



Easement Vacation Guide

A guide for land use applications in the City of Ramsey

Created January, 2012

Revised January, 2023

Easement Vacation Basics

An easement is a grant by a property owner for use of a strip of land by the public or any person for any specific purpose or purposes of construction and maintaining utilities or roadways.

Application Fee and Escrow

Application Fee (non-refundable): \$500
Minimum Escrow: \$1,000*

*Required escrows are minimum escrows. Remaining surplus shall be refunded to the Applicant after all remaining obligations are completed and accepted by the City. The Applicant shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the City above the minimum escrow. More information is included in Section 2: General Land Use Information portion of this document.

Easement Vacation Procedures

1. Fill out the enclosed applicable application and pay the applicable application and escrow fee. Applications **cannot** be processed until the application and escrow fees have been paid.
2. Provide a detailed description of your request and the reason for vacating the easement (attach a separate request if necessary).
3. Provide a site plan identifying the easement to be vacated, any proposed replacement easements, and any additional information as required by the City.
4. Provide a legal description of the easement(s) to be vacated and any replacement easements.

Easement Vacation Process

1. Applications for Easement Vacation must be submitted to Staff thirty (30) days prior to the Planning Commission meeting (see attached meeting date schedule).
2. The City has 15 days to determine if the application is complete. In the event that the application is incomplete, Staff will notify the Applicant within the 15 days and provide direction on what information is still required.
3. Properties located within at least 350 feet of the subject property will be notified of the request and the public hearing date.
4. City Staff will prepare a report detailing the information related to the request, findings of fact and proposed ordinance.
5. The Ordinance will be introduced by the City Council.
6. At least three (3) days after introduction, the City Council may adopt the Ordinance, which then becomes effective 30 days after publication.
7. The City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

Additional Resources

1. [City of Ramsey – City Code](#) - City Code for the City of Ramsey, outlining rules and procedures for the City.

2. [City of Ramsey - Land Use Application](#) - The application to apply for land use projects including plats, use permits, variances, etc. Complete and send a copy to the City with applicable fees and other application review materials to formally submit an application.
3. [City of Ramsey - Site Plan Guide](#) - A how-to guide for creating a site plan for project submittals. This guide shows all the necessary information required in a site plan, and provides visual examples.
4. [City of Ramsey – ePermits](#) - The City of Ramsey’s online permit application portal. Apply for building, electrical, and zoning permits on this site.
5. [City of Ramsey - ProjectDox](#) (use Microsoft Edge) - The City’s project review portal for applications. City Staff can set up land use projects for developers to upload plans, and receive plans reviewed by the City’s various departments. This portal is also used for permit application review by City Staff.
6. [City of Ramsey – ProjectDox Guide](#) - A how-to guide for first-time users of the ProjectDox website.
7. [City of Ramsey – Land Use Application Review Schedule](#) - The City of Ramsey’s review schedule for land use applications, including review schedules and meeting dates for the Planning Commission and City Council.
8. [Minnesota Department of Health](#) - The State division that reviews health aspects of a project.
9. [Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry](#) - The State division that **issues** plumbing permits and reviews utility permits.
10. [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency](#) - The State agency in charge of preventing pollution of Minnesota’s water, air, noise, and land.
11. [Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization](#) - The local watershed management organization for the City of Ramsey. The LRRWMO reviews development applications that are an acre or larger, in coordination with the City of Ramsey’s Engineering Department.
12. [Metropolitan Council](#) - A planning organization that reviews all proposed developments accessing City sewer and water within the seven-county metro area. Any proposals for Comprehensive Plan Amendments will have to be reviewed by the MetCouncil.
13. [Anoka County - Highway Department](#) - The division of Anoka County that reviews developments adjacent to county roads and highways such as Ramsey Blvd, Armstrong Blvd, and Nowthen Blvd in the City of Ramsey.
14. [Anoka County – Public Health and Environmental Services](#) - The division of Anoka County that reviews public health aspects of a project, such as a new restaurant.
15. [Minnesota Department of Transportation – Metro District Planning, Development Review](#) - The State transportation division for reviewing developments adjacent to State highways, such as Highway 47 (St. Francis Blvd NW) and Highways 10/169 in the City of Ramsey.
16. [Environmental Quality Board](#) - They administer the State Environmental Review requirements for certain larger projects.