

SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 120699-A

CITY OF NIEDERWALD, TEXAS

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ORDINANCE NO. 120699-A

**AN ORDINANCE REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 110397-A, AS AMENDED, AND
SETTING FORTH REQUIREMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS FOR SUBDIVISIONS IN
THE
CITY OF NIEDERWALD, TEXAS**

CITY OF NIEDERWALD, TEXAS, SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

**ORDINANCE NO. 120699-A, REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 110397-A
REQUIREMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS FOR SUBDIVISIONS IN THE
CITY OF NIEDERWALD, TEXAS**

**DECLARING CERTAIN FINDINGS OF FACT; CREATING NEW SECTIONS AND
PROVIDING NEW STANDARDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAND WITHIN THE
INCORPORATED LIMITS AND EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE
CITY OF NIEDERWALD, TEXAS; SPECIFYING THE APPLICABILITY OF THIS
ORDINANCE TO PROPOSED SUBDIVISIONS AT CERTAIN STATES OF
APPROVAL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NIEDERWALD,
TEXAS:**

**AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH REQUIREMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS FOR
SUBDIVISIONS IN THE CITY OF NIEDERWALD, TEXAS.**

**PART I: AUTHORITY, APPLICATION OF ORDINANCE, BURDEN OF PROOF, AND
PURPOSE AND FINDINGS (Sections 1-4)**

Section 1. Authority

This ordinance is adopted under the authority of the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas, including particularly Chapters 212, Texas Local Government Code, As Amended.

Section 2. Application of Ordinance

This ordinance sets out new standards and procedures for the subdivision of land located within the corporate limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Niederwald, Texas. A preliminary plat which was approved or conditionally approved under Ordinance No. 110397-A, as amended, shall be required to comply with the standards and procedures of this Ordinance for final plat approval; provided, however, that no such plat shall be required to be resubmitted for preliminary plat approval.

Section 3. Burden of Proof

An applicant for subdivision plat approval under this Ordinance must establish that his or her plat complies with the requirements of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Purpose and Findings

The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote the health, safety and general welfare and provide for the orderly safe and healthful development of the area within the Incorporated limits and the Extra-territorial jurisdiction of the City.

The City Council of the City of Niederwald finds that the previous Subdivision Ordinance requires certain revisions to correspond with the adopted Master Plan, the Zoning Ordinance, and the current procedures for reviewing proposed subdivisions. This Ordinance reaffirms that the citizens of Niederwald prefer a set of development standards and procedures which effectively manages the impacts of new development and ensures the compatibility of new and existing development in the region.

PART II: DEFINITIONS, SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND VARIANCES (Sections 5-7)

Section 5. Definitions

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section:

- A. Alley:** A minor public right-of-way, not intended to provide the primary means of access to abutting lots, which is used primarily for vehicular service access to the back or sides of properties otherwise abutting on a street.
- B. Building Setback Line:** The line within a property defining the minimum horizontal distance between a building and the adjacent street line or property boundary line.
- C. City:** The City of Niederwald, Texas.
- D. Council:** The City Council or person designated by the Council.
- E. Crosswalk Way:** Public right-of-way, ten (10) feet or more in width between property lines, which provides pedestrian circulation.
- F. Cul-de-sac:** A street having one outlet to another street, and terminated on the opposite end by a vehicular turn around.
- G. Dead-end Street:** A street, other than a cul-de-sac, with only one outlet.
- H. Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone:** Any area identified as such by the Edwards Aquifer Rules. In the event an Applicant cannot determine with specificity the location of the boundary of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, the Applicant may submit appropriate maps and other evidence as may be requested by the Planning Commission for assistance in such determination from the Planning Commission. Any determination by the

Planning Commission will affect only these Regulations and will not in any manner be binding upon the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission. The Planning Commission may require the applicant to obtain a determination from the TNRCC and any determination by the TNRCC regarding the location of the Recharge Zone will control for purposes of these Regulations. The intent of these Regulations is to coordinate applicable state and local regulations such as that the definition of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone under these Regulations shall be identical with the definition found within the Edwards Aquifer Rules 2.10 - The Regulations promulgated by the TNRCC relating to the Edwards Aquifer, currently set forth in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 213, as amended from time to time.

- I. **Engineer:** A person duly authorized under the provisions of the Texas Engineering Registration Act, as heretofore or hereafter amended, to practice the profession of engineering.
- J. **Lot:** An undivided tract or parcel of land having frontage on a public street and which is, or in the future may be sold, conveyed, transferred or improved; and which is designated by a tract or lot number or symbol, or by metes and bounds, consisting of not less than one acre.
- K. **Pavement Width:** The portion of a street available for vehicular traffic. Where curbs are laid, they are not included in the pavement width.
- L. **Person:** An individual, association, firm, corporation, government agency, political subdivision or other entity.
- M. **Shall, May:** The word “shall” is always mandatory. The word “may” is merely directory.
- N. **Street:** A public right-of-way, however designated, which provides vehicular access to adjacent land.
 - 1. A “**major arterial street**” is a divided, limited-access roadway designed to provide vehicular circulation between major traffic generator such as large high-density residential neighborhoods, commercial centers, industrial areas, and other municipalities.
 - 2. A “**minor arterial street**” is a divided or undivided, limited-access roadway designed to provide vehicular circulation between secondary traffic generators, such as neighborhood/community shopping centers, office complexes, high schools, and municipal or regional park/recreation areas, and between major arterial streets and streets of lower classification.
 - 3. A “**collector street**” is an undivided roadway generally providing access to major arterials from local streets but generally without direct access from adjacent properties except for elementary schools, small apartment complexes, and neighborhood commercial centers.
 - 4. A “**local street**” provides access to individual adjacent properties.

- O. Subdivider:** Any person or any agent thereof, dividing or proposing to divide land so as to constitute a subdivision as that term is defined herein. In any event, the term “subdivider” shall be restricted to include only the owner, equitable owner or authorized agent of such owner or equitable owner, of land sought to be subdivided.
- P. Subdivision** of any tract, lot, piece, or parcel of land, or any portion or fraction thereof (whether by block or lot numbers, or by metes and bounds description), situated within the corporate limits, or within the City’s extraterritorial jurisdiction, in two or more parts for the purpose of transfer of ownership, or suburban lots or building lots, or any lots, whether all or any portion thereof be intended for public use, or only for the use of purchasers, short or long-term leasees, guest and/or agents. Subdivision also includes resubdivision of any tract, lot, piece, or parcel of land. Division of land into parcels of five (5) or more acres each shall not be included in this definition of subdivision, unless any such division of five (5) or more acres includes the planning or development of a new street or access easement and no public improvement is being dedicated.
- Q. Surveyor:** A licensed State Land Surveyor or a Registered Public Surveyor, as authorized by the State statutes to practice the profession of surveying.
- R. Utility Easement:** An interest in land granted to the City, to the public generally, and/or to private utility corporations, for installing or maintaining utilities across, over or under private land, together with the right to enter thereon with machinery and vehicles necessary for the maintenance of said utilities.
- S.** Any office referred to in this Ordinance by title means the persons employed or appointed by the City in that position, or his duly authorized representative.
- T.** Definitions not expressly prescribed herein are to be construed in accordance with customary usage in municipal planning and engineering practices.
- U. Commission:** The Planning Commission or a person designated by the Commission.
- V. Manufactured Building:** Either an independent, individual building, a combination of modules, or a module for combination with other elements to form a building, not a mobile, which has been mass-produced in a factory and designed and constructed for transportation to a site for installation and use on a permanent foundation when connected to required utilities at that site. All manufactured buildings must either meet the standards set by the City of Niederwald's codes as determined by an onsite inspection by inspectors or be certified as meeting the codes and standards established by the Texas Department of Labor and Standards or the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as appropriate.

- W. Manufactured Home:** A structure constructed on or after June 15, 1976 according to the rules of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, transportable in one or more sections, which, in the traveling mode, is eight body feet or more in width or 40 body feet or more in length, or, when erected on site, is 320 or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems. This term shall not include a recreational vehicle. A manufactured building, or portion of a building designed for long-term residential use.
- X. Mobile Home:** A structure that was constructed before June 15, 1976, transportable in one or more sections, which, in the traveling mode, is eight body feet or more in width or 40 body feet or more in length, or, when erected on site, is 320 or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems.
- Y. Permanent Foundation:** A concrete slab or wooden, concrete, and/or steel pier and beam substructure upon which a building is permanently fastened and attached so as to preclude the transport of the building on its own chassis.

Section 6. Special Provisions

- A.** No permit shall be issued by the City for the installation of septic tanks upon any lot in a subdivision for which a final plat has not been approved and filed for record, or upon any lot in a subdivision in which the standards contained herein or referred to herein have not been complied with in full.
- B.** No building, repair, plumbing, or electrical permit shall be issued by the City for any structure on a lot in a subdivision for which a final plat has not been approved and filed for record, nor for any structures on a lot within a subdivision in which the standards contained herein have not been complied with in full.
- C.** The City shall not repair, maintain, install or provide any streets or public utility services in any subdivision for which a final plat has not been approved and filed for record, nor in which the standards contained herein or referred to herein have not been complied with in full.
- D.** The city shall not sell or supply any water, gas, electricity, or sewage service within a subdivision for which a final plat has not been approved and filed for record, and in which the standards contained herein or referred to herein have not been complied with in full.

- E. In behalf of the City, the City Attorney shall, when directed by the governing body, institute action in court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance or the standards referred to herein with respect to any violation thereof which occurs within the City or within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city as such jurisdiction is determined under the Municipal Annexation Act, or within any area subject to all or a part of the provisions of this Ordinance.
- F. If any subdivision exists for which a final plat has not been approved or in which the standards contained herein or referred to herein have not been complied with in full, and the Council shall pass a resolution reciting the fact of such noncompliance or failure to secure final plat approval, and reciting the fact that the provisions of Paragraphs A, B, C and D of this Section will apply to the subdivision and the lots therein, the City Secretary shall, when directed by the Council, cause a certified copy of such resolution under the corporate seal of the City to be filed in Deed Records of the county.

If full compliance and final plat approval are secured after the full filing of such resolution, the City Secretary shall forthwith file an instrument in the Deed Records of the county stating that Paragraphs A, B, C and D no longer apply.

- G. The provisions of this section, however, shall not necessarily be construed to prohibit the issuance of permits for any lots upon which a residence building exists and was in existence prior to passage of this subdivision ordinance; nor to prohibit the repair, maintenance, or installation of any street or public utility services for, to, or abutting any lot, the last recorded conveyance of which was by metes and bounds prior to passage of this Ordinance; and /or any subdivisions, or lot therein, recorded or unrecorded, that was in existence prior to the passage of this Ordinance.

Section 7. Variances

A. Consideration by the City Council

1. The Council may authorize a variance from these regulations when, in its opinion, undue hardship will result from requiring strict compliance.
2. In granting a variance, the Council shall prescribe only conditions that it deems necessary to or desirable in the public interest.
3. In making the finding hereinbelow required, the Council shall take into account the nature of the proposed use of the land involved, existing uses of land in the vicinity, the number of persons who will reside or work in the proposed subdivision, and the probably effect of such variance upon traffic conditions and upon the public health, safety, convenience and welfare in the vicinity.
4. Variances may be granted only when in harmony with the purpose and intent of this Ordinance so that the public health, safety, and welfare may be secured and substantial justice be done. Pecuniary hardship to the subdivider, standing alone, shall not be deemed to constitute undue hardship.

B. Criteria for Granting a Variance

No variance shall be granted unless the Council finds that:

1. The variance is necessary to allow for the division of land as a result of death, bequest or divorce decree; or
2. There are special circumstances or conditions affecting the land involved, such that the strict application of the provisions of this Ordinance would deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of his land; and
3. The variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right of the applicant; and
4. The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, or injurious to other property in the area; and
5. The granting of the variance will not have the effect of preventing the orderly subdivision of other land in the area in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

Such findings of the Council, together with the specific facts upon which such findings are based, shall be incorporated into the official Minutes of the Council meeting at which such variance is granted.

C. Application Procedure

All requests for variances shall be made in writing and should be submitted at the earliest possible date at which the subdivider identifies the need for a variance. In any case, a request for variances shall be submitted to the City Secretary no later than eight (8) working days prior to the Council meeting at which approval is being sought.

D. Fees

1. Each request for variances shall be accompanied by a fee of **\$50.00 per variance requested.**

PART III: PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE, PRELIMINARY PLAT AND ACCOMPANYING DATA, FINAL PLAT, AND VACATION OF PLAT OR RESUBDIVISION (Sections 8-10)

Section 8. Preliminary Conference

- A. **Procedure and Fee.** Prior to the official filing of a preliminary plat the subdivider and his engineer(s) and/or planner(s) shall pay a **non-refundable fee of \$300.00** to the City Secretary, for which the subdivider will receive a receipt and shall consult with and present a proposed conceptual plan of development to the Planning Commission in a regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission.
- B. **Information Required.** The proposed plan shall include, at a minimum, a large scale map showing the tract boundaries and conceptual plans for land use, roadways, drainage, utility service and the plasticity index rating resulting from soil samples taken at the ratio of one core sample for every thirty (30) acres with a minimum of one sample for a tract of less than thirty (30) acres.
- C. **Subdividing Part of a Larger Tract.** Where the proposed subdivision constitutes a unit of a larger tract owned by the subdivider, which is intended to be subsequently subdivided as additional units of the same subdivision, the conceptual plan shall be accompanied by a layout of the entire area, showing the tentative improvements for such areas.
- D. **Conference Report.** The City's Planning Commission shall make a report to the Council which includes a review of the plans, relationship to the City's Master Plan and recommendations for areawide improvements affecting said tract. If the City's Planning Commission has any interest or concerns of an areawide nature which may directly affect the review of the proposed preliminary plat, the subdivider shall be so informed in writing.

Section 9. Preliminary Plat and Accompanying Data

- A. **General.** The subdivider shall cause to be prepared a preliminary plat by a surveyor or engineer in accordance with this Ordinance.
- B. **Time for Filing and Copies Required.** After the preliminary conference has been held, formal application for preliminary plat approval shall be made by the subdivider in writing to the City Secretary at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the official meeting of the Commission for consideration. At that time, the subdivider shall also submit fifteen (15) copies of the preliminary plat, along with all accompanying data and exhibits.
- C. **Filing Fee.** The preliminary plat application shall be accompanied by a filing fee of \$10.00 per acre, or any fraction thereof, with a minimum fee of \$200.00 per plat. Such application shall be considered incomplete until the filing fee is paid. No action by the Commission shall be valid until the filing fee has been paid. This fee shall not be refunded should the subdivider fail to perfect his formal application for preliminary plat approval or should the plat be disapproved.

D. Form and Content.

1. The preliminary plat shall be drawn and reproduced in duplicate photographic mylars (no larger than 18" X 24" and with a 2" margin on the left-hand edge and a 1/2" margin on others) for file copy. The plat shall be drawn to a scale not to exceed one inch to 200 feet (1"=200'). When more than one sheet is necessary to accommodate the entire area, an index sheet showing the entire subdivision at an appropriate scale shall be attached to the plat.
2. The plat shall show the following:
 - a. Names and addresses of the subdivider, record owner, engineer and/or surveyor, duly notarized.
 - b. Proposed name of the subdivision, which shall not have the same spelling as or be pronounced similar to the name of any other subdivision located within the City or within the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction.
 - c. Names of contiguous subdivisions and the owners of contiguous parcels of unsubdivided land, and an indication of whether contiguous properties are platted.
 - d. Date of preparation, scale of plat, north arrow, and a general location map.
 - e. Brief legal description referencing the volume and page of the appropriate County Official Public Records and lot and block, if a resubdivision; the metes and bounds of the subdivision, including location of primary control points and ties to such control points to which all dimensions, angles, bearings, block numbers, and similar data shall be referred; and, either on the plat or by a separate instrument, a written metes and bounds description of the property to be subdivided.
 - f. Subdivision boundary lines, indicated by heavy lines, and the computed acreage of the subdivision.
 - g. Location of the city limit line, the outer border of the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction, and zoning district boundaries, if they traverse the subdivision, form part of the boundary of the subdivision, or are contiguous to such boundary.
 - h. Location of flood plain per Federal Emergency Management Agency criteria.

i. Existing sites as follows:

- 1) The location, scaled dimensions, name and description of all existing or recorded streets, alleys, reservations, easements or other public rights-of-way within the subdivision, intersecting or contiguous with its boundaries or forming such boundaries.**
- 2) The location, scaled dimensions, description and name of all existing and recorded residential lots, parks, public areas, permanent structures, trees with a circumference of thirty (30) inches or larger measured at the height of four (4) feet above the ground, and other sites within or contiguous with the subdivision.**
- 3) The location, scaled dimensions, description, and flow line of existing water courses and drainage structure within the subdivision of contiguous tracts.**
- 4) Other topographical information within or adjacent to the site, which shall include contour lines at two (2) foot intervals and sufficient to permit the planning of water lines, sanitary sewer lines, storm drainage facilities, streets, and other proposed improvements.**
- 5) Flood plain data.**

- j. The locations, scaled dimensions, descriptions and names of all proposed streets, alleys, drainage structures, parks, other public areas, reservations, easements or other right-of-way, blocks, lots and other sites within the subdivision.**
- k. A number or letter to separately identify each lot and each block.**
- l. Front building setback lines on all lots and sites, building setback lines at street intersections and crosswalk ways.**
- m. Vicinity sketch or map at an appropriate scale showing the subdivision in relation to major roadways and landmarks.**
- n. Possible storm sewer, water, gas, electric, and sanitary sewer connections points.**
- o. The certification of a registered professional engineer surveyor that the preliminary plat is complete and accurate.**
- p. Fire hydrants in compliance with existing local, county and state regulations.**

3. The preliminary plat shall be accompanied by a general, preliminary drainage plan at an appropriate scale, including the ultimate destination of storm water.

E. Processing of Preliminary Plat

1. **Review by City's Planning Commission.** The Commission shall review the preliminary plat as to its conformity with the prevailing master plan, major street plan, land use plan, zoning districts, the standards and specifications set forth by Ordinance and Code, and the result of the preliminary conference pertaining to said plat and shall submit a written report on that review to the Council at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
2. **Corrections to the Preliminary Plat.** In response to oral or written comments from the Commission to the subdivider, the subdivider shall forward fifteen (15) copies of the revised preliminary plat to the City Secretary no less than eight (8) working days prior to the official meeting at which preliminary plat approval is sought.
3. **Action by the Planning Commission.** Within thirty (30) days after the preliminary plat is formally filed, the Commission shall approve or disapprove such plat. If the Commission disapproves a proposed preliminary plat, it shall reference, in writing, any and all deficiencies of the proposed preliminary plat which were cause for disapproval. The subdivider shall be allowed to submit a revised preliminary plat which resolves the deficiencies and the Commission shall approve or disapprove the revised plat within thirty (30) days after the revised plat is formally filed.
4. **Approval of the Preliminary Plat.** Approval of a preliminary plat by the Commission shall be deemed an expression of approval of the layout submitted on the preliminary plat as a guide to the installation of streets, water, sewer and other required improvements and utilities and to the preparation of the final or record plat. Approval of a preliminary plat shall not constitute automatic approval of the final plat.
5. **Effective Life of an Approved Preliminary Plat.** Approval of a preliminary plat by the Commission shall be effective for six (6) month, provided that the requirements are met for submitting a final plat within sixty (60) days after approval of the preliminary plat, as required by Section 10.B.2. Any portion or all of the preliminary plat may be subject to modification or revision in light of information previously not brought to the attention of the Commission. If in the light of new or significant information, the Commission should require revisions to a previously approved preliminary plat, it shall so inform the subdivider in writing.

6. **Complete Submittal Required for Formal Filing.** The City Secretary or the entity responsible for reviewing the proposed preliminary plat shall determine whether the proposed plat and all required supporting materials are complete and fees paid. The thirty (30) day period specified in Section 9.E.3. of this Ordinance shall not commence unless the proposed plat and supporting materials are complete, and no action by the Council shall be valid unless the filing fees have been paid.
7. The **preliminary plat** is not to be recorded by the County Clerk.

Section 10. Final Plat

A. Requirements

1. **Conformance with the Preliminary Plat.** The final plat and accompanying data shall conform to the preliminary plat as approved by the Commission incorporating any and all changes, modifications, alternatives, corrections and conditions imposed by the Commission.
2. **Appearance and Composition.** The final plat shall be drawn and reproduced in duplicate on photographic mylars acceptable to the Commission. It shall be 24 inches wide and 18 inches long with a margin of at least two (2) inches on the left side of the sheet and margins of not less than one-half (1/2) inch on the other three sides. The plat shall be drawn at a scale not to exceed 200 feet to one (1) inch. When more than one sheet is necessary to accommodate the entire area, an index sheet showing the entire subdivision at an appropriate scale shall be attached to the plat.
3. **Number of Copies, Inclusion of Construction Plans and Supporting Data, and Timing of Submittal.** Fifteen (15) copies of the final plat along with complete construction plans, construction cost estimates, and other supporting data and information as required by this Ordinance shall be submitted to the City Secretary at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the Council meeting at which final plat approval is sought.
4. **Contents of the Final Plat.** The final plat shall include, either on the plat or in the construction plans, all the features required for preliminary plats in Section 9 above. The final plat shall also include the following information on the plat or as an attachment to the plat:
 - a. A brief legal description by volume and page of the appropriate County Deed Records, a complete written legal description by metes and bounds, and the actual metes and bounds of the subdivision, including location of all monuments and primary control points and ties to such control points to which all dimensions, angles, bearings, and similar data in the description are referenced.

- b. The locations, scaled dimensions, names, and description of all existing or recorded streets, alleys, reservations, easements, or other public rights-of-way whether within the subdivision or intersecting or contiguous with its boundary or forming such boundary, and showing accurate dimensions, bearing or deflecting angles and radii, area, and central angle, degree of curvature, tangent distance and length of all curves where appropriate.
 - c. The exact locations, dimensions, descriptions, and names of all proposed streets, alleys, parks, other public areas, reservations, easements or other rights-of-way, blocks, lots, and other sites within the subdivision with radii, area, and central angles, degree of curvature, tangent distance and length of all curves where appropriate. These proposed improvements shall comply with the standards and specifications in, or referenced in, Section 12 of this Ordinance.
 - d. The final plat shall also be accompanied by a complete list of deed restrictions and restrictive covenants which shall be recorded along with the plat.
5. **Requirements for Construction Plans.** The detailed construction plans that shall accompany the submittal of the final plat shall include cost estimates for all proposed site improvements. All plans and engineering calculations shall bear the seal and signature of an engineer, certifying their completeness and accuracy. These site improvements shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- a. Streets, alleys, and walks.
 - b. Sanitary sewer systems, including, where appropriate, treatment and disposal systems.
 - c. Water supply, including, pipes and hydrants and, where appropriate, wells and reservoirs, and pumping stations.
 - d. Storm drainage system, including calculations; and
 - e. Erosion and sedimentation controls, where appropriate.
6. **Statements and Certifications.** The final plat shall also include the following statements and certifications, appropriately executed:

a. Owner's Acknowledgment

STATE OF TEXAS *
 *
COUNTY OF _____*

I (We), the undersigned, owner(s) of land shown on this plat, and designated herein as the _____ subdivision in the City of Niederwald, Texas, and whose name is subscribed hereto, hereby dedicate to the use of the public forever all streets, alleys, parks, water courses, drains, easements and public places thereon shown for the purpose and consideration therein expressed.

Owner
STATE OF TEXAS *
 *
COUNTY OF _____*

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person(s) whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that (s)he executed the same for the purposes and considerations therein stated.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this the ____ day of _____, 19__.

Notary Public in and for the State
of Texas

b. Owner(s)' note incorporated by reference the terms and requirements of this Ordinance and warranting that the owner(s)' rights and obligations run with the land.

STATE OF TEXAS *
 *
COUNTY OF _____ *

I (We), the undersigned owner(s) of the land shown on this plat, warrant that any right, privilege, obligation, or remedy granted to me by the subdivision ordinance and other relevant laws of the City of Niederwald, Texas, shall also run in favor of my successors in interest, assigns, agents, employees, or any person acting pursuant to the directions of any of the foregoing, or under color of the same.

Owner

STATE OF TEXAS *
 *
COUNTY OF _____ *

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person(s) whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that (s)he executed the same for the purposes and considerations therein stated.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this the ____ day of _____, 19__.

Notary Public in and for the State
of Texas

c. Approval of the City Council of City

This plat, _____, has been submitted to and considered by the City Council of the City of Niederwald, Texas, and is hereby approved by such Council.

ATTEST:

BY _____

Secretary

Mayor

d. Certification of the surveyor responsible for surveying the subdivision area, attesting to its accuracy

STATE OF TEXAS *

*

COUNTY OF _____ *

I, the undersigned, a public surveyor in the State of Texas, hereby certify this plat is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and ability and that it was prepared from an actual survey of the property made on the ground with my direct supervision.

Surveyor

Registered

Public

No. _____
State of Texas

[Surveyor's Seal]

e. Certification by engineer responsible for the preparation of the final plat and supporting data and construction plans and cost estimates, attesting to their accuracy.

STATE OF TEXAS *
COUNTY OF _____ *

I, the undersigned, a registered professional engineer in the State of Texas, hereby certify the plat and all plans and specifications which are included with the plat are, to the best of my professional capacity, complete and accurate and in compliance with all relevant City Ordinances, Codes, plans, and relevant State standards.

Engineer _____ Registered Professional
No. _____
State of Texas

[Engineer's Seal]

STATE OF TEXAS *
COUNTY OF _____ *

Goforth Water Supply Corporation, an approved public water supply system has adequate quantity to supply the subdivision and provisions have been made to provide service to each lot in accordance with the policies of the water supply system.

Corporation

f. Owner's Dedication of Common Areas to Homeowners' Association (as appropriate.

A statement signed by the owner and acknowledged by a notary public that, with the approval of the City Council, the owner has provided perpetual maintenance of common areas within the subdivision through a homeowners' association established in the declaration of private covenants, deed restrictions, and regulations.

7. **Disclaimer of Offered Dedications.** Disapproval shall indicate refusal to accept any offered dedications. Approval of the plat shall not be deemed acceptance of such dedications until such time as the Council has approved same by entry, use, or maintenance.

B. Processing of Final Plat

1. **General.** A final plat shall not be filed for recordation with the County Clerk until the Council has approved the final plat and the accompanying constructions plans. Processing for final plat approval shall parallel that described in Section 9.E.1, 2, and 3 of this Ordinance for processing preliminary plats. Within thirty (30) days after the application for final plat approval is formally filed, the Council shall approve or disapprove such plat.
2. **Relation to Preliminary Plat.** A final plat of an approved preliminary plat or a portion thereof shall be submitted to the Commission within sixty (60) days of the date of approval of the preliminary plat. Otherwise, the approval of the preliminary plat by the City Council shall become null and void. No final plat shall be considered unless a preliminary plat has previously been submitted and approved.
3. **Submittal of the Final Plat Application.** A complete, formal application for final plat approval shall be made by the subdivider in writing to the City Secretary at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the official meeting of the Council at which approval is sought. Fifteen (15) copies of the final plat, together with all the accompanying plans and exhibits, shall be filed. The City Secretary or the entity responsible for reviewing the proposed final plat shall determine whether the proposed plat and all required plans and exhibits are complete and fees paid. The fifteen (15) working day period specified in this Paragraph and the thirty (30) day period specified in Section 10.B.1, of this Ordinance shall not commence until the proposed plat and plans and exhibits are complete.
4. **Fees and Taxes.** When the final plat application is filed with the City Secretary, it shall be accompanied by the following fees:
 - a. **Filing Fee:** \$15.00 per acre or any fractional part thereof, with a minimum fee of \$200.00 per plat.
 - b. **Construction Plan Review Fee:** One-half of one percent (0.5%) of estimated total construction costs outside the incorporated limits of the City, and three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) of estimated total construction costs within the corporate limits of the City, with a \$300.00 minimum.

- c. **Construction Inspection Fee:** Five percent (5%) of estimated total construction costs outside the corporate limits of the City, and three percent (3%) of estimated total construction costs within the corporate limits of the City, with a \$500.00 minimum.

5. Council Approval or Disapproval of Final Plat. The Council shall disapprove the proposed final plat unless:

- a. The plat complies with the provisions of this Ordinance; and
- b. The uses proposed for the property being subdivided are consistent with its zoning; and
- c. It conforms to the Master Plan of the City and its current and future streets, alleys, parks, playgrounds, and public utility facilities.

Disapproval of the final plat shall indicate refusal to accept any offered dedications. Approval of the plat shall not be deemed acceptance of such dedications until such time as the City has appropriated same by entry, use, or maintenance, and by the approval of the construction improvements therein. Approval of the final plat, plans, and specifications required herein shall not prevent the Council or the entity responsible for reviewing such documents from thereafter requiring the correction of errors in said plans and specifications and in the construction of the associated improvements.

6. Recordation

- a. **Approval by the Council.** A final plat shall not be filed for recordation with the County Clerk until the Council has approved the final plat and the accompanying construction plans and security and maintenance guarantees as hereinafter required, and certificates have been received from the county tax collectors stating that all taxes on the land being subdivided have been paid to the current year.
- b. **Final Plat Approval.** After the final plat has been finally approved and the subdivider has constructed all the required improvements and such improvements have been approved and accepted by the City and a maintenance guarantee filed as hereinafter provided; or after the final plat has been finally approved and the subdivider has filed the security and maintenance guarantees as hereinafter provided, the developer/owner shall cause the final plat to be recorded with the County Clerk within thirty (30) days.

C. Vacation of Plat, Replat, and Amendment of Plat

- 1. Vacation of Plats.** Any plat, replat or amended plat previously recorded with the County Clerk may be vacated by the property owner(s) at any time prior to the sale of any lot therein by filing a written signed and acknowledged instrument declaring the same to be vacated and recorded with the County Clerk.
- 2.** If one (1) or more lots have been sold, the plat or amended plat may be vacated by the property owners by filing a written signed and acknowledged instrument with the Commission. The vacating instrument must be approved by the Commission and the Council in the same manner as the original plat, replat or amended plat. The Commission and the Council shall disapprove the vacating instrument which abridges or destroys public rights in any of its public uses, improvements, streets, or alleys. Upon approval by the Commission and Council the vacating instrument may be recorded with the County Clerk and the vacated plat, replat or amended plat shall have no effect.
- 3. Replats without vacating preceding plat.** A replat may be recorded and controls over a previously recorded plat without vacation of that plat if the replat is signed and acknowledged by the owners of the property being platted, does not attempt to amend or remove any covenants or restrictions, and is approved, after a public hearing on the matter, by the Commission and the Council.
- 4. Additional requirements for certain replats.**
 - a.** In addition to compliance with Section 10.C.3., a replat without vacation of the preceding plat must conform to the requirements of this section if:
 - i.** During the preceding five (5) years, any of the area to be replatted was limited by an interim or permanent zoning classification to residential use for not more than two (2) residential units per lot; or
 - ii.** Any lot in the preceding plat was limited by deed restrictions to residential use for not more than two (2) residential units per lot.
 - b.** Notice of the public hearing required under Section 10.C.3., shall be given before the fifteenth day before the date of the public hearing by publication in the newspaper and by written notice, with a copy of Section 10.C.4.c. attached, to the owners of any lots that are in the original subdivision and that are within two hundred (200) feet of the lots to be replatted, as indicated on the most recently approved tax rolls.

- c. If the proposed replat requires a variance and is protested in accordance with this subsection, the proposed replat must receive, in order to be approved, the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the members present at the meeting of the Commission and the Council, for a legal protest, written instrument signed by at least twenty percent (20%) of the owners of the lots or land immediately adjoining the area covered by the proposed replat and extending two hundred (200) feet from that area, but within the original subdivision, must be filed with the Commission and the Council prior to the close of the public hearing.
- d. In computing the percentage of land area under Section 10.C.4.c., the area of streets and alleys shall be included.

5. Plat amendments or corrections. The Commission and the Council may approve and issue an amended plat, which may be recorded with the County Clerk and controls over the preceding plat without vacation of the plat, if the amended plat is signed by the applicant(s) and is solely for one (1) or more of the following reasons:

- a. To correct an error in a course or distance shown on the preceding plat;
- b. To add a course or distance that was omitted on the preceding plat;
- c. To correct an error in the description of the real property shown on the preceding plat;
- d. To indicate monuments set forth after death, disability, or retirement from practice of the engineer or surveyor responsible for setting monuments;
- e. To show the property location or character of any monument which has been changed in location or character or which originally was shown incorrectly as to location or character on the preceding plat;
- f. To correct any other type of scrivener's or clerical error or omission previously approved by the Commission and the Council, including lot numbers, acreage, street names, and identification of adjacent recorded plats;

- g. To correct an error in courses and distances of lot lines between two (2) adjacent lots where both owners join in the application for plat amendment and neither lot is abolished; provided, that such amendment does not attempt to remove recorded covenants or restrictions and does not have a material adverse effect on the property rights of the other owners in the plat;
- h. To relocate a lot line in order to cure an inadvertent encroachment of a building or improvement on a lot line or on an easement.
- i. To relocate one (1) or more lot lines between one (1) or more adjacent lots where the owner(s) of all such lots join in the application for the plat amendment; provided, that such amendment does not attempt to remove recorded covenants or restrictions and does not increase the number of lots; or
- j. To make necessary changes to the preceding plat to create six (6) or fewer lots in the plat if the changes do not affect applicable zoning and other regulations of the City, and the changes do not attempt to amend or remove any covenants or restrictions, and the area covered by the changes is located in an area that the Commission and the Council has approved, after a public hearing, as a residential improvement area;
- k. To replat one or more lots fronting on a existing street if the owners of all those lots join in the application for the amendment; the amendment does not attempt to remove recorded covenants or restrictions or increase the number of lots; and the amendment does not create or require the creation of a new street or make necessary the extension of municipal facilities.

Notice, a hearing, and the approval of other lots owners are not required for the approval and issuance of an amended plat.

4. **Fees.** Any application for plat vacation or replat or correction shall be accompanied by the following fees:

- a. **Plat Vacation:** \$500.00
- b. **Replat Filing Fee:** Same as for final plats.
- c. **Plat Correction:** \$500.00

PART IV: GUARANTEE OF PERFORMANCE, STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AND SUMMARY OF FEES (Section 11-13)

Section 11. Guarantee of Performance

- A. **Construction Inspection and Certification.** All plans and actual construction of required improvements shall be inspected by a building inspector designated by the City. No plans or completed construction will be considered for approval or acceptance by the Council without certification from said inspector that such plans and calculations and such construction is complete and that they are in accordance with specifications and standards contained or referenced herein, and/or with plans previously approved for the subject subdivision. The inspector shall make frequent field inspections during the construction period and arrange for testing in accordance with accepted civil engineering practice. The inspector shall submit periodic progress reports to the Council during the construction period. The final responsibility for the adequacy and acceptability of all plans and actual construction of required improvements shall rest with the subdivider.
- B. **Maintenance Guarantee.** The subdivider shall provide documentation of compliance with the Hays County requirements.
- C. **Construction Guarantee.** The subdivider shall provide documentation of compliance with the Hays County requirements.
- D. **Acceptance of Construction.** The City's building inspector shall inspect such improvements upon completion of construction and shall notify the subdivider and the Council in writing as to his acceptance or rejection of the construction. He shall reject such construction if it fails to comply with the standards and specifications contained or referred to herein. If he rejects such construction, the Council shall proceed to enforce the guarantees provided in this Ordinance.
- E. **Extension of Time to Complete Construction.** Extension of time to complete construction is subject to Commission recommendation and Council approval.

Section 12. Standards and Specifications

No preliminary or final plat shall be approved by the Council, and no completed improvements shall be accepted by the Council unless they conform to the following standards and specification:

A. **General**

1. **Conformity with a Master Plan.** The subdivision shall conform to any Master Plans, Codes, Regulations, and Ordinance of the City.
2. **Conformity with the City of Niederwald Zoning Ordinance.** For subdivisions or portions of subdivisions inside the corporate limits of the City of Niederwald, the development standards and specifications of the respective zoning districts covering that subdivision or portion thereof shall supersede any conflicting standards in this Subdivision Ordinance.

3. **Provision for Future Subdivisions.** If a tract is subdivided into parcels larger than ordinary building lots, such parcels shall be arranged to allow the opening of future streets.
4. **Reserve Strips Prohibited.** There shall be no reserve strips controlling access to land dedicated or intended to be dedicated to public use.
5. **Driveways.** Each lot shall have a separate driveway.
6. **Housing.** All housing shall comply with the following standards:
 1. The structure shall be secured on a permanent foundation as defined in this ordinance.
 2. The main roof shall be pitched, rather than flat.
 3. The house shall appear to face the street and have a gabled entry or other such break in the façade of equivalent proportions.
 4. The exterior walls shall look like wood or masonry, regardless of the actual composition.
 5. The foundation shall form a complete enclosure under exterior walls.
 6. Size shall be consistent with other houses in the neighborhood.

B. Streets

1. **Street Layout.** Adequate streets shall be provided by the subdivider, and the arrangement, character, extent, width, grade, and location of each shall conform to the master plan of the City. Proposed streets shall be considered in their relation to existing and other planned streets, to topographical conditions, to public safety and convenience, and in their appropriate relationship to the proposed uses of land to be served by such streets. The street layout shall be devised for the most advantageous development of the entire neighborhood. Trees which are required to be shown on the preliminary plat shall be avoided whenever possible in the construction of streets.
2. **Relation to Adjoining Street System.** Where necessary to the neighboring pattern, existing streets in adjoining areas shall be continued, and shall be at least as wide as such existing streets and in alignment therewith.
3. **Projection of Streets.** Where adjoining areas are not subdivided the arrangement of streets in the subdivision shall make provisions for the proper projection of streets into such unsubdivided areas.
4. **Street Jogs.** Whenever possible, street jogs with center line offsets of less than 125 feet shall be avoided.
5. **Half-Streets of Adjacent Streets.** In the case of local or collector streets, no new half-streets shall be platted.

6. **Street Intersections.** Street intersections shall be at right angles wherever practicable, giving due regard to terrain and topography. In no case will intersections at angles more acute than seventy degrees (70) be permitted.
7. **Dead-End Streets.** Dead-end streets shall be prohibited except as short stubs to permit future extension.
8. **Cul-de-sacs.** In general, cul-de-sacs shall not exceed 600 feet in length, and shall have a turn-around of not less than 100 feet in diameter in residential areas, and not less than 200 feet in diameter in commercial and industrial areas.
9. **Discouragement of Through Traffic on Local Streets.** Local streets shall be laid out so as to discourage their use by through traffic.
10. **Design and Construction Standards.**
 - a. **General.** Street Design proposals shall comply with Hays County regulations as to maintenance, operation, safety and traffic design with due regard to subgrade conditions, base and pavement specifications, grades, curves, speed limits and adequacy of drainage. The subdivider shall excavate, fill, grade and pave all streets, including sidewalk areas. No street shall be surfaced until the underground utilities which are to be installed in the portions of the streets intended for vehicular traffic have been so installed and inspected. Texas Department of Transportation Standard Specifications shall be an accepted guide.
 - b. **Base Types.** Base shall be at least eight (8) inches of compacted crushed limestone or an acceptable equivalent according to Hays County specifications.
 - c. **Surface or Pavement Types.** Surfacing shall be a least one and one-half (1-1/2) inches of hot mix asphalt concrete or an acceptable equivalent according to Hays County specifications.
 - d. **Shoulders.** Where shoulders are required, they shall have a base and be sealed or paved with side slopes no steeper than 12:1.
11. **Streets on Master Plan.** Where a subdivision embraces a street as shown on the Master Plan of the City, such street shall be platted in the location and of the width indicated by the Master Plan. Areawide roadway needs shall be considered by the subdivider to the degree that such needs may relate to the subject subdivision. Areawide needs shall be addressed through the procedures specified in Section 8 of this Ordinance.

12. Pavement Widths and Rights-Of-Way.

- a. Minimum Requirements (See Table I).** Pavement widths and rights-of-way and shoulder width (where required) shall comply with the minimum requirements specified in Table I.
- b. Right-of-Way Coverage.** As a general requirement, the right-of-way shall include the entire traveled way, including shoulders and vehicles recovery area, walkways, and the parallel and contiguous drainageways. Extra widths may be required where these facilities cannot reasonably be placed in the minimum widths specified above. The extra width, however, may be in the form of a right-of-way easement, rather than dedication, and may be vacated should final plans demonstrate a lesser width is sufficient, to comply with Hays County standards.
- c. Streets Abutting the Subdivision.** Where the proposed subdivision abuts upon an existing street that does not conform to Paragraph B.12. of this Section, the subdivider shall dedicate right-of-way sufficient to make the full right-of-way width conform to such Paragraph, and there shall be paved so much of such right-of-way as to make the full pavement width comply with such Paragraph. Before any pavement is laid to widen existing pavement, the existing pavement shall be cut back to assure an adequate sub-base and pavement joint.

13. Drainage

- a. General.** Street drainage shall be collected and conveyed in roadside channels and off-roadway locations shall be used as the primary drainage network whenever practicable.
- b. Standards for Roadside Channels.** Roadside channels shall comply with Hays County Regulations.
- c. Fordable Driveways Preferred.** Roadways shall comply with Hays County Regulations.
- d. Culvert Design and Location.** Driveway culverts shall comply with Hays County Regulations.

TABLE I.
MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR STREETS

<u>Minimum Road Classification Spacing</u>	Minimum Direct	
	<u>Lot Frontage</u>	<u>Driveway</u>
Local Street	50'	None
Minor Collector	100'	75'
Major Collector	150'	120'
Minor Arterial 120'	150'	
Major Arterial 120'	150'	

14. Street Names. Names of new streets shall not duplicate or cause confusion with the names of existing streets, unless the new streets are a continuation of or in alignment with existing streets, in which case names of existing streets shall be used.

15. Street Signs. Street name signs shall be installed by the subdivider at all intersections within or abutting the subdivision. Such signs shall be of a type approved and shall be installed in accordance with the standards of Hays County. Traffic regulatory signs and safety signs shall be installed by the subdivider in accordance with Hays County and State Regulations.

C. Alleys. No alleys will be permitted.

D. Utility Installation & Easements. Each block shall have utility easements reserved for the use of all public utility lines, conduits and equipment. All utilities shall be installed underground.

E. Reserved for future use.

F. Water Installations.

1. Availability of Service. If the subdivision is not to be served immediately by a water utility, a restriction prohibiting occupancy of any lot until water satisfactory for human consumption is available will be in effect.

2. **Water Supply and Distribution.** All items pertaining to water supply and distribution shall be in accordance with the local water supplier regulations.
3. **Fire Hydrants.** Purchase and installation of fire hydrants within the proposed subdivision shall be at the expense of the subdivider and shall be in accordance with the local water supplier regulations and per specifications of the Fire Chief of the City.
4. **Storage and Pumping for Fire Flow.** All items pertaining to storage and pumping for fire flow shall be in accordance with the local water supplier regulations.

G. Sewers.

1. **General.** All subdivisions shall be provided with an approved sewage treatment and disposal system. Where septic tanks are to be installed, the subdivider shall conduct percolation tests, if required, under the supervision of the Caldwell and/or Hays County Health Department or another duly authorized official in order to determine the adequacy of proposed lot sizes. If a sanitary sewer disposal system is to be installed, the plans for such system must be approved by the Texas State Department of Health, prior to approval of the final plat by the Council.
2. **Availability of Service.** Occupancy of any lot shall be prohibited until a septic tank system is installed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Caldwell and/or Hays County Health Department and has been inspected and approved by Caldwell and/or Hays County.
3. **Design Criteria.** Shall be in compliance with Caldwell and/or Hays County Regulations.

H. Utility Lines. All utility lines that pass under a street shall be installed before the street is paved. When it is necessary that utility lines pass under the street pavement, they shall be installed to a point at least two (2) feet beyond the edge of the pavement.

I. Monuments. Shall be in compliance with Caldwell and/or Hays County Regulations.

J. Drainage.

1. **General.** The interpretation of the requirements set forth in this section shall be made by the Caldwell and/or Hays County's Engineer, unless specified otherwise by the Council. The subdivider shall be responsible for the conveyance of all storm drainage flowing through or abutting the subject property, including drainage directed to the property by prior development as well as that naturally flowing by reason of topography.

Where new drainage improvements are required along the boundary of a subdivision, the owner proposing development shall be responsible for designing and constructing all the required improvements at or before the time of development, including the dedication of all necessary right-of-way or easements necessary to accommodate the improvements. Where the subdivider proposes to subdivide only a portion of the property, only the drainage improvements for the portion being subdivided shall be required to be installed, except as drainage improvements outside the portion being subdivided are deemed necessary by Caldwell and/or Hays County for proper drainage of the portion being subdivided.

2. **Drainage Facilities.** The responsibility of the subdivider shall extend to the provision of adequate off-site drainage facilities and improvements to accommodate the full effects of the development of his property. The subdivider will stand the full cost of acquiring said property rights and constructing the off-site improvements and facilities.
3. **Design Criteria.** Shall be in compliance with Caldwell and/or Hays County Regulations. Natural drainage channels shall be preserved whenever possible. Open surface drainage through grass-lined swales shall be preferred over the use of streets and street rights-of-way as the central drainage network. The provisions of Section 12.B.13 shall apply in regard to street drainage. The rate of runoff after construction shall be less than or equal to the site's runoff prior to construction.
4. **Easements.** All drainage easements across private property shall contain the necessary language to permit the required water flow, required maintenance of vegetation by the property owner(s), and permit the necessary access by City Building Inspector for inspection. All easements, twenty-five (25) and one hundred (100) year flood plain boundaries shall be clearly shown on drainage plans and the final plat whenever such plans and plats contain flood plains or floodway segments.

K. Erosion and Sedimentation Control.

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of controlling erosion and sedimentation during the construction stages in a subdivision are to minimize nuisances on adjacent properties, avoid siltation and water quality degradation of streams, and preserve the natural and traditional character of watercourses running through the area.
2. **Required Program.** The subdivider shall be required to submit plans for and execute a program of erosion and sedimentation control during the construction period for the following areas of land: all lands within one hundred (100) feet of a watercourse or drainageway; all lands, including embankments and temporary fill or borrow areas, of a slope greater than

twelve (12) percent gradient; and other sites where the City's building inspector designates within the subdivision.

3. **Required Program.** When a control program is required, the subdivider shall submit as a part of the overall construction plans a complete erosion and sedimentation control plan specifying the type and location of controls to be used, the timing in relation to each stage of the construction sequence, maintenance of controls and plans and techniques to be used for revegetation and slope stabilization. The accepted guides for preparing control plans is the U.S. Department of Agriculture Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for Developing Areas in Texas.

4. **Drainage Channel Stabilization.** All new drainage channels on the site shall be designed to minimize potential erosion. All constructed and altered drainage channels shall be stabilized and vegetated immediately after final grading. All culverts shall be constructed with concrete rip rap around each opening.

L. **Blocks.** Block length shall not exceed 1,500 feet, nor be less than 300 feet.

M. **Lots.**

1. **Minimum Lot Size.** All lots shall consist of a minimum area of one (1) acre. In the case of irregularly shaped lots, the minimum width shall be measured at the front of the building setback line.

2. **Unsewered Lots.**

- a. All lots in a subdivision shall be laid out in such a manner as to facilitate connection to a sanitary sewer system in the future in a logical and orderly fashion.
- b. Commission review and approval of site suitability occur prior to or concurrently with preliminary plat review and approval.
- c. Approval of a subdivision plat under these criteria does not mean that every lot is suitable for a conventional septic tank-soil absorption system. The Council may require, on the basis of recommendation by the Commission, that a plat note or restrictive covenant be attached to the plat and recorded with the County Clerk specifying that lots within the subdivision may not be suitable for conventional septic tank-soil absorption systems.
- d. No water connection will be made for any lot without installation of approved septic or soil absorption system.

- e. No property in the Niederwald area lies within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.
3. **Flag Lots.** Flag-shaped lots shall be prohibited except in unique circumstances where prior ownership boundaries require such a configuration.
 4. **Frontage.** Each lot shall front upon a public street. Lots of irregular shape shall not be allowed unless they have a street frontage of at least one hundred fifty (150) feet. Lots on a cul-de-sac street shall have a minimum street frontage of sixty (60) feet. Lots of irregular shape shall be discouraged.
 5. **Side Lot Lines.** Side lot lines shall be substantially at right angles to straight street lines and radial to curved street lines.
 6. **Minimum Setback Lines.** Minimum front building setback lines shall be required of at least forty (40) feet. Corner lots shall have at least the minimum forty (40) feet.
 7. **Rear Yards.** Minimum rear yard depths of forty (40) feet shall be required.
 8. **Side Yards.** Minimum rear yard width of twenty (20) feet shall be required on each side of interior lots and on the interior side of corner lots.
 9. **Extra Depth and Width in Certain Cases.** Where a lot in a residential area backs up to a railroad right-of-way, a high pressure gasoline, oil or gas line, an arterial street, and industrial area, or other land use which has a depreciating effect on the residential use of the property, and where no street is provided at the rear of such lot, additional depth shall be required by the Council. In no case shall a depth in excess of fifty (50) feet be required. Where a lot sides to any of the above, additional width shall be required by the Council, but in no event shall a width in excess of fifty (50) feet be required.
 10. **Flood Plain Setback Lines.** Where a lot is adjacent to a natural watercourse or drainageway, a minimum building setback line shall be established along the one hundred (100) year flood plain boundary on each such lot. Within the flood plain area, construction of residential structures and other structures intended for human occupancy shall be prohibited. Other construction related to subdivision development, including streets, utilities, and fill material, shall be minimized within the flood plain setback area. Clearing or removal of natural ground cover and trees within the flood plain setback area of a natural watercourse shall be minimized.
 11. **Setbacks Shown on Plat.** The minimum setback lines, minimum lot depths, side yard widths, and other such features as required by the Council and by this Ordinance shall be clearly indicated on the final plat, either by delineation or by statement, and in deed restrictions and private covenants that must accompany the plat.

N. **Easements.** When the Council finds that easements in areas adjoining a proposed subdivision are necessary to provide drainage thereof, or to serve such subdivision with utilities, the subdivider shall obtain such easements.

O. **Parks.** A space equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total property to be subdivided shall be dedicated in fee simple to the City for recreational or conservation use. The developer shall show on the preliminary plat the land that is suggested for such public dedication. The land must be suitable for development of a public park. If it is recommended by the Commission to the Council, that the proposed site is not suitable, the developer will be given prompt notice of such determination and may offer cash in lieu of the dedication of land, such amount to be determined as set forth below, or the developer may offer a revision to the preliminary plat and dedicate land that is acceptable to the Council. Alternatively, the developer may appeal the recommendation of the Commission to the Council, who shall exercise final jurisdiction over all such appeals. In lieu of dedication of land within the subdivision for parks and conservation purposes the developer may, subject to the approval and acceptance by the Council, pay cash in lieu of dedication of park land. The cash contribution shall be determined in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) **Classification Residential:** One hundred twenty-five and no/100 dollars (\$125.00) for each single family lot in the subdivision.

(b) **Classification Commercial:** Five percent (5%) of the raw land value of the area. Raw land value shall be established by a State of Texas registered appraiser at the expense of the developer/owner.

(c) **Classification Public:** Churches, schools and public buildings are exempt and shall not be required to pay cash or dedication land for parks and conservation as a condition to plat approval.

In the event a developer elects to pay cash in lieu of dedication of land for parks and conservation, the cash shall be paid at the time the subdivision plat is approved.

All cash paid in lieu of park land dedication shall be deposited by the City into a special park fund account and shall be spent by the City on the acquisition of park lands or the improvement of park land/or facilities within the City or ETJ within five (5) years after receipt of such funds by the City. The funds shall not be spent for any other purposes. If the funds are not spent within five (5) years the funds shall be paid to the owners of lots in the subdivision on an equitable basis.

No area or facility shall be dedicated for such public purposes unless approved and accepted by the Council.

P. **Responsibility for Payment of Installation Costs.**

1. Any subdivision requiring services to be provided by the City shall obtain advance approval of such extension of services from the Council.

2. In no event shall the City incur any expenses within any subdivision.

Section 13. Summary of Fees

- A. **Variances:** \$50.00 per variance requested.
- B. **Preliminary Conference:** \$300.00 per conference.
- C. **Preliminary Plat Filing Fee:** \$10.00 per acre or any fractional part thereof, with a minimum fee of \$200.00 per plat.
- D. **Final Plat Filing Fee:** \$15.00 per acre or any fractional part thereof, with a minimum fee of \$200.00 per plat.
- E. **Construction Plan Review Fee:**
 - 1. **Outside City Limits:** 0.5% of estimated construction costs, with a \$300 minimum.
 - 2. **Inside City Limits:** 0.3% of estimated construction costs, with a \$300 minimum.
- F. **Construction Inspection Fee.**
 - 1. **Outside City Limits:** 5% of estimated construction costs, with a \$500 minimum.
 - 2. **Inside City Limits:** 3% of estimated construction costs, with a \$500 minimum.
- G. **Park Land Dedication:** 5% of total property to be subdivided or, at the City's option, \$125 per residential lot or a 5% raw land value for commercial lot.
- H. **Plat Vacation:** \$500.00 per plat.
- I. **Replat Filing Fee:** Same as for final plat.
- J. **Plat Correction Fee:** \$ 500.00 per plat.
- K. **Fine for Violations:** Up to \$500.00 per offense per day for as long as the violation continues.

PART V: AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL AND INSPECTOR, RELATION TO OTHER ORDINANCES, SEVERABILITY, ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 14. Authority of the Council and Inspector

The City Council is hereby authorized to promulgate rules, regulations, standards and specifications for construction, installation, design, location and arrangement of streets, curbs, street lights, streets signs, alleys, utility layouts, utility easements, gates for utility easements, sidewalks, water supply and water distribution systems, fire hydrants, sewage disposal systems,

septic tanks, water works, monuments, criteria for drainage easement requirements, drainage facilities, and crosswalks ways.

No such rules, regulations, standard and specifications shall conflict with this or any other Ordinances of the City.

All such improvements shall be constructed, installed, designed, located, and arranged by the subdivider in accordance with such rules, regulations, standards and specifications.

Section 15. Relation to Other Ordinances

Wherever, the requirements of this Ordinance are at variance with the requirement of any other applicable law, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standard, shall apply.

Section 16. Severability

Should any of the various clauses, sentences, paragraphs, sections or parts of this Ordinance be held for any reason invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable as applied to a subdivision or a particular property, building, or structure therein, the same shall not be construed to affect any other valid portion of this Ordinance; but all valid portions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 17. Enforcement Provisions

- A. Any person violating any provision of this Ordinance within the corporate limits of the City shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined an amount not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per offense. Each day that such violation continues shall be a separate offense. Prosecution of conviction under this provision shall never be a bar to any other remedy or relief for violations of this Ordinance.
- B. In the event any provision of this Ordinance is violated within the corporate limits of the City, or outside such corporate limits but within the area of extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City, the City may institute any appropriate action or proceedings in District Court or another Court of Competent jurisdiction to restrain and enjoin the violation of such Ordinance.

Section 18. Waivers

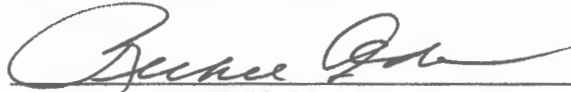
- A. **Authority to Grant Waivers.** Waivers for any requirements of this Ordinance shall be granted only by the City Council unless otherwise specified or prohibited by law.
- B. **Procedure.** Fifteen (15) copies of the request for waiver shall be submitted in writing to the City Secretary no less than eight (8) working days prior to the meeting at which the Planning Commission is to consider the waiver request.
- C. **Reasons for Request.** The request shall specifically and clearly state the section or sections of the Ordinance for which the waiver is being requested and reasons for the request, including any supporting documentation.

- D. **Fees.** Any fees incurred by such request shall be paid by the applicant in full at the time of filing.

Section 19. Effective Date

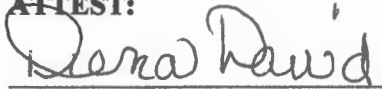
This Ordinance shall become effective on the 6th day of December, 1999.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 6th day of December, 1999



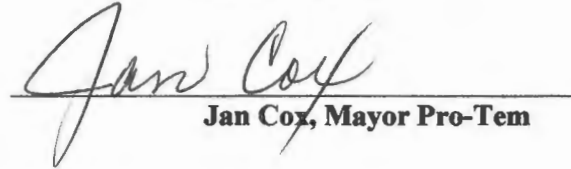
**Rickie R. Adkins, Mayor
City of Niederwald, Texas**

ATTEST:



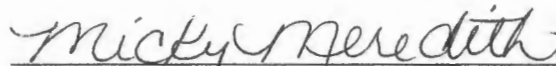
City Secretary

APPROVED:

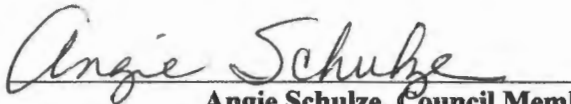


Jan Cox, Mayor Pro-Tem

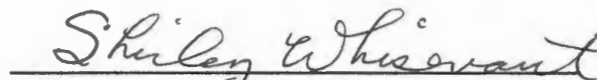
Emma Gaskin, Council Member



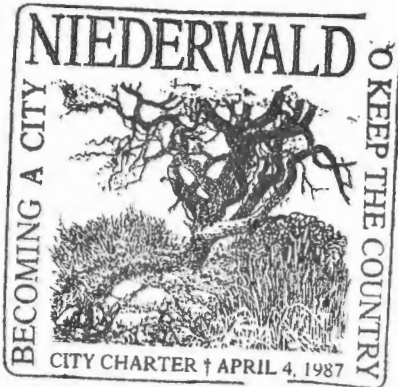
Micky Meredith, Council Member



Angie Schulze, Council Member



Shirley Whisenant, Council Member



Legislative History

This ordinance was passed in order to replace Ordinance 110397-A, as amended, and to update and consolidate all existing ordinances pertaining to subdivisions.