

Section 14.4 Site Plan Approval Standards

A. Specific Site Development Standards: A preliminary and final site plan shall conform with the specific site development standards of this Ordinance including, but not limited to, requirements pertaining to lot area, lot width, setbacks, building heights, permitted uses, nonconformities, lighting, potable water, sewage disposal, and the provisions of:

1. Article 7, Standards for Specific Land Uses
2. Article 9, Signs
3. Article 10, Off-Street Parking and Loading
4. Article 11, Landscaping and Screening
5. Article 12, Environmental Protection
6. Article 13, Access
7. Article 20, Supplemental Provisions

B. General Site Plan Approval Standards: In addition to compliance with the standards of subsection (A) above, all site plans shall comply with all of the following general site plan approval standards:

1. Site Organization: All elements of the site plan shall be harmoniously and efficiently organized in relation to the size and character of the lot, the manner in which buildings and support facilities on the lot relate to one another both visually and physically, and the character of the proposal as viewed from nearby properties and roads.
2. District Purpose: The site plan shall be of a character that supports the purpose of the District in which the development is to be located, as described in the Purpose tables of Article 3.
3. Surrounding Properties: The site plan shall not impede the normal and orderly development, improvement, or enjoyment of surrounding property for uses permitted in the District, including matters pertaining to visual impacts from lighting, signage, outdoor storage, and off-street parking. Landscaping measures shall be employed to enhance the development's character and encourage compatibility with existing and planned development and uses in the area. All site features, including circulation, parking, building orientation, landscaping, lighting, utilities, common facilities, and open space, shall be coordinated with adjacent properties.
4. Environmental Character: The site plan shall preserve the environmental character of the site insofar as practical by minimizing the removal or disturbances to on-site natural features such as trees, woodlands, soils, topography, water courses and wetlands, and shall comply with Article 12, Environmental Protection.
5. Storm Water Management: The site plan shall provide for the removal of storm water so as to minimize on-site flood conditions and assure the well-being of the users of the property, while not adversely affecting adjacent properties and public and natural drainage systems due to flooding, erosion, sedimentation, or other negative impacts. Storm water management plans shall rely on existing drainage patterns where practical and minimize topographic alterations, and incorporate the necessary measures to discourage soil erosion and sedimentation and the discharge of impurities into the groundwater and surface waters.
7. Circulation: The site plan shall provide vehicular and non-motorized circulation and parking in a manner that ensures visually clear, safe, convenient and efficient travel in the site and at ingress and egress points. The circulation plan shall minimize congestion, conflicting turning patterns, negative impacts upon abutting properties, and the avoidance of unnecessary curb cuts and roads. New curb-cuts, drives and roads shall be coordinated with the existing and planned public circulation system and improvements thereto, and shall ensure adequate sight distances. All buildings shall be arranged as to permit emergency access by some practical means to all sides.
8. Utilities: The site plan shall provide for all necessary utilities and such utilities and easements shall be appropriately located to ensure ease of access and servicing and coordination with other site features. Underground facilities shall be provided to the greatest extent feasible.
9. Phasing: Where a project is proposed for construction in phases, the site plan phasing shall be so designed that each phase, when completed, shall be capable of standing on its own in terms of the presence of services, facilities, and open space, and shall contain the necessary components to ensure protection of natural resources and the health, safety and welfare of the users of project and surrounding properties.
10. Other: Site plans shall conform to all applicable Township planning documents including the goals and objectives of the Lake Township Master Plan, other applicable ordinances, and state and federal statutes.