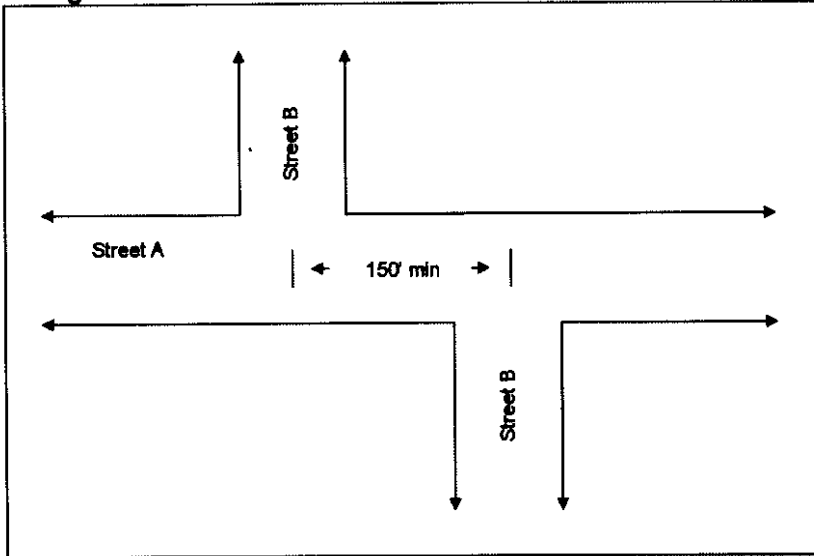
(b) *Reserve strips.* Reserve strips adjoining road rights-of-way for the purposes of preventing access to adjacent property shall not be permitted under any condition.

(c) *Street intersections.* Streets shall be laid out so as to intersect as nearly as possible at right angles (90 degrees) and no street shall intersect any other street at less than 75 degrees. All roads crossing natural areas, wetlands, or stream buffers must cross at or as near to 90 degrees as possible within topographic limits. All street intersections must meet minimum sight distance standards as required by the state department of transportation.

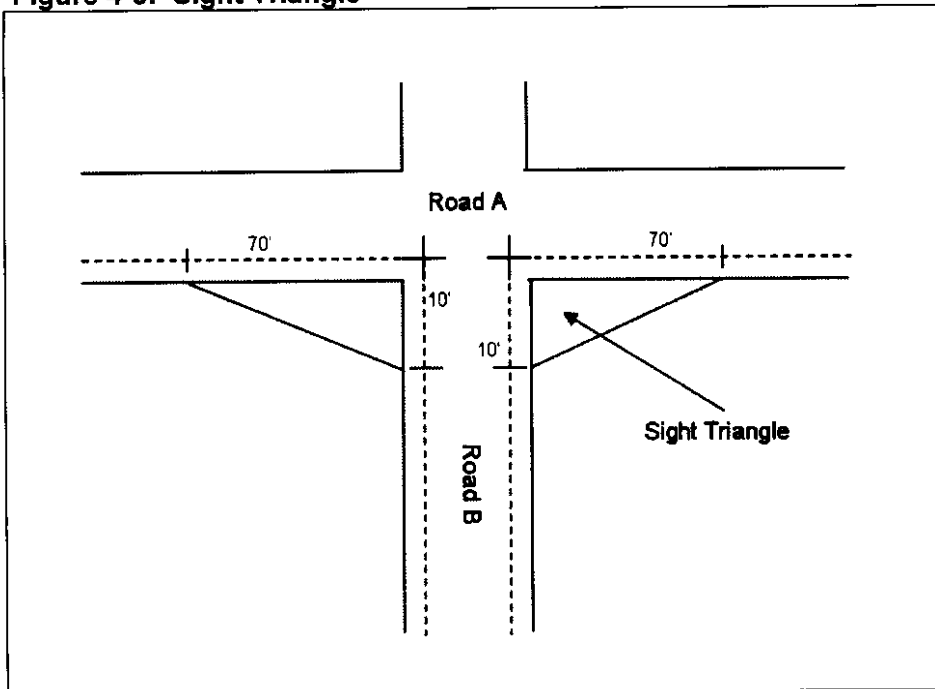
- (1) Where there is an offset in the alignment of a street across an intersection, the offset of the centerlines shall be no less than 150 feet. (See figure 4-4 in this subsection (c).)
- (2) Intersections with a major street or highway shall be at least 800 feet apart from corner property line to corner property line.
- (3) Property lines at street intersections shall be rounded with a minimum radius of 15 feet or of a greater radius when required by the planning board.

- (4) Proper sight distances shall be maintained at all intersections of streets and at driveway intersection with streets. Any intersection with a major street or highway shall have drawn on the plat a sight triangle easement with dimensions of ten feet along the lower order street and 70 feet along the higher order street. No building or obstruction that impedes vision beyond the extent noted above shall be permitted in this area. (See figure 4-5 in this subsection (c).)

**Figure 4-4: Street Offset**



**Figure 4-5: Sight Triangle**



- (d) *Temporary turnarounds.* Roads stubbed to adjoining property or phase lines may be required to have a temporary turnaround at the end of the road which will be sufficient to permit service vehicles.
- (e) *Cul-de-sacs.*

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- (1) In general, cul-de-sacs should be avoided unless the design of the subdivision and the existing or proposed street system in the surrounding area indicate that a through street is not essential in the location of the proposed cul-de-sac, or where sensitive environmental features such as streams, floodplains, or wetlands would substantially be disturbed by making road connections.
  - (2) Cul-de-sacs shall be no longer than 800 feet. The turnaround shall have a diameter of at least 100 feet. The length of the cul-de-sac shall be measured from the center of the intersection at the beginning of the cul-de-sac running along the centerline to the center point of the turnaround.
- (f) *Alleys.*
- (1) Commercial or industrial. The planning board may require the subdivision to construct alleys in commercial or industrial zoning districts to provide access for service and delivery vehicles.
  - (2) Residential. Alleys may be appropriate in residential zoning districts, especially traditional neighborhood developments, to provide rear garages, parking, or access for service vehicles.
  - (3) All permanent dead-end alleys shall be provided with a turnaround. No alley shall have access from a major street or highway but shall have its access points confined to minor streets.
- (g) *Street names.* Streets which are obviously in alignment with existing streets shall bear the name of the existing street. Street names for all subdivision plats shall be subject to the approval of the planning board. New street names shall not duplicate or be similar to existing street names and existing street names shall be projected wherever possible. The developer shall install street signs of a design approved by the planning board to be placed at each intersection.
- (h) *Street name signs.* Street name signs shall be posted at all street intersections. At the time of final plat approval, the applicant shall deposit with the town funds in an amount sufficient to purchase and install street name signs at street intersections in accordance with NCDOT and town standards.
- (i) *Street addresses.* Street address numbers shall be assigned by the subdivision administrator during preliminary review. These addresses shall be so noted on the final plat. These numbers shall be the official address for use by the United States Postal Service until or unless changed by the United States Postal Service.
- (j) *Half streets.* The dedication of half streets at the perimeter of a new subdivision is prohibited. If circumstances render this impracticable, adequate provision for the concurrent dedication of the remaining half of the street must be furnished by the subdivider and adjacent property owner. Where a half street exists in an adjoining subdivision, the remaining half shall be provided by the proposed development.
- (k) *Grading.* Unless necessitated by exceptional topography, and subject to the approval of the planning board, the grades shall be not more than ten percent or less than 0.5 percent on any street.
- (1) Grades approaching intersections shall not exceed five percent for a distance of not less than 100 feet from the centerline of said intersection.
  - (2) Street grades shall be established wherever practical in such a manner as to avoid excessive grading, the promiscuous removal of ground cover and tree growth and general leveling of the topography.
  - (3) All changes in street grades shall be connected by vertical curves having a minimum length equivalent to 15 feet for each degree of difference between the grades of the streets.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), §§ 403.10—403.20; Res. of 7-2-2012)



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### **Sec. 24-97. Blocks.**

- (a) Blocks shall be laid out with due regard for the type of use to be established in the block, zoning requirements, needs for vehicular and pedestrian circulation, traffic control and safety, and environmental protection.
- (b) Intersecting streets shall be laid out at such intervals that block lengths are not more than 800 feet or less than 400 except where, in the opinion of the planning board, existing conditions justify a modification of this requirement.
- (c) Blocks shall have sufficient width to provide for two rows of lots of appropriate depth, except where otherwise required to separate residential development from through traffic or nonresidential uses.
- (d) Block numbers shall conform to the town street numbering system, if applicable.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 404)

### **Sec. 24-98. Buffer strips.**

- (a) A buffer strip at least 50 feet in depth, in addition to the normal lot depth required, shall be provided adjacent to all railroads and limited access highways in residential districts. This strip shall be a part of the platted lots, but shall have the following restrictions lettered on the face of the plat:

"This strip is reserved for the planting of trees or shrubs by the owner; the building of structures hereon is prohibited."

- (b) Where a residential subdivision is adjacent to an office, institutional, commercial or industrial uses, landscape buffers shall be provided as specified by article VI of chapter 26, zoning.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 405)

### **Sec. 24-99. Road and utility improvements.**

- (a) *Plans.* Construction plans for all road facilities shall be submitted to the town or NCDOT before preliminary plat approval. Construction plans for all water and sanitary sewer facilities shall be submitted to the appropriate utility provider before preliminary plat approval. For each subdivision section, the road and utility construction plans shall include all improvements lying within or adjacent to that section, as well as all water and sanitary sewer lines lying outside that section and being required to serve that section.
- (b) *Construction approval required.* No road improvements shall be constructed until the road construction plans have been reviewed and approved by the town or NCDOT. No utility improvements shall be constructed until the utility construction plans have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate utility provider.
- (c) *Permits for connecting to state roads.* An approved permit is required to connect a subdivision street to an existing state road. This permit is required prior construction of the new street. The application is available at the office of the nearest district engineer of the state division of highways.
- (d) *Inspection.* Work performed pursuant to approved road and utility construction plans shall be inspected and approved by the town or the town's designated agent, the state division of highways, in the case of state maintained roads, and the appropriate utility provider.
- (e) *Water and sewer connection.* Connection of each lot to public water and sewer utilities shall be required, at the subdivider's expense, if the proposed subdivision is within the town limits or within 500 feet of the nearest adequate lines of a public system, provided that no geographic or topographic factors would make

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such connection infeasible. Where public sewer is not available, lots shall meet applicable county environmental health division regulations. Approval of the county health department shall be obtained prior to preliminary plat approval. The final plat shall show the certificate of approval from the environmental health division as shown in appendix 2 of this chapter.

- (f) *Public water and sewer construction requirements.* Water and sewer lines, connections, and equipment shall be constructed in accordance with state and local regulations and to the specifications of the utility provider.
- (g) *Underground utilities.* All electric, telephone, television, and cable lines, both main and service connections, servicing new developments shall be provided by underground wiring within easements or dedicated public rights-of-way, installed in accordance with the prevailing standards and practices of the utility or other companies providing such services.
  - (1) Where street trees are provided for within the public right-of-way (see section 24-98), the placement of underground utilities shall be a minimum of five feet from the tree planting area. Installation of underground utilities outside the right-of-way may be located along the rear lot line, in alleyways, or in a utility easement located behind the sidewalk.
  - (2) Lots that abut existing easements or public rights-of-way where overhead utility lines and service connections have previously been installed may be supplied with service from those overhead lines, but the service connections for the utilities' overhead lines shall be installed underground. In the case of existing overhead utilities, should a road widening, or an extension of service, or other such condition occur as a result of the subdivision and necessitate the replacement or relocation of such utilities, such replacement or relocation shall be underground.
  - (3) The planning board may make the determination that underground utility installation is not feasible on a particular site. Where overhead lines are permitted as the exception, the placement and alignment of poles shall be designed to lessen the visual impact of overhead lines. Alignments and pole locations shall be carefully routed to avoid locations along horizons and utility lines should be located at the rear of the lot lines or along rear alleys where feasible.
  - (4) The town does not obligate itself in assuming any cost incurred in developing underground utilities.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), §§ 406.1—406.7)

### **Sec. 24-100. Utility easements.**

- (a) Easements centered on the front, rear or side lot lines shall be provided for electrical, telephone, natural gas, television, cable, water, and sewer utilities, where necessary, and shall be at least ten feet wide. The subdivider and the utility shall agree on the location and exact width of such easements. The location of such easements shall be reviewed and approved by the town prior to final plat approval.
- (b) Utility easements shall be kept free and clear of any buildings or other improvements that would interfere with the proper maintenance or replacement of utilities. The town shall not be liable for damages to any improvement located within the utility easement area caused by maintenance or replacement of utilities.
- (c) The subdivider shall transfer to the applicable utility provider the necessary ownership or easement rights to enable the utility provider to operate and maintain the utility facilities. In addition, the subdivider shall dedicate sufficient easement rights to accommodate the extension of utility service to adjacent or nearby properties whenever it can reasonably be anticipated that utility facilities constructed in one development will be extended to serve other adjacent or nearby developments.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 406.8)

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### **Sec. 24-101. Stormwater drainage.**

The subdivider shall provide the subdivision with an adequate drainage system for the proper drainage of all stormwater. The system shall prevent stormwater and floodwater damage to lots, structure, streets, and utilities, as well as to upstream and downstream areas. The system should also serve to protect water quality. The preferred method of stormwater management is open drainage systems that allow for natural drainage of streams and waterways. The design of the storm drainage system and plans, including calculations, shall clearly indicate the easements and dedicated areas required for the construction and maintenance of the drainage system.

- (1) No surface water shall be channeled or directed into a sanitary sewer.
- (2) Where feasible, the drainage system shall coordinate with and connect to existing drainage systems on surrounding roads and properties.
- (3) The storm drainage system shall follow existing topography as nearly as practical and discharge to natural drainage paths within a drainage basin. The drainage system shall incorporate stormwater best management practices to minimize adverse water quality impacts.
- (4) Surface drainage courses shall have side slopes of at least three feet of horizontal distance for each one foot of vertical drop, and courses shall be of sufficient size to accommodate the drainage area without flooding.
- (5) The minimum grade along the bottom of a surface drainage course shall be a vertical fall of at least one foot in each 300 feet of horizontal distance.
- (6) Where a subdivision is traversed by a watercourse, drainage way, channel or stream, there shall be provided a stormwater easement or drainage right-of-way conforming substantially to the lines of such watercourse, and such further width or construction, or both, as will be adequate for the purpose of drainage.
- (7) Lakes, ponds, creeks, and similar areas may be accepted by the town for maintenance only if sufficient land is dedicated as a public recreation area or park, or if such area constitutes a necessary part of the drainage control system. The acceptance of such dedicated areas must be approved by the planning board before the board of commissioners will consider accepting it.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 406.9)

### **Sec. 24-102. Oversized improvements.**

The town may require certain oversized improvements be installed or extended to adjacent property when it is in the best interest of future development. If the town requires improvements to be installed in excess of the standards necessary to serve the subdivision, the town shall negotiate an agreement to reimburse the applicant based on the projected difference in cost between the minimum improvement required and the oversized improvement.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 406.10)

### **Sec. 24-103. Other improvements.**

- (a) *Curb and gutter.* Curb and gutter are required in all subdivisions and on all thoroughfares, collectors, and streets with the exception of alleys, lanes, and rural streets in the RA, Residential-Agricultural District and the R-30, Low Density Residential District. Standard (raised) curb and gutter is the preferred installation type, but concrete valley gutter are allowed as well, and shall be constructed in accordance with the design criteria of the state department of transportation. The curb and gutter requirement may be waived by the

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town planning board and ditches, shoulders, and/or drainage swales used when it can be demonstrated that:

- (1) Soil and topography make the use of ditches, shoulders, and/or swales preferable;
  - (2) It is in the best interest of the community to maintain the rural character by using shoulders and/or drainage swales instead of curb and gutter.
- (b) *Street drainage, no curb and gutter.* Where curb and gutter is not provided, drainage ditches, shoulders, and/or drainage swales shall be provided according to the applicable state department of transportation subdivision minimum construction standards and guidelines for drainage studies and hydraulic design.
- (1) A minimum of 30 feet shall be left between drainage ditches along dedicated street rights-of-way.
  - (2) Drainage pipes shall be installed under driveways which cross a drainage ditch and these pipes shall have a minimum inside dimension of 15 inches.
  - (3) Driveways shall be constructed so that drainage water will not run into the road or highway.
- (c) *Sidewalks.*
- (1) Sidewalks shall be required as follows for all major subdivisions:
    - a. RA district: not required.
    - b. R-30 district: not required.
    - c. R-15 district: required on one-side of street.
    - d. R-8, R-MF, R-MH districts: required on both sides of the street.
    - e. Non-residential subdivisions: required on both sides of the street.
  - (2) Sidewalks shall be a minimum of five feet in width. A four-foot vegetative strip with grass plantings shall separate the sidewalk from the curb. The abutting property owner or a homeowners' association shall be responsible for mowing the vegetative strip. All sidewalks shall comply with the American with Disabilities Act.
- (d) *Crosswalks.* Pedestrian ways or crosswalks, not less than 15 feet in width, shall be provided, where deemed essential in the opinion of the planning board to provide adequate pedestrian circulation or access to schools, shopping areas, churches, parks, playgrounds or other similar facilities.
- (e) *Street trees.* Street trees shall be installed for all residential subdivisions of 50 units or more with an established homeowners' association. Trees shall be planted in a seven-foot tree lawn area located between the street and the sidewalk. It shall be the responsibility of the subdivider to install street trees and the homeowners' association shall assume maintenance responsibilities. In such cases, street trees shall be planted at intervals of 40 feet. All street trees shall be on the approved list of street trees identified by the town tree ordinance.
- (f) *Street lighting.* All public streets, sidewalks, or other common areas or facilities in subdivisions shall be sufficiently illuminated to ensure the public safety and security of property. Street lighting shall be installed in new subdivisions pursuant to a street lighting plan which shall be submitted to the planning board for approval. All streetlights shall be compatible with any applicable standards of the electric utility provider.
- (1) Streetlights shall be located at all intersections and mid-block locations with spacing of fixtures not to exceed 400 feet.
  - (2) Where feasible and practical, streetlight varieties shall be the same throughout the subdivision or individual phases of the subdivision.
  - (3) The height of streetlights shall not exceed 25 feet.

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- (4) All streetlights shall be placed at least two feet inward from the street or sidewalk.
  - (5) All lighting shall use a cutoff fixture to limit glare and light spillage.
  - (6) All costs associated with the installation of streetlighting are the responsibility of the subdivider. The town will not accept streets for dedication until all street lighting has been installed. Upon acceptance of public streets by the board of commissioners, the town will assume the responsibility for maintaining street lights.
- (g) *Fire hydrants.* Fire hydrants of sufficient water pressure to provide adequate fire protection shall be provided in accordance with all applicable town and county standards.
- (h) *Monuments and markers.* The Standards of Practice for Land Surveying in North Carolina, as adopted by the North Carolina State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors shall apply when installing monuments.
- (1) *Monuments.* Permanent concrete monuments four inches in diameter or square, three feet long, shall be placed at not less than two corners of the subdivision, provided that additional monuments shall be placed where necessary so that no point within the subdivision lies more than 500 feet from a monument. Two or more of the required monuments shall be designated as control corners. The top of each monument shall have an indented cross, metal pin, or metal plat to identify properly the location of the point. All monuments shall be shown on the final plat.
  - (2) *Property corner tie.* At least one corner of the property surveyed shall be designated by course and distance (tie) from a readily discernible reference marker. If the corner is within 2,000 feet of a U.S. Coast and Geodetic Station or N.C. Grid Station coordinated monument, then this corner shall be accurately tied to this U.S. or N.C. station or monument by computed Z and Y coordinates. A statement shall appear on the map indicating the identification of the U.S. or N.C. station or monument, stating the computed Z and Y coordinates of the property corner tie is at least 1:15,000. When such a monument or station is not available the tie shall be made to some pertinent and permanent recognizable landmark or identifiable point, physical object or structure.
  - (3) *Markers.* All lot corners, all points where street lines intersect the exterior boundaries of the subdivision, all angle points and points of curve in each street shall be marked with iron pipe not less than three-fourths inch in diameter and 30 inches long, driven so as to be two inches above the finished grade.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 407)

#### **Sec. 24-104. Sites for public use.**

To ensure orderly development of the planning area in accordance with the general principles set forth in any applicable comprehensive plan, the subdivider shall give due consideration to the reservation of open spaces for parks, schools, fire stations, and/or playgrounds in accordance with the procedures in G.S. 160A-372.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408)

#### **Sec. 24-105. Reservation of school sites.**

If the board of commissioners and the Nash-Rocky Mount Board of Education have jointly determined the specific location and size of any school sites to be reserved and this information appears in the town comprehensive plan, the planning board shall immediately notify the Nash-Rocky Mount Board of Education when a plat for a subdivision is submitted which includes all or part of a school site to be reserved. The board of education shall promptly decide whether it still wishes the site to be reserved. If the board of education does not wish to reserve the site, it shall so notify the planning board. If the board of education does wish to reserve

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the site, the subdivision shall not be approved without such reservation. The board of education shall have 18 months beginning on the date of final approval of the subdivision within which to acquire the site by purchase or by initiating condemnation proceedings. If the board of education has not purchased or begun proceedings to condemn the site within 18 months, the subdivider may treat the land as freed of the reservation.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.1)

### **Sec. 24-106. Parks, recreation and open space.**

- (a) Every person or corporation who subdivides land for residential purposes shall, at the time of final approval of the subdivision plan, be required to dedicate a portion of such land, as set forth in this section, for the purpose of providing park, recreation, and open space sites to service the future residents of the neighborhood in which the subdivision is located. This section shall apply to major subdivisions only.
- (b) As an alternative to dedication of such land by the subdivider, or where it is determined by the town planning board and the board of commissioners that a dedication of land is not feasible in a given plat or incompatible with the town's plan, the subdivider may make provisions for an equitable amount of land in another location or pay the town a fee in lieu of dedication as provided in this section.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(A), (B))

### **Sec. 24-107. Computation of size of area required for dedication.**

The amount of land required to be dedicated by a subdivider shall be based on the following formula: The area to be dedicated (in acres) equals  $\frac{1}{35}$  of an acre times the number of dwelling units or lots, whichever is greater, provided that for land so dedicated which lies within an area of the 100-year floodplain, or has slopes greater than 15 percent, or is included within overhead utility easements, said land shall be dedicated at a rate of  $\frac{1}{20}$  of an acre.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(C))

### **Sec. 24-108. Suitability of land.**

Criteria for evaluating suitability of proposed recreation, parks and open space areas shall include but not be limited to the following, as determined by the town planning board:

- (1) *Unity.* The dedicated land shall be a single parcel except where it is determined that two parcels or more would be in the public interest. The board of commissioners may require that parcels be connected, and may require the dedication of a connecting path of up to 30 feet in width.
- (2) *Shape.* The dedication area shall be sufficiently round or square in order to be usable for recreational activities such as softball/baseball, tennis, basketball, and other related activities.
- (3) *Location.* The dedicated land shall be located so as to serve the recreation needs of the immediate neighborhood within the subdivision and shall bear a reasonable relationship to the use of the area by the future inhabitants of the subdivision or residential development.
- (4) *Access.* Public access to the dedicated land shall be provided either by an abutting street or public easement at least 20 feet in width.
- (5) *Usability.* The dedicated land shall be usable for active recreation (e.g., play areas, ballfields, tennis courts, or similar recreation uses). Lakes may not be included in computing amount of land to be dedicated. If the town planning board determines that active recreation needs are being met by other dedicated parcels or existing recreation facilities, they may require that land suitable for open space may be dedicated.

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- (6) *Topography.* Generally areas dedicated for recreation shall not exceed slopes of five percent.
  - (7) *Plans.* Municipal and county plans shall be taken into consideration when evaluating land for dedication.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(D))

### **Sec. 24-109. Payments in lieu of dedication.**

- (a) *Computation.* Where a fee is paid in lieu of dedication, the fee should be the product of the number of dwelling units or lots, whichever is greater, and the standard per unit or per lot fee determined by the board of commissioners as part of the town's fee schedule. The payment in lieu of dedication shall not exceed the fair market value of the land that would otherwise have been required to be dedicated by the subdivision.
- (b) *Timeframe; use of monies.* Upon approval by the town of board of commissioners, payment in lieu of dedication shall be made to the town at the time of final subdivision plan approval or within one year of approval of the preliminary subdivision plan, whichever occurs first. All monies received by the town pursuant to these requirements shall be used only for the acquisition and/or development within the same recreation service area. The town shall also have the authority to sell land dedicated pursuant to these provisions with the proceeds of any such sale used solely for the acquisition and/or development of other recreation or park sites within the same recreation service area.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(E))

### **Sec. 24-110. Standards for selection of dedication or fee.**

- (a) Whether the board of commissioners accepts the land dedication or elects to require payment of a fee in lieu thereof shall be determined by consideration of the following:
  - (1) The recreational element of the town's comprehensive plan or other applicable plan;
  - (2) The recommendation of the planning board;
  - (3) Topography, geology, access, and location of land available for dedication in the subdivision;
  - (4) Size and shape of the subdivision.
- (b) The determination by the board of commissioners as to whether land shall be dedicated or whether a fee should be exacted shall be final and conclusive.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(F))

### **Sec. 24-111. Procedures.**

- (a) *Subdivider.* At the time of submitting a preliminary subdivision plat, the subdivider shall, as part of such submission, indicate whether dedication of the property for park and recreational purposes is proposed, or whether the subdivider proposes to pay a fee in lieu thereof. If the subdivider proposes to dedicate land for this purpose, the subdivider shall designate the area on the master subdivision plan as submitted.
- (b) *Town action.* At the time of preliminary subdivision review, the planning board shall recommend to the board of commissioners whether to require a dedication of land within the subdivision or payment of fee in lieu thereof, pursuant to standards listed in section 24-110.
- (c) *Approval of final plat.* Where dedication is required, such dedication shall be shown on the final plat for the subdivision submitted for approval. Where fees are required, the same shall be deposited with the

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town prior to the recording of the final plat for subdivision. Open space covenants for park or recreational facilities shall be submitted to the town prior to approval of the final plat and shall be record with the final plat.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(G))

**Sec. 24-112. Use of land by town.**

- (a) The land received by the town under this article shall be used only for the purpose of providing neighborhood open space, park and recreational areas, but shall not be so restricted should the town decide to sell the land as provided in subsection (b) of this section.
- (b) Fees collected from in lieu of dedications and any proceeds from the sale of dedicated land shall be held in a special fund by the town, and the funds shall be used by the town for the purpose of acquiring and developing public recreation areas and for no other purpose. The depository for such funds may be the same as permitted for other funds of the town and pending their expenditure in accordance with the terms of this section, such funds may be invested as other funds of the town. The town may, as its discretion, add additional monies to the fund for the purpose of purchasing public recreational land to be used for public recreational purposes. On all matters not specifically provided for in this section, the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act shall be controlling.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(H))

**Sec. 24-113. Privately owned park and recreational areas.**

Private parks and recreational facilities are encouraged; however, such facilities cannot be credited toward the requirement of dedication for public park and recreation purposes.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(I))

**Sec. 24-114. Greenways.**

Greenways land may be credited toward the dedication provided that such greenway is part of the town's greenway plan and the greenway or portion thereof is dedicated for public use.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 408.2(J))

**Secs. 24-115—24-141. Reserved.**

***ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION***

**Sec. 24-142. Subdivision administrator.**

The subdivision administrator shall be appointed by the town manager and is duly charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter. If the subdivision administrator finds that any of the provisions of this chapter are being violated, he shall notify in writing the person responsible for such violations, indicating the nature of the violation and ordering the actions necessary to correct it. He shall also take any other action authorized by this chapter to ensure compliance with or to prevent violation of its provisions.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 501.1)



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### **Sec. 24-143. Planning board.**

As directed by the board of commissioners, the planning board shall have the following duties with respect to administration of this chapter:

- (1) Review and make recommendations to the board of commissioners on amendments of this chapter.
- (2) Review and approve major subdivisions in accordance with article II of this chapter.
- (3) Perform any other duties assigned by the board of commissioners.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 501.2)

### **Sec. 24-144. Technical review committee (TRC).**

- (a) There is hereby created a technical review committee (TRC) consisting of the subdivision administrator, a subcommittee of planning board members, and representatives of the following agencies as designated by the director of each agency: the county health department, the state department of transportation division of highways, the county emergency services, the county soil and water conservation service, the Nash/Rocky Mount School Board, the town police and fire departments, the public water and/or sewer utility serving the subdivision under review, and any additional agencies or organizations for which the town will consult on subdivision review and approval.
- (b) The technical review committee (TRC) shall have the following duties:
  - (1) To review and comment on the technical aspects of all applications for approval of subdivision plats, major site plans, and master development plans.
  - (2) To provide the subdivision administrator, for transmission to the planning board, with reports and recommendations regarding requests for approval before such bodies.
  - (3) To perform any other related duties that this chapter may authorize or that the town planning board may direct.
- (c) The subdivision administrator or his designated agent shall serve as the chairperson of the TRC.
- (d) The subdivision administrator shall determine the most effective means of communicating with members of the TRC for review and recommendations regarding subdivision plats. Communication with TRC members can be in the form of in-person meetings, written correspondence, phone consultations, or other avenues of communication as deemed necessary by the subdivision administrator.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 501.3)

### **Sec. 24-145. Effect of plat approval on dedications.**

Pursuant to G.S. 160A-374, the approval of a plat shall not be deemed to constitute or affect the acceptance by the municipality or public of the dedication of any street or other ground, public utility line, or other public facility shown on the plat. However, the board of commissioners may by resolution accept any dedication made to the public of lands or facilities for streets, parks, public utility lines, or other public purposes, when the lands or facilities are located within its subdivision regulation jurisdiction. Acceptance of dedication of lands or facilities located within the subdivision regulation jurisdiction but outside the corporate limits of the town shall not place on the town any duty to open, operate, repair, or maintain any street, utility line, or other land or facility, and the town shall in no event be held to answer in any civil action or proceeding for failure to open, repair, or maintain any street located outside its corporate limits.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 502)

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### **Sec. 24-146. Filing of plat.**

Following adoption of the ordinance from which this article is derived by the board of commissioners, the register of deeds shall not thereafter file or record a plat of a subdivision location within the plating jurisdiction of the town without the approval of the subdivision by the planning board as required in this chapter. All approvals of final plats shall be recorded by the property owner/developer. The property owner/developer shall remit to the county such recordation fees in addition to review fees, before the final plat is recorded. The landowner shown on the subdivision plat submitted or recording or his authorized agent shall sign a statement on the plat stating whether or not any land shown thereon is within the platting jurisdiction of the town as defined in section 24-5. The filing or recording of a plat of subdivision without the approval of the town planning board as required by this chapter shall be null and void.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 503)

### **Sec. 24-147. Modifications.**

The standards and requirements of this chapter may be modified by the town planning board in the case of a planned unit development or traditional neighborhood development, which provides adequate public spaces and improvements of the tract when fully developed and populated, and which also provides such covenants or other legal provisions as will ensure conformity to and achievement of the approved site specific development plan. The planning board shall consider the recommendations of the technical review committee and may impose such conditions necessary to ensure adequate design and development of the subdivision.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 504)

### **Sec. 24-148. Variances.**

Where because of topographical or other conditions peculiar to the site, strict adherence to the provisions of the regulations of this chapter would cause an unnecessary hardship, the board of adjustment may authorize a variance, if such variance can be made without destroying the intent of this chapter. Any variance thus authorized is required to be entered in writing in the minutes of the board of adjustment and the reasoning on which the departure was justified shall be set forth.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 505)

### **Sec. 24-149. Amendments.**

- (a) This chapter may be amended from time to time by the board of commissioners as herein specified, but no amendment shall become effective unless it shall have been proposed by or shall have been submitted to the planning board for review and recommendation. The planning board shall have 45 days within which to submit its recommendation. Failure of the planning board to submit its recommendation within this time period shall constitute a favorable recommendation.
- (b) A public hearing shall be held by the board of commissioners before adoption of any proposed amendment to this chapter. A notice of such public hearing shall be given once a week for two consecutive calendar weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the town. Said notice shall be published the first time not less than ten days or more than 25 days prior to the date established for such public hearing.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 506)

**Sec. 24-150. Pre-sale contracts.**

The provisions of this section shall not prohibit any owner or its agent from entering into contracts to sell or lease by reference to an approved preliminary plat for which a final plat has not yet been properly approved under this chapter or recorded with the register of deeds, provided the contract does all of the following:

- (1) Incorporates, as an attachment, a copy of the preliminary plat referenced in the contract and obligates the owner to deliver to the buyer a copy of the recorded plat prior to closing and conveyance.
- (2) Plainly and conspicuously notifies the prospective buyer or lessee that a final subdivision plat has not been approved or recorded at the time of the contract, that no governmental body will incur any obligation to the prospective buyer or lessee with respect to the approval of the final subdivision plat, that changes between the preliminary and final plats are possible, and that the contract or lease may be terminated without breach by the buyer or lessee if the final recorded plat differs in any material respect from the preliminary plat.
- (3) Provides that if the approved and recorded final plat does not differ in any material respect from the plat referred to in the contract, the buyer or lessee may not be required by the seller or lessor to close any earlier than five days after the delivery of a copy of the final recorded plat.
- (4) Provides that if the approved and recorded final plat differs in any material respect from the preliminary plat referred to in the contract, the buyer or lessee may not be required by the seller or lessor to close any earlier than 15 days after the delivery of the final recorded plat, during which 15-day period the buyer or lessee may terminate the contract without breach or any further obligation and may receive a refund of all earnest money or prepaid purchase price.
- (5) The provisions of this section shall not prohibit any owner or its agent from entering into contracts to sell or lease land by reference to an approved preliminary plat for which a final plat has not been properly approved under this chapter or recorded with the register of deeds where the buyer or lessee is any person who has contracted to acquire or lease the land for the purpose of engaging in the business of construction of residential, commercial, or industrial buildings on the land, or for the purpose of resale or lease of the land to persons engaged in that kind of business, provided that no conveyance of that land may occur and no contract to lease it may become effective until after the final plat has been properly approved under the provisions of this chapter and recorded with the register of deeds.

(Ord. of 8-13-2007(02), § 508)

***APPENDIX 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS***

**A1-1. Required Information for minor and major subdivision plats.**

Submission of all plats shall contain the following information for submission to the town for review. An 'X' indicates required information. The subdivision administrator may waive required items if it is judged that they are not necessary to complete the subdivision review.

Table A1-1.1. Plat Submission Requirements for Subdivisions

Required Elements	Sketch Plan	Minor Subdivisions		Major Subdivisions	
		Prelim	Final	Prelim	Final
1.	<i>Title block containing the following:</i>				

	Name of subdivision, which name shall not duplicate the name of any existing subdivision as recorded in the county register of deeds	X	X	X	X	X
	Name of the property owners with address and daytime telephone number	X	X	X	X	X
	Location of the subdivision, including town, county and state	X	X	X	X	X
	Name, address, and registration number of the surveyor or engineer, date of the survey, and seal of the surveyor		X	X	X	X
	Scale according to which the sketch or plat is drawn in feet per inch or scale ratio in words or figures and bar graph, and true north arrow (plats shall be at a scale of no less than one-inch to 100 feet)	X	X	X	X	X
	Name of the plat (sketch, minor, major, preliminary, final)	X	X	X	X	X
	Name and address of the developer (if different from the property owner)	X	X	X	X	X
	Dates maps were prepared or revised	X	X	X	X	X
2.	<i>Plat size requirements:</i>					
	Plats submitted shall not exceed a maximum size of 24 inches by 36 inches		X		X	
	Standard size requirements are 18 inches by 24 inches sheet for plats to be recorded with a minimum 1½ inches border on the left side and a minimum one-half-inch border on all other sides; or as required by the county register of deeds			X		X
	Original plats shall be reproducible and shall be submitted on material as required by the county register of deeds			X		X
3.	<i>Specific information to be shown:</i>					
	Sufficient data to readily ascertain and reproduce on the ground the location, bearing, and distance (in feet or meters) of every lot line, boundary line (with error of closure), block line, and building		X	X	X	X

	setback, whether curved or straight. This should include the inclines, centered angles, point of tangency, tangent distance and arcs and chords of all curved property and boundary lines					
	Location and descriptions of all monuments, markers, and control corners, where established			X		X
	Names of all adjacent property owners (or subdivisions or developments or record with plat book reference)		X	X	X	X
	Vicinity map (location map) showing location of site relative to surrounding areas at a scale of one inch equals 2,000 feet	X	X	X	X	X
	Boundaries of the tract to be subdivided or developed tied to the nearest street intersection (within 300 feet) or USGS (within 2,000 feet), and location of intersecting boundary lines or adjoining properties (sketch plan boundaries are not required to be tied to markers)	X	X	X	X	X
	Town limits and ETJ boundaries, if any, on the tract		X	X	X	X
	Existing property lines on tract to be subdivided. If existing property lines are to be changed, label as 'old property lines' and show as dashed lines	X	X	X	X	X
	Existing zoning classification of land to be subdivided and adjacent properties	X	X		X	
	Existing land use within the property to be subdivided and adjacent properties	X	X		X	
	Tax map, block and parcel numbers		X	X	X	X
	Source of information on plat, including plat book or deed book reference (any lines not surveyed must be clearly marked and information source indicated)		X	X	X	X
	Proposed lot layout and approximate lot lines and lot sizes	X				
4.	<i>Site calculations:</i>					
	Acreeage in total tract to be subdivided	X	X	X	X	X

	Acreeage in public parks and open space				X	X
	Total number of lots, lot sizes (in square feet for lots less than one acre; in acres for lots greater than one acre) and lot dimensions		X	X	X	X
	Lots sequenced or numbered consecutively		X	X	X	X
	Linear feet in new street improvements				X	X
5.	<i>Natural and historic features:</i>					
	Location of the 100-year floodplain boundary and flood fringe area, if applicable	X	X	X	X	X
	All watercourses, including ponds, lakes, and streams, located within or crossing any boundary line of the property shown	X	X	X	X	X
	Wooded areas, marshes, swamps, rock outcrops, and any other natural features affecting the site	X	X		X	
	Evidence of notification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of earth-disturbing activities in wetlands, if applicable, and location of wetlands	X	X		X	
	The name and location of any property on the National Register of Historic Places or locally designated historic properties	X	X		X	
	Location of common areas or open space, whether publicly owned or under control of a homeowner's association		X	X	X	X
	Topography of tract and 100 feet beyond property showing existing contour intervals of no greater than five feet (two feet where available) and labeling at least two contours per map and all other at ten feet intervals from sea level (sketch plan - contours intervals of ten feet intervals permitted)	X	X		X	
6.	<i>Roads, buildings, utilities and infrastructure:</i>					
	Existing public roads and accesses within 400 feet	X	X		X	
	Existing and proposed right-of-way lines within and adjacent to the property, total right-of-way width, and right-of-way width	X	X	X	X	X

	dimension from centerline of existing public roads (sketch plan can show approximate widths and layout)					
	Existing and proposed roads showing pavement or curblines, pavement width dimension, and cul-de-sac pavement radius (sketch plan can show approximate widths and layout)	X			X	
	Road profile with cross section				X	
	Existing and proposed road and street names, which name shall not duplicate the name of any existing road or street in the town		X	X	X	X
	Road address as assigned by the county for each new lot			X		X
	Existing railroads and bridges	X	X	X	X	X
	Existing and proposed sidewalks and bike paths		X		X	X
	Existing structures, wells, and septic tanks	X	X		X	
	Location, use, and dimensions of all existing and proposed buildings; distances between buildings measured at the closest point; distance from buildings to the closest property lines; building setback lines		X		X	
	Locations of existing utility lines (storm and sanitary sewers, water, gas, electricity and telephone)		X		X	
	Utility layout plan showing connection to existing systems, line sizes, material of lines, location of fire hydrants, blowoffs, valves, manholes, catchbasins, force mains, etc., for sanitary sewer, water distribution, natural gas, electric, cable television, and any other applicable utilities				X	
	All easements, reservations, and areas to be dedicated to the public or local jurisdiction (access, utility, park/rec, school, other)	X			X	X
	Recreation areas and facilities	X			X	X
	Landscaping plan to include the location of any required planting yard or parking lot plantings; size				X	

	of planting yard; and walls, berms or fences					
	Existing and proposed signs (location, height and area)				X	

**A1-2. Documents and written information in addition to maps and plans.**

In addition to the written application and the plans, whenever the nature of the proposed development makes information or documents such as the following relevant, such documents or information shall be provided. The following is a representative list of the information or documents that may be requested at the time of plat submission:

- (1) Documentation confirming that the applicant has a legally sufficient interest in the property proposed for development to use it in the manner requested, or is the duly appointed agent of such a person.
- (2) Certifications from the appropriate agencies that proposed utility systems are or will be adequate to handle the proposed development and that all necessary easements have been provided.
- (3) Detailed descriptions of recreation facilities to be provided.
- (4) Legal documentation establishing homeowners' associations or other legal entities responsible for control over required common areas and facilities.
- (5) Bonds, letters of credit, or other surety devices.
- (6) A traffic impact study performed and prepared by a qualified transportation or traffic engineer or planner.
- (7) Time schedules for the completion of phases in staged developments.
- (8) The environmental impact of a development, including its effect on historically significant or ecologically fragile or important areas and its impact on pedestrian or traffic safety or congestion.
- (9) Proposed deed restrictions or covenants to be imposed upon newly created lots.

***APPENDIX 2. CERTIFICATES***

**A2-1. Required certificates and statements.**

Type of Certificates	Preliminary Plat (minor and major)	Final Minor Plat	Final Major Plat
Certificate of Ownership and Dedication		X	X
Certificate of Survey Accuracy		X	X
Certificate of the County Health Department		X	X
Certificate of Highway District Engineer			X
Certificate of Plat Approval	X	X	X
Certificate of Purpose of Plat		X	X
Certificate of Subdivision Exception	Required for subdivisions deemed		



	an exception to article II		
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**A2-2. Certificate of ownership.**

<b>Certificate of Ownership and Dedication</b>	
I (We) hereby certify that I am (we are) the owner(s) of the property shown and described hereon, which is located within the subdivision jurisdiction of the Town of Spring Hope, and that I (we) hereby adopt this plan of subdivision with my (our) free consent, establish the minimum building lines, and dedicate all streets, alleys, walks, easements, parks, and other open spaces to public or private use as noted. I (we) will maintain all such areas until the offer of dedication is accepted by the appropriate public authority.	
_____	_____
Owner(s)	Date

**A2-3. Certificate of survey and accuracy.**

I hereby certify that this plat was drawn under my supervision from an actual survey made under my supervision (deed description recorded in Book ____, Page ____, etc.) (other); that the boundaries not surveyed are clearly indicated as drawn from information found in Book ____, Page ____; that the ratio of precision as calculated is 1:__; that this plat was prepared in accordance with G.S. 47-30 as amended. Witness my original signature, registration number and seal this ____ day of _____, 20__.	
_____	_____
Registered Engineer or Land Surveyor	Seal or Stamp of Surveyor
_____	_____
Registration Number	

**A2-4. Certificate of the county health department.**

- (a) The following statement shall be placed on all subdivision plats which include buildable lots that do not have public service available to them and have not been issued improvement permits:

I hereby certify that the Nash County Health Department has performed a preliminary field evaluation of this Subdivision entitled _____, and said property may be subdivided into lots as shown hereon; provided, however, that each individual lot must undergo a satisfactory field investigation for an improvements permit for a ground absorption sewage disposal system and water supply prior to the issuance of a building permit.	
_____	_____
Nash County Health Director or Authorized Representative	
_____	
Date	

- (b) The following statement shall be placed on all subdivision plats which include buildable lots that do not have public service available to them and have been issued improvement permits:

I hereby certify that lots shown on this plat of Subdivision entitled _____ have been evaluated for space and soil requirements for sewage disposal and water supply systems by the Nash County Health Department. Based on this review, an improvements permit has been issued for a specific use and site. Any change in the intended use or site, or soil alteration, will subject the permit to revocation. No construction on any lot shall commence until the Nash County Health Department has also issued an authorization for wastewater system construction.	
_____	
Nash County Health Director or Authorized Representative	
_____	
Date	

**A2-5. Certificate of department of transportation highway district engineer.**

I hereby certify that streets as depicted hereon are/are not consistent with the requirements of the North Carolina Department of Transportation.	
_____	
District Highway Engineer	Date

**A2-6. Certificates of approval.**

- (a) *Preliminary approval.*

I hereby certify that the subdivision plat as depicted hereon has been granted preliminary approval pursuant the Subdivision Regulations of the Town of Spring Hope. Preliminary Approval is valid for a period of 12 months from the above date or as established under the vested rights procedure, if applicable.	
_____	
Subdivision Administrator	Date

- (b) *Final approval.*

I hereby certify that the subdivision plat as depicted hereon has been granted final approval pursuant to the Subdivision Regulations of the Town of Spring Hope, subject to its being recorded in the Nash County Register of Deeds within 60 days of the date below.	
_____	
Subdivision Administrator	Date

I hereby certify that streets, utilities and other improvements have been installed in an acceptable manner and according to Town specifications in the Subdivision depicted hereon, or that a security bond or	
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irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of \$ ____ has been posted with the Town of Spring Hope to assure the completion of required improvements.	
_____	_____
Town Manager or Designated Agent	Date

**A2-7. Certificate of purpose of plat.**

The final plat shall contain one of the following statements, signed and sealed by the plat preparer:

- (1) This survey creates a subdivision of land within the area of a county or municipality that has an ordinance that regulates parcels of land;
- (2) This survey is located in a portion of a county or municipality that is unregulated as to an ordinance that regulates parcels of land;
- (3) Any one of the following:
  - a. This survey is of an existing parcel or parcels of land and does not create a new road or change an existing road;
  - b. This survey is of any existing building or other structure, or natural feature, such as a water course;
  - c. This survey is a control survey;
- (4) This survey is of another category, such as the recombination of existing parcels, a court-ordered survey, or other exception to the definition of subdivision; or
- (5) The information available to the surveyor is such that the surveyor is unable to make a determination to the best of the surveyor's professional ability as to provisions contained in (a) through (d) above.

_____	_____
Registered Engineer or Land Surveyor	Seal or Stamp of Surveyor
_____	_____
Date	_____

**A2-8. Certificate of exception.**

I (we) hereby certify that I am (we are) the Owner(s) of the property shown and described hereon, which was conveyed to me (us) by deed recorded in Book ____, Page ____, and that said property qualifies as an exception to the provisions of the Subdivision Regulations of the Town of Spring Hope.	
_____	_____
Owner(s)	Date
_____	_____
Subdivision Administrator	Date

### ***APPENDIX 3. RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES***

*Purpose.* The purpose of the residential design guidelines is to provide for flexibility in the residential subdivision design, while at the same time promoting residential development in the town that is varied and interesting in character.

*Applicability.* All guidelines are voluntary. However, developers are strongly recommended to incorporate the design guidelines as they relate to housing sizes, heights, floor plans, materials, color, and other recommended applications in order to provide for a variety of housing choices that meet various community needs.

*Guidelines.*

- (1) Eaves (roof overhangs) should be provided according to the following guidelines:
  - a. Homes with pitched roofs should have eaves on all sides of the house that extend a sufficient distance to create shadow lines.
  - b. Variety. The subdivision should have a variety of different roof overhang profiles in keeping with any applicable historic architecture in the area.
  - c. Extension. The overhang, not including gutter, should extend at least eight inches beyond the wall of the plane.
  - d. Exception. The minimum overhang should not be applied to architectural styles where overhangs were traditionally not present or in unique individual designs.

Illustration 3-1. Eave Length.

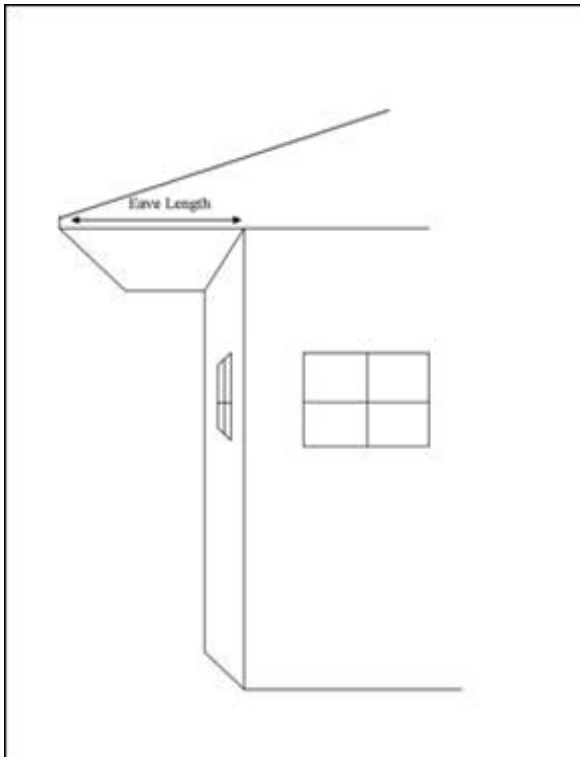
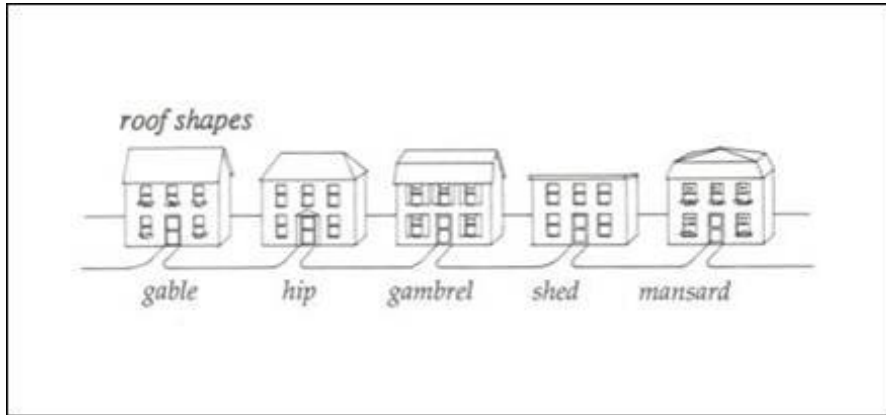


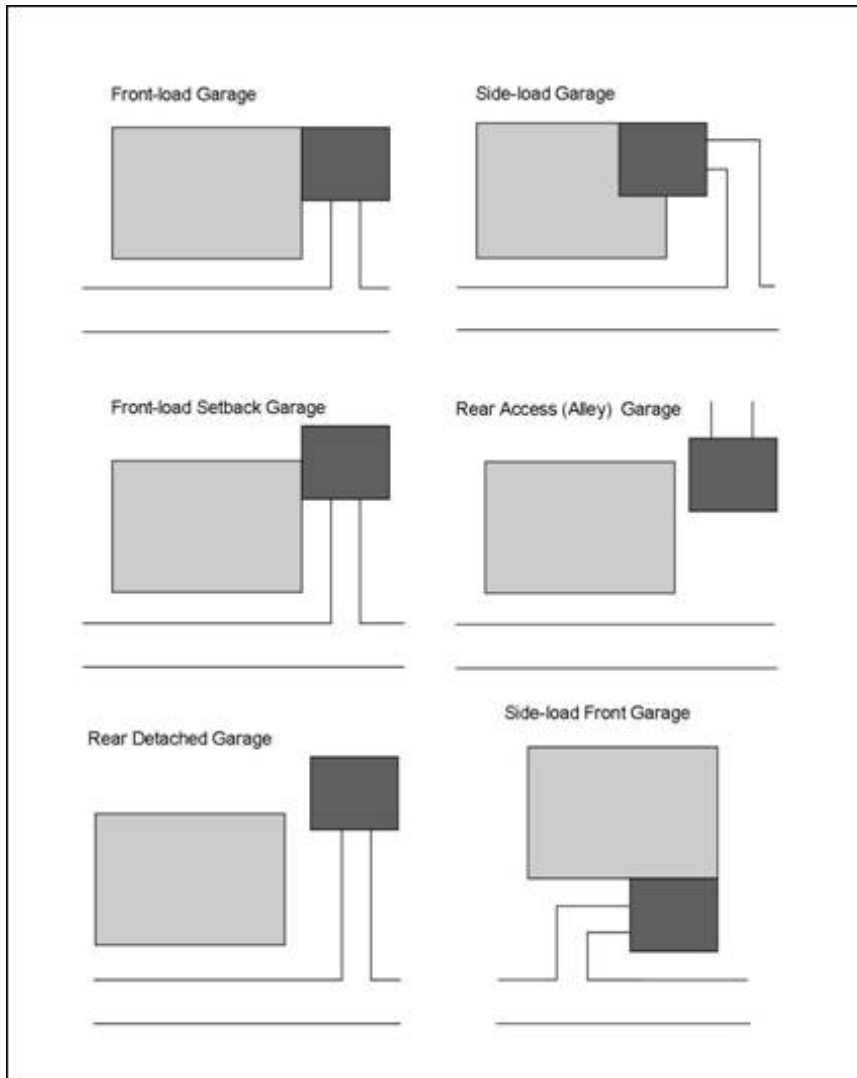
Illustration 3-2. Roof Variety.



- (2) 360-degree detailing should be provided for according to the following guidelines:
- Windows and doors. The home should have a similar style and quality of windows, doors, and trim on all exterior building elevations with consistent alignment of windows.
  - Blank walls and false fronts should be avoided.
  - Building materials. Similar siding materials or veneers should be used on all sides of the house. This should not prevent the use of veneers or changes of materials on a facade where materials change at the second floor or windowsill height. Wing projections may be used to give emphasis to the structure, provided that the materials are applied to the entire wing.
  - Architectural details should be incorporated on all sides of the house including:
    - Entryways.
    - Patterns with materials or trim.
    - Decorative moldings.
    - Bay windows.
    - Dormers.
- (3) Garages should be provided for according to the following guidelines:
- Garage orientation.* The garage orientation should vary to include front-loaded, side-loaded, rear-loaded, and detached garages. Garage access from rear alleys is also encouraged.
  - Garage setback.* When front facing, the garage should be setback from the front door facade by a minimum of eight feet.
  - Garage doors.* Provide for variety in single-wide and double-wide garage doors.
  - Garage roofs.* Garage roofs should be varied by adding gables or dormers.

Illustration 3-3. Garage Types.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES  
Chapter 24 - SUBDIVISIONS  
APPENDIX 3. RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES



- (4) Monotony in house design and architecture should be avoided through incorporation of the following measures:
- Variation of floor plans and orientation. The floor plan defines the arrangement of rooms, windows, and doors. A building rotated 90 degrees will not appear identical to the next even when the floor plans are identical. Flipping or reversing the floor plan creates a different look.
  - Variation in rooflines, pitches, and building height. Rotating the orientation of the roof peak, or otherwise altering the roofline in a significant manner can alter the appearance of a house.
  - Variation in materials. Different exterior materials include brick, stone, natural wood, aluminum or vinyl siding, and stucco, among others.
  - Addition of architectural features such as porches, towers, balconies, and dormers.
  - Small variations in lot width and setbacks.
  - Variation in placement on blocks.

- g. Variations in color.
- h. Landscaping.

Illustration 3-4. Variations to Address Monotony.

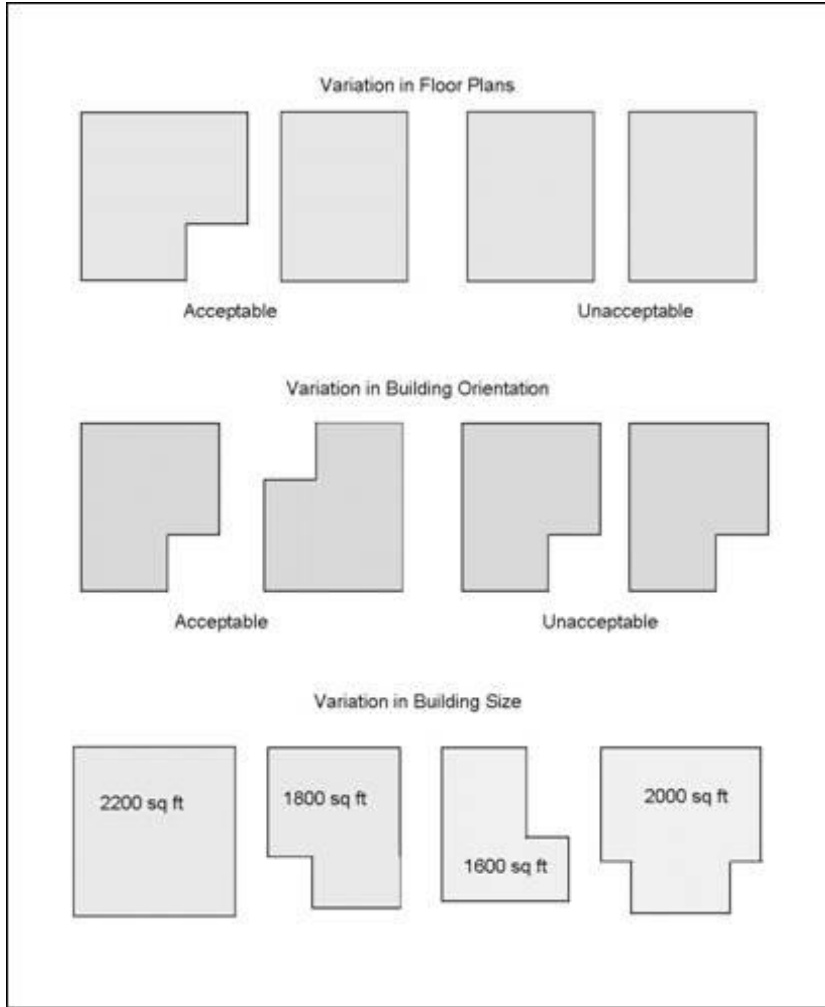


Illustration 3-5. Variation in Block Placement.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES  
Chapter 24 - SUBDIVISIONS  
APPENDIX 3. RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	■	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Allowed	Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed	Allowed

Model X House

***APPENDIX 4. REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS***

Approval of the final major plat shall be subject to the subdivider having installed or having guaranteed the installation of the following improvements:

Improvements	Zoning District					Nonresidential Subdivision
	RA	R-30	R-15	R-8	Multifamily (R-MF)	
Graded streets	X	X	X	X	X	X
Paved streets	X	X	X	X	X	X
Curb & gutter			X	X	X	X
Public water			X	X	X	X
Public sewer			X	X	X	X
Sidewalks on both sides of street				X	X	X
Sidewalks on one side of street			X			
Streetlights		X	X	X	X	X
Street trees			50 units or more with an established homeowners' association			
Underground utilities	X	X	X	X	X	X
Recreation area dedication	X	X	X	X	X	

**Town of Spring Hope Subdivision Application Form**

Subdivision  
Road

Name(s)/SR

Name  
#



PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES  
 Chapter 24 - SUBDIVISIONS  
 APPENDIX 4. REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS

Tax \_\_\_\_\_ Map \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Lots \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Plat	Fee Required	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sketch	Sketch	NA
<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary - Minor	Preliminary - Minor	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary - Major	Preliminary - Major	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Final - Minor	Final - Minor*	NA
<input type="checkbox"/> Final - Major	Final - Major	\$25.00
Minor Plat - 4 lots or fewer; no improvements	*No fee for final plat review if fee is paid in full at the time of preliminary plat submission	
Major Plat - 5 or more lots; any number of lots with improvements		

Surveyor/Engineer Name		
	Daytime Phone	Fax
	Contact Name(s)	
Owner/Developer Name		
	Daytime Phone	Fax
	Contact Name(s)	

Improvements	Recreation (major subdivisions only)
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Streets	<input type="checkbox"/> Dedication ( 1/35acre × number of dwelling units or lots, whichever is greater)
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Water	
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Dedication ( 1/35acre × number of dwelling units or lots
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Water (well)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Sewer	_____ Amount of Land (acres)
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Fee in-lieu
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Sewer (septic)	\$___ Est. Fair Market Value Equivalent To the best of my knowledge and ability, I certify that the above information and that contained on the attached plat is true and accurate and complies with all applicable laws and ordinances.
Name	Date
For Internal Use Only	
Date Received _____	By _____

Distribute to TRC:	Date	Comments Received	Date
North Carolina Department of Transportation	_____	__ yes __no	_____
Nash County Department of Health	_____	__ yes __no	_____
Soil and Water Conservation Service	_____	__ yes __no	_____

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES  
 Chapter 24 - SUBDIVISIONS  
 APPENDIX 4. REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS

Nash/Rocky Mount School Board	_____	__ yes __ no	_____
Spring Hope Fire Department	_____	__ yes __ no	_____
Nash County Emergency Services	_____	__ yes __ no	_____
Other _____	_____	__ yes __ no	_____

Town of Spring Hope Subdivision Plat Submission Checklist

Item	Sketch	Prelim - Minor	Final - Minor	Prelim - Major	Final - Major	
1.	Title block w/date prepared or updated	X	X	X	X	X
2.	Name and location of the subdivision	X	X	X	X	X
3.	Name and address of the property owner(s) and developer	X	X	X	X	X
4.	Name and address of the surveyor or engineer		X	X	X	X
5.	Type of plat (sketch, minor, major, prelim, final)	X	X	X	X	X
6.	Vicinity map, north arrow, and scale (1"=100')	X	X	X	X	X
7.	Control corners, markers, or monuments			X		X
8.	Names of adjacent property owners		X	X	X	X
9.	Existing property lines	X	X	X	X	X
10.	Town limits and ETJ boundaries lines, if any, on the tract		X	X	X	X
11.	Existing structures, wells, and septic tanks	X	X		X	
12.	Existing utilities (water, sewer, gas, electric, phone)		X		X	
13.	Railroads and bridges	X	X	X	X	X
14.	Existing public roads and accesses within 400 feet	X	X		X	
15.	Existing zoning classification within and adjacent properties	X	X		X	
16.	Existing land use within and adjacent properties	X	X		X	
17.	Lot sizes and dimensions, total # of lots, and lot/block numbers		X	X	X	X

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES  
Chapter 24 - SUBDIVISIONS  
APPENDIX 4. REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS

18.	Proposed lot layout and approximate lot lines, lot sizes	X				
19.	Property boundaries, lot lines, block lines, and building setbacks		X	X	X	X
20.	Proposed street layout showing pavement/curb lines and widths	X			X	
21.	Road profile with cross section				X	
22.	Existing and proposed street names		X	X	X	X
23.	Street addresses			X		X
24.	Linear feet in street improvements				X	X
25.	Existing and proposed right-of-way lines, width, and dimension	X	X	X	X	X
26.	Existing and proposed sidewalks and bike paths		X		X	X
27.	Easements, reservations, and dedications: access, utility, park/rec, other	X			X	X
28.	Topography of tract with contours	X	X		X	
29.	100-year floodplain and flood fringe	X	X	X	X	X
30.	Watercourses/ponds/streams	X	X	X	X	X
31.	Evidence of wetlands	X	X		X	
32.	Wooded areas, marshes, swamps, rock outcrops	X	X		X	
33.	Name and location of any property on the National Register of Historic Places	X	X		X	
34.	Location, use, and dimensions of existing and proposed buildings		X		X	
35.	Recreation areas and facilities				X	X
36.	Common area or open space under public or private ownership		X	X	X	X
37.	Existing and proposed signs				X	
38.	Landscaping plan				X	
39.	Utility layout plan				X	
40.	Soils evaluations or reports (if applicable)		X		X	
41.	Proposed drainage improvements		X		X	

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES  
 Chapter 24 - SUBDIVISIONS  
 APPENDIX 4. REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS

42.	Sedimentation and erosion control plan and letter of approval (if applicable)				X	
43.	Total acres in public parks & open space	X			X	X
44.	Total acres in subdivision	X	X	X	X	X
45.	Tax map, block, and parcel #'s		X	X	X	X
46.	Plat book and deed reference		X	X	X	X
47.	Plat size maximum - 24" x 36"		X		X	
48.	Plat size maximum - 18" x 24"			X		X
49	All certificates as required by Appendix 2			X		X