



CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

245 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601
Office: (315) 785-7740 – Fax: (315) 785-7829

Zone Change Application Instructions

Applications should be addressed to the “Honorable Mayor and City Council,” and submitted to the following address:

Engineering Department, Room 305
245 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

And submitted electronically in PDF format on a CD or by email:

planning@watertown-ny.gov

Applicants must submit **15 hard copy application sets**, plus a **16th hard copy** if County review is required. Each set must contain each of the following:

- A detailed cover letter describing what the applicant seeks to establish (i.e. the proposed zoning district, the proposed future use of the property, and any other information that will aid the Planning Board and the City Council in comprehending the petition).
- Written support of the adjoining property owners and/or residents, if possible.
- The applicant’s contact information, including a phone number and email address if available.
- A schematic drawing, if applicable, of the proposed development.
- If available, the metes and bounds description of the property or properties proposed for change. This can typically be found in the property deed.
- A copy of the tax map showing the proposed change area, with the area highlighted in bold marker.
- A completed State Environmental Quality Review Act assessment form (attached). Most changes will require just the attached short form. Larger projects may require a longer assessment form—contact the Planning Office for more information.

At the time of submittal, applicants must remit a **non-refundable \$100.00 fee**, in the form of cash or check payable to the City of Watertown.

Zone change requests will be heard by the Planning Board and the City Council. The Planning Board makes a recommendation, and City Council makes the final decision. Prior to the final vote, the Council is required by law to hold a public hearing.

The Planning Board meets the first Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm. All requests must be submitted **two weeks before the scheduled meeting**, and only those requests included on the prepared meeting agenda will be considered.

Starting from the submittal deadline, the process usually takes 6 to 8 weeks.

In the case of a request for a Planned Development District, the request shall contain all the additional data stipulated in Section 310-12 of the Zoning Ordinance.

A zone change by the City Council will not be considered complete and established until copies of the resolution affecting the change have been filed with the City Clerk and the City Engineer, and the official zoning map is marked to show the approved change.

Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 1 - Project Information

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 - Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information				
Name of Action or Project:				
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map):				
Brief Description of Proposed Action:				
Name of Applicant or Sponsor:		Telephone:		
		E-Mail:		
Address:				
City/PO:		State:	Zip Code:	
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO	YES
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			NO	YES
3.a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres				
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres				
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres				
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Parkland				

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations? b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	NO	YES	N/A
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____ _____	NO	YES	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels? b. Are public transportation service(s) available at or near the site of the proposed action? c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near site of the proposed action?	NO	YES	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____ _____	NO	YES	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____ _____	NO	YES	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____ _____	NO	YES	
12. a. Does the site contain a structure that is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic Places? b. Is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area?	NO	YES	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency? b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____ _____ _____	NO	YES	
14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban			
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES	
16. Is the project site located in the 100 year flood plain?	NO	YES	
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)? If Yes, briefly describe: <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES _____ _____	NO	YES	

<p>18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?</p> <p>If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility?</p> <p>If Yes, describe: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste?</p> <p>If Yes, describe: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</p> <p>Applicant/sponsor name: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p>		

Project:

Date:

***Short Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Impact Assessment***

Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept “Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?”

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?		
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?		
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?		
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?		
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?		
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?		
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:		
a. public / private water supplies?		
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?		
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?		
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?		
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?		
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?		

Project:

Date:

Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 3 Determination of Significance

For every question in Part 2 that was answered “moderate to large impact may occur”, or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.

Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

Name of Lead Agency

Date

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)