# NOVI cityofnovi.org

### CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 3 October 6, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a request from Kris Krstovski for a variance from Section 11-276(b) of the Design and Construction Standards requiring pathways along the arterial roadway network in accordance with the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan for the single family home under construction at 44780 11 Mile Road.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Department of Public Services, Engineering Division

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** 

The applicant, Kris Krstovski, is constructing a new single family home at 44780 Eleven Mile Road. The applicant is requesting a variance from the Section 11-276(b) of the Novi Code of Ordinances, which requires construction of a pedestrian safety path across the frontage of the parcel at the time that the home is constructed (see attached ordinance section). The property owner's application for the variance request (attached) states that the sidewalk is not necessary because his property is on the north side of 11 Mile which has no other sidewalk segments completed. He also states that there is an existing sidewalk on the south side of 11 Mile. The applicant added the sidewalk to the plan in order to acquire the building permit and is requesting the variance while under construction to remove the sidewalk requirement from the approved plot plan.

The variance request was reviewed by various City departments using the criteria in Section 11-10 of the ordinance. There were no concerns expressed in the reviews by the Landscape Architect, Fire Department, or DPS Field Operations staff.

The applicant is correct that there are no sidewalks currently located on the north side of 11 Mile Road between Clark and Taft. This sidewalk segment (#34) was ranked number 59 in the 2013-14 City of Novi Annual Non-Motorized Prioritization report. However, a variance from the Design and Construction Standards (Chapter 11 of the Ordinance) must meet all three of the criteria in 11-10(b) (attached). In reviewing this request using these criteria, Engineering and Community Development would not recommend approval of the variance. As shown in the attached photo, the subject property is open, flat and free of trees, wetlands, and other obstructions that would otherwise pose a difficulty to the applicant in constructing the sidewalk. The applicant's proposal to eliminate the sidewalk would result in the City constructing the segment at some point in the future at an estimated cost of approximately \$7,800; therefore, Mr. Krstovki's request deviates from the intended use and performance established by the ordinance. The attached memo provides additional information in this regard.

Staff recommends denial of the variance request for the following reasons:

 A literal application of the substantive requirement to construct the sidewalk would not result in exceptional, practical difficulty because the approved plot plan demonstrates that a sidewalk can be constructed and that the site is free from

- trees, wetlands and other obstructions that would pose a difficulty to the applicant in constructing the sidewalk.
- The alternative proposed by the applicant to not install the pathway would not be adequate for the intended use and does substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards. This is because the City would inevitably install the sidewalk at a cost of \$7,800 plus inflation that would not otherwise be required if the ordinance were enforced.

A similar variance was granted earlier this year for a new home on Meadowbrook Road, however in that case the applicant demonstrated more difficulty to construct the pathway caused by a wetland, existing trees and topography in addition to the lack of adjacent sidewalk segments. In that case City Council required a payment to the City toward the future construction of the sidewalk in lieu of construction. Several homeowners along the north side of Eleven Mile Road have constructed discontinuous frontage sidewalks over the past few years. All who requested variances were not granted them; others constructed sidewalks without seeking a variance, including a home currently under construction at 46300 Eleven Mile Road.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Denial of a request from Kris Krstovski for a variance from Section 11-276(b) of the Design and Construction Standards requiring pathways along the arterial roadway network in accordance with the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan for the single family home under construction at 44780 11 Mile Road for the following reasons:

- A literal application of the substantive requirement to construct the sidewalk would not result in exceptional, practical difficulty because the approved plot plan demonstrates that a sidewalk can be construction and that the site is free from trees, wetlands and other obstructions that would pose a difficulty to the applicant in constructing the sidewalk.
- The alternative proposed by the applicant to not install the pathway would not be adequate for the intended use and does substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards because the City would inevitably install the sidewalk at a cost of \$7,800 plus inflation that would not otherwise be required if the ordinance were enforced.

### OR:

Approval of a request from Kris Krstovski for a variance from Section 11-276(b) of the Design and Construction Standards requiring pathways along the arterial roadway network in accordance with the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan for the single family home under construction at 44780 11 Mile Road with (1) a payment in the amount of \$7,800 to be paid to the City of Novi, and (2) a pathway easement to be provided in a location approved by the Engineering Division prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy for said address in lieu of construction of the pathway for the following reasons for the following reasons:

- A literal application of the substantive requirement would result in exceptional, practical difficulty to the applicant;
- The alternative proposed by the applicant shall be adequate for the intended use and shall not substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards; and
- The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, nor injurious to adjoining or neighboring property.

	11	2	Υ	N	
Mayor Gatt					Council
Mayor Pro Tem Staudt					Council
Council Member Casey					Council
Council Member Fischer					

	1	2	Υ	N
Council Member Markham				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Wrobel				

## Krstovski Sidewalk Variance Request 44780 11 Mile





Map Produced Using the City of Novi, Michigan Internet Mapping Portal



Date: 9/30/2014

Feet 1 inch = 188 feet

#### MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE

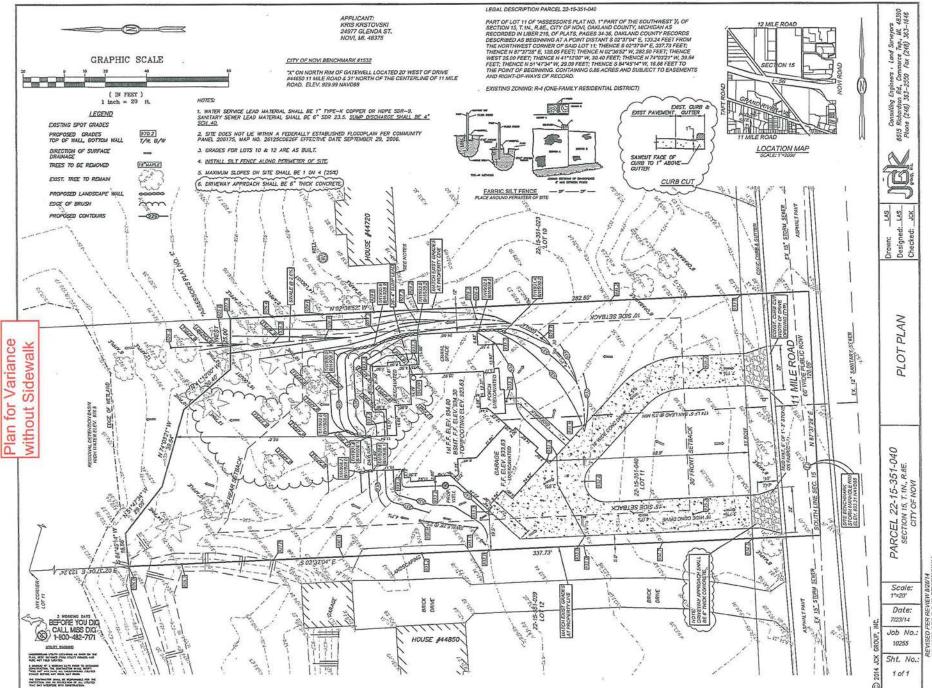
Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate sources available to the people of the City of Novi. Boundary measurements and area calculations are approximately intended. and should not be construed as survey measurements performed by a licensed Michigan Surveyor as defined in Michigan Public Act 132 of 1970 as amended. Pleased contact the City GIS Manager to confirm source and accuracy information related to this map. This map was produced under the terms of the City's Internet Site Use Policy available at http://cityofnovi.org/Resources/SiteUsePolicy.asp



# SEP 0.4 2014

## Request for Variance CITY OF NOVI Design and Construction Standardsommunity DEVELOPMENT

Applicant Information	Engineer Information
Name: KRIS KOSTONSKO	Name: DCK Group INC.
Address: <u>84977 Glenda St</u>	Address: 8615 Richardson Rd.
Nov. M. 48375	COMMERCE TWP, MI 48390
Phone No: <u>948-686-4020</u>	Phone No: <u>248-363-2550</u>
Applicant Status (please check one):	
Property Owner Developer	Developer / Owner Representative
Other	
Project Name Krstovs Ki	residence
Project Address/Location	
Variance Request 44780 111	Mile Road
Justification (attach additional pages if ne	cessary)
- THE North side of 1	I mile Where our
property is located has	NO Sidwalk, The
South Side of 11 Mile	15 the designated for
side walks. OUR prope	orty is the LAST
VACANT LOT LEFT ON !	our street. IT would
NOT MAKE ANY SOUSE +	OADA Sidrualko
INTERNAL	. USE
Date Submitted: 9/10/14	
Code Section from which variance is sought:	
Submittal Checklist: 💢 One (1) copy of plan o	n 8.5 x 11 size paper
\$100 Filing Fee (No fe	e for driveway width variance requests)
<b>,</b>	ENIED
Authorized By:	
Authorization Date:	



### Sec. 11-276. Scope.

- This article establishes requirements for the design and construction of pedestrian safety paths (sidewalks) within the street right-of-way of platted subdivisions, the arterial and collector street system, roads in unplatted residential areas and private roads in other unplatted areas within the city.
- (b) Pedestrian safety paths shall be placed across the arterial and collector street system frontage for all projects in accordance with the "Master Plan for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Paths", as well as at those locations specified in the City of Novi Subdivision Ordinance (Appendix C) and the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance (Appendix A).

(Ord. No. 87-124.02, Pt. I, 11-9-87; Ord. No. 93-124.06, Pt. LXXXVII, 2-1-93; Ord. No. 97-124.09, Pt. III, 10-20-97; Ord. No. 97-124.10, Pt. I, 12-1-97; Ord. No. 99-124.11, Pt. XXXIX, 7-26-99)

8/1/2014 Municode

### Sec. 11-10. Variances.

- (a) Upon application, a specific variance to a substantive requirement of these standards may be granted, subject to the following criteria. Where the proposed activity requires site plan or plat approval, or otherwise involves the design or construction of a facility intended to be public, the variance application shall be to the city council. Where the proposed activity does not otherwise require site plan or plat approval, the variance application shall be to the construction board of appeals.
- (b) A variance may be granted when all of the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (1) A literal application of the substantive requirement would result in exceptional, practical difficulty to the applicant;
  - (2) The alternative proposed by the applicant shall be adequate for the intended use and shall not substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards; and
  - (3) The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, nor injurious to adjoining or neighboring property.
- (c) The city council may, by resolution, establish an application fee for requests for variances from these standards.

(Ord. No. 86-124, § 16.01, 4-21-86; Ord. No. 87-124.01, Pt. I (16.01), 4-13-87; Ord. No. 91-124.05, Pt. I, 6-3-91; Ord. No. 93-124.06, Pt. V, 2-1-93; Ord. No. 99-124.11, Pt. III, 7-26-99)

### **MEMORANDUM**



TO: ROB HAYES, P.E.; DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES

FROM: BRIAN COBURN, P.E.; ENGINEERING SENIOR MANAGER BYC

SUBJECT: 44780 ELEVEN MILE RD REQUEST FOR SIDEWALK VARIANCE

DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

The Engineering Division has received a variance request to eliminate the required frontage sidewalk for a new single family residential home under construction at 44780 11 Mile Road, located on the north side of 11 Mile Road between Taft Road and Clark Street. The Ordinance in Section 11-276(b) requires a frontage sidewalk to be constructed for all projects as shown on the Master Plan for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Paths (attached).

The property owner's application for the variance request (attached) states that the sidewalk is not necessary because his property is on the north side of 11 Mile which has no other sidewalk segments completed. He also states that there is an existing sidewalk on the south side of 11 Mile.

A variance from the Design and Construction Standards (Chapter 11 of the Ordinance) must meet all three of the criteria in 11-10(b) (attached). In reviewing this request using these criteria, Engineering would not recommend approval of the variance. As shown in the attached photo, the subject property is open, flat and free of trees, wetlands, and other obstructions that would otherwise pose a difficulty to the applicant in constructing the sidewalk. The applicant's proposal to eliminate the sidewalk would result in the City constructing the segment at some point in the future at an estimated cost of approximately \$7,800, therefore, it deviates from the intended use and performance established by the ordinance.

The applicant is correct that there are no sidewalks currently located on the north side of 11 Mile Road between Clark and Taft. This sidewalk segment (#34) was ranked number 59 in the 2013-14 City of Novi Annual Non-Motorized Prioritization report.

A similar variance was granted earlier this year for a new home on Meadowbrook Road, however in that case the applicant demonstrated more difficulty to construct the pathway caused by a wetland, existing trees and topography in addition to the lack of adjacent sidewalk segments. In that case City Council required a payment to the City toward the future construction of the sidewalk in lieu of construction.

Engineering will prepare this variance for consideration by City Council on an upcoming agenda.



View of the frontage of the subject parcel looking west along 11 Mile Road.

#### Ordinance Sections:

### Section 11-276(b)

Pedestrian safety paths shall be placed across the arterial and collector street system frontage for all projects in accordance with the "Master Plan for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Paths", as well as at those locations specified in the City of Novi Subdivision Ordinance (Appendix C) and the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance (Appendix A).

### Section 11-10(b)

A variance may be granted when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) A literal application of the substantive requirement would result in exceptional, practical difficulty to the applicant;
- (2) The alternative proposed by the applicant shall be adequate for the intended use and shall not substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards; and
- (3) The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, nor injurious to adjoining or neighboring property.

## Legend - 8 foot Pathways 5 foot Sidewalks Recreational Pathway Fourteen Mile Rd Thirteen Mile Rd Twelve Mile Rd Twelve Mile Rd ंगा 1 nin Wixom Rd Eleven Mile Rd. Grand RivenAve Ten Mile Rd Napier Nine Mile Rd Id Rd Garfiel Eight Mile Rd Eight Mile Rd MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE CITY OF NOVI

Map information depicted in rate interded to replace or sub-line for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet. Maistead Map Resursey Standards and we the most recent, accurate userce available to the people of the CG1 of Newl. Boundary measurements and area carkathors are appearant she and should not be continued as survey measurements performed by a Kernese Michigan Surveyer as defined in Michigan Politic Act 132 et 1970 as a mended. Pleased connect the CG1 GS1 Manager to cooling societies and accuracy information related to this map.



Recreation trails are from the City of Novi Pathway and Sidewalk Prioritization Analysis and Process, 2009 Update.

PLANNING COMMISSION

45175 W. Ten Mile Road Novi, Mil 48375-3024 (248) 247-0475 Map Carlographer: Mark Searce, AICP, Planner CREATED: 3/31/10 Version 1.0

page 107





### JOHNSON ROSATI SCHULTZ JOPPICH PC

27555 Executive Drive Suite 250 ~ Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331 Phone: 248.489.4100 | Fax: 248.489.1726

Elizabeth Kudla Saarela esaarela@jrsjlaw.com

www.johnsonrosati.com

September 24, 2014

Brian Edwards, Engineering Technician City of Novi 45175 Ten Mile Road Novi, Michigan 48375

Re: 4

44780 Eleven Mile

Variance from Design and Construction Standards

Dear Mr. Wayne:

Our office has reviewed the proposed request for a variance from Section 11-276 (b) of the City's Design and Construction Standards, which states:

(b) Pedestrian safety paths shall be placed across the arterial and collector street system frontage for all projects in accordance with the "Master Plan for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Paths", as well as at those locations specified in the City of Novi Subdivision Ordinance (Appendix C) and the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance (Appendix A).

Section 11-10 of the Ordinance Code permits the City Council to grant a variance from the Design and Construction Standards when a property owner shows all of the following:

- (b) A variance may be granted when all of the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (1) A literal application of the substantive requirement would result in exceptional, practical difficulty to the applicant;
  - (2) The alternative proposed by the applicant shall be adequate for the intended use and shall not substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards; and
  - (3) The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, nor injurious to adjoining or neighboring property.

Brian Edwards, Engineering Technician September 24, 2014 Page 2

With respect to practical difficulty, the applicants have requested to waive construction of the required safety path along the frontage of their property because there are no other parcels on the north side of the Eleven Mile with sidewalks.

In the event that City Council considers a waiver of the safety path requirement, we would recommend that the applicants provide a pathway easement in a location to be determined by Engineering to allow construction across the frontage of the property by the City in the future by the City if a safety path is proposed for that location. An escrow for the cost of the estimated construction may also be required.

In the event that City Council finds that the standards for a variance or waiver have been met, our office sees no legal impediment to granting the variance, subject to the condition that the Engineering Division and the Public Safety Department have also reviewed and approved the proposed plans from a public health, safety and welfare perspective.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please call me.

Very truly yours,

JOHNSON, ROSATI, SCHULTZ & JOPPICH, P.C.

Elizabeth Kudla Saarela

**EKS** 

**Enclosures** 

C: Maryanne Cornelius, Clerk (w/Enclosures)

Charles Boulard, Community Development Director (w/Enclosures)

Matt Wiktorowski, Field Operations (w/Enclosures)
Brian Coburn, Engineering Manager (w/Enclosures)

David Beschke, Landscape Architect (w/Enclosures)

Jeff Johnson, Fire Department (w/Enclosures)

Thomas R. Schultz, Esquire (w/Enclosures)



### CITY OF NOVI Engineering Department

### MEMORANDUM

To:

Charles Boulard, Community Development

David Beschke, Landscape Architect

Beth Saarela, Attorney

Jeff Johnson, Fire Department Matt Wiktorowski, Filed Ops

From:

Brian Edwards, Engineering

Date:

September 17, 2014

Re:

Variance from Design & Construction Standards

44780 11 Mile Road

Attached is a request for a Variance from the **Section 11.276(b)** of the Novi City Code. Please review for a future City Council Agenda. In accordance with Section 11-10 of the Ordinance, the following three conditions *must be met* for a variance to be granted by Council:

- 1) A literal application of the substantive requirement would result in exceptional, practical difficulty to the applicant;
- 2) The alternative proposed by the applicant would be adequate for the intended use and would not substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards; and,
- 3) The granting of the variance would not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, nor injurious to adjoining or neighboring property.

Following review of the variance, check the appropriate box below and provide your signature. If you have no basis for recommending either approval or denial, please check the "No Exceptions Taken" box. If you are recommending approval or denial of the request, please also complete the matrix on the reverse of this form. Please return to my attention by **Wednesday 9-24, 2014**.

#### ROUTING

Delivered To	Returned On	RECOMMENDED ACTION			Signature
		Approval*	Denial*	No Exceptions Taken	
Brian Coburn (Engineering)	,				
Charles Boulard (Comm Dev.)					
David Beschke (Landscape Arch)					
Beth Saarela (City Attorney)	9.24.14				XI
Jeff Johnson (Fire Department)				0	
Matt Wiktorowski (Field Ops)					

## If recommending approval or denial, please complete the following:

1.	Would a literal application of the substantive requirement of the ordinance result in an exceptional, practical difficulty to the application? $\square$ Yes No $\square$
Expl	ain:
-	
2.	Would the alternative proposed by the applicant be adequate for the intended use and not deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards?   Yes No
Expl	ain:
<del></del>	
3.	Would granting the variance not be detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare, and not injurious to adjoining or neighboring property? $\  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \ $
Exp	lain:
-	
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### CITY OF NOVI Engineering Department

### MEMORANDUM

To:

Charles Boulard, Community Development

David Beschke, Landscape Architect

Beth Saarela, Attorney

Jeff Johnson, Fire Department Matt Wiktorowski, Filed Ops

From:

Brian Edwards, Engineering

Date:

September 17, 2014

Re:

Variance from Design & Construction Standards

44780 11 Mile Road

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- 1) A literal application of the substantive requirement would result in exceptional, practical difficulty to the applicant;
- 2) The alternative proposed by the applicant would be adequate for the intended use and would not substantially deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards; and,
- 3) The granting of the variance would not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, nor injurious to adjoining or neighboring property.

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### **ROUTING**

Delivered To	Returned On	RECO	Signature		
		Approval*	Denial*	No Exceptions Taken	
Brian Coburn (Engineering)					
Charles Boulard (Comm Dev.)			d		C. ROUND.
David Beschke (Landscape Arch)					
Beth Saarela (City Attorney)					
Jeff Johnson (Fire Department)					
Matt Wiktorowski (Field Ops)					

### If recommending approval or denial, please complete the following:

1.	Would a literal application of the substantive requirement of the ordinance result in an exceptional, practical difficulty to the application? $\square$ Yes No $\bowtie$
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2.	Would the alternative proposed by the applicant be adequate for the intended use and not deviate from the performance that would be obtained by strict enforcement of the standards?  ☐ Yes No 图
Exp	lain: Sureware wourd Not Poe INSTAURIO
3.	Would granting the variance not be detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare, and not injurious to adjoining or neighboring property?
Ехр	lain: SIDEWALLS NEGNEYS -
	-PLANNEY POR FATURE-
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