

Mark Lindhorst- Senior Planner



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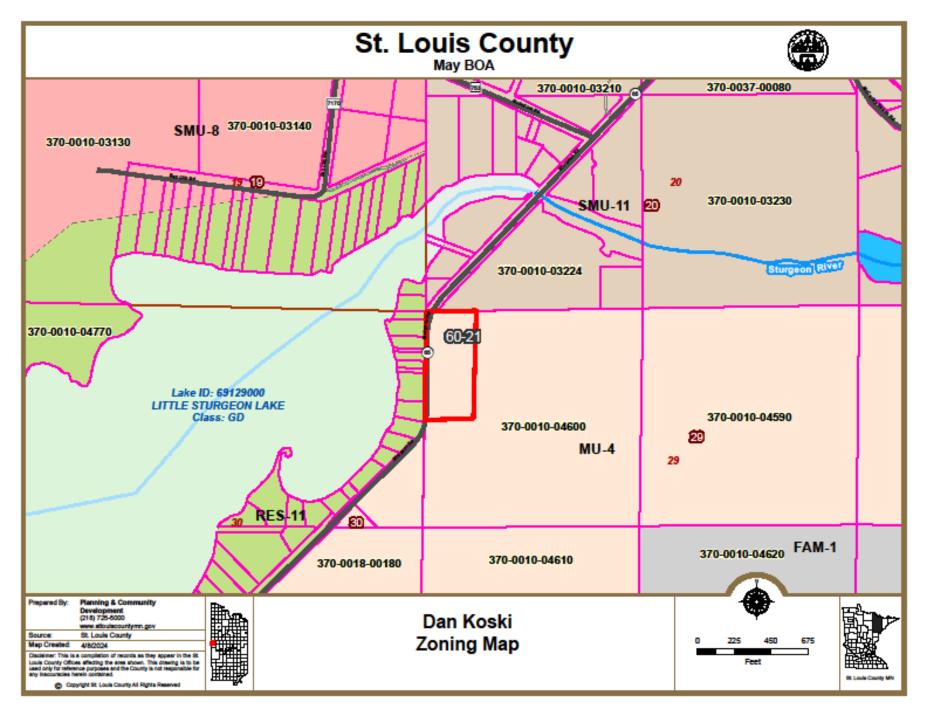
12914 Sturgeon Road, Side Lake MN 55781

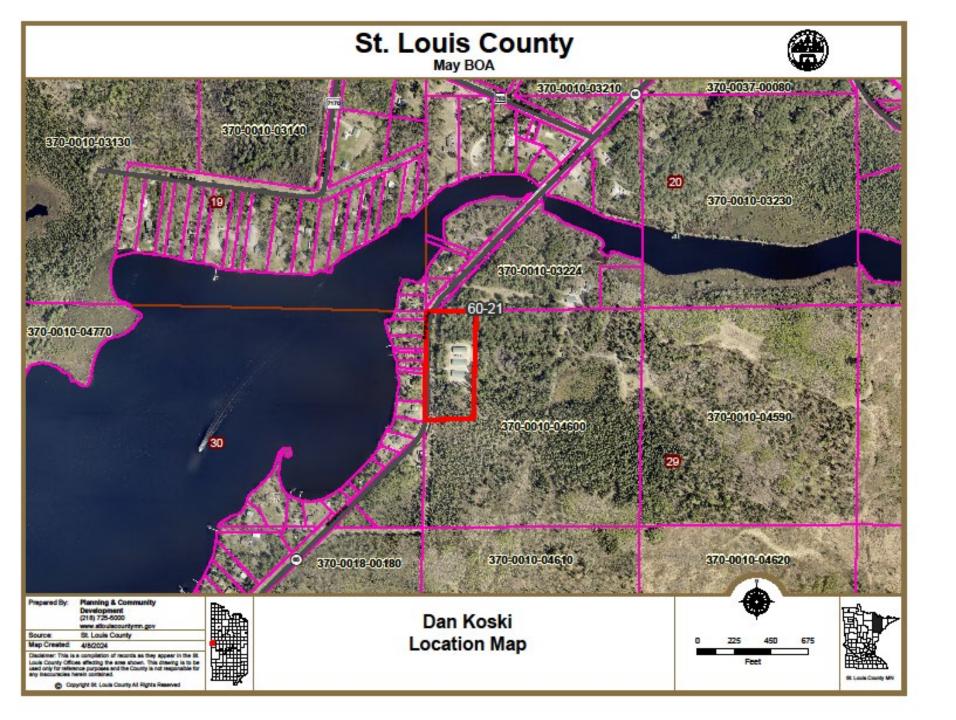


Variance Request

- To allow an existing storage business to exceed the maximum lot coverage. The required lot coverage for property zoned MU-4 is 10 percent the applicant is requesting 47 percent.
- To allow a principal structure 25 feet from the property line where 50 feet is required.

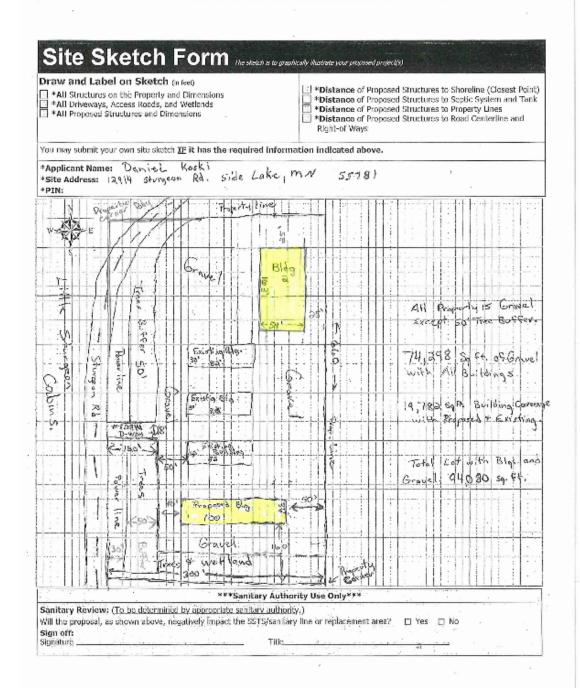






St. Louis County May BOA







South building area



South Building area





North Building area



North Building area





Staff Facts & Findings



Official Controls

- 1. St. Louis County Zoning Ordinance 62, Article III, Section 3.2, states the maximum lot coverage is 10 percent; the applicant is proposing 47 percent.
- 2. St. Louis County Zoning Ordinance 62, Article III, Section 3.2, requires a minimum property line setback of 50 feet; the applicant is proposing 25 feet.



Official Controls

- 3. Goal LU-3 of the St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use Plan is to improve the integrity of the county's planning-related regulation by minimizing and improving management of nonconformities.
- 4. Objective LU-3.1 of the St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use Plan is to base variance decisions on uniform approval criterion to ensure all applications are treated equitably, that community health and safety is protected, and that the overall character of a given area is preserved.
- Objective LU-3.3 of the St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use Plan is to acknowledge why nonconformities are a concern and that variances should be for exceptional circumstances as noted in Minnesota Statute 394.22. Subd.10.



Practical Difficulty

- 1. There are no alternatives that exist because the applicant already exceeds the lot coverage for the current approved business. The storage business has been in existence since 1994. The applicant is proposing to expand the business which will increase the impervious surface even more.
- 2. Proposed structure orientation and size can be adjusted to meet setback requirements reducing the request for variance.



Essential Character of the Locality

- 1. The storage business has been in existence since 1994.
- 2. There are 17 residential properties within the notification area several of which are located across the road from the proposal.
- 3. Vegetative screening along the road will be retained.



Other Factors

- 1. Implementing a stormwater management plan will ensure that no runoff impacts will affect neighboring properties or adjacent wetlands.
- 2. The applicant has already started construction of the increased impervious area.



BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF A VARIANCE

- 1. Is the variance request in harmony with the general purpose and intent of official controls?
- 2. Has a practical difficulty been demonstrated in complying with the official controls?
- 3. Will the variance alter the essential character of the locality?
- 4. What, if any, other factors should be taken into consideration on this case?



CONDITIONS

Conditions that may mitigate the variance for maximum lot coverage of 47 percent and a property line setback of 25 feet as proposed include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Stormwater management plan shall be submitted, approved by the Director prior to issuance of a land use permit, and implemented concurrent with development of each permitted structure.
- 2. The MN Wetland Conservation Act shall be followed.



Correspondence



Board of Adjustment

Questions?



Public

Questions?

