

**PETITION NUMBER: V25-10** 



PROPERTY INFORMATION 0 Freemanville Road - Parcel ID 22 439004550087

O Freemanville Road - Parcel 22 439004550152

**DISTRICT, LAND LOT** 2/ 455 & 456

OVERLAY DISTRICT Rural Milton

**EXISTING ZONING** AG-1 (Agricultural)

ACRES 50.9 acres (combined)

**EXISTING USE**Blakely Manor Subdivision Under Development

**FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION** Equestrian, Estate, Residential

## **REQUESTED VARIANCE(S):**

**Sec. 3.1.4.A. – Unified Development Code**. To reduce the 60 feet minimum front yard to 50 feet for thirty-six (36) total lots in the proposed Blakley Manor Subdivision.

**PETITIONER/OWNER** David Chatham

ADDRESS 5780 Windward Parkway

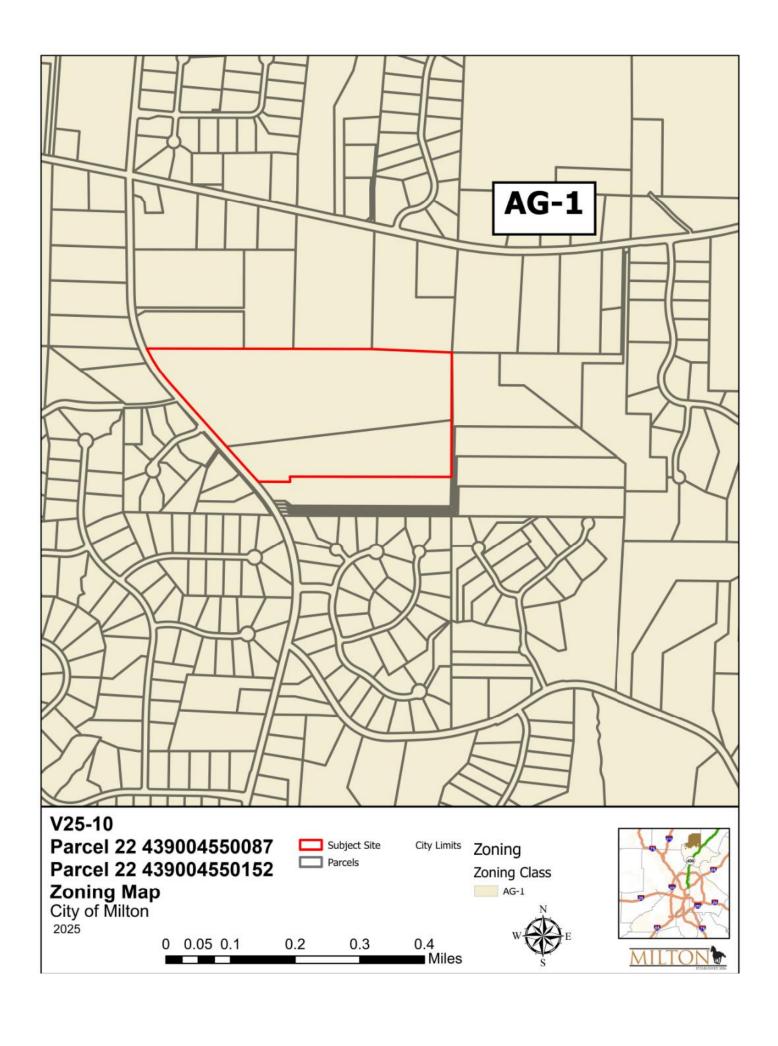
Alpharetta, GA 30005

**REPRESENTATIVE** Scott Reece, Brumbelow-Reese and Associates, Inc.

ADDRESS 13685 Highway 9 N

Milton, GA 30004





#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF ANALYSIS

#### **Background:**

The subject site includes thirty-six (36) lots for the Blakely Manor Subdivision under development located on the east side of Freemanville Road. The two parcels that encompass the proposed subdivision include 0 Freemanville Road - Parcel ID 22 439004550087 (35.5 acres) and 0 Freemanville Road - Parcel ID 22 439004550152 (14.59 acres) for a total of 50.9 acres.

The properties are zoned AG-1 (Agricultural) and located in the Rural Milton Overlay District. Applicable setbacks for the lots within the proposed Blakely Manor Subdivision are a 60-foot front setback, 50-foot rear setback, 40-foot side street setback and 25-foot side interior setbacks. The applicant is seeking the following variances:

**Sec. 3.1.4.A. – Unified Development Code**. To reduce the 60 feet minimum front yard (setback) to 50 feet for thirty-six (36) total lots in the proposed Blakley Manor Subdivision.

The proposed Blakely Manor Subdivision has a depth of 2,492 feet and a width of 1,108 feet as shown on the variance site plan in **Exhibit A**. The Preliminary Plat for Blakely Manor was approved on April 4, 2024, and the Land Disturbance Permit was issued by the Community Development Department on June 18, 2024.

The applicant is also proposing the following setback increases as shown in **Exhibit B.** 

- **Increase** the 50 feet rear yard (setback) to 60 feet for all thirty-six (36) lots.
- **Increase** the rear 10 feet pool, pool equipment and pool decking setback to 20 feet for all exterior lots.

Site photos of the property are shown in **Exhibit C**.

### **DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (DRB) COURTESY REVIEW:**

On April 1st the DRB met and had the following comments:

DRB recommends approval of the variance requests. The Board acknowledged that
the variance requests would move the front setback for all lots closer to the internal
subdivision street, and move the rear setback for all lots farther away from the exterior
bordering property owners. The Board also acknowledged the benefit of the pool
setback being increased for all exterior bordering property owners.

#### **Standards for Consideration:**

The approval of a variance is based on the following consideration(s):

Relief, if granted would not offend the spirit or intent of this UDC.

There are such extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions pertaining to the particular piece of property that the literal or strict application of this UDC would create an unnecessary hardship due to size, shape or topography or other extraordinary and exceptional situations or conditions not caused by the variance applicant.

Relief, if granted would not cause a substantial detriment to the public good and surrounding properties.

That the public safety, health, and welfare are secured, and that substantial justice is done.

## The applicant response:

• Please see the letter of appeal.

#### **Recommended Condition from staff:**

If approved, Staff recommends the following condition:

- Per the Blakely Manor Subdivision variance site plan from Brumbelow-Reese and Associates, Inc received on March 14, 2025 by the Community Development Department.
- The 50 feet rear yard (setback) shall increase to 60 feet for all thirty-six (36) lots.
- The 10 feet pool, pool equipment and pool decking setback shall increase to 20 feet for all exterior lots.

### **Letter of Appeal**

## BRUMBELOW-REESE & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Land Surveyors, Land Planners, Development Consultants
13685 Highway 9 N
Milton, Georgia 30004
Phone 770-475-6817
Fax 770-569-4948
Email: office@Brumbelow-Reese.com

March 19, 2025

Michael Cardamon City Of Milton 2006 Heritage Walk Milton, GA 30004

Re: Blakely Manor Subdivision Variance Application

Dear Mr. Cardamon:

We are working with Chatham Neighborhoods in the development of Blakely Manor Subdivision located on Freemanville Road. The property is 50 acres, zoned AG-1. The property was approved for a 36 lot residential subdivision and is under construction at this time. The current permitted Building Setback Lines are: 60 foot front, 25 foot side, 50 foot rear, and 40 foot corner. During the permitting and construction phase of the subdivision, adjoining property owners voiced concerns about the proximity of construction. The engineering of stormwater management dictated areas of disturbance and limited the applicants ability to not disturb certain areas of the property. After considering all options the applicant has decided to petition for a reversal of the front and rear setbacks. The reversal of the building lines would create an additional 10 feet of separation of all structures from the rear property line. The applicant is seeking variances to the UDC for Section 3.1.4.(A), reduce the front setback to 50 feet, Section 3.1.4.(D) increase rear setback to 60 feet, additionally the applicant is increasing the rear pool setback from 10 feet to 20 feet on all exterior lots (Section 8.8.19 (2)(b)(ii). The subdivision is private with gated streets limiting the access. If the variances are granted the residences would be located 60 feet from the back of curb on internal streets. The applicant is not seeking any increase in density or additional building area, Approval would allow for increased rear yards and less impact to adjoining properties.

The proposed variances would not offend the spirit of the ordinance as there are 13 existing subdivisions developed via the former CUP regulations in the Rural Milton overlay, 3 of which are located on Freemanville Road with over 300 lbts. The CUP developed properties have front building lines of 30 feet or less. The granting of these variances does provide precedence and allows for a product that provides additional protection for adjoining properties. The property is the first development that we have permitted since the city enacted the 150 foot minimum lot width for AG-1 zoning. Standard/typical lot configuration is now 150 feet wide x 300 feet deep versus the former 100 feet wide x 430 feet deep design. The increase in house size and the majority of properties desiring pools has placed unique pressure on rear yard area. The

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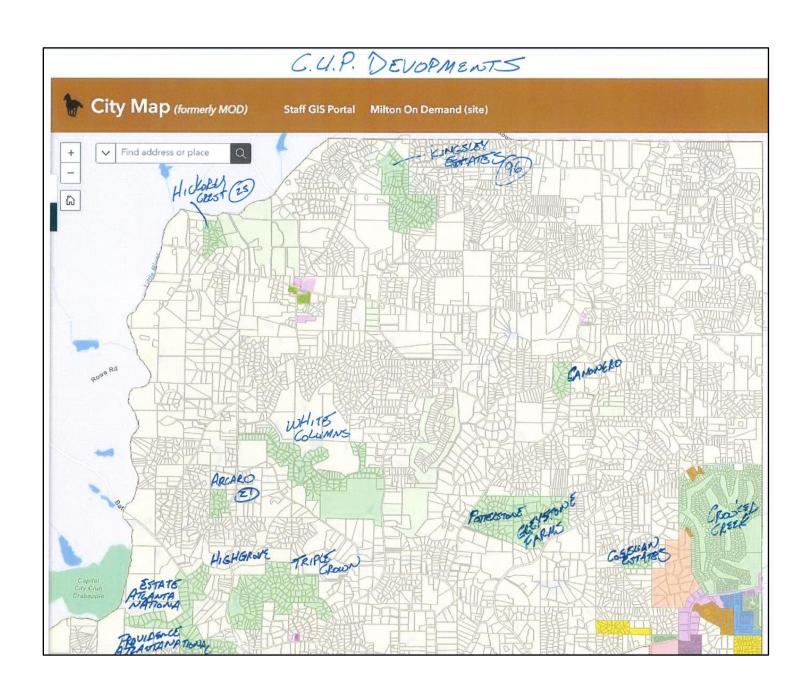
topography of the subject property with its multiple drainage areas and the stormwater management has created unique designs for this property. These exceptional conditions have created a need for the variances to provide for the best product for the applicant and the surrounding area. The proposed variances only address development on interior private streets and will not be visible to the general public. The aforementioned fact and the existence of multiple communities developed with less front setback in the general area demonstrates that relief if granted would not cause a substantial detriment to the public good or surrounding properties. The allowance of the proposed residences to be constructed 50 feet from the right of way of internal streets and increasing the rear build setback by 10 feet in no way harms the public safety, health and welfare. Approval of the variances would allow an improved development and insure that substantial justice is done.

Sincerely,

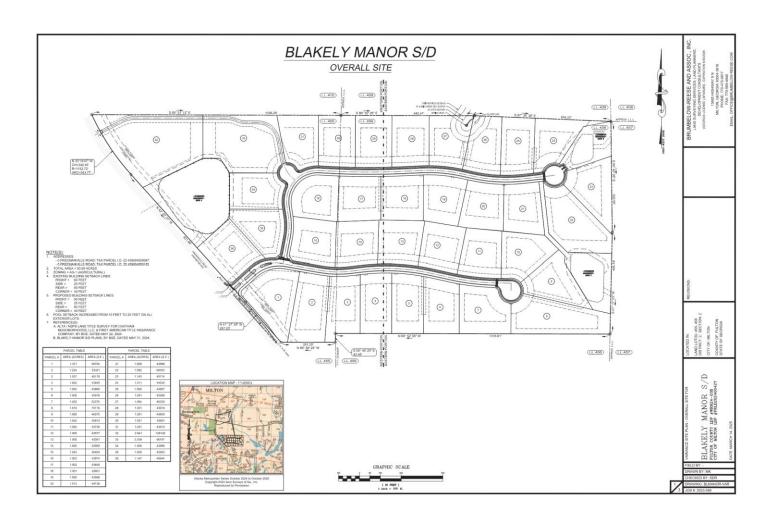
BRUMBELOW-REESE & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Scott D. Reece

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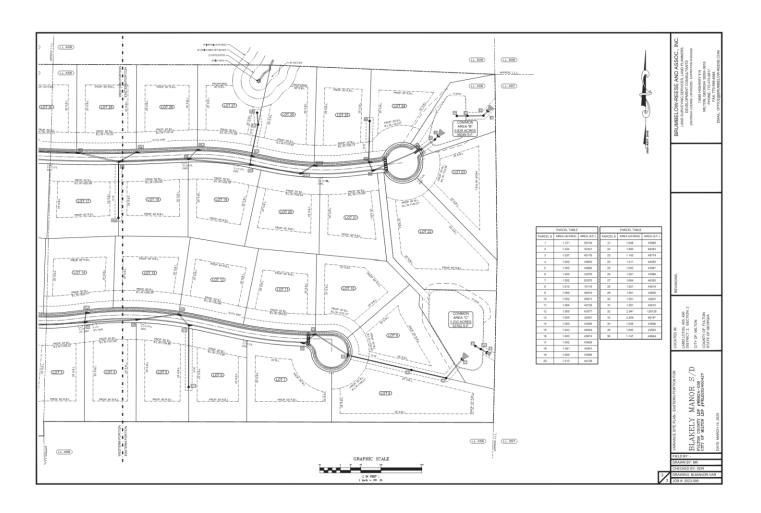
## Exhibit A (Blakely Manor Variance Site Plan)



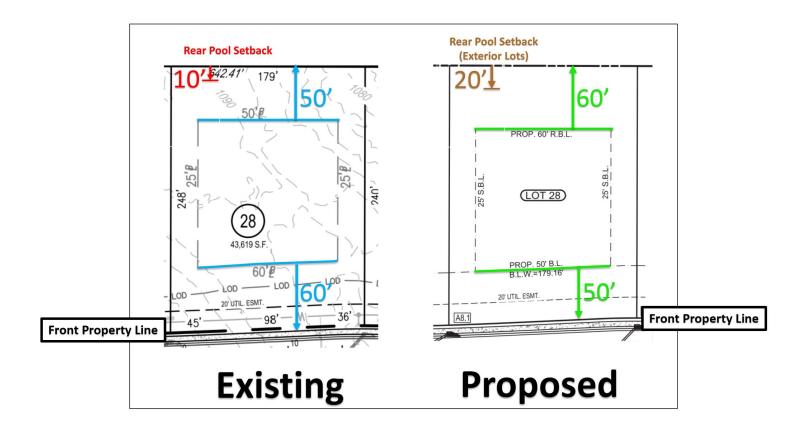
# Exhibit A (Blakely Manor Variance Site Plan - Zoomed)



## Exhibit A (Blakely Manor Variance Site Plan - Zoomed)



## Exhibit B (Existing vs Proposed)



# Exhibit C Site Photos View to the West (Freemanville Road)



View to the West (Freemanville Road) Von Lake Subdivision



Site Photos (North Side of Blakely Manor)





Site Photos (East Side of Blakely Manor)





Site Photos (South Side of Blakely Manor)



