

**Example of a Design Variance Request
Attach to the LPA-700 or LPA-800**

Design Variance Request

Local Public Agency: _____ **Date:** _____

County: _____

Route/Termini: _____

Project Numbers:

LPA: _____

MDOT: _____

(To be completed by MDOT)

This report has been developed to provide justification for a Design Variance Request for depth of ditch and side slopes. The project is 3.25 miles long and involves the widening of *(street name)* from a 4-lane undivided section to a 5-lane section with a continuous center turn lane. The street is an urban arterial with an ADT of 18,000 (year 2002).

The design variance for depth of ditch is in reference to the Roadway Design Manual requiring a 4 foot deep ditch for 3R projects on urban arterials. The City wants to use a 3 foot deep ditch to avoid extensive utility relocations and acquisition of right-of-way.

The design variance for side slopes is in reference to the Roadway Design Manual requiring 3:1 maximum fill slopes and 3:1 maximum cut back slopes for 3R projects on urban arterials. The City wants to use 2.5:1 fill slopes in various locations for a total length of 400 feet, and 2:1 cut back slopes in one location for a length of 300 feet. The reasons steeper slopes are needed include acquisition of right-of-way and extensive modifications to existing properties.

Neither of the design criteria involved (depth of ditch and side slope) is a controlling design criteria.

Based on the above reasons, your approval of the above design variances is requested.

Please review the justification for a Design Variance Request provided by this report and let me know if additional information is needed or if you have any questions.

John Doe, P.E.
City Engineer