New View Renovations

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To the Planning and Zoning Board,

We're writing on behalf of one of our clients, Darlene Schrader, who lives at 12609 Chestnut Drive, Baxter, Minnesota, 56425. She's an elderly homeowner hoping to extend her front deck just a little further than current city setbacks allow. We're requesting a variance to help make this possible.

Right now, the space allowed by code is too tight to safely fit both a sitting area and a clear walking path. Our client would love to enjoy her deck for relaxing outside but also needs enough space to walk through without having to navigate around furniture. As it stands, there just isn't enough room for both.

Another key reason we're asking for this exception is because part of the plan includes moving the stairs so they're no longer directly in front of the front door. This change would create a much safer entrance, allowing her to step out onto a flat landing before reaching the stairs — a big improvement in terms of stability and reducing the risk of falling.

This deck extension isn't about luxury — it's about safety, function, and helping an aging homeowner stay independent in her own home. The extended portion would remain uncovered and modest in size, and we believe it won't have any negative effect on the neighborhood or nearby properties.

We understand the importance of zoning rules, and we don't take this request lightly. But in this case, we believe the situation merits a little flexibility. We're happy to provide drawings, photos, or attend a meeting if you'd like to discuss it further.

Thank you so much for considering this request.

Sincerely, Benjamin Schrader New View Renovations Phone: 218-251-7762

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