

August 1, 2026

My name is Elizabeth Lopez and I purchased my home at 240 Bay Oaks Drive in 1996. When I purchased the home it was a 3 bedroom, 1 bath and my lot size was 50' x 120'. It was then that I was made aware that Bay Oaks Subdivision, when developed, were all lots measuring 50' wide. Unfortunately, like so many others, I lost my home due to Hurricane Katrina. I was blessed with the option to purchase the same sized lot next to mine, making my lot 100' x 120'. This allowed us to build a larger single story home which we did in 2008.

After my father passed away, my siblings and I were concerned for my mother being alone in an aging home with stairs. My neighbors, Jim and Angie, who live at 244 Bay Oaks Drive, owned lots 41 and 43 (100' frontage). I asked if they would sell me 60' of those lots in order to build a cottage for my mother to live in. They agreed and with the council's approval, we built my mother a 2 bedroom, 2 bath home 7 years ago.

It was very convenient having my mother right next door. It became very important the last three years as she needed constant care due to her health and the onset of dementia. My mother sadly passed away on July 3rd. We have no need for her cottage and would like to recoup not only the cost of building the cottage but the large amount of money it required to care for her.

After researching the tax rolls online, it would appear there are still a very large number of lots on this street which are well below the 100' of width required as well as the size of 12,000 square feet. I will list a few below:

- Lot 117 50x124
- Lot 119 50x124
- Lot 122 62.5x124
- Lot 120 62.5x124
- Lot 125 61x124
- Lot 127 61x124
- Lot 194 63x123
- Lot 209 50x121
- Lot 215 50x121
- Lot 219 50x121
- Lot 225 50x121
- Lot 232 50x121
- Lot 238 50x120
- Lot 253 50x119
- Lot 255 50x119

Some of these lots have homes on them and some are unimproved. Many of which are even smaller than the one my Mother's cottage is on. To be clear we are requesting the approval of our lots size 7,220 square feet, the lot width of 59.70 feet and a side yard variance as well.

My husband and I are hoping that you please approve our request. Thank you