Wells County Area Plan Commission
Requirements for a General Development Plan

Filing and Meeting dates are available at the Area Plan Commission Office and the Wells County Area Plan Commission Web Site (www.wellscounty.org)

Copies of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance and Wells County Subdivision Control Ordinance are available for purchase at the Wells County Area Plan Commission Office or may be viewed and printed online at the Wells County Area Plan Commission Web Site (www.wellscounty.org)

1) FEES
   a. Filing Fee:
      i. $100.00 (Payable to Area Plan Commission) (Staff Development Plan) or
      ii. $200.00 (Payable to Area Plan Commission) (APC Development Plan)
         (Filing fee set forth by the Wells County APC Fee Schedule)
   b. Sign Fee: $15.00 (Payable to Area Plan Commission)
      (Public advertisement sign required by APC Rules of Procedure)
   c. Legal Add: $116.00 (Payable to Bluffton News Banner)
      (Legal advertisement required by IC 5-3-1)
      (Removed if Area Plan Commission Staff approved)

2) Filing
   a. Filled Out and Signed Petition (this document)
   b. Current Deed for the affected property
   c. 5 copies of the survey / plat (Must Be 24” x 36” and prepared by a licensed land surveyor)
   d. Status of any applicable permits from other local, state or federal regulatory agencies
   e. Copy of Notice of Agriculture Activity Form (if property is zoned A-1 or A-R)
   f. If the petitions is not signed by legal owner(s) then applicable Power of Attorney, Trust documents, and/or death certificate(s) are required.

3) APPEAL PERIOD: 30 DAYS
   (State required appeal period set forth in IC 36-7-4 and the Wells County Zoning Ordinance)

* All Fees Are Not Refundable
* As A Petitioner You Are Responsible For Reviewing The Wells County Zoning Ordinance And Subdivision Control Ordinance Requirements For Your Petition. The Area Plan Commission Office Staff Will Be Available To Answer Any Questions You May Have.
* A COMPLETE FILING DOES NOT GUARANTEE APPROVAL. (THE FILING MUST MEET THE APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OF THE WELLS COUNTY ZONING AND SUBDIVISION CONTROL ORDINANCE TO BE APPROVED.)
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PETITION FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVAL: **________________________________________

** This line is to be filled out by the APC Office.

Owner of Real Estate (Petitioner): _______________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________ City: __________ State: _______ Zip: _______

Phone #: ____________________________ E-Mail: __________________________________________

Plans Prepared By: _________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________ City: __________ State: _______ Zip: _______

Phone #: ____________________________ E-Mail: __________________________________________

Property Location: _________________________________________________________________

Property Description: ______________________________________________________________

Proposed Development Plan: _______________________________________________________

Current Zoning Classification: __________

Comes now the (Area Plan Commission’s Staff / Area Plan Commission) and in support of
granting “Petitioner’s” Petition for Development Plan makes the following Findings of Fact, to
wit:

“Petitioner” filed a Petition for a Development Plan as to the following described real estate
located in ____________ Township, Wells County, Indiana; more particularly described on
Exhibit A attached hereto.

The sign as required by the Plan Commission has been duly posted in accordance with the Rules
of Procedure of the Plan Commission more than fourteen days prior to the Plan Commission
hearing. (Removed if Area Plan Commission staff approval)

On ________________, the Area Plan Commission conducted a public hearing on the Petition in
accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Area Plan Commission and the following evidence
was heard. (Removed if Area Plan Commission staff approval)

APC STAFF: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant);
Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
(1) What General Development Plan jurisdiction does this project fall under?  
(Section 14-05 (1) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)  
   a. List ____________________________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________________________  

(2) What is the percentage increase in hard surface for this project? ______________  
(Section 14-05 (2) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)  
(Hard Surface Definition is located in the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 90)  

   ________________________________________________ ÷ ________________ = _______________ X 100  
   Proposed Additional Hard Surface ÷ Preexisting Hard Surface = Increase in Hard Surface  

(3) What General Development Plan approval agency does this project fall under?  
(Section 14-05 (2) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)  
(Circle the one that applies)  
   a. Plan Commission - greater than 25% additional hard surface  
   b. Plan Commission Staff – less than or equal to 25% additional hard surface  

(4) Does your project qualify for the General Development Plan exemption?  
(Section 14-05 (3) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)  
(Hard Surface Definition is located in the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 90)  
(Circle the one that applies)  
   a. (YES) less than or equal to 500 square feet of new hard surface  
      Explain how the proposed general development does not violate or cause a violation to any of the development requirements ____________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  
   b. (NO)  

(5) The property shall be zoned in compatibility with the permitted use section of the Zoning Ordinance.  
(Section 14-05 (4) (A) a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)  
   a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)  
   b. Explain: ____________________________________________________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  
      ____________________________________________________________________  

APC STAFF: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant);  
Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
(6) If the petitioned property abuts property zoned R-1, R-2, R-3, S-1, M-1, M-2, or A-R one of the following buffers shall be installed along the affected property line. However, no portion of the buffer can be located in an easement, right-of-way or site triangle. 1) A minimum of a six (6) foot tall privacy fence or wall. 2) A minimum of a six (6) foot earthen mound. 3) A minimum of two (2) staggered rows that are a minimum of six (6) foot tall coniferous trees. 4) Any combination of the above listed options equaling at least six (6) foot tall. 
(Section 14-05 (4) (A) b) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)
   a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
   b. Explain: ____________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
(7) Any publicly maintained utilities shall be installed in compliance with the adopted standards of the affected community. Written proof shall be obtained from the affected community that the plans meet their minimum standards. 
(Section 14-05 (4) (B) a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66) 
(Section 14-04 (4) (B) a) – 14-04 (4) (B) e) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 63) 
   a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
   b. Explain: ____________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
   c. If YES Please attach a copy of the written proof of compliance.
(8) Any publicly maintained utilities shall be located in a recorded utility easement in favor of the affected community which meets the easement standards set forth in Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Control Ordinance. 
(Section 14-05 (4) (B) a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66) 
(Section 14-04 (4) (B) b) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 63) 
   a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
   b. Explain: ____________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
(9) All taps made to any publicly maintained utilities shall be done in compliance with the adopted standards of the affected community. Written proof shall be obtained from the affected community that the plans meet their minimum standards. 
(Section 14-05 (4) (B) a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66) 
(Section 14-04 (4) (B) c) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 63) 
   a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
   b. Explain: ____________________________________________________________
      ________________________________________________________________
   c. If YES Please attach a copy of the written proof of compliance.
APC STAFF:  Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant); Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
The proposed development shall meet the Storm Water Standards of the Subdivision Control Ordinance and any adopted standards of the affected community. Written proof shall be obtained from the affected community that the plans meet their minimum standards.

(Section 14-05 (4) (B) a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (B) d) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 64)
(Article 7 of the Wells County Subdivision Control Ordinance on Pg. 122)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

c. If YES Please attach a copy of the written proof of compliance.

Any publicly maintained storm water drainage facilities shall be located in a recorded storm water easement in favor of the affected community which meets the easement standards set forth in Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Control Ordinance.

(Section 14-05 (4) (B) a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (B) e) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 64)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

(12) Any driveway access point made to a publicly maintained street shall be constructed in conformance with the adopted standards of the affected community. Written proof shall be obtained from the affected community that the plans meet their minimum standards.

(Section 14-05 (4) (C) (a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (C) a) 1) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 64)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

(13) Driveway accesses should be located directly across from other driveway accesses on the other side of the street from the driveway accesses, unless the Approval Agency finds it not to be feasible.

(Section 14-05 (4) (C) (a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (C) a) 2) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

APC STAFF: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant);
Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
(14) Anytime driveway access is required on an arterial street the use of one (1) of the following access reduction methods shall be installed.

(Section 14-05 (4) (C) (a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)
(Section 14-04 (4) (C) a) 3) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 64)
(See definition of arterial public way in the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 86)

a. Does the Petition require access to an arterial street (YES or NO)

b. If YES, what access reduction method will be utilized?
(Circle the one that applies)
i. Frontage road
ii. Rear collector road
iii. Shared driveway system

c. If YES, explain ________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

(15) The installation of driveway access improvements (deceleration lanes, acceleration lanes, passing blisters, and center turn lanes) shall be required if qualifications found within the most recent version of the Indiana Department of Transportation’s Driveway Permit Manual or Indiana Department of Transportation’s Indiana Design Manual have been met for the specific form of driveway access improvement.

(Section 14-05 (4) (C) (a) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)
(Section 14-04 (4) (C) b) 1) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 64)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: ________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

(16) All setback requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.

(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 66)
(Section 14-04 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 64)
(Section 9-15 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 48)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: ________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
(17) All height requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.

(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (E) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 9-15 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 51)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________
c. What is the overall height? ___________________________________________

(18) All accessory structure requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.

(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (F) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-01 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 53)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________

(19) All fence requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.

(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (G) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-02 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 53)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________

(20) All off street loading requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.

(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (H) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-05 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 54)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
b. Explain: ___________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________

APC STAFF: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant);
Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
(21) All off street parking requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (I) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-06 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 54)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: _______________________________________________________
     _______________________________________________________

(22) All pond requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (J) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-07 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 54-55)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: _______________________________________________________
     _______________________________________________________

(23) All sign requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (K) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-08 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 55)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: _______________________________________________________
     _______________________________________________________

(24) All easement requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (L) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-12 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 56)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: _______________________________________________________
     _______________________________________________________

(25) All lighting requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (M) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-10 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 56)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: _______________________________________________________

APC STAFF: Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant); Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
(26) All site triangle requirements shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (N) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-11 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 56)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: __________________________________________________________
     _________________________________________________________________

(27) All temporary structures shall be met as required by this Zoning Ordinance.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (O) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(Section 11-09 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 55)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: __________________________________________________________
     _________________________________________________________________

(28) All sidewalks shall meet the minimum requirements set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a sidewalk is located in a public right-of-way it shall be installed to the affected communities standards. Written proof shall be obtained from the affected community that the plans meet their minimum standards.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 76)
(Section 14-04 (4) (P) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: __________________________________________________________
     _________________________________________________________________

(29) All development shall be in compliance with all local and state floodplain regulations.
(Section 14-05 (4) (D) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 67)
(Section 14-04 (4) (Q) of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 65)
(See Wells County Ordinance for Flood Hazard Areas on Pg. 129)
  a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)
  b. Explain: __________________________________________________________
     _________________________________________________________________

  c. What flood zones are located on the property? (AE – Floodway, AE, A, or X)
     (Circle all that apply)
Firefighting equipment and prevention measures acceptable to the local Fire Department shall be readily available and apparent when any activity involving the handling of storage of flammable or explosive materials is conducted. All development plans, PUDs, and major subdivisions shall meet fire code standards established by the state of Indiana and the local fire department.

(Section 11-13 of the Wells County Zoning Ordinance on Pg. 56)

a. Does the Petition Meet the Requirement? (YES or NO)

b. Explain: __________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

PETITIONER'S SIGNATURE:

________________________________________________________________________
Signature                     Date                     Signature                     Date

________________________________________________________________________
Signature                     Date                     Signature                     Date

(This petition must be signed by 50% of the owners/sellers. If the power of attorney or the trustee is filing this petition then the proper paperwork shall be submitted proving their title to the Area Plan Commission)
GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

Board of Zoning Appeals Variance(s): ____________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Area Plan Commission / Plan Commission Staff Waiver(s): __________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Conditions or Commitments: ______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Plan Commission Approval Only
Wherefore, based upon the above findings of fact and upon the Motion of ____________, duly
seconded by ____________, the Petition for a Development Plan by “Petitioner” is hereby
granted by a vote of ______ in favor and ______ opposed.

Granted this ____ day of ________, _______.

__________________________
Area Plan Commission President

__________________________
Area Plan Commission Secretary

Plan Commission Staff Approval Only

Wherefore, based upon the above findings of fact and the Petition for a Development Plan by
“Petitioner” is hereby granted.

Granted this ____ day of ________, _______.

__________________________
Michael W. Lautzenheiser, Jr.
Wells County Area Plan Commission
Executive Director

APC STAFF:  Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. (Director); Suzie Gentis (Administrative Assistant);
Tracey Ulmer (Part-Time Clerical)
NOTICE OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY

TO: ALL PETITIONERS IN AGRICULTURAL ZONED AREAS OF WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA

This notice is given to you because of your petition to move into an area of Wells County that is zoned for Agriculture.

The purpose of this notice is to assure you are aware that all agricultural operations are allowed in this area.

Agricultural activity may include, but is not limited to, grazing of livestock, confined feeding of livestock, application of animal manure to land, application of herbicides and pesticides to fields and growing crops, creation of dust from field operations and noise from livestock and machinery operations which includes the drying and transportation of grain, sometimes with machinery that has a “Slow Moving Vehicle” emblem on it, meaning it is traveling at 25 mph or less.

People who choose to live in these areas must understand that agricultural operations may be occurring nearby.

You must also understand that Indiana has a “RIGHT TO FARM” law that protects farm operations from unwarranted nuisance suits by neighbors who move next to an existing farm operation. Farm operations do not constitute a nuisance so long as they are not negligently maintained, do not endanger human health and do not cause bodily injury to third parties.

By signing this notice form you verify that you have received it, read it and understand it.

You are not giving up the right to seek redress for negligence by individuals associated with a farm operation or by other residents of the area.

I, _______________________________ CERTIFY THAT I HAVE RECEIVED THIS NOTICE. I HAVE READ IT AND I UNDERSTAND IT.

______________________________
Printed Name

______________________________
Date