



COLUMBIA COUNTY

Planning and Zoning Department

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112 E. Edgewater Street
Portage, WI 53901

Exception to Driveway Length: Behnke

Planning & Zoning Committee • October 7, 2025

Property Owner(s):

Behnke, Charles M; Behnke Kelly

Property Location:

Located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 27, Town 13 North, Range 9 East

Town:

Fort Winnebago

Parcel(s) Affected:

529, 532

Site Address:

Bornick Road

Background:

Charles and Kelly Behnke, owners, request the Planning and Zoning Committee review and approve an exception to the maximum driveway length for residential driveways. Section 12.140.05(1) d. of the Columbia County Zoning Code states that, "...No private residential driveway shall exceed a length of 1,000 feet as measured from the principal structure on the parcel to the point of access to a public road, unless otherwise approved by the Planning and Zoning Committee following a recommendation or approval of a Certified Survey Map by the town board of the affected town..."

The property owners are proposing to create a 5-acre lot in order to construct a new single-family home. This lot will be rezoned to the RR-1 Rural Residence zoning district. The land does not front directly on Bornick Road and is accessed via an existing easement through parcel 528. The owners are proposing a driveway that will be approximately 1,285 feet in length, as they believe constructing a home that meets the 1,000-foot requirement would present drainage and runoff issues.

Town Board Action:

The Fort Winnebago Town Board met September 1, 2025 and recommended approval of the rezone associated with this request. The review included the driveway length exception.

Recommendation:

If the Planning and Zoning Committee chooses to grant the driveway exception, Staff recommends including the condition that it shall become effective upon recording of the Certified Survey Map.