



ITEM REPORT
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 8/12/2025
Agenda Section: New Business

TO: Baxter Planning and Zoning Commission
Matthew Gindele, City Planner & Chief Maier, Chief of Police

FROM:

REQUEST: Consider amendments to the City Hunting Map

APPLICANT: City of Baxter
N/A

ZONING:

Background and Request

The City of Baxter is requesting amendments to the City's Hunting Map. Specifically, the City of Baxter has hunting regulations and a Hunting Map that indicates where certain types of hunting is allowed and where hunting is not allowed. As land use changes occur within the City, the Hunting Map should be re-evaluated to see if changes need to be made to the map.

Hunting Zones

The City's Hunting Map (attached) delineates every property in the City into one of five zones as follows:

- No Hunting
- Archery Only Zone
- Shotgun & Archery Only Zone
- Muzzleloader / Shotgun & Archery Zone
- Managed Archery**

The majority of the City is located in the No Hunting zone. Properties that are permitted for hunting are generally larger properties or properties that are in rural areas of the City. To help manage deer numbers within Baxter, the City has allowed larger properties adjacent to residential areas and those residential lots adjacent to large vacant tracts of land in the Archery Only Zone. Shotgun and muzzleloader is allowed only when property for hunting is at least 500 feet from dwelling or occupied building.

The following areas are currently proposed for consideration:

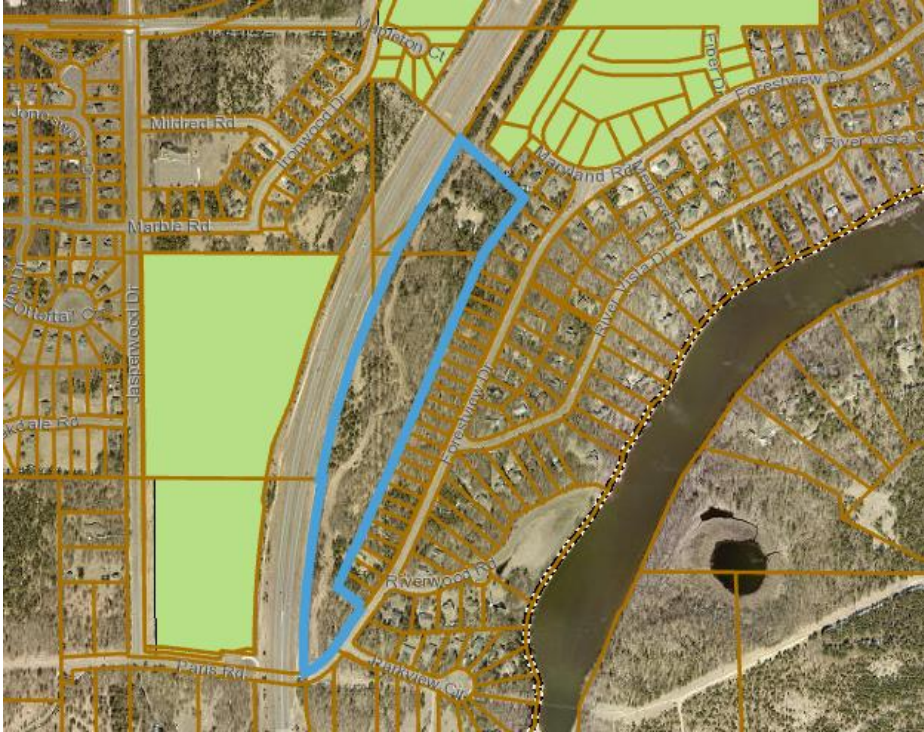
Project Area One – 16025 Edgewood Drive



The City received a request from the unofficial “Deer Management Committee” (which is comprised of Baxter residents and staffed by the police department) to add the outlined property in the image above to the hunting map to be allowed for archery only hunting. The property owner has also signed off on the request via email received on August 8, 2025. The subject property is 13.5 acres in size and has split zoning on it with Commercial/Industrial on the north half and Medium Density Residential on the south half. The subject property has an existing home on it and is flanked by open space on all sides, which primarily consists of wetlands. The request has been reviewed in conjunction with the police department.

Staff recommends that this property be added to the “Archery Only” zone on the 2025 hunting map.

Project Area Two – City land behind Forestview Acres



The City is requesting that the City-owned property outlined in the image above be added to the “Managed Archery Only” zone on the 2025 hunting map. This property was previously in the “Archery Only” zone but was removed from it for the 2024 hunting season since, at the time, the property was being used as a temporary access road while the City completed a street/water/sewer project in the south Forestview area. That project has been completed and the property is no longer being used as an access road, although there is a trail through it. The total area of the property is approximately 27 acres and is 170 feet wide at the pinch-point on the south end but quickly widens out to over 400 feet wide. The request has been reviewed in conjunction with the police department.

Staff recommends that the property identified in the image above be added to the “Managed Archery Only” zone.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission review the Hunting Map Amendment options and recommend specific map amendments to the City Council.

Specifically, staff recommends that Project Area 1 be added to the “Archery Only” hunting zone and Project Area 2 be added to the “Managed Archery Only” hunting zone on the 2025 Hunting Map.

Attachment

1. 2024 City Hunting Map