



2030 COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE PROTECTION PLAN



City of Lake Elmo, Minnesota

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
Section 1. Historic Preservation.....	1
Section 2. Solar Access.....	1
Section 3. Aggregate Resources.....	2

LIST OF MAPS

	Page No.
Aggregate Resources Map.....	4

SECTION 1. HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. Historic Preservation

Lake Elmo was once a part of Oakdale Township which was organized in 1858. Then in 1926, the Village of Lake Elmo split from the township and later became the City of Lake Elmo.

The City of Lake Elmo understands the importance of preserving its heritage, and it supports preservation of its cultural, architectural, and historic heritage. The Washington County History Network provided a 1994 inventory of historical sites in Washington County, twenty-nine of which were located in Lake Elmo. One of the twenty-nine locations was a site on the State Register of Historic Places as of 1994. The City will work with the Oakdale Lake Elmo Historical Society and Washington County Historical Society to further protect and preserve aspects of its historic record.

SECTION 2. SOLAR ACCESS

2. Solar Access

Solar access is a serious issue which communities need to account for through forward-thinking local planning and ordinances. The biggest obstacle to solar energy use in Minnesota is the lack of protected access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems.

All solar energy systems, both passive and active, need to have direct sunlight fall on their collectors to function properly. Structures, trees or other objects that come between the sun and the solar collector will shade the collector and reduce its efficiency. Protecting solar access means adjacent structures or vegetation are prevented from shading solar collectors (or the probable location of future collectors.)

In Lake Elmo, solar access protection should be reasonable to implement because most existing homes are situated on large lots and many areas of the city are planned to continue to develop in an open space and larger lot context. The height and setback requirements set in the City's zoning ordinance also assists in preservation of solar access for each residential lot.

Development in portions of the city planned for higher density development, including the Village Area, will address solar access as the areas are planned. The City has recently completed an Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) for

the Village Area. Within the mitigation plan outlined in the AUAR, the city has committed to requiring the use of conservation development design and/or Low Impact Development principles and that neighborhood development and buildings incorporate Leadership in Energy Efficiency and Design (LEED) principles, or their equivalent. Development standards for the Village will encourage the use of solar energy when appropriate.

The city supports efforts to encourage solar access when feasible and when facilities can be designed to preserve and balance the natural resources on a site.

SECTION 3. AGGREGATE RESOURCES

3. Aggregate Resources

In 2000, the Metropolitan Council in cooperation with the Minnesota Geological Survey produced a report entitled “Aggregate Resources Inventory of the Seven-County Metropolitan Area, Minnesota.” The report indicated that there are deposits of unencumbered natural aggregate (sand and gravel) as well as natural aggregate (sand and gravel) that had been urbanized or mined within Lake Elmo.

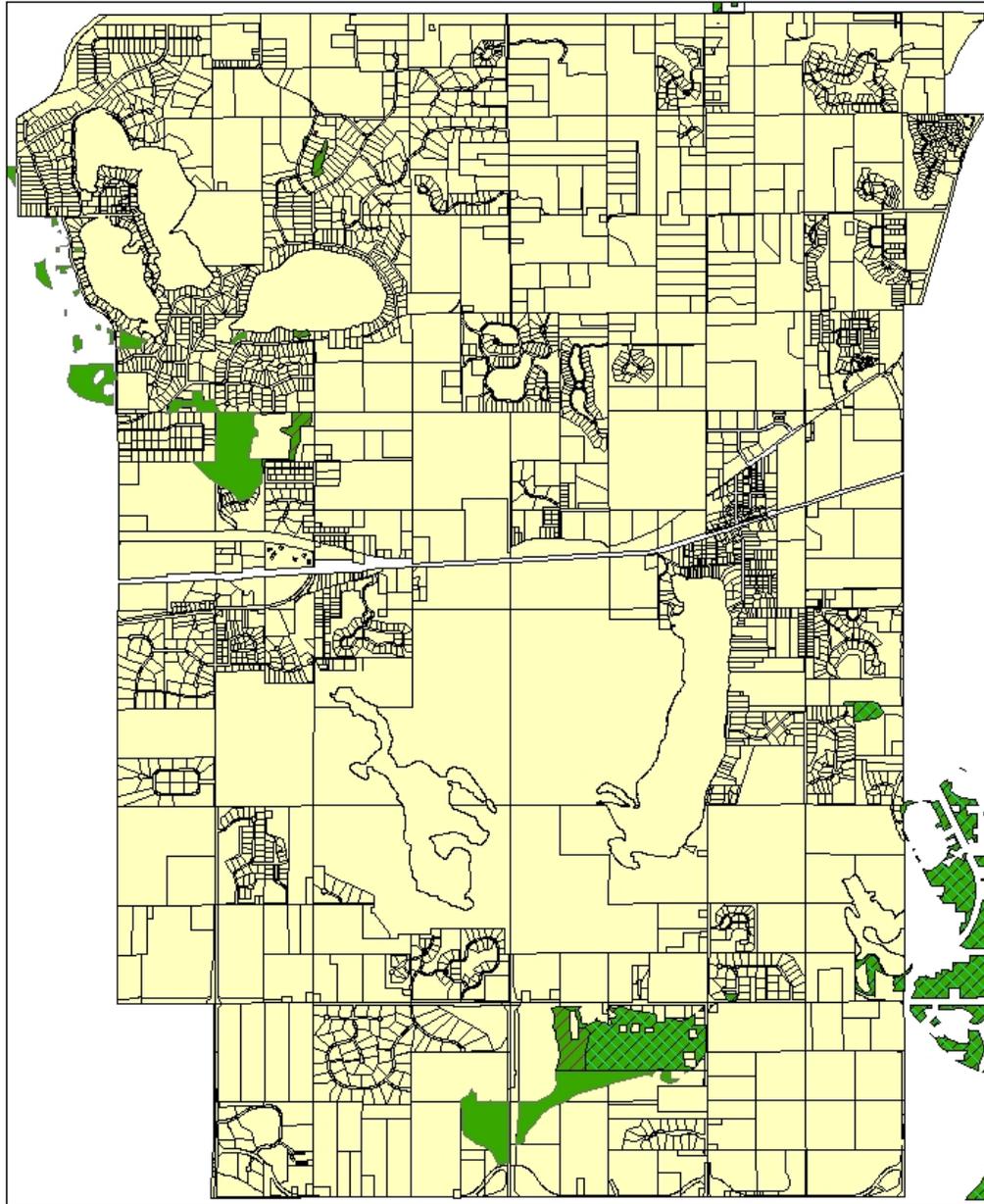
The two areas identified in the Aggregate Resources Inventory report as unencumbered natural aggregate (sand and gravel) resources are the location of two existing mining operations within Lake Elmo.

Hammes Sand and Mining Company currently operates one of the two gravel pits currently providing aggregate materials. The Hammes Company operates in the southern area of Lake Elmo near Keats Avenue and 10th Street. City records indicate the property has been operating a mining operation in that location since 1959 and is operating currently under a conditional use permit. This area is guided for the conversion to sewered residential use between 2020 and 2030. In preparation of the conversion from a mining area to residential uses, the city, applicant, or developer will undertake the necessary environmental studies and permits to ensure that aggregate resources are extracted prior to urbanization.

Shafer Contracting Company owns the other unencumbered natural aggregate resource area in Lake Elmo identified in the Aggregate Resources Inventory report. This almost sixty-seven acre property is located with frontage along Jamaca Avenue North in the western area of the city. This property is guided for rural agricultural density of 0.45 residential dwelling units an acre. The necessary and applicable studies and permits will be completed by the city, applicant, or developer at such time the property is proposed to be developed.

Other areas identified in the Aggregate Resources Inventory study within Lake Elmo are natural aggregate areas that have been urbanized or mined as of 1997.

Countering the advantages of a locally available source of gravel is the nuisance aspect of gravel mining. Gravel mining generates dust, noise and heavy truck traffic. Mining activities do have an adverse impact on adjacent residential areas. However, the Lake Elmo City Code regulates the permitting requirements and operating conditions of mining facilities, in part to address and minimize potential land use conflicts.



Aggregate Resources Map

Lake Elmo Comprehensive Plan 2030

Map Date: April 22, 2009
 Created by: Lake Elmo Planning Department



Sand and Gravel Deposits

2040 Aggregate

 Class 7

2020 Aggregate

 Class 7

1997 Aggregate

 Class 7