



Dear Lent Township resident –

This letter is to inform you of major changes regarding the future of Lent Township. Recently, the Township Board of Lent began discussions on merging with the City of Stacy.

Many of you may be wondering why we are considering this merger. In short, a township is basically a placeholder for cities. According to the Minnesota Statute 414.01, at any point a city can come and annex any part of a township and we have little to no control over what is taken. In a number of years our township could be picked apart by our surrounding cities until our tax base is so small we won't be able to provide the township what is needed - good roads, parks, etc. With the extension of County Road 17 looming in the near future, this could easily be sooner than later. We, the Lent Township Board, prefer our community of Lent to remain intact and the only way to do that is to approach the City of Stacy and request a merger.

A committee of Lent community members was formed at the Annual Meeting in March and these people met weekly to come up with concerns and requests they would like considered during discussions with the City of Stacy. Since that time the Lent town board has had a number of meetings with the City of Stacy and feel we have come up with a reasonable annexation agreement.

There have been a number of snags in these plans so far. Chisago City has contacted us and has stated that they are planning to annex the SE side of Lent, east of Carlos Avery. North Branch has also informed us that they have been approached by northern Lent residents who would like to be annexed to the City of North Branch.

***This letter is an invitation to come to our informational meeting on Monday, July 25, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Lent Town Hall at 33155 Hemingway Avenue, Stacy, MN 55079 to get more information.*** If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please feel free to contact one of the board members below or the Lent Town clerk, Kelly at [clerk@lenttownship.com](mailto:clerk@lenttownship.com)

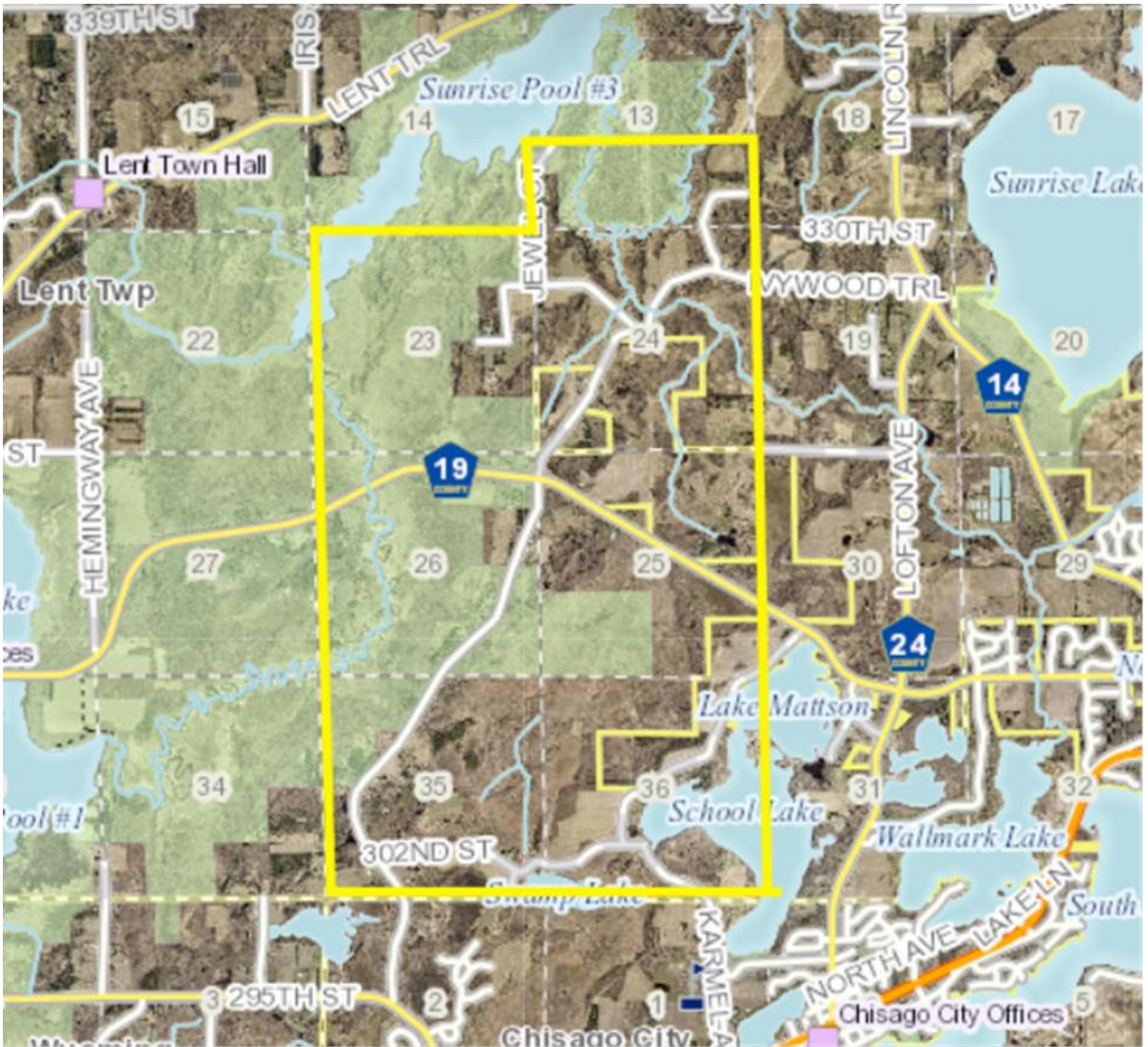
We appreciate your time,

Lent Township Board

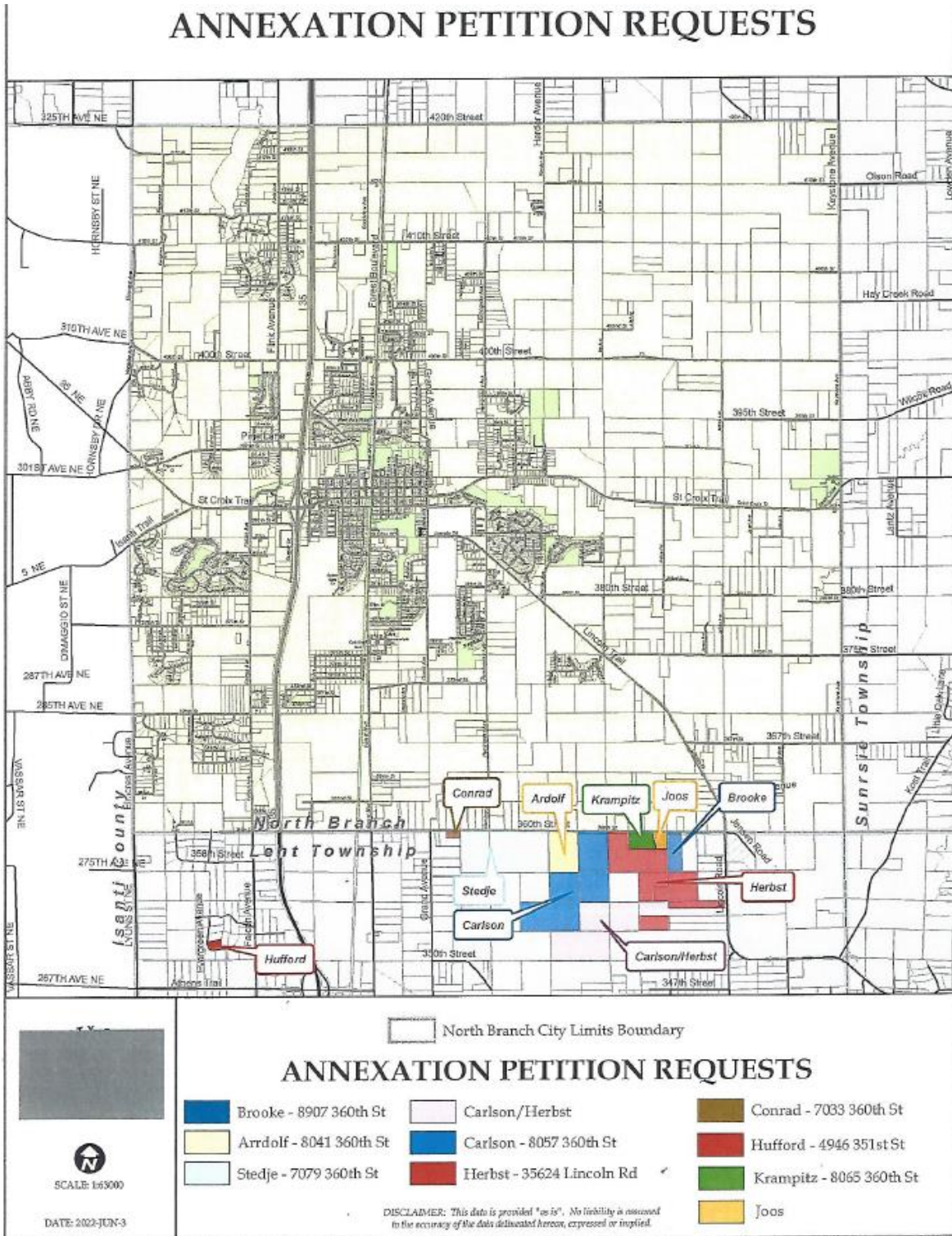
Rick Keller	651-402-3733	<a href="mailto:rick@lenttownship.com">rick@lenttownship.com</a>
Troy Nelson	651-491-2554	<a href="mailto:troy@lenttownship.com">troy@lenttownship.com</a>
Brian Seekon	763-688-4963	<a href="mailto:brian@lenttownship.com">brian@lenttownship.com</a>
Carolyn Cagle	651-278-2795	<a href="mailto:carolyn@lenttownship.com">carolyn@lenttownship.com</a>
Jess Eischens	651-283-1237	<a href="mailto:jess@lenttownship.com">jess@lenttownship.com</a>

Enc: Map of SE corner to be annexed by Chisago City.  
Map of N Lent requesting annexation by the City of North Branch.  
Minnesota Statute 414.01.

MAP OF SE CORNER TO BE ANNEXED BY CHISAGO CITY



MAP OF N LENT REQUESTING ANNEXATION BY THE CITY OF NORTH BRANCH



## **414.01 ENABLING PROVISIONS FOR MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.**

### **Subdivision 1. A duty of chief administrative law judge.**

The chief administrative law judge shall conduct proceedings, make determinations, and issue orders for the creation of a municipality, the combination of two or more governmental units, or the alteration of a municipal boundary.

#### **Subd. 1a. Legislative findings.**

The legislature finds that:

(1) sound urban development and preservation of agricultural land and open spaces through land use planning is essential to the continued economic growth of this state;

(2) municipal government most efficiently provides governmental services in areas intensively developed for residential, commercial, industrial, and governmental purposes; and township government most efficiently provides governmental services in areas used or developed for agricultural, open space, and rural residential purposes;

(3) the public interest requires that municipalities be formed when there exists or will likely exist the necessary resources to provide for their economical and efficient operation;

(4) annexation to existing municipalities of unincorporated areas unable to supply municipal services should be facilitated; and

(5) joint resolutions for orderly annexation, consolidation of municipalities, mergers of towns and municipalities, long-range joint powers planning or other cooperative efforts among counties, cities, and towns should be encouraged.

#### **Subd. 1b. Goals in promoting, regulating municipal development.**

The chief administrative law judge may promote and regulate development of municipalities:

(1) to provide for the extension of municipal government to areas which are developed or are in the process of being developed for intensive use for residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, and governmental purposes or are needed for such purposes; and

(2) to protect the stability of unincorporated areas which are used or developed for agricultural, open space, and rural residential purposes and are not presently needed for more intensive uses; and

(3) to protect the integrity of land use planning in municipalities and unincorporated areas so that the public interest in efficient local government will be properly recognized and served.

#### **Subd. 5. Consolidation of proceedings.**

The chief administrative law judge may order the consolidation of separate proceedings in the interest of economy and expedience.

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/414.01>