BOARD OF APPEALS

May 22, 2024

County Administration Building, 100 W. Washington St., Meeting Room 2000, Hagerstown, at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

AP2024-017: An appeal was filed by Keith Rice for a variance from the required 40 ft. front yard setback to 20 ft. for the replacement of the front deck on the dwelling on the property owned by the appellant and located at 16726 Fairview Road, Hagerstown, Zoned Agricultural Rural.- **GRANTED**

AP2024-018: An appeal was filed by Gregory & Deborah Keller for a variance from the required 15 ft. setback to 8 ft. for the side and rear yard for the proposed detached garage on the property owned by the appellant and located at 17204 Carty Lane, Hagerstown, Zoned Agricultural Rural.-**DENIED**

AP2024-019: An appeal was filed by NewCold Reading LLC for a variance from the parking requirement of 350 spaces to 115 spaces and a variance from the 75 ft. maximum height to 150 ft. for proposed high-bay cold storage warehouse on the property owned by VA Ave LLC on the vacant lot next to property 16965 Virgina Avenue, Williamsport, Zoned Industrial Restrict.- **PARKING VARIANCE GRATNED - HEIGHT VARAINCE DENIED**

AP2024-020: An appeal was filed by Obidi Holding LLC for a special exception to establish a full service physicians' office in a new commercial building on the property owned by the appellant and located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Zoned Residential Suburban.- DENIED

Pursuant to the Maryland Open Meetings Law, notice is hereby given that the deliberations of the Board of Zoning Appeals are open to the public. Furthermore, the Board, at its discretion, may render a decision as to some or all of the cases at the hearing described above or at a subsequent hearing, the date and time of which will be announced prior to the conclusion of the public hearing. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Katie Rathvon at 240-313-2464 Voice, 240-313-2130 Voice/TDD no later than May 13, 2024. Any person desiring a stenographic transcript shall be responsible for supplying a competent stenographer.

The Board of Appeals reserves the right to vary the order in which the cases are called. Please take note of the Amended Rules of Procedure (Adopted July 5, 2006), Public Hearing, Section 4(d) which states:

Applicants shall have ten (10) minutes in which to present their request and may, upon request to and permission of the Board, receive an additional twenty (20) minutes for their presentation. Following the Applicant's case in chief, other individuals may receive three (3) minutes to testify, except in the circumstance where an individual is representing a group, in which case said individual shall be given eight (8) minutes to testify.

Those Applicants requesting the additional twenty (20) minutes shall have their case automatically moved to the end of the docket.

For extraordinary cause, the Board may extend any time period set forth herein, or otherwise modify or suspend these Rules, to uphold the spirit of the Ordinance and to do substantial justice.

Jay Miller, Chairman

Board of Zoning Appeals



747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

ZONING APPEAL

Property Owner: Appellant: Property Location:	Keith Rice 16726 Fairview Road Hagerstown MD 21740 Keith Rice 16726 Fairview Road Hagerstown MD 21740 16726 Fairview Road Hagerstown, MD 21740)		Docket No: Tax ID No: Zoning: RB Overlay: Zoning Overlay: Filed Date: Hearing Date:	AP2024-017 13029059 A(R) No 04/29/2024 05/22/2024
Description Of Appeal:	Variance from the require	d 40 ft. fro	nt yard setb	ack to 20 ft. for repla	acement front deck.
Appellant's Legal Intere	Owner:	Yes	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No	
		Lessee:	No	Contract to Purchase:	No
		Other:			
Previous Petition/Appe	eal Docket No(s):				
Applicable Ordinance S	ections:	Washington County Zoning Ordinance Section 5A.5			
Reason For Hardship: If Appeal of Ruling, Dat Ruling Official/Agency:	-	ue to large	e dedicated	right of way and s	eptic reserve area.
Existing Use: Sin	gle Family Dwelling	Propose	d Use:	Replace Exisitng	Deck
Previous Use Ceased Fo				Date Ceased:	
Area Devoted To Non-(Conforming Use -	Existing: Propose			

I hearby affirm that all of the statements and information contained in or filed with this appeal are true and correct.

d

Appellant Signature

State Of Maryland, Washington County to-wit:

My Commissio athvon UBLIC WA GTON COUL RYL AND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025

Notary Public



AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)

Docket No: AP2024-017

State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 4/29/2024, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Dixie Rice and made oath in due form of law as follows:

Dixie Rice will post the zoning notice sign(s) given to me by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with Section 25.51(c) of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance for the above captioned Board of Appeals case, scheduled for public hearing on 05/22/2024, and that said sign(s) will be erected on the subject property in accordance with the required distances and positioning as set out in the attached posting instructions.

Sign(s) will be posted on 05/07/2024 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

Dixie Rice

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

Kathrvn B Rathvon

Notary Public

NOTARY PUBLIC SHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND ON FXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025

My Commission Expires

Seal



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

ATTENTION!

Posting Instructions

The premises MUST be posted in accordance with the following rules:

- The sign must be posted a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the public hearing Section 25.51(c) Property upon which the application or appeal is concerned shall be posted conspicuously by a zoning notice no less in size than twenty-two (22) inches by twenty-eight (28) inches at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the hearing.
- 2. The sign must be placed on the property within ten (10) feet of the property line which abuts the most traveled public road.
- 3. The sign must be posted in a conspicuous manner not over six (6) feet above the ground level, and affixed to a sturdy frame where it will be clearly visible and legible to the public.
- 4. The sign shall be maintained at all times by the applicant until after the public hearing. If a new sign is needed or required, please contact the Plan Review Department at 240-313-2460.
- 5. An affidavit certifying the property will be posted for the minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the public hearing date.

Proper posting of the sign will be spot checked by the Zoning Inspector. <u>IF SIGN IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE, IT MAY</u> <u>RESULT IN RESCHEDULING OF THE HEARING.</u>



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT

This is to certify that <u>Dixre Rice</u> is authorized to file an appeal with the Was <u>Vaciance for front dec</u> located <u>16726 Foirview Ro</u> The said work is authorized by <u>Keith</u> the property owner in fee.		_ on property
	PROPERTY OWNER Keith L. Rice Name 16726 Fairview Road Address Hagerstown, MD 21740 City, State, Zip Code Mand Ruce	
Sworn and subscribed before me this <u>2</u>	Owner's Signature day of <u>April</u> , 20 <u>20</u> , 20 <u>20</u> Notary Public	<u>-(_</u> .
Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE Dixie L. Rice Name <u>ILIZE Fairview Road</u> Address <u>Hagerstown</u> Md 21740 City; State, Zip Code <u>Duk</u> L. Rue Authorized Representative's Signature	
Sworn and subscribed before me this Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025 My Commission Expires: 747 Northern Avenue Hagerstown, MD 23	<u>April</u> , 20 <u>2</u> <u>Mar B</u> Motary Public 1742 P: 240.313.2430 F: 240.313.2461 Hearing	



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742 | P: 240.313.2430 |F: 240.313.2461 | Hearing Impaired:

7-1-1 WWW.WASHCO-MD.NET

Appeal for Variance

Appeal is hereby made for a variance from a requirement of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Location 16726 Fairview Road

Appellant's pre	sent legal interest in	above property:	(Check One)
-----------------	------------------------	-----------------	-------------

Owner (Including Joint Ownership) _____ Lessee _____ Contract to rent/lease

Contract to Purchase____Other

Specify the Ordinance section and subsection from which the variance is desired:

Section 54.5

Specify the particular requirement(s) from which a variance is desired in that section or subsection:

Front yard setback 40ft.

Describe the nature and extent of the desired variance from Ordinance requirements: listed above:

Front yard down to 20ft for new 24x16' deck.

Describe reason(s) why the Ordinance requirement(s) in question would result in peculiar and/or unusual practical difficulties to or would impose exceptional or undue hardship upon the owner of the property if the requested variance were not granted:

Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet

Has any previous petition or appeal involving this property been made to the Board? ____Yes ____No

If yes, list docket number(s):

I hereby certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge, accurately supplied the information required for the above referenced appeal.

eich ZKici Signature of Appellant

Address and of Appellant

Email of Appellant

Phone Number of Appellant

This appeal form is to be used to assist the customer in gathering the information necessary to submit an application. However, the application shall be processed in person.

Revised May 24, 2022



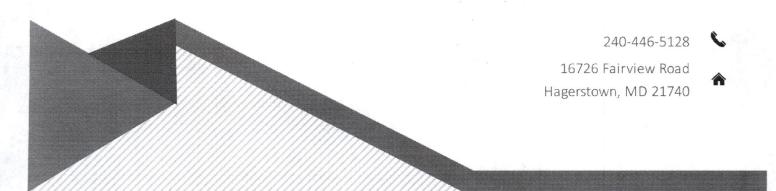
To Whom It May Concern,

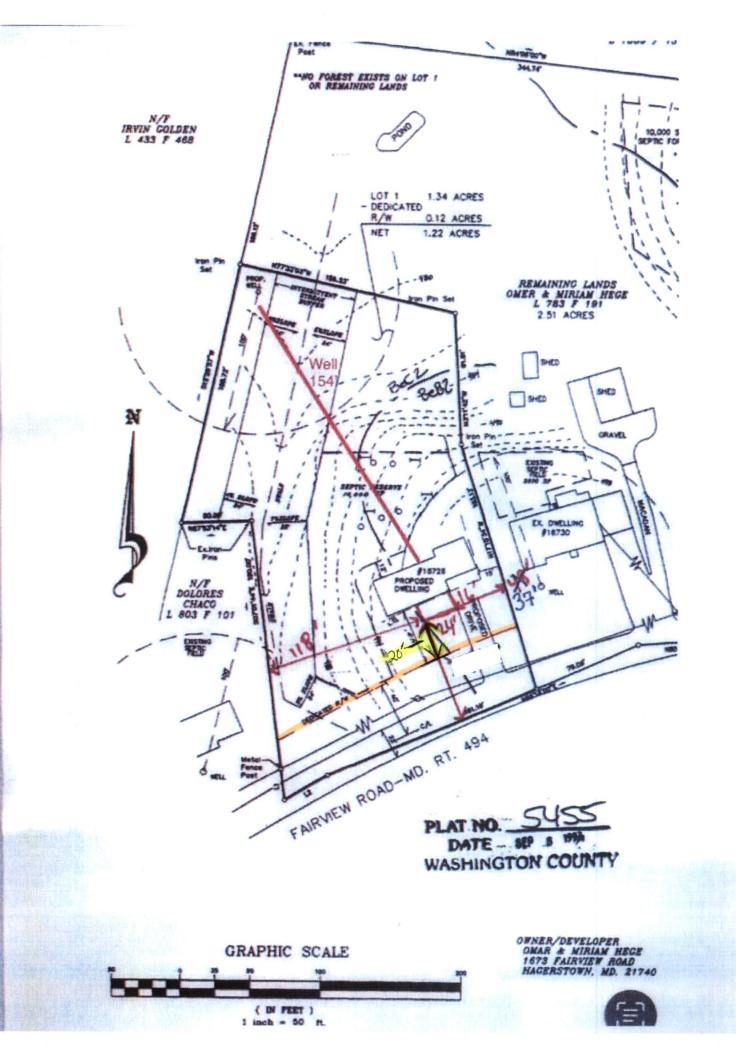
This letter serves as a formal request to obtain permission via a permit to build a new deck. Recently, I was just approved for a 12 x 24ft deck however I am requesting that this be extended by an additional 4ft to equal 16x24ft. This will be replacing the current deck that is rapidly deteriorating and posing great fall risk for my elderly mother. In addition, this is the only available location for a deck due to the septic system which interferes with it being put on the back of the house.

Kind Regards,

Keith Rice

Kent L Rici





BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND * * KEITH RICE * Appellant *<

Keith Rice (hereinafter "Appellant") requests a variance to reduce the required front yard setback from 40 feet to 20 feet for a replacement front deck at the subject property. The subject property is located at 16726 Fairview Road, Hagerstown, Maryland and is zoned Agricultural, Rural. The Board held a public hearing in this matter on May 22, 2024.

This appeal was heard pursuant to Article 25 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County and upon proper notice to the parties and general public as required.

Findings of Fact

Based upon the testimony given, all information and evidence presented, and upon a study of the specific property involved and the neighborhood in which it is located, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. Appellant is the owner of the subject property located at 16726 Fairview Road, Hagerstown, Maryland. The subject property is zoned Agricultural, Rural.

2. The subject property consists of approximately 1.34 acres situated along the north side of Fairview Road and improved by a single-family dwelling. There is a septic system and septic reserve to the rear of the home.

3. There is a 40-foot dedicated future right-of-way for Fairview Road which reduces the setback areas.

4. Appellant proposes to construct a deck on the front of the home that will be 16 feet by 24 feet. The home currently has an 8-foot by 24-foot deck which is deteriorated and in need of repair.

5. Appellant's elderly mother resides in the home, and he is worried about her falling due to the condition of the existing deck.

6. There was no opposition presented to this appeal.

Rationale

The Board has authority to grant a variance upon a showing of practical difficulty or undue hardship. §§ 25.2(c) and 25.56.¹ "Practical Difficulty" may be found by the Board when: (1) strict compliance would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome; and (2) denying the variance would do substantial injustice to the applicant and a lesser relaxation than that applied for would not give substantial relief; and (3) granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance and secure public safety and welfare. § 25.56(A).

Practical difficulty and undue hardship are the result of a property being unique. "'Uniqueness' of a property for zoning purposes requires that the subject property have an inherent characteristic not shared by other properties in the area, i.e., its shape, topography, subsurface condition, environmental factors, historical significance, access or non-access to navigable waters, practical restrictions imposed by abutting properties (such as obstructions) or other similar restrictions." *North v. St. Mary's Cnty.*, 99 Md. App. 502, 514 (1994).)

Pursuant to Section 5A of the Zoning Ordinance, the required front yard setback for the subject property is forty (40) feet. In this case, the setback is measured from the dedicated, future right-of-way line which is another forty (40) feet from the roadway. Appellant is requesting to reduce the setback to twenty (20) feet so that he can construct a reasonably-sized deck on the front of his home. He asserts practical difficulty based on

¹¹ "When the terms unnecessary hardship (or one of its synonyms) and practical difficulties are framed in the disjunctive ("or"), Maryland courts generally have applied the more restrictive hardship standard to use variances, while applying the less restrictive practical difficulties standard to area variances because use variances are viewed as more drastic departures from zoning requirements." *Belvoir Farms Homeowners Ass'n, Inc. v. North*, 355 Md. 259, 276 n.10 (1999) (citations omitted).

the additional setback related to the right-of-way and that there no other location for the deck.

Appellant acknowledged that he could request a modification without coming before the Board but pointed out that it would allow for a 12-foot by 24-foot deck which is atypical and relatively small. The Board finds that the subject property is certainly unique in its shape and layout, as well as in the effect of the right-of-way on the use therein. Based on the location of the house and layout of the subject property, the front of the home is only place that the deck could be located. Appellant's request is both reasonable and the minimum necessary to afford relief from the effect of the setback requirements. The Board finds that Appellant has satisfied the criteria for a variance and the request should be granted.

Accordingly, the requested variance to reduce the required front yard setback from 40 feet to 20 feet for a replacement front deck at the subject property is GRANTED, by a vote of 5-0. The variance is granted upon the general condition that the use is consistent with the testimony and evidence presented.

BOARD OF APPEALS

By: Jay Miller, Chair²

Date Issued: June 20, 2024

Notice of Appeal Rights

Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Authority in a contested case, whether such decision is affirmative or negative in form, is entitled to file a petition for judicial review of that order to the Circuit Court for Washington County within thirty (30) days of the date of the order.

² Mr. Miller was a Board member and served as Chair at the time of the hearing and decision in this matter. His term has since expired, and he is no longer a member of the Board of Appeals.



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

ZONING APPEAL

Property Owner:	Gregory & Deborah Ke	ller		Docket No:	AP2024-018
	17204 Carty Lane			Tax ID No:	02018454
	Hagerstown MD 2174	0		Zoning:	A(R)
Appellant:	Gregory Keller			RB Overlay:	No
	17204 Carty Lane			Zoning Overlay:	
	Hagerstown MD 2174	0		Filed Date:	04/30/2024
				Hearing Date:	05/22/2024
Property Location:	17204 Carty Lane				
	Hagerstown, MD 2174	0		•	
Description Of Appea	al: Variance from the requir	ed 15 ft. set	back to 8 f	t. for the side and rea	r yard for the proposed detached
	garage				
				C	
Appellant's Legal Inte	erest In Above Property:	Owner:	Yes	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No
		Lessee:	No	Contract to Purchase:	No
		Other:			
Previous Petition/Ap	peal Docket No(s):				
Applicable Ordinance	e Sections:	Washing	ton Coun	ty Zoning Ordinance	e Section 5A.5
Reason For Hardship	Location of the well an the rear patio of the he		serve area	a limits location and	l would like it further back from
If Appeal of Ruling, D	ate Of Ruling:				
Ruling Official/Agend	cy:				
Existing Use: S	ingle Family Dwelling	Propose	d Use:	Detached Garage	e
Previous Use Ceased	For At Least 6 Months:			Date Ceased:	
Area Devoted To Nor	n-Conforming Use -	Existing:			
		Propose	d:		

I hearby affirm that all of the statements and information contained in or filed with this appeal are true and correct.

Appellant Signature

State Of Maryland, Washington County to-wit:

Sw	orn and subscribed before me this _	30 day of Apr	//,	2024
	Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC	1 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 -	MA Z	M
M	Commission MARTING TON COUNTY MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025	OTAR, 2	1112	Notary Public



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

47 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)

Docket No: AP2024-018

State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 4/30/2024, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Gregory & Deborah Keller and made oath in due form of law as follows:

Gregory & Deborah Keller will post the zoning notice sign(s) given to me by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with Section 25.51(c) of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance for the above captioned Board of Appeals case, scheduled for public hearing on 05/22/2024, and that said sign(s) will be erected on the subject property in accordance with the required distances and positioning as set out in the attached posting instructions.

Sign(s) will be posted on 05/07/2024 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

Gregory & Deborah Keller

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.



Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025

My Commission Expires

Notary Public



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

ATTENTION!

Posting Instructions

The premises MUST be posted in accordance with the following rules:

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- 2. The sign must be placed on the property within ten (10) feet of the property line which abuts the most traveled public road.
- 3. The sign must be posted in a conspicuous manner not over six (6) feet above the ground level, and affixed to a sturdy frame where it will be clearly visible and legible to the public.
- 4. The sign shall be maintained at all times by the applicant until after the public hearing. If a new sign is needed or required, please contact the Plan Review Department at 240-313-2460.
- 5. An affidavit certifying the property will be posted for the minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the public hearing date.

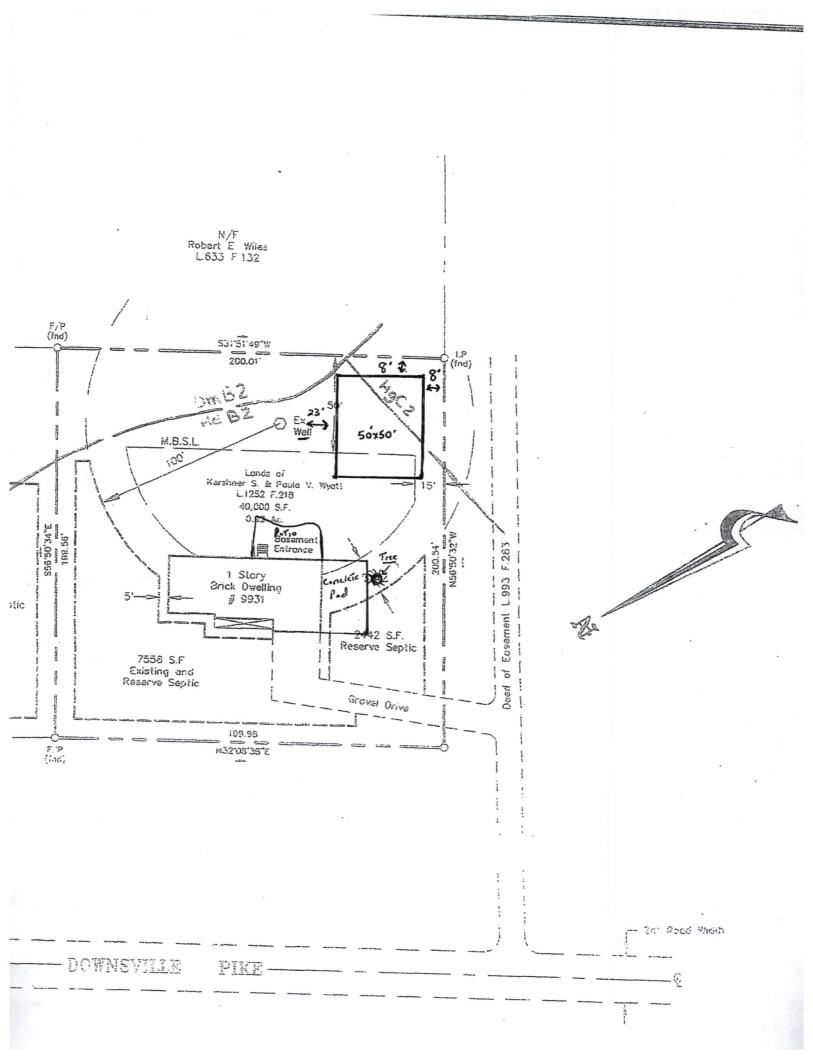
Proper posting of the sign will be spot checked by the Zoning Inspector. IF SIGN IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE, IT MAY RESULT IN RESCHEDULING OF THE HEARING: B overlas The peason for the Valiance 15 To set the galage a Far back To properly him as possible. I would like To keep galage and Y from potro, well and house. I cannot put the garage in the back yord to the Leffsield due to well and in the front paral I have the septile sys. I would like to keep the galage back so I can acess galage from concrete put beside of garage, I would Like ample distance from put to galage to have better acess to enter gape with Triler.

We are at with Debbie & Greg Keller building a garage on their property Othere TZ Jackie Themas Doniel Thomas









OPINION

Gregory Keller (hereinafter "Appellant") requests variances to reduce the required side yard setback from 15 feet to 8 feet, the required rear yard setback from 15 feet to 8 feet for a proposed detached garage at the subject property. The subject property is located at 17204 Carty Lane, Hagerstown, Maryland and is zoned Agricultural, Rural. The Board held a public hearing in this matter on May 22, 2024.

This appeal was heard pursuant to Article 25 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County and upon proper notice to the parties and general public as required.

Findings of Fact

Based upon the testimony given, all information and evidence presented, and upon a study of the specific property involved and the neighborhood in which it is located, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. Appellant, along with his wife, are the owners of the subject property located at 17204 Carty Lane, Hagerstown, Maryland. The subject property is zoned Agricultural, Rural.

2. The subject property consists of rectangular lot totaling approximately .92 acres, improved by a one-story single-family dwelling.

3. The well is located in the center of the property, to the rear of the residence. The septic area is in the front of the home, near the driveway.

4. Appellant proposes to construct a 50-foot by 50-foot detached garage for storage of his camper, vehicles, tools and equipment. The size of the garage was dictated

by the size of the camper, which is approximately thirty-seven (37) feet. The proposed location for the garage is in the southeast corner of the subject property.

5. Appellant consulted with his neighbors and there were no objections to the project.

6. There was no opposition presented to this appeal.

Rationale

The Board has authority to grant a variance upon a showing of practical difficulty or undue hardship. §§ 25.2(c) and 25.56.¹ "Practical Difficulty" may be found by the Board when: (1) strict compliance would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome; and (2) denying the variance would do substantial injustice to the applicant and a lesser relaxation than that applied for would not give substantial relief; and (3) granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance and secure public safety and welfare. § 25.56(A).

Practical difficulty and undue hardship are the result of a property being unique. "'Uniqueness' of a property for zoning purposes requires that the subject property have an inherent characteristic not shared by other properties in the area, i.e., its shape, topography, subsurface condition, environmental factors, historical significance, access or non-access to navigable waters, practical restrictions imposed by abutting properties (such as obstructions) or other similar restrictions." *North v. St. Mary's Cnty.*, 99 Md. App. 502, 514 (1994).)

Pursuant to Section 5A.5 of the Zoning Ordinance, the rear yard setback and side yard setback are 15 feet for the subject property. Appellant requested a reduction to eight (8) feet for both the side and rear yard to accommodate the proposed detached garage.

¹¹ "When the terms unnecessary hardship (or one of its synonyms) and practical difficulties are framed in the disjunctive ("or"), Maryland courts generally have applied the more restrictive hardship standard to use variances, while applying the less restrictive practical difficulties standard to area variances because use variances are viewed as more drastic departures from zoning requirements." *Belvoir Farms Homeowners Ass'n, Inc. v. North*, 355 Md. 259, 276 n.10 (1999) (citations omitted).

During the hearing, the Board questioned what was unique about the subject property. It appears to be a typical rectangular lot with a house constructed in the middle of the lot, adequate area to the rear. Appellant testified about the features he believed to be unique, none of which supported a relaxation of the setback requirements. Appellant acknowledged that he could reduce the size of the garage slightly and could also move it further from the property lines. If moved, the detached garage would likely not require a variance, or the variance necessary would be the minimal compared to what is requested herein. The Board finds there is insufficient evidence to support a finding of uniqueness and that Appellant has failed to demonstrate practical difficulty that would necessitate the variance requests.

Accordingly, the requested variances to reduce the required side yard setback from 15 feet to 8 feet and the required rear yard setback from 15 feet to 8 feet for a proposed detached garage at the subject property are DENIED, by a vote of 4-1.

BOARD OF APPEALS

By: Jay Miller, Chair²

Date Issued: June 20, 2024

Notice of Appeal Rights

Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Authority in a contested case, whether such decision is affirmative or negative in form, is entitled to file a petition for judicial review of that order to the Circuit Court for Washington County within thirty (30) days of the date of the order.

² Mr. Miller was a Board member and served as Chair at the time of the hearing and decision in this matter. His term has since expired, and he is no longer a member of the Board of Appeals.



747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

ZONING APPEAL

Property Owner:	VA Ave LLC 17827 Virginia Avenue			Docket No: Tax ID No:	AP2024-01 26001870	.9	
	Hagerstown MD 21740			Zoning:	IR		
Appellant:	NewCold Reading LLC			RB Overlay:	No		
Appendite.	500 West Madison Stree	et		Zoning Overlay:			
	Suite 1500						
	Chicago IL 60661			Filed Date:	05/01/202	.4	
				Hearing Date:	05/22/202	4	
Property Location:	16965 Virginia Avenue						
	Williamsport, MD 21795	5					
Description Of Appeal:	Variance from the parking maximum height to 150 ft					e from the 75 ft	
Appellant's Legal Interes	st In Above Property:	Owner:	No	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No		
		Lessee:	No	Contract to Purchase:	Yes		
		Other:					
Previous Petition/Appea	al Docket No(s):	RZ-16-00	3				
Applicable Ordinance Se	ections:	Washing 13.4	ton Count	y Zoning Ordinance	e Section 22.	.12 and Sectio	'n
Reason For Hardship:	See justification stateme	ent					
If Appeal of Ruling, Date	e Of Ruling:						
Ruling Official/Agency:							
	ant Lot	Propose	d Use:	High-bay Cold St	orage Ware	house	
Previous Use Ceased Fo	r At Least 6 Months:			Date Ceased:			
Area Devoted To Non-C	onforming Use -	Existing:					
		Propose	d:				
I hearby affirm that all o	of the statements and info	ormation	contained	in or filed with thi	s appeal are	true and cor	rect.
				FV~	1)~		
			. (Appellant Sigr	nature
State Of Maryland, Was	hington County to-wit:						
Sworn and subscribed b	efore me this	day of	Ma	4	, 20	24.	

Notary Public

My Commission Altron Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

47 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)

Docket No: AP2024-019

State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 5/1/2024, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared JD Law Company Inc and made oath in due form of law as follows:

JD Law Company Inc will post the zoning notice sign(s) given to me by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with Section 25.51(c) of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance for the above captioned Board of Appeals case, scheduled for public hearing on 05/22/2024, and that said sign(s) will be erected on the subject property in accordance with the required distances and positioning as set out in the attached posting instructions.

Sign(s) will be posted on 05/07/2024 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

JD Law Company Inc

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

Sea

Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC HINGTON COUN MARYLAND PIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025 MY COMMISSION EXP

Notary Public

My Commission Expires



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

ATTENTION!

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Kathoyn B Rathoon NOTARY PUBLIC WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742 | P: 240.313.2430 |F: 240.313.2461 | Hearing Impaired:

7-1-1 WWW.WASHCO-MD.NET

Appeal for Variance

Appeal is hereby made for a variance from a requirement of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance as follows:

	Location <u>S/S Virginia Avenue adjacent to 1-70</u>						
Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One) Owner (Including Joint Ownership) Lessee Contract to rent/lease							
	Specify the Ordinance section and subsection from which the variance is desired: Section 22.12 (off street parking) Section 13.4 (Max height)						
	Specify the particular requirement(s) from which a variance is desired in that section or subsection: Section 22, 12 · From 350 spaces required to 115 spaces.						
	Section 13.4. From 75ft Maximum to 150ft maximum.						
	Describe the nature and extent of the desired variance from Ordinance requirements: listed above: See attached.						
	Describe reason(s) why the Ordinance requirement(s) in question would result in peculiar and/or unusual practical difficulties to or would impose exceptional or undue hardship upon the owner of the property if the requested variance were not granted:						
	Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet						
	Has any previous petition or appeal involving this property been made to the Board? YesNo						
	If yes, list docket number(s): <u>RZ-16-003</u>						
	I hereby certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge, accurately supplied the information required for the above referenced appeal.						
	Signature of Appellant Att For New Cold Address and of Appellant						
j	Signature of Appellant Atty For NewColl Address and of Appellant divelopsic ductors for me Ready (717) 593-7200						
	Email of Appellant Phone Number of Appellant						

This appeal form is to be used to assist the customer in gathering the information necessary to submit an application. However, the application shall be processed in person.

Revised May 24, 2022



Department of Plan Review & Permitting Owner's Representative Affidavit

This is to certify that NewCold and Jason Divelbiss, Esq. as its representative, is authorized to file with the Washington County Department of Plan Review & Permitting, an application with the Board of Zoning Appeals for (i) a variance from the parking requirement in Section 22.12 of the Zoning Ordinance for "Warehouse or Wholesale Establishments"; and (ii) a variance from the maximum height limit of 75' in Section 13.4 of the Zoning Ordinance, as applied to that certain property consisting of +/- 32.108 acres (TM 48, Parcel 282) located adjacent to Interstate 70 on the southeast side of Virginia Avenue. The variance application is authorized by VA AVE, LLC, a Maryland limited liability company, the property owner in fee.

PROPERTY OWNER

VA AVE, LLC, a Maryland limited liability company 17827 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Commission Number 1328515

By: JANA SOR Name: THEDDOLE H. SHANK

Title: AUTH. MEMBER

Sworn and subscribed before me this 16th day of April 2024. Notary Public My Commission Expires: April 6, 2026 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal JENNIFER L SHIFLER - Notary Public Franklin County My Commission Expires April 6, 2026

[SIGNATURES CONTINUE ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Jason Divelbiss, Esq. JD Law Co., Inc. 11125 Bemisderfer Road Greencastle, PA 17225

Authorized Representative's Signature

Sworn and subscribed before me this 16° day of April 2024.

Notary Public My Commission Expires: April 6, 2026 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal JENNIFER L SHIFLER - Notary Public Franklin County My Commission Expires April 6, 2026 Commission Number 1328515

ADJA	CENT PROPERTY OWNERS				
	NAME	PREMISES ADDRESS	LIBER/FOLIO	MAILING ADDRESS	TAX MAP/PARCEL
1	MASSEY JERRY E	VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	852/504	17026 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/822
2	MASSEY DANIEL S & MASSEY ODEZA A	17028 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	4360/23	17028 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/726
3	MASSEY JERRY E & MASSEY DAWN C	16926 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	976/6	17026 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/54
4	JTJ SCOOP LLC	16904 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	7164/49	14633 FALLING WATERS ROAD, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/83
5	WASH CO COMMISSIONERS BOARD OF	VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	696/251	C/O DIV OF PUBLIC WORKS 100 W WASHINGTON ST, HAGERSTOWN, MD	48/788
6	LEEL LLC	10843 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	1629/54	C/O LEON & MARGARET CATLETT 16746 SPIELMAN RD, FAIRPLAY, MD 21733	48/880
7	LEEL LLC	10841 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	1629/54	C/O LEON & MARGARET CATLETT 16746 SPIELMAN RD, FAIRPLAY, MD 21733	48/880
8	COURTEMANCHE ANNE K TRUST	10837 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	3422/557	17616 BURNSIDE AVE, HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	48/880
9	COURTEMANCHE ANNE K TRUST	10835 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	3422/557	17616 BURNSIDE AVE, HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	48/880
10	COURTEMANCHE ANNE K TRUST	10831 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	3422/553	17616 BURNSIDE AVE, HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	48/880
11	COURTEMANCHE ANNE K TRUST	10829 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	3422/553	17616 BURNSIDE AVE, HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	48/880
12	WEAVER SHAWN WEAVER APRIL	10825 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	6233/204	10825 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/880
13	GANJIAN ARASH	10821 ANDERSON DR, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	1806/1045	67 ESSEX RD, GREAT NECK, NY 11023	48/880
14	DOAN NICHOLAS JOHN DOAN JENNIFER LEIGH	16909 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	6733/395	16909 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	56/898
15	JAKLIN PROPERTIES LLC	16907 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	4991/327	13530 MELLOTT LANE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	56/1046
16	MOWEN DONALD T JR ET AL	17023 ALLISON AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	3872/463	17023 ALLISON AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	56/263
17	POTOMAC EDISON CO	10802 BOWER AVE, WILLIMSPORT, MD 21795	1000/1008	TAX DEPT 800 CABIN HILL DR, GREENSBURG, PA 15601	48/575
18	MAIN KENNETH M	16925 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	2504/559	16925 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/599
19	DENNIS BRADLEY	17025 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	7167/150	17025 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/344
20	HOLDCRAFT MEREDITH	17031 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	6103/195	17031 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/571
21	WILLIAMSPORT PROPERTY LLC	VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	4913/289	C/O AARON SHRADER SR 16425 SHINHAM RD, HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	48/627
22	BEAVER CREEK SELF STORAGE LLC	17119 VIRGINIA AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	6869/421	19941 BEAVER CREEK RD, HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	48/309
23	CUNNINGHAM RUTH ANN DOMER	MINER AVE	3069/290	17101 MINER AVE, WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795	48/618



May 1, 2024

Washington County Board of Appeals 80 West Baltimore Street Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Re: NewCold Reading LLC - Proposed High-Bay Cold Storage Warehouse

+/- 32.108 acres (TM 48, Parcel 282) located adjacent to Interstate 70 on the southeast side of Virginia Avenue (US Rte. 11)

Request for Variance from (i) Off Street Parking Requirement; and (ii) Maximum Structure Height

Dear Board Members:

My client, NewCold Reading LLC ("**Applicant**"), is the contract purchaser and potential developer of a proposed Warehouse / Distribution Facility on that certain property consisting of +/- 32.108 acres (TM 48, Parcel 282) located adjacent to Interstate 70 on the southeast side of Virginia Avenue (US Rte. 11) and currently owned by VA AVE, LLC, a Maryland limited liability company (the "**Property**").

In 2017, at the request of the property owner, the Property was rezoned by the Board of County Commissioners from ORT (Office, Research and Technology) to IR (Industrial, Restricted). A copy of that rezoning case (RZ-16-003) is attached hereto along with the current parcel and zoning map.

As recited in the Findings of Fact and Decision in the 2017 rezoning case, the Property: "is a vacant parcel located along the south side of Virginia Avenue (US Rt. 11), just east of where it passes under Interstate 70. It has 418' of frontage on Virginia Avenue and 1,400' of common boundary on the east side of Interstate 70. The parcel's southeastern boundary is approximately 1,480' along the CSX railroad line. The Potomac Edison Company offices and materials storage facility are located on the opposite side of this rail line." (p. 1)

With regard to the area surrounding the Property, the Findings of Fact and Decision in the 2017 rezoning case provided the following description:

[The Property] is surrounded by major transportation corridors, including a railroad line, Route 11, and Interstate 70. It abuts Business General and Business

Local zones to the east and at its westernmost point, and an Industrial, General zone to the south. Residential Transition zoning is found to the west and north. Residential Urban and Residential Suburban uses are found in the more distant extremities of the neighborhood.

Thus, the neighborhood is mixed-use, and transitional in the immediate environs of this property, with commercial areas to the east, an industrial area to the south, and residential uses, mostly, to the north and west. The residential zones are distinctly severed from the subject property by Route 11 and Interstate 70. The presence of the existing IG zone to the south and BL and BG zones to the east supports the reclassification of the property to the requested Industrial Restricted zone. (p. 7)

Off-Street Parking Requirement

The Applicant is requesting a variance from the Off-Street Parking Requirement for "Warehouse or Wholesale Establishments" which, pursuant to § 22.12 of the Zoning Ordinance, is:

1 space per 1.5 employees on the main shift or 1 space per 1,500 sq. ft GFA, whichever is greater, plus 1 space per 350 sq. ft. GFA of sales and/or office space

As shown and depicted on the attached (i) concept plan; and (ii) four (4) building elevations, the Applicant is currently working on plans for a +/- 480,450 sf. automated frozen high-bay warehouse building (the "**Project**"). It is anticipated that the Project will consist of approximately 467,150 sf. of warehouse space and 13,300 sf. of office space to support the warehouse use.

As applied to the Project, the applicable Off-Street Parking Requirement would require a total of 350 parking spaces; 312 spaces for the warehouse portion of the Project and 38 spaces for the office portion.

As reflected on the current Concept Plan for the Project, a total of 115 parking spaces are proposed.

As also reflected on the Concept Plan for the Project, in addition to the 115 parking spaces there are 185 trailer drops spaces which are essential to the efficient operation of the site.

To require the additional parking spaces necessary to comply with the currently applicable Off-Street Parking Requirement would require the Applicant to either lose a portion of the more important trailer stalls; or construct, at a minimum, an additional

42,300 square feet (+/- .98 ac.)¹ of paved area (not counting additional drive aisles). Both of which would impose an undue burden on the Applicant.

The requested parking space variance is consistent with the operational requirements of this type of use and thus granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance and secure public safety and welfare. This fact is demonstrated by the Board's approval of similar variances for other projects.

Maximum Height

The Applicant is requesting a variance to Maximum Height restriction in the IR (Industrial, Restricted) zoning district (§ 13.4) from a maximum of 75' to a maximum of 150'.

This variance is only needed for the +/-255,000 sf. portion of the Project that will be the high-bay storage area which, subject to final engineering and design, will be between 135' - 150' in height. The remaining, supporting elements of the building will have respective heights from 26' - 53' all well within the current 75' limit.

Unique and Unusual

As described in the seminal case of <u>Cromwell v. Ward</u>, 102 Md.App. 691, 694-95 (1995): "The first step requires a finding that the property whereon structures are to be placed (or uses conducted) is, in and of itself, unique and unusual in a manner different from the nature or surrounding properties such that the uniqueness and peculiarity of the subject property causes the zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon the property."

In this case the tapered, pie-shaped configuration of the Property, with the narrow section fronting Virginia Avenue and wider section abutting the Interstate, Railroad Tracks and adjacent IG (Industrial, General) property, is unique and unusual in a manner different from the nature of the surrounding properties. Moreover, that uniqueness makes horizontal construction, rather than vertical, impractical.

Practical Difficulty

As a dimensional rather than use variance, it is the "practical difficulty" standard which is applicable to this request for a height variance and Section 25.56(A) of the Zoning Ordinance sets forth the criteria for finding practical difficulty:

1. Strict compliance would unreasonably prevent use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;

¹ Based upon the standard stall dimension of 9' x 20' (180 sf.)

- 2. Denying the variance would do substantial injustice to the applicant and a lesser relaxation than that applied for would not give substantial relief; and
- 3. Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance and secure public safety and welfare.

In this case, requiring strict compliance with the 75' maximum height requirement would render conformance unnecessarily burdensome.

Specifically, it would drastically reduce if not eliminate the operational efficiency sought to be achieved by the Applicant's proposed fully automated, high-bay building the benefits of which include the elimination of expensive manual errors in the handling of product; up to +/-50% reduction in energy consumption; and a +/-60% reduction in the building footprint.

Moreover, a lesser relaxation than the requested maximum height of 150' (for only a 53% of the building) would prevent the realization of the Project's designed efficiencies and thus not give substantial relief and would do substantial injustice to the Applicant.

As seen from the conceptual renderings attached hereto showing the proposed building from the perspective of (i) Virginia Avenue to the north; (ii) the Potomac Edison to the southwest; and (iii) Anderson Drive to the southeast (across I-70), the modulation in height for different sections of the proposed building, the property's natural topography and buffering, and the building's location on the property, all mitigate the visual impact of the requested height variance for the high-bay portion of the building.

As such, granting the requested variance would not violate the spirit of the Zoning Ordinance or jeopardize public safety or welfare.

Simply put, the current 75' limitation is prohibitive to a fully automated, high-bay coldstorage facility focused on efficiency such as the one proposed by Applicant. This Project is designed and intended to do more with less land and energy consumption. Objectives very much consistent with the spirit and intent of the Zoning Ordinance.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant believes it's request for a variance from § 22.12 and § 13.4 are both justified and should be granted on the basis of practical difficulty pursuant to \$25.56 of the Zoning Ordinance.

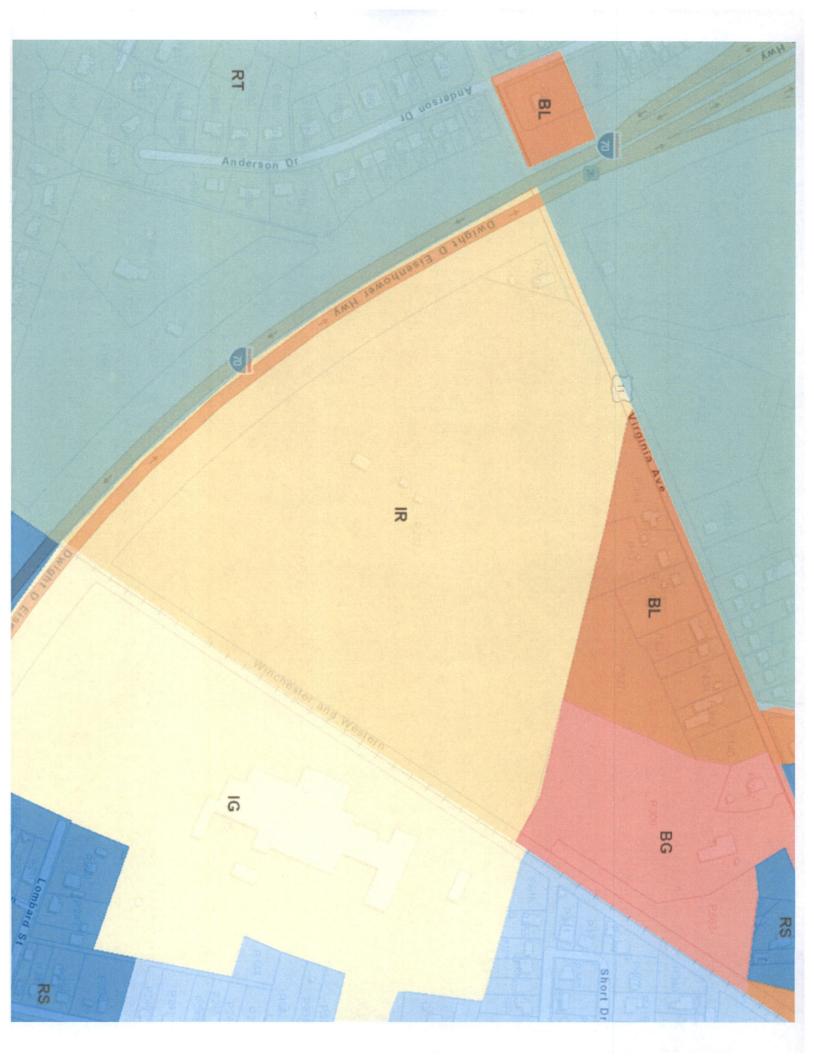
I look forward to discussing the Applicant's Project and the details of the within variance request at the Board's next available meeting.

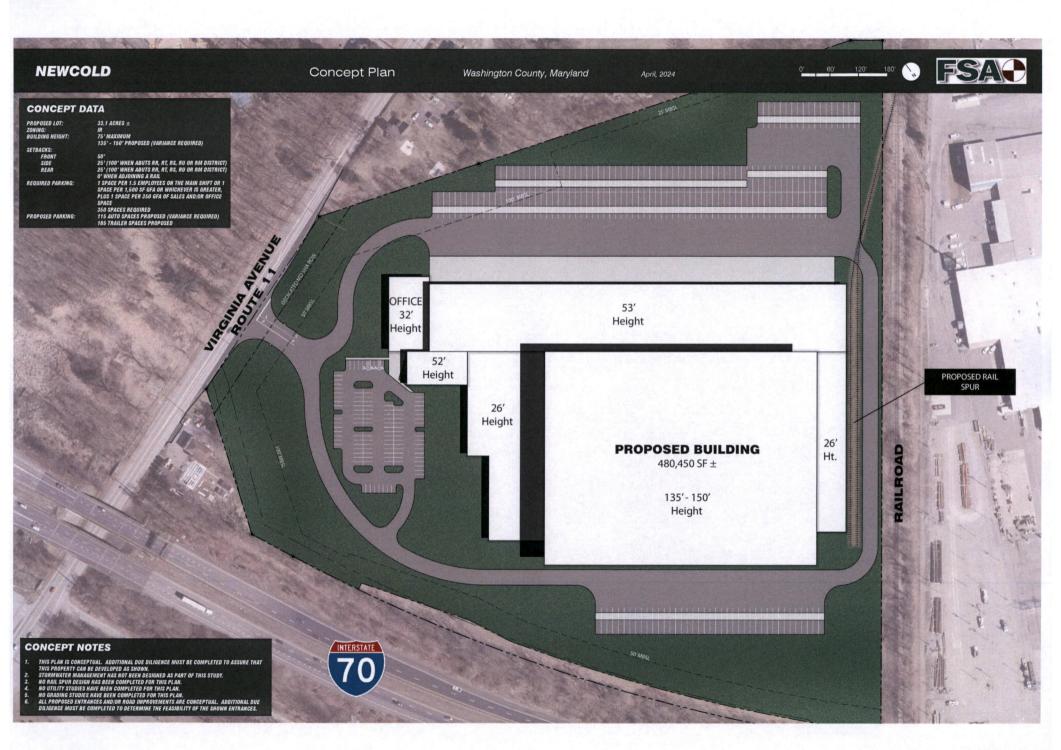
Very truly yours, JPLAW COMPANY, INC.

Jason M. Divelbiss Attorney at Law

Email: divelbiss@divelbisslaw.com

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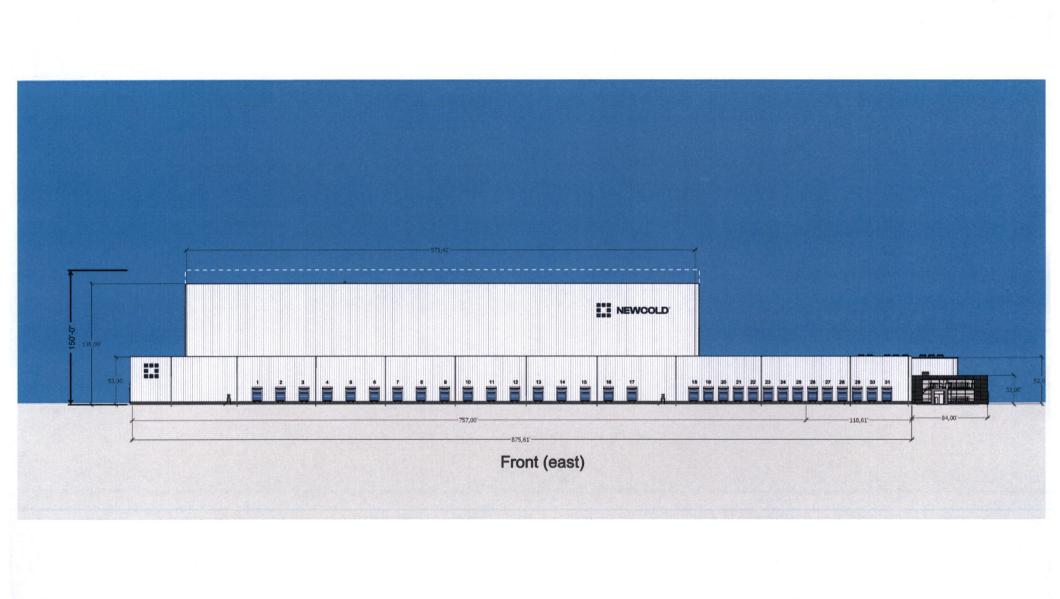


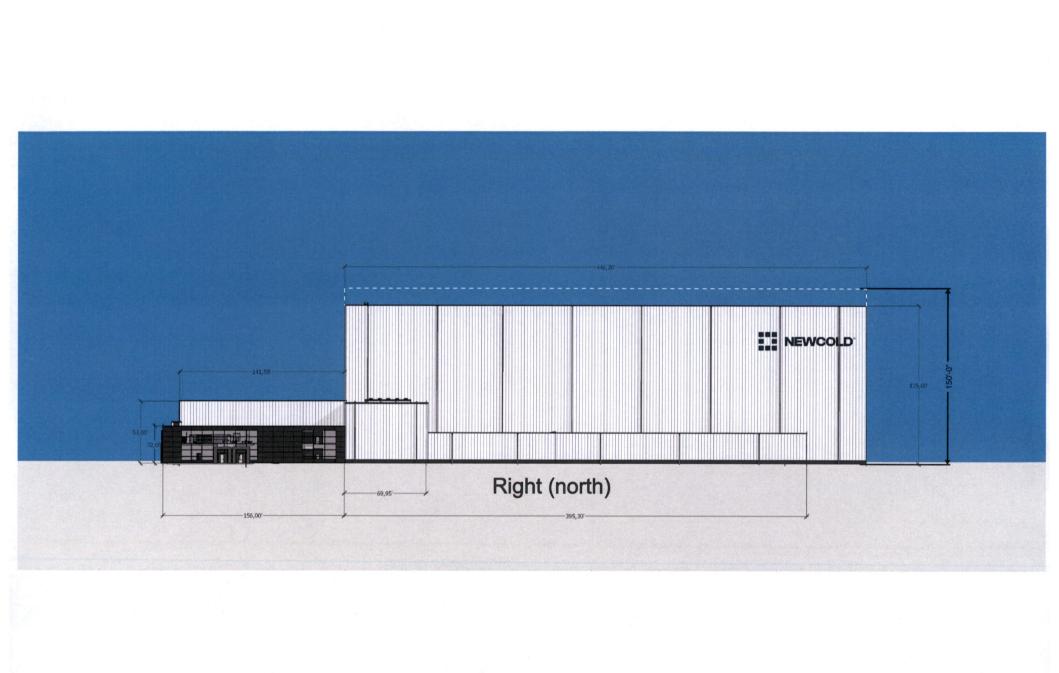


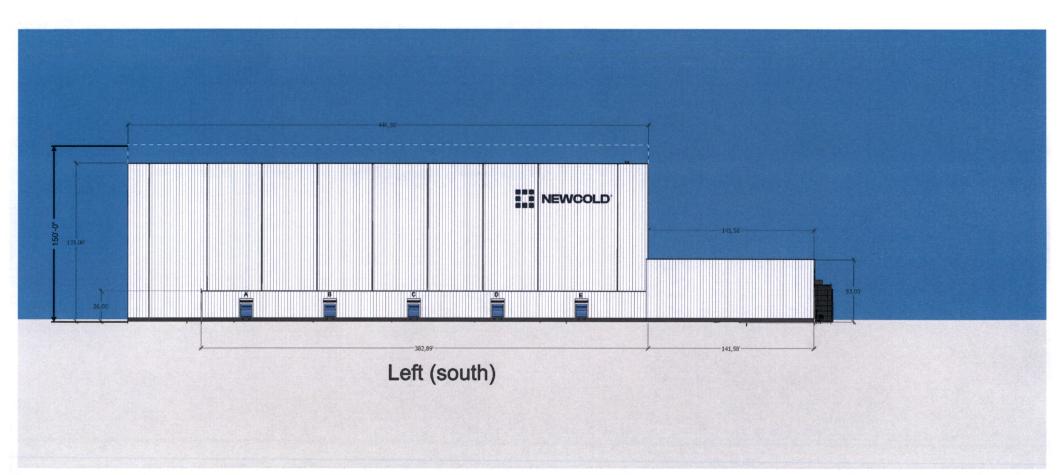


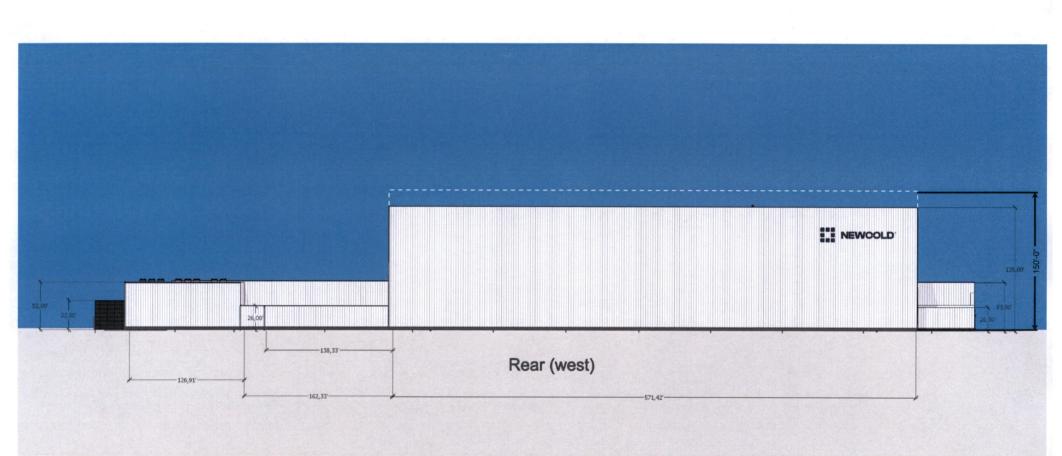












ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2017-11

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND (RZ-16-003)

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 27.1 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County, Maryland (*Zoning Ordinance*), VA AVE, LLC, the Applicant, has petitioned the Board of County Commissioners for Washington County, Maryland (*Board*), for a zoning reclassification and a zoning map amendment of property owned by the Applicant and consisting of 32.78 acres of land, more or less, situated on the south side of Virginia Avenue adjacent to Interstate 70, Hagerstown, Maryland, and more particularly identified in the Ordinance Amendment Application found in the record herein.

The matter has been designated as Case No. RZ-16-003.

A public hearing was held on the application pursuant to Section 27.2 of the Ordinance, where the Applicant and others presented evidence, testimony, and information relating to the zoning reclassification.

The Board has considered all information presented at the public hearing, the recommendation of the Planning Commission, and each of those factors set forth in Md. Code Ann., Land Use § 4-204 and Section 27.3 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Board has made factual findings and conclusions of law that are set forth in the attached Decision. The findings of fact and conclusions of law are incorporated herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, that the property which is the subject of Case No. RZ-16-003 be, and hereby is, granted an Industrial Restricted (IR) zone classification. IT IS FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED that the official Zoning Map be, and hereby is, amended accordingly. The Director of Planning and Zoning shall cause the Zoning Map to be amended pursuant to this Ordinance.

Adopted and effective this <u>*S*</u> day of August, 2017.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tieki C. In

Vicki C. Lumm, Clerk

BY: 🔨

Terry L. Baker, President

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Kirk C. Downey

Deputy County Attorney

Mail to: Office of the County Attorney 100 W. Washington Street, Room 202 Hagerstown, MD 21740

umenis\Rezonings\ZONING MAP AMENDMENT - RZ-16-003 (VA AVE LLC)\ORD\Ordinance DOC

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

DECISION Rezoning Case RZ-16-003

Property Owner:	VA AVE, LLC
Applicant:	VA AVE, LLC
Requested Zoning Change:	ORT – Office, Research and Technology to IR – Industrial, Restricted
Property:	South side of Virginia Avenue, adjacent to the east side of I-70

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Land Use § 4-204 and Washington County Zoning Ordinance § 27.3, we make findings of fact with respect to the following matters: population change, availability of public facilities, present and future transportation patterns, and compatibility with existing and proposed development for the area. We also consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission and the relationship of the proposed reclassification to the Plan.

Findings of Fact

The property.

The parcel of land which is the subject of this rezoning request is a vacant parcel located along the south side of Virginia Avenue (US Rt. 11), just east of where it passes under Interstate 70. It has 418' of frontage on Virginia Avenue and 1,400'of common boundary on the east side of Interstate 70. The parcel's southeastern boundary is approximately 1,480' along the CSX railroad line. The Potomac Edison Company offices and materials storage facility are located on the opposite side of this rail line.

The report and recommendation of the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the requested reclassification.

Population change in the area of the proposed change.

The subject property is located in the Halfway Election District #26. Population data for the district and Washington County are provided in the chart below:

Year	Area	Population	% change from previous
1980	District	9489	
	County	113086	
1990	District	9418	-0.7%
	County	121393	7.3%
2000	District	9854	4.6%
	County	131932	8.7%
2010	District	10774	9.3%
	County	147430	11.7%

Population Trends 1980-2010

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census

The election district has shown a 13.5% increase over the 30-year period, but it has not been a steady or consistent increase. All of the district increases have been smaller than the growth in the County over the same period. The election district experienced a slight loss of population between 1980 and 1990.

Availability of public facilities in the area.

Water and Sewer

The subject property is located in the City of Hagerstown's public water service area and classified as W-1 meaning service is existing.

The subject property is located in a Washington County public sewer service area where treatment is provided at the County's Conococheague wastewater treatment plant. It is classified as W-3 which means that service is programmed for the future. The agency had no objection to the property rezoning.

Emergency Services

The Halfway Volunteer Fire Company provides fire protection services for the subject parcel. The fire station is located at 1114 Lincoln Avenue, approximately one mile to the east. The Halfway Volunteer Fire Company is also the emergency responder for this location.

Public Transportation

The subject property is served by the Williamsport Route (441) of the Washington County Transit System. The route runs between the Transit Center in Hagerstown and Williamsport and the majority of the trip is run on Virginia Avenue. The trip is made 12 times per day on weekdays and 11 times per day on weekends. The bus passes the subject property twice on each run.

Schools

The subject property is located in the attendance districts of Hickory Elementary School, Springfield Middle School and Williamsport High School. There are no students generated from the subject property now because it is vacant. The current Office, Research and Technology zoning district would not generate any school students because residential development is not a permitted use. The requested Industrial Restricted zoning also does not allow residential development so there would be no change as a result of a rezoning on public school facilities.

Present and Future Transportation Patterns.

Traffic volumes on Virginia Avenue (US Rt. 11) have increased since 1985, but without a consistent pattern. Overall there has been a 28% increase over the past 30 years. However, there was also a 29% decrease in the period between 1990 and 1995.

Year	U.S. 11/Virginia Avenue – between Halfway Blvd and I-70
2015	11392
2010	12530
2005	12650
2000	14250
1995	10225
1990	14575
1985	8875

Source: Maryland State Highway Administration

The State Highway Administration did not comment on the application.

Virginia Avenue fronts the property and is classified as an Other Principal Arterial (Non-Interstate). It is a well-traveled route in the Urban Growth Area and provides a direct connection between Hagerstown and Williamsport and points beyond to the north and south. Other Principal Arterials in urban settings are expected to experience traffic of 20,000 ADT or greater. In most places along its route between Hagerstown and Williamsport, including at the frontage of this property, Virginia Avenue is a two-lane road with varying shoulder widths on each side. At some street intersections, there are multiple turning and through lanes. Several intersections are signalized.

Highway Plan (2002) Comprehensive Plan

I-70 widening is identified conceptually on the Highway Plan in the 2002 Comprehensive Plan. Since it would be a State project, there are no locally budgeted funds or plans for design, acquisition or construction for this project. The identified projects on the highway plan are not prioritized. It is also listed in the <u>Recommendations for Highway Network Improvements</u> at the end of the Transportation chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. I-70 widening is identified in the Hagerstown-Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization (HEPMPO) Long Range Transportation as an unfunded need. It is also identified in Maryland's Highway Needs Inventory for Washington County as an unfunded and unprioritized project. The need is recognized but no definite plans or budget exist at this time.

The section of Virginia Avenue from Halfway Boulevard to Williamsport has been identified in the current Comprehensive Plan as a candidate for sidewalks to improve the urban sidewalk system. The road shoulders in the area can accommodate pedestrians and bicycles, but they are not designated for such use.

Compatibility with existing and proposed development in the area, including indication of neighboring sites identified by the Washington County Historic Sites Survey and subsequent revisions or updates; and the relationship of the proposed change to the Adopted Plan for the County, Development Analysis Plan Map, and Policies.

Surrounding properties contain a variety of uses and zoning districts. Virginia Avenue forms the northern boundary and frontage of the subject property. Across the street is some sparse older residential development, some of it on large parcels, and several large areas of forest. Immediately to the east of the subject property and south of Virginia Avenue is a concentration of Business, Local and Business, General zoning, comprising approximately 18 acres with a mixture of small commercial and residential uses. In this area and within 2,000 feet of the subject property is a car wash, a Dollar General store, and a small restaurant. Also to the east and on the north side of Virginia Avenue is a cluster

of single-family residences in Residential Suburban zoning and an area of Residential, Multi-family zoning. Hickory Elementary School is also located in this area. To the east and the southeast are the CSX railroad tracks and the Potomac Edison offices and storage yard in Industrial, General zoning, the only industrial zoning in the area. Further to the southeast is a large area of residential development in Residential, Suburban and Residential, Urban zoning. To the west, on the opposite side of I-70 is a substantial amount of residential development, including hundreds of dwelling units in the Tammy and Van Lear subdivisions in Residential, Transition zoning. A small Business, General zone containing an ice cream shop adjacent to the residential area and immediately adjacent to the west side of I-70.

Historic inventory sites within ¹/₂ mile of the subject property include:

• WA-I-382 – "Charlton Farm," Mid-19th century, 2-story brick house, barn, outbuildings (.4 miles away).

Historic inventory sites with 1 mile of the subject property include:

- WA-I-356 "Hopewell Hereford Farm," 19th century, 2-story stone farmhouse, barn and outbuildings;
- WA-I-357 "Salisbury," National Register listed, 19th century, 2story brick home, associated with Sprecher's Mill (early 19th century grist mill);
- WA-I-414 "Sterling House," late 19th century, 2-story brick farmhouse; and
- WA-I-023 "Tammany Manor," National Register listed, rate 18th Century brick dwelling with elaborate interior and exterior details, associated with Van Lear family, prominent early Washington County residents related to William Findley (Pennsylvania governor) and Benjamin Harrison (U.S. President).

All of the inventory sites noted are on opposite sides of the interstates from the subject property. Reclassification of the property will have no effect on the historic inventory sites.

The relationship of the proposed change to the Adopted Plan for the County, Development Analysis Plan Map, and Policies.

The Comprehensive Plan assigns a Commercial land use designation to the subject property. The property is within the Urban Growth Area (UDA). The UGA is the target area for policies and regulations, including zoning

designations, which promote future growth and development served by publicly provided and maintained infrastructure. The Rural/Agricultural Area designation applies to all other areas of Washington County, where opposite but complementary policies and programs are intended to preserve agriculture, sensitive environments, heritage areas, and open space. Large scale or intense land uses are discouraged in the rural areas.

The subject property is currently zoned Office, Research and Technology (ORT). That district was created in 2002 to effect the recommendations of the 2002 Comprehensive Plan and to assist the Potomac Edison Property in the development of land around its offices as a technology business park. The district is purposely selective in the uses permitted to insure compatibility and to "promote and maintain desirable development activities in a setting that is in harmony with the surrounding areas, preserve open space by creating a "campus-like" setting, and promote architecturally attractive buildings and structures." The district also has design guidelines for setbacks, landscaping, buffers, lighting, sign and architectural treatments to promote compatibility. It is designed to produce offices and other buildings to house high technology industry that would have a minimal effect outside of the structure in which it is found.

The ORT district was determined to be appropriate for this location, among the mix of uses noted above, by the Urban Growth Area Advisory Committee that recommended it during the Comprehensive Urban Growth Area rezoning approved in 2012.

The purpose of the Industrial, Restricted (IR) district is likewise to allow permitted uses that have a lesser effect on adjacent properties than traditional manufacturing uses normally would. There is Industrial, General zoning immediately adjacent to the subject property across the CSX railroad tracks. The mixture of uses in the neighborhood and the proximity of other IR property to the subject property supports a conclusion that an IR designation for the subject property would not run afoul of the policy provisions of the Plan.

Whether there has been a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood where the property is located.

This factor is not applicable as the applicant's request is premised upon a mistake in the existing zoning classification.

Whether there was a mistake in the existing zoning classification.

The applicant argues that the ORT zoning applied to the subject property in 2012 was a mistake because the zoning authority overlooked the property's proximity to railroad tracks and Interstate 70. The applicant also argues that the zoning authority over anticipated the need for ORT-zoned land.

We agree that a mistake has been demonstrated. The property has been marketed for years with no interest from perspective developers, and the property's bordering of a railroad line, an interstate, and an adjacent Industrial General zone probably will not result in the property's evolvement into a "campus like" setting. We conclude that the 2012 application of the ORT classification was a mistake.

Whether there has been a convincing demonstration that the proposed rezoning would be appropriate and logical for the subject property.

The subject property is undeveloped. It was zoned Business General before the 2012 application of the Office, Research and Technology zone. It is surrounded by major transportation corridors, including a railroad line, Route 11, and Interstate 70. It abuts Business General and Business Local zones to the east and at its westernmost point, and an Industrial, General zone to the south. Residential Transition zoning is found to the west and north. Residential Urban and Residential Suburban uses are found in the more distant extremities of the neighborhood.

Thus, the neighborhood is mixed-use, and transitional in the immediate environs of this property, with commercial areas to the east, an industrial area to the south, and residential uses, mostly, to the north and west. The residential zones are distinctly severed from the subject property by Route 11 and Interstate 70. The presence of the existing IG zone to the south and BL and BG zones to the east supports the reclassification of the property to the requested Industrial Restricted zone. The IR zone is less intense than the IG zone, but allows the uses found in the BL and BG zones. It will well serve as a transitionary area, and its suitability for that purpose is far greater than its suitability as a site for a "campus-like" ORT development.

Conclusion

Having considered all of the testimony, evidence, and arguments presented, the facts and conclusions set forth in this Decision, and applying the Commissioners' "extensive local knowledge in determining zoning issues[,]"Burgess v. 103-29 Ltd.

Partnership, 123 Md. App. 293, 301 (1998), this application for a zoning district reclassification is hereby granted.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

Vicki C. Lumm, Clerk

BY: <u>Jerry L. Baker, President</u>

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Kirk C. Downey Deputy County Attorney

I:\Documents\Rezonings\ZONING MAP AMENDMENT - RZ-16-003 (VA AVE LLC)\FIN\Decisions - Findings of Fact docx

NewCold Reading, LLC (hereinafter "Appellant") requests a variance to reduce the required parking spaces from 350 to 115 parking spaces and a variance to increased maximum height from 75 feet to 150 feet for a proposed high-bay cold storage warehouse at the subject property. The subject property is located at 16965 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland and is zoned Industrial, Restricted. The Board held a public hearing in this matter on May 22, 2024. Appellant was represented by Jason Divelbiss, Esq. at the hearing.

This appeal was heard pursuant to Article 25 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County and upon proper notice to the parties and general public as required.

Findings of Fact

Based upon the testimony given, all information and evidence presented, and upon a study of the specific property involved and the neighborhood in which it is located, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. VA Ave, LLC is the owner of the subject property located at 16965 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland. The subject property is zoned Industrial, Restricted.

2. Appellant is the contract purchase of the subject property and potential developer.

3. In 2017, the subject property was the subject of a rezoning, changing the zoning classification from Office, Research and Technology to Industrial, Restricted.

4. The subject property consists of approximately 32.108 acres located

adjacent to Interstate 70 on the southeast side of Virginia Avenue. The subject property has 481 feet of road frontage on Virginia Avenue and 1,400 of common boundary on the east side of Interstate 70. The southeastern boundary is approximately 1,480 feet along the CSX railroad line.

5. The subject property abuts the Business General and Business local zoning districts to the east and west, the Industrial General to the south and the Residential, Transition district to the west and north.

6. Appellant proposes to construct a 480,450 square-foot automated frozen high-bay warehouse building at the subject property. Approximately 467,150 square feet will be used for warehouse space and 13,300 square feet will office space to support the warehouse use. Approximately 255,000 square feet of the warehouse space will be high-bay storage area that will extend up to between 135 and 150 feet in height.

7. The proposed operation would have approximately 125 to 140 total employees with a maximum of 35-45 on any shift, with a total of 90 when shifts overlap. Employees will work on five (5) rolling shifts each day. Overlapping will occur approximately two (2) times per day.

8. Appellant has developed similar projects in at least three (3) other states as well as internationally. In each project, the high-bay storage was within the 135-to-150-foot range.

Rationale

The Board has authority to grant a variance upon a showing of practical difficulty or undue hardship. §§ 25.2(c) and 25.56.¹ "Practical Difficulty" may be found by the Board when: (1) strict compliance would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a

¹¹ "When the terms unnecessary hardship (or one of its synonyms) and practical difficulties are framed in the disjunctive ("or"), Maryland courts generally have applied the more restrictive hardship standard to use variances, while applying the less restrictive practical difficulties standard to area variances because use variances are viewed as more drastic departures from zoning requirements." *Belvoir Farms Homeowners Ass'n, Inc. v. North*, 355 Md. 259, 276 n.10 (1999) (citations omitted).

permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome; and (2) denying the variance would do substantial injustice to the applicant and a lesser relaxation than that applied for would not give substantial relief; and (3) granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance and secure public safety and welfare. § 25.56(A).

Practical difficulty and undue hardship are the result of a property being unique. "'Uniqueness' of a property for zoning purposes requires that the subject property have an inherent characteristic not shared by other properties in the area, i.e., its shape, topography, subsurface condition, environmental factors, historical significance, access or non-access to navigable waters, practical restrictions imposed by abutting properties (such as obstructions) or other similar restrictions." *North v. St. Mary's Cnty.*, 99 Md. App. 502, 514 (1994).)

Parking Variance

Pursuant to Section 22.12 of the Zoning Ordinance, warehouse or wholesale establishments require "1 space per 1.5 employees on the main shift or 1 space per 1,500 sq. ft. GFA, whichever is greater, plus 1 space per 350 sq. ft. GFA of sales and/or office space." As applied to the proposed project, Appellant would need a total of 350 parking spaces which includes 312 parking spaces for the warehouse and 38 parking spaces for the office. Appellant testified that based on the operation of the proposed facility, there would be a total of 125-150 total employees working in five (5) rolling shifts that overlap. Thus, the project would require far less than the mandated 350 parking spaces.

Appellant also testified that approximately 255,000 square feet of the total area is part of the high bay portion of the warehouse. That leaves approximately 212,000 square feet of actual gross floor area, for which the Ordinance would require 141 parking spaces. The request for 115 parking spaces is only a small departure from this number and therefore reasonable under the circumstances. If Appellant were to comply with the strict requirements for parking, it would need to reduce the number of trailer stalls or install almost one (1) additional acre of paved area for parking. Given the shape of the lot and proposed use, practical difficulty does exist, and the parking variance should be granted to allow for the most appropriate and efficient design of the subject property.

Height Variance

Pursuant to Section 13.4 of the Zoning Ordinance, "[no] structure shall exceed seventy-five feet in height, except as provided in Section 23.4. Section 23.4 exempts building height limitations from high density warehousing; however such warehousing is not otherwise defined by the Ordinance. Thus, Appellant seeks a general variance from the height limitations for buildings in the Industrial, Restricted zoning district.

Appellant testified that the building would have a modular look so as to disguise the high-bay storage area from the outside view. The height is necessary to efficiently store frozen food items and reduce cooling and energy costs. If Appellant were to comply with the strict height requirements, it would likely eliminate the operational efficiency sought be achieved in this unique design. As such, the absence of variance relief would be prohibitive for the project. Appellant asserts that all of this supports a finding of practical difficulty that justifies the variance relief.

There was considerable opposition presented by many of the nearby residents and property owners. The express concerns for traffic and noise and asserted that the proposed project was inconsistent with the character of the neighborhood.² The Board heard testimony that the proposed building does not resemble anything in the immediate area and would result in a ten (10) story building that everyone can see from their homes. Many of the witnesses were concerned about the disruption to the environment and the negative effect on their property values.

Generally speaking, the Board finds that many of concerns raised are valid given the nature of the project and the surrounding neighborhood. The Board appreciates the

² The Board was reminded that this was a variance request for a height increase and not a special exception request. The proposed use is already permitted under the Industrial, Restricted zoning classification.

citizens taking time to engage in the process and voice their concerns for what is happening in the community. However, the issue presented is not whether Appellant is permitted to locate a frozen high-bay storage warehouse at the subject property. That has been resolved by the Zoning Ordinance which permits such a use in the Industrial, Restricted zoning district. Instead, it is whether there is justification to grant a variance from the maximum height restrictions for the proposed building.

Having considered all of the testimony and evidence, the Board is concerned that approximately ten (10) stories of warehouse building is to be located among nearby homes. Furthermore, the Board struggles to find the justification for doubling the maximum allowable height for this project in the absence of a showing of uniqueness. Appellant provided a thorough presentation in support of its request, but failed to demonstrate how the property was unique and furthermore, that any such uniqueness related to the need for additional height on the building. Consequently, the Board finds that Appellant has not satisfied the criteria for the height variance and the request should be denied.

Accordingly, the variances to reduce the required parking spaces from 350 to 115 parking spaces for a proposed high-bay cold storage warehouse is GRANTED, by a vote 5 to 0. The variance to increase the maximum height from 75 feet to 150 feet for a proposed high-bay cold storage warehouse is DENIED, by a vote of 4 to 1.

BOARD OF APPEALS

By: Jay Miller, Chair³

Date Issued: June 21, 2024

Notice of Appeal Rights

Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Authority in a contested case, whether such decision is affirmative or negative in form, is entitled to file a petition for judicial review of that order to the Circuit Court for Washington County within thirty (30) days of the date of the order.

³ Mr. Miller was a Board member and served as Chair at the time of the hearing and decision in this matter. His term has since expired, and he is no longer a member of the Board of Appeals.



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

ZONING APPEAL

Property Owner:	Obidi Holdings LLC			Docket No:	AP20	24-020
	303 Memorial Boulevar	d West		Tax ID No:	2701	6243
	Hagerstown MD 21740)		Zoning:	RS	
Appellant:	Obidi Holdings LLC			RB Overlay:	No	
	303 Memorial Bouldvar	ď		Zoning Overlay	:	
	Hagerstown MD 21740)		Filed Date:	05/02	2/2024
				Hearing Date:	05/22	2/2024
Property Location:	13316 Marsh Pike, Unit	#				
	Hagerstown, MD 21742	2				
Description Of Appe	al: Special exception to estab	olish a full se	ervice phy	sicians' office in a ne	w comm	ercial building.
Appellant's Legal Int	erest In Above Property:	Owner:	Yes	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No	
		Lessee:	No	Contract to Purchase:	No	
		Other:				
Previous Petition/Ap	ppeal Docket No(s):	AP2021-	026 & AF	2022-029		
Applicable Ordinanc	e Sections:	Washing	ton Cour	nty Zoning Ordinand	ce Sectio	on 8.2 (e)
Reason For Hardship) :					
If Appeal of Ruling, I	Date Of Ruling:					
Ruling Official/Agen	cy:					
Existing Use:	Vacant Commerical Building	Propose	d Use:	New Commeric	al Buildi	ng for Physicians Office
Previous Use Ceased For At Least 6 Months:				Date Ceased:		
Area Devoted To No	on-Conforming Use -	Existing: Propose				

I hearby affirm that all of the statements and information contained in or filed with this appeal are true and correct.

Appellant Signature

State Of Maryland, Washington County to-wit:

Sworn and subscribed before me this _____

day of

Notary Public

My Commission EXPLANT B Kathvon WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P:240.313.2430 | F:240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)

Docket No: AP2024-020

State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 5/2/2024, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared The Clabaugh Law Firm and made oath in due form of law as follows:

The Clabaugh Law Firm will post the zoning notice sign(s) given to me by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with Section 25.51(c) of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance for the above captioned Board of Appeals case, scheduled for public hearing on 05/22/2024, and that said sign(s) will be erected on the subject property in accordance with the required distances and positioning as set out in the attached posting instructions.

Sign(s) will be posted on 05/07/2024 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

The Clabaugh Law Firm

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

Notary Public Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC SHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSI FYDIDEC NOVA

My Commission Expires

Seal



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT

is authorized to file an appeal with the Wash	on property
The said work is authorized by Ovidi the property owner in fee.	Heldings, LLC
	PROPERTY OWNER
	Obidi Holdings, LLC
	13316 Marsh Vike
	Address <u>Hagevstown</u> , <u>Maryland</u> 21742 City, State, Zip Code
	chert'
	Owner's Signature
Sworn and Subscription perfore methis Notary Public-Maryland Frederick County	day of <u>May</u> , 20 24.
My Commission Expires January 8, 2028	Notary Public
My Commission Expires: January 8,20	28
	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
	Tracie L. Clabaugh, Esq. The Clabaugh
	2 S. Wisner Street Law Firm
	Address <u>Fredevick</u> , <u>Manyland</u> 21701 City, State Zip gode
	City, Otato 20 000
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Authorized Representative's Signature
Sworth and subscribed before methis	day of May , 20 24.
Jordan Yingling Notary Public-Maryland Frederick County My Commission Expires January 8, 2028	Notery Public
My Commission Expires: January 6,207	
747 Northern Avenue Hagerstown, MD 22	1742 P: 240.313.2430 F: 240.313.2461 Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

WWW.WASHCO-MD.NET



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742 | P: 240.313.2430 |F: 240.313.2461 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

WWW.WASHCO-MD.NET

Appeal for Special Exception

Appeal is hereby made for a special exception under the Washington County Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Location _	13316	Marsh	Pike	Hagerstown	, Maryla	ind 21742	
-		and the second se	the second se			the state of the	_

Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One)

\checkmark	Owner (Including Joint Ownership)	Lessee	Contract to rent/lease
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

Contract to Purchase_____Other _____

Use Proposed: Doctor's Office

Zoning Ordinance section and subsection(s) providing for proposed use: Doctor's office - Section

8.2 (e) of Zoning Ordinance.

If filing functionally similar to a principal permitted use or special exception use, please list the use and describe the use similarities: Doctor's office

Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet

Has any previous petition or ap	peal involving this property been made to the Board? No
If yes, give docket number(s):	AP2022-029 (see attached)
Additional comments, if any: _	see Justification Statement to be submitted
separately.	

I hereby certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge, accurately supplied the information required for the above referenced appeal.

Signature of Appellant 2 S. Wisner Street Frederick, MD 21701 Address of Appellant

tracic @ the c Labaugh Law firm. com 240.439.3787 Email of Appellant Phone Number of Appellant

This appeal form is to be used to assist the customer in gathering the information necessary to submit an application. However, the application shall be processed in person.

Revised August 3, 2022



May 2, 2024

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Washington County, Maryland Attn: Katie Rathvon Zoning Coordinator, Division of Planning & Zoning 747 Northern Avenue Hagerstown, Maryland 21742

RE: Appeal for Special Exception – Property located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland 21742 (the "**Property**")

Dear Katie:

Please find enclosed the application for Appeal for Special Exception (and attachments) and the Owner Representative Affidavit for the Property.

As per email correspondence, I will submit the Justification Statement on or before Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

Please call with any questions you might have. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Enc: (as noted)



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742 | P. 240.313.2430 |F. 240.313.2461 | Hearing Impaired 7-1-1

WWW.WASHCO-MD.NET

Appeal for Special Exception

Appeal is hereby made for a special exception under the Washington County Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Location 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland 21742

Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One)

\checkmark	Owner (Including Joint Ownership)	Lessee	Contract to rent/lease
which a subscription of the		Chevron and the second s	

Contract to Purchase Other

Use Proposed: Doctor's Office

Zoning Ordinance section and subsection(s) providing for proposed use: Doctor's office - Section

8.2 (e) of Zoning Ordinance.

If filing functionally similar to a principal permitted use or special exception use, please list the use and describe the use similarities: Doctor's office

Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet

Has any previous petition or appeal involving this property been made to the Board? V Yes No

If yes, give docket number(s): _ AP2022-029 (see attached)

Additional comments, if any: <u>See Justification Statement to be submitted</u>

separately

I hereby certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge, accurately supplied the information required for the above referenced appeal.

Signature of Appellant

2 S. Wisner Street Frederick, MD 21701 Address of Appellant

tracie @ the c Labaughlaw firm. con 240.439.3787 Email of Appellant Phone Number of Appellant

This appeal form is to be used to assist the customer in gathering the information necessary to submit an application. However, the application shall be processed in person.

Revised August 3, 2022



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT

This is to certify that <u>Tracie L. Clabaugh Esq. with The Clabaugh Law Firm</u> is authorized to file an appeal with the Washington County Board of Appeals for <u>Obidi</u> Holdings, <u>UC</u> on property
located 13316 Marsh Vike, Hagerstown, Mary land 21742 The said work is authorized by Obidi Haldings, Luc
the property owner in fee.
PROPERTY OWNER
Obidi Holdings, LLC
Name 13316 Marsh Vike
Address Hagevstown, Maryland 21742 City, State, Zip Code
Chert'
Owner's Signature
Sworn and subscription perore methis day of day of, 20
Notary Public-Maryland Frederick County My Commission Expires January 8, 2028 Notary Public
My Commission Expires: January 8,2028
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
Tracie L. Clabaugh, Esq. The Clabough
2 S. Wisner Street Law Firm
Address Frederick, Manyland 21701
City, State Zip Gode
Authorized Representative's Signature
Sworn and subscribed before me this day of May, 20_24. Jordan Yingling Notary Public-Maryland Frederick County My Commission Expires January 8, 2028
My Commission Expires: January 8, 2028
747 Northern Avenue Hagerstown, MD 21742 P: 240.313.2430 F: 240.313.2461 Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

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WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

ZONING APPEAL

	5		Dacket No	
Property Owner:	FHCPN LLC			
	C/O Robert Baer		Tax ID No.	
	13316 Marsh Pike			
	Hagerstown MD 21743		Zoning.	11 S.
Appellant:	Obidi Holdings LLC		RB Overlay:	
	97 Lily Lane		Zoning Overlay.	
	Frankforf MA 04435		Filed Date:	
			Hearing Date:	UT 06 2022
Property Location:	13316 Marsh Pike			
	Hagerstown MD 21143			
Description Of Appeal:	Special exception to est	abi sh a full servic	e physicians office	in existing commercial buildin
Appellant's Legal Interi	est in Above Property.	Owner: 10	Contract to Rent/Lease:	
			Contract to	
		Lessee: No	Purchase	
		Other		
Previous Petition/Appe	eal Docket No(s):	AP2021-026		
Applicable Ordinance S	lections:	Washington Cou	nty Zoning Ordinar	red Section 8.2 (e)
Reason For Hardship:				
If Appeal of Ruling, Dat	te Of Ruling:			
Ruling Official/Agency:				
Existing Use: Con	nmercial Office Space	Proposed Use	an, lans Dri (
Previous Use Ceased Fi	or At Least 6 Months:		Date Ceased:	
Area Devoted To Non-	Conforming Use -	Existing:		
		Proposed:		
I hearby affirm that all	of the statements and in	nformation contai	ned in or filed with	h this appeal are true and
correct.			- (

Appel ant Signature 37 146

State Of Maryland, Washington County to wit

14

Sworn and subscribed before me this

My Commission Expires

Lotary Public



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT

is authorized to file an appeal with the Was a special exception to operate a full service physicia	in's office	on property
located 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Marylan	d 21742	
The said work is authorized byFHCPM_LL	Ć	
the property owner in fee	×	
	PROPERTY OWNER	
	FHCPM LLC	
	Name	
	97 Lily Lane	
	Address	
	Frankfort, Maine 04438 City, State, Zip Code	
	Cite blate, zip Code	
	halt Jom	
	Owner's Signature	
Sworn and subscribed before membra	day of	20-22
ARY I	Wither Mular Notary Public	Heather McLaughlin
My Commission Expres	Notary Fublic	Notary Public, State of Maine My Commission Explices Nov. 08, 2
Superior Contraction of the State	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
	Lity license y	
	Name	
	BE Gest Black St. In te	000
	Address	
	City, State, Zip Code	
	City state zip code	
	Authorized Representative's Signature	
Sworn and subscribed before me this	day of	20 52
	Att 2 last	
	Notary Public	
My Commission Expires		
747 Northern Avenue, Hagerstown MD 2	1742 P 240.313.2460 + 240.313.2461)	te actery (2011) 7-1-1

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WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 741 Normal American Country BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)

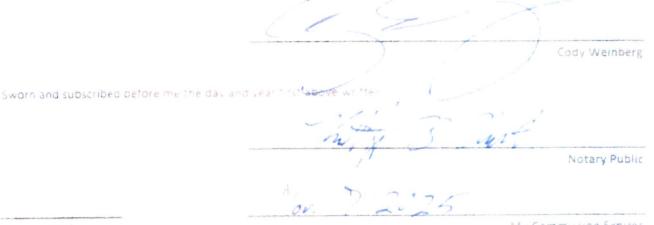
Docket No: AP2022-029

State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit

On 6/14/2022, before meithe subscriber la Notary of the public of the State and Counts afores a dispersonal all appeared Cody Weinberg and made oath in due form of law as to locks

Goay Weinberg will post the zoning notice signist given to me by the Zoning Administrator in uccurrance & th Section 25.51(c) of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance for the above captioned Board in Appeals cases scheduled for public hearing on 07/06/2022, and that said signist will be envicted on the subject of burnt in accordince with the required distances and bositioning as set dut in the attached bost or instruction.

Signis 17. If be posted on 06/21, 2022 and will remain until after the above tiearing data



Seal

My Commission Expires



Receipt

Record Informati	on		PAYMENT RECEIPT: CASHIER: DATE:	266726 KRATHVON 06/14/2022
Record Number	Record Name		Site Address	Tax Acct ID
AP2022-029	Zoning Appeals Special Exception		13316 Marsh Pike	27016243
Fee Information				
Description		Account Code	involce#	Amount
board of Appeals		403030-16-10810	244024	\$500.00
			Total Fee Amount:	\$500.00
Payment Informa	tion			
Method	Reference No	Comments		Transaction Amount
Check	4297			\$500.00
Payor			Total Amour	nt: \$500.00
CEI Med Practice LLC 303 Memorial Boulev				

hagerstown MD 21740



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

747 Northern Avenue: Hagerstown: MD 21742 2723 (P 240 315 2430; P 240 313 2431; Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

June 14, 2022

Obidi Holdings LLC 97 Lily Lane Frankfort MA 04438

RE:	Docket No:	AP2022-029	
	Zoning Dist:	RS	
	Zoning Overlay:	No	
	RB Overlay:	No	
	Location:	13316 Marsh Pike	
		Hagerstown, MD 21742	

Your appeal for the above referenced property has been made for a zoning permit which would authorize the following:

Special exception to establish a full service physic and office in existing commercial building

The appeal is scheduled to be heard by the Board of Appeals on 07/06/2022, at 6:00 pm. This public hearing will be held in Fublic Meeting Room 2000, on the second floor of the County Administration Building, at 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland.

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact the Permitting Office at 240-313-2460 to make arrangements no later than 06/27/2022. Any person designing a stenographic transcript shall be responsible for supplying a competent stenographer.

rou are hereby requested to be present, either in person or represented by agent or counsel, to present your case.

Sincerely.

Htik

Katie Rathvon Zoning Coordinator

JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION DOCTOR/PHYSICIAN OFFICE IN "RS" RESIDENTIAL, SUBURBAN DISTRICT

I. INTRODUCTION

This application is made pursuant to Article 25.6 and Article 8 of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance ("Zoning Ordinance").

Obidi Holdings, LLC, a Maryland limited liability company (the "**Applicant**") requests the Board of Appeals ("**BOA**") consideration and approval for a Special Exception for a Doctor's Office in the "RS" Residential, Suburban District, together with the current residential tenant space on the second floor. The Applicant is the owner of the subject property, which is a \pm 0.8260 acre commercial site, with an address of 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland 21742, and Tax Identification Number 27-016243, referred to collectively as the "**Subject Property**" or the "**Site**" or the "**Property**".

The Subject Property is located within the vicinity of residential and commercial properties. The commercial properties consist of Hebron Mennonite Church, Paramount Baptist Church, Silhouette Salon, Middletown Valley Bank, and Paramount Elementary School. See **Exhibit A**, an aerial Google photo of the Subject Property and adjacent properties, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. See also **Exhibit B**, the Property and Zoning Web Map attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Obidi Holdings appeared before the BOA in Appeal Docket Number AP 2022-029, a copy of the application is attached hereto as **Exhibit** C and incorporated herein by reference. The BOA approved Appeal Docket Number AP2022-029 (the "Previously Approved SE"). Since the BOA approval, the Applicant has been diligently working with its engineering and contracting team to plan and renovate the existing structure based on the testimony provided in the Previously Approved SE. However, after finding structural deficiencies in the current building, the Applicant and its team have come to the conclusion that the current building will need to be demolished in order to build the proposed doctor's office as planned. The reasons for this decision include the following: (i) The current building is an older structure with at least two poorly constructed additions, which make it difficult, unsafe, and inefficient to "build out" patient examination rooms and other appurtenant areas for a doctor's office; (ii) The additions that were constructed were not constructed well and the current building is not deemed physically stable enough per current building codes for the planned renovation. In order to renovate the current building, the Applicant would be required to structurally reinforce the current building, in order to comply with current building codes, at a significant cost; (iii) Sprinklers and other appurtenant equipment need to be installed to bring it to code; (iv) The current floor plan is not designed for a doctor's office; and (v) The Applicant plans to install an elevator so that the second floor can be accessed. However, the structural deficiencies will not

permit the installation of an elevator in the current building. The Applicant respectfully requests as part of this Application for Special Exception that the current building located within the Subject Property be demolished and a new commercial building be constructed in its place for the proposed doctor's office and residential tenant space.

Information pertaining to the proposed use for a doctor's office:
Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. Appointments would be encouraged.
Employees: 2 Providers, 4 – 5 in-office Staff, and 2 – 3 virtual Staff
Location of any freestanding signage: The location of the proposed freestanding sign will be located in the same location as the previous commercial signage. See Site Plan attached hereto as Exhibit D and incorporated herein by reference.
Proposed Landscaping and Lighting: See Site Plan attached hereto as Exhibit D and incorporated herein by reference.

As provided in the Previously Approved SE, this will be a second office location for this medical practice, and the Applicant would be creating more medical jobs for the County. The Subject Property will be served by public water and sewer facilities. The Applicant's proposed use fits within all required setbacks and meets the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance. See also **Exhibit C** and **Exhibit D**.

The Applicant has met with or plans to meet with the neighbors that live in close proximity to the Subject Property to discuss this intended use and the Special Exception Application.

II. SPECIAL EXCEPTION STANDARD:

The standard for the grant or denial of a special exception is whether there are facts and circumstances that show that the particular use proposed at the particular location would have any adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zoning district. *See also Schultz v. Pritts*, 291 Md. 1 (1981).

The BOA approved Applicant's previous application for Special Exception as provided above and on **Exhibit C**. The testimony provided with regard to the proposed use as a doctor's (or physician's) office and the Subject Property did not have any adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with a doctor's or physician's office irrespective of its location within the "RS" Residential, Suburban Zoning District. This information was provided in detail and testified to as part of Applicant's Previously Approved SE. The Subject Property has been used as a commercial property for many years. It is the Applicant's understanding that the Subject Property was once used as a gun shop and also a landscaping and garden equipment business, including a residential tenant space. The facts and circumstances as provided herein and as part of Applicant's Previously Approved SE show that this particular proposed use (as a doctor's office) and residential tenant space at the Subject Property would not have any adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location in the zoning district. See also the BOA Approval, which is part of **Exhibit C**.

III. <u>SPECIAL EXCEPTION – ARTICLE 25.6 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE (AS</u> <u>APPLICABLE)</u>:

Article 25.6 of the Zoning Ordinance provides, in pertinent part:

"In deciding such matters, the Board shall consider any other information germane to the case and shall give consideration to the following, as applicable:

(a) The number of people residing or working in the immediate area concerned.

<u>Answer</u>: The number of people residing or working in the immediate area of the Subject Property is comparable to a residential suburban community. There are residential properties and commercial properties near the Subject Property. As provided herein, the Subject Property is surrounded by residential properties and commercial properties, such as the Hebron Mennonite Church, Paramount Baptist Church, Silhouette Salon, Middletown Valley Bank, and Paramount Elementary School. See also <u>Exhibit A</u> and <u>Exhibit B</u>.

(b) The orderly growth of a community.

Answer: The Subject Property is located in an Urban and Town Growth Area. The Washington County, MD Comprehensive Plan 2040, on page 335, provides, in pertinent part: "[f]urthermore, it is clear that the County is maintaining its efforts to appropriately direct growth and that the greatest amount of development is taking place in the growth areas designated for development." The Subject Property will continue to assist the County with its efforts of directing growth in this designated area of development. See also **Exhibit B**.

(c) Traffic conditions and facilities.

<u>Answer</u>: The traffic impact is negligible because the hours of operation and schedule of patients with limited providers will not substantially increase traffic for this commercial site. In addition, the footprint of the new building is no larger than the existing commercial building. See also <u>Exhibit C</u> for previous testimony and BOA approval of the Previously Approved SE.

(d) The effect of such use upon the peaceful enjoyment of people in their homes.

<u>Answer</u>: As provided above in paragraph III.c., and in the testimony of the Applicant's Previously Approved SE, the surrounding residential uses will be able to continue to enjoy a peaceful environment in conjunction with the proposed use of the Subject Property. See also <u>Exhibit C</u> for previous testimony and BOA approval of the Previously Approved SE.

(e) The conservation of property values.

<u>Answer</u>: A newly constructed building will conserve (and possibly increase) property values in the community, and will serve and fit into the surrounding neighborhood. The current building has structural deficiencies, and a newly constructed building will be safer for the community.

(f) The effect of odors, dust, gas, smoke, fumes, vibrations, glare and noise upon the use of surrounding property values.

<u>Answer</u>: There will be no odors, dust, gas, smoke, fumes, vibrations, glare or noise upon the surrounding properties or property values with the proposed use of the Subject Property.

(g) The most appropriate use of land and structure.

Answer: Given the poor quality of the structure and structural deficiencies of the current building, the Applicant is respectfully requesting that the BOA permit the Applicant to demolish the current building located on the Subject Property and build a new commercial building for the proposed use. The Subject Property has been used as a commercial property for many years, and this is the most appropriate use for it.

(h) Decision of the courts.

<u>Answer</u>: As provided herein, the standard for the grant or denial of a special exception is whether there are facts and circumstances that show that the particular use proposed at the particular location proposed would have any adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zoning district. *See also Schultz v. Pritts*, 291 Md. 1 (1981). As provided herein, and in the Previously Approved SE, the proposed use would not have any adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zoning district. See also Schultz v. Pritts, 291 Md. 1 (1981).

(i) The purpose of these regulations as set forth herein.

Previously Approved SE on Exhibit C.

<u>Answer</u>: The proposed use would not adversely impact the public health, safety, security, morals or general welfare, nor would it result in dangerous traffic conditions, nor would it jeopardize the lives or property of people living in the neighborhood. See the Previously Approved SE on <u>Exhibit C</u>.

(j) Type and kind of structures in the vicinity where public gatherings may be held, such as schools, churches and the like".

<u>Answer</u>: As provided above, the Subject Property is surrounded by Hebron Mennonite Church, Paramount Baptist Church, Silhouette Salon, Middletown Valley Bank, and Paramount Elementary School. See also <u>Exhibit A</u> and <u>Exhibit B</u>.

III. ARTICLE 8 - "RS" RESIDENTIAL, SUBURBAN DISTRICT:

According to Section 8.0 of the Zoning Ordinance, the purpose of the Residential, Suburban District is to provide appropriate locations in the Urban and Town Growth Areas for single and two-family dwellings on moderately sized lots and *limited community service type uses*. Article 8.2 (e) of the Zoning Ordinance provides that "medical or dental clinics, **doctors' offices**, and hospitals" are special exception uses (requiring Board Authorization after Public Hearing) in the "RS" Residential, Suburban zoning district. A Doctor Office is a limited community service type use that is permitted by Special Exception in the "RS" Residential, Suburban district. As provided in the Previously Approved SE and on **Exhibit C**, the BOA stated, "The use certainly serves the community and fits into the surrounding neighborhood. The Board finds that the proposed use will have no greater 'adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zone". *See also Schultz v. Pritts*, 291 Md. 1 (1981).

IV. CONCLUSION:

For the reasons set forth herein, the Applicant respectfully requests approval from the Board of Appeals to demolish the current building and construct a new commercial building (and keep the residential tenant space) for a Doctor's (Physician's) Office pursuant to Article 25 and Article 8 of the Zoning Ordinance. As evidenced in this Justification Statement, the Special Exception is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Ordinance for a Doctor's (Physician's) Office in the "RS" Residential, Suburban Zoning District, and the proposed use will have no greater "adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zone". *Schultz v. Pritts*, 291 Md. 1 (1981).

EXHIBIT A

13316 Marsh Pike - Google Maps

Google Maps

13316 Marsh Pike



Imagery ©2024 Airbus, Maxar Technologies, U.S. Geological Survey, Map data ©2024 200 ft



13316 Marsh Pike

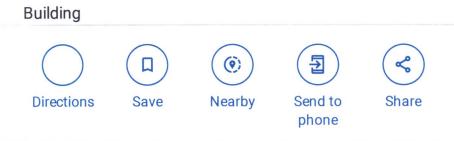
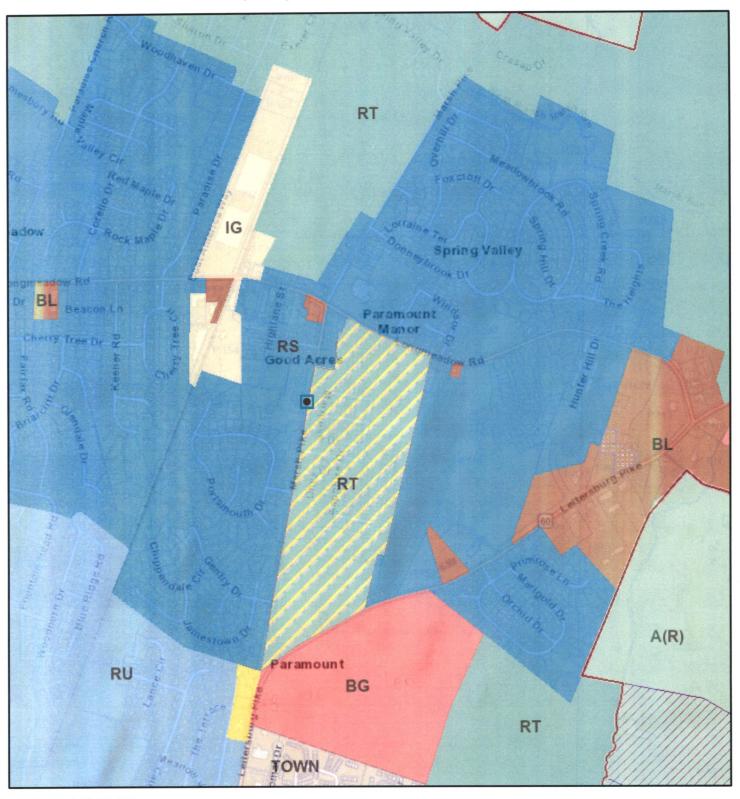


Exhibit B

Property and Zoning Web Map



5/6/2024, 4:36:54 PM



BOARD OF APPEALS

Exhibit C

July 6, 2022

County Administration Building, 100 W. Washington St., Meeting Room 2000, Hagerstown, at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

DOCKET NO. AP2022-027: An appeal was made by Keir Lynn & Christopher Jordan for a special exception to establish a guest house in a future accessory building on property owned by appellant and located at 9616 Blooming Meadows Court, Hagerstown, Zoned Agricultural Rural.-WITHDRAWN

DOCKET NO. AP2022-028: An appeal was made by Elvin Eby for a special exception to establish a machine shop facility to make and repair items for agricultural equipment on provided owned by Glenn & Brenda Eby and located at the property adject to 14603 Fairview Road, Clear Spring, Zoned Agricultural Rural and Rural Village.- **GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS**

DOCKET NO. AP2022-029: An appeal was made by Obidi Holdings LLC for a special exception to establish a fullservice physicians' office in existing commercial building on property owned by FHCPM LLC and located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Zoned Residential Suburban.- **GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS**

DOCKET NO. AP2022-030: An appeal was made by William Bryd for a variance from the required 15 ft. side yard setback to 5 ft. for proposed detached garage on property owned by the appellant and located at 17323 Spielman Road, Fairplay, Zoned Agricultural Rural.- **GRANTED**

DOCKET NO. AP2022-031: An appeal was made by David & Heather Heitzer for a variance from 50 ft. rear setback to 9 ft. for construction of a rear deck/three season room on property owned by the appellants and located at 9402 Musket Court, Hagerstown, Zoned Agricultural Rural.- **GRANED**

Pursuant to the Maryland Open Meetings Law, notice is hereby given that the deliberations of the Board of Zoning Appeals are open to the public. Furthermore, the Board, at its discretion, may render a decision as to some or all of the cases at the hearing described above or at a subsequent hearing, the date and time of which will be announced prior to the conclusion of the public hearing. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Katie Rathvon at 240-313-2464 Voice, 240-313-2130 Voice/TDD no later than June 27, 2022. Any person desiring a stenographic transcript shall be responsible for supplying a competent stenographer.

The Board of Appeals reserves the right to vary the order in which the cases are called. Please take note of the Amended Rules of Procedure (Adopted July 5, 2006), Public Hearing, Section 4(d) which states:

Applicants shall have ten (10) minutes in which to present their request and may, upon request to and permission of the Board, receive an additional twenty (20) minutes for their presentation. Following the Applicant's case in chief, other individuals may receive three (3) minutes to testify, except in the circumstance where an individual is representing a group, in which case said individual shall be given eight (8) minutes to testify.

Those Applicants requesting the additional twenty (20) minutes shall have their case automatically moved to the end of the docket.

For extraordinary cause, the Board may extend any time period set forth herein, or otherwise modify or suspend these Rules, to uphold the spirit of the Ordinance and to do substantial justice.

Jay Miller, Chairman Board of Zoning Appeals

BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

						*						
OBIDI HOLDINGS, LLC							Ap	peal N	No.: A	P2022	-029	
		pellan	t		*							
						*						
	* *	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

OPINION

*

Obidi Holdings, LLC (hereinafter "Appellant") requests a special exception to establish a full-service physicians' office in a commercial building at the subject property. The subject property is located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland and is zoned Residential Suburban. The Board held a public hearing in this matter on July 6, 2022.

This appeal was heard pursuant to Article 25 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County and upon proper notice to the parties and general public as required.

Findings of Fact

Based upon the testimony given, all information and evidence presented, and upon a study of the specific property involved and the neighborhood in which it is located, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. The subject property is located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland and is owned by FHCPM, LLC. The subject property is zoned Residential Suburban.

2. FHCPM, LLC has given its authorization for Appellant to make this special exception request for the subject property. Appellant is the contract purchaser of the subject property.

3. Appellant currently operates a family medical practice on Memorial Boulevard in Hagerstown, Maryland. The proposed office would be a second location for the practice.

4. The proposed medical practice would be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

5. Appellant plans to have between three (3) and six (6) providers plus staff at the proposed second office. In the beginning there may be between four (4) and six (6) total people working at the practice.

6. The proposed medical practice is by appointment only and at any given time, it is expected there would be a maximum of nine (9) to ten (10) cars in the parking lot. Appellant expects a maximum of eight (8) to nine (9) patients in any given hour.

7. Aside from asbestos remediation, there are no major changes planned for the building at the subject property. Appellant intends to maintain the residence on the second floor of the building.

8. The subject property currently has ten (10) parking spaces and Appellant will have to create more to accommodate the proposed medical practice.

9. There was no opposition presented to this appeal.

Rationale

The Board has authority to grant a special exception pursuant to Section 25.2(b) of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County, Maryland. A special exception is defined as "a grant of a specific use that would not be appropriate generally or without restriction; and shall be based upon a finding that the use conforms to the plan and is compatible with the existing neighborhood." Article 28A.

Appellant is seeking the Board's approval to establish a second office for its family medical practice in a commercial building at the subject property. Appellant testified that they would need additional parking as part of the site plan review process, but that there are no other material changes proposed for the existing building. Any additional parking requirements would be handled at the site plan review stage, and if necessary, would have to come before this Board in another appeal. The medical practice will serve as a second location and plans to be operate fully during normal business hours each week. The proposed use will not produce any noise, odor, gas, dust, or light that would adversely impact neighboring properties. Other than the coming and going of patient traffic, there will be no outward impact of the medical practice's operation. The use certainly serves the community and fits into the surrounding neighborhood. The Board finds that the proposed use at the subject property will have no greater "adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zone." *Schultz v. Pritts*, 291 Md. 1, 15 (1981). For all these reasons, we conclude that this appeal meets the criteria for a special exception, secures public safety and welfare and upholds the spirit of the Ordinance.

Accordingly, the request for a special exception to establish a machine shop facility to make and repair items for agricultural equipment at the subject property is GRANTED, by a vote of 4-1. The application is granted upon the condition that the proposed use be consistent with the testimony and evidence presented herein, and that Appellant utilize downward facing lighting subject to site plan design requirements.

> BOARD OF APPEALS By: Jay Miller, Chair

Date Issued: August 4, 2022

Notice of Appeal Rights

Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Authority in a contested case, whether such decision is affirmative or negative in form, is entitled to file a petition for judicial review of that order to the Circuit Court for Washington County within thirty (30) days of the date of the order.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

Obidi Holdings, LLC						*	Ap	peal N	Io.: A	P2022	2-029
Appellant						*					
						*					
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	

AMENDED OPINION

Obidi Holdings, LLC (hereinafter "Appellant") requests a special exception to establish a full-service physicians' office in a commercial building at the subject property. The subject property is located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland and is zoned Residential Suburban. The Board held a public hearing in this matter on July 6, 2022. The Board subsequently held a public hearing on November 16, 2022 and voted unanimously that this Amended Opinion be issued to correct a typographical error in the original Opinion.

This appeal was heard pursuant to Article 25 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County and upon proper notice to the parties and general public as required.

Findings of Fact

Based upon the testimony given, all information and evidence presented, and upon a study of the specific property involved and the neighborhood in which it is located, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. The subject property is located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland and is owned by FHCPM, LLC. The subject property is zoned Residential Suburban.

2. FHCPM, LLC has given its authorization for Appellant to make this special exception request for the subject property. Appellant is the contract purchaser of the subject property.

3. Appellant currently operates a family medical practice on Memorial Boulevard in Hagerstown, Maryland. The proposed office would be a second location for the practice.

4. The proposed medical practice would be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

5. Appellant plans to have between three (3) and six (6) providers plus staff at the proposed second office. In the beginning there may be between four (4) and six (6) total people working at the practice.

6. The proposed medical practice is by appointment only and at any given time, it is expected there would be a maximum of nine (9) to ten (10) cars in the parking lot. Appellant expects a maximum of eight (8) to nine (9) patients in any given hour.

7. Aside from asbestos remediation, there are no major changes planned for the building at the subject property. Appellant intends to maintain the residence on the second floor of the building.

8. The subject property currently has ten (10) parking spaces and Appellant will have to create more to accommodate the proposed medical practice.

9. There was no opposition presented to this appeal.

Rationale

The Board has authority to grant a special exception pursuant to Section 25.2(b) of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County, Maryland. A special exception is defined as "a grant of a specific use that would not be appropriate generally or without restriction; and shall be based upon a finding that the use conforms to the plan and is compatible with the existing neighborhood." Article 28A.

Appellant is seeking the Board's approval to establish a second office for its family medical practice in a commercial building at the subject property. Appellant testified that

they would need additional parking as part of the site plan review process, but that there are no other material changes proposed for the existing building. Any additional parking requirements would be handled at the site plan review stage, and if necessary, would have to come before this Board in another appeal. The medical practice will serve as a second location and plans to be operate fully during normal business hours each week. The proposed use will not produce any noise, odor, gas, dust, or light that would adversely impact neighboring properties. Other than the coming and going of patient traffic, there will be no outward impact of the medical practice's operation. The use certainly serves the community and fits into the surrounding neighborhood. The Board finds that the proposed use at the subject property will have no greater "adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zone." *Schultz v. Pritts*, 291 Md. 1, 15 (1981). For all these reasons, we conclude that this appeal meets the criteria for a special exception, secures public safety and welfare and upholds the spirit of the Ordinance.

Accordingly, the request for a special exception to establish a to establish a fullservice physicians' office in a commercial building at the subject property is GRANTED, by a vote of 4-1. The application is granted upon the condition that the proposed use be consistent with the testimony and evidence presented herein, and that Appellant utilize downward facing lighting subject to site plan design requirements.

> BOARD OF APPEALS By: Jay Miller, Chair

Date Issued: December 22, 2022

Notice of Appeal Rights

Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Authority in a contested case, whether such decision is affirmative or negative in form, is entitled to file a petition for judicial review of that order to the Circuit Court for Washington County within thirty (30) days of the date of the order.



nue: Hagerstown MD 21742 2723 F 240 313 2430 - 240 313 2431. Hearing Impaired, 7-1-1

ZONING APPEAL

Property Owner:	FHCPM LLC		Docket No:	AP2022-029			
	C/O Robert Baer		Tax ID No:	27016243			
	13316 Marsh Pike						
	Hagerstown MD 2174	2	Zoning:	RS			
Appellant:	Obidi Holdings LLC		RB Overlay:	No			
	97 Lily Lane		Zoning Overlay				
	Frankfort MA 04438		Filed Date:	06/14/2022			
			Hearing Date:	07/06/2022			
Property Location:	13316 Marsh Pike						
	Hagerstown, MD 2174	2					
Description Of Appea	I: Special exception to es	tablish a full servic	e physicians' offic	e in existing commercial building			
			Contract to				
Appellant's Legal Inte	rest In Above Property:	Owner: No	Rent/Lease:	No			
		Lessee: No	Contract to Purchase:	Yes			
		Other:					
Previous Petition/Ap	peal Docket No(s):	AP2021-026					
Applicable Ordinance	Sections:	Washington County Zoning Ordinance Section 8.2 (e)					
Reason For Hardship	:						
If Appeal of Ruling, D	ate Of Ruling:						
Ruling Official/Agenc	φ:						
Existing Use: Co	ommercial Office Space	Proposed Use:	Physicians' Off	ice			
Previous Use Ceased	For At Least 6 Months:		Date Ceased:				
Area Devoted To Nor	-Conforming Use -	Existing:					
		Proposed:					

I hearby affirm that all of the statements and information contained in or filed with this appeal are true and correct.

Appellant Signature

State Of Maryland, Washington County to-wit:

Sworn and subscribed before me this 14 day of June

Mov. 7, 2025 My Commission Expires

4 3 The Notary Public



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT

Obidi Holdings LLC		
This is to certify thatObidi Holdings, LLC is authorized to file an appeal with the Wash a special exception to operate a full service physician	n's office.	on property
located 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland	d 21742	
The said work is authorized byFHCPM. LLC	0	
the property owner in fee.		
	PROPERTY OWNER	
	FHCPM, LLC	
	Name	
	97 Lily Lane	
	Address	
	Frankfort, Maine 04438	
	City, State, Zip Code	
	Owner's Signature	
Sworn and subscribed before methis	day of June	20.22
	Olather Mchauge	Heather McLaughlin
My Commission Expires:	Notary Public	Notary Public, State of Main My Commission Expires Nov. 08
Wy Commission	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
	Cody Weinberg	
	Name 30 West Potrick St Suite	600_
	Address Frederick, MD 2170]	
	City, State, Zip Code	
		5
	Authorized Representative's Signature	
Sworn and subscribed before me this	4_day of	_ 20_22
	That I Must	
	Notary Public	
My Commission Expires: Mar 7, 20,	25	
747 Northern Avenue Hagerstown, MD 2	21742 P: 240.313.2460 F ⁻ 240.313.2461	nearing impaired: /-1-1

20

WWW WASHCO-MD.NET



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

47 Northern Avenue: Hagerstown: MD 21742 2723 (F 240 313 2430 + 240.313 2431; Hearing Impaired, 7-1-1

AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)

Docket No: AP2022-029

State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 6/14/2022, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Cody Weinberg and made oath in due form of law as follows:

Cody Weinberg will post the zoning notice sign(s) given to me by the Zoning Administrator in accordance with Section 25.51(c) of the Washington County Zoning Ordinance for the above captioned Board of Appeals case, scheduled for public hearing on 07/06/2022, and that said sign(s) will be erected on the subject property in accordance with the required distances and positioning as set out in the attached posting instructions.

Sign(s) will be posted on 06/21/2022 and will remain until after the above hearing date

Cody Weinberg

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year first above written

Notary Public

Seal

My Commission Expires

WASHINGTON COUNTY DIVISION OF PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

Washington County 747 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P.240.313.2460 | F.240.313.2461 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

		Receip	ot			
Record Informati	ion		PAYMENT RECEIPT: CASHIER: DATE:	266726 KRATHVON 06/14/2022		
Record Number Record Name			Tax Acct ID 27016243			
AP2022-029	Zoning Appeals Special Exception		13316 Marsh Pike	27010240		
Fee Information						
Description		Account Code	invoice#	Amount		
Board of Appeals		403030-10-10810	244024 Total Fee Amount:	\$500.00 \$500.00		
Payment Informa	tion					
Method	Reference No	Comments		Transaction Amount		
Check	4297			\$500.00		
Payor			Total Amou	nt: \$500.00		
DEJ Med Practice LLC 303 Memorial Boule Hagerstown MD 217	vard West					



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

7 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P-240.313.2430 | F-240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

ATTENTION!

Posting Instructions

The premises MUST be posted in accordance with the following rules:

- The sign must be posted a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the public hearing Section 25.51(c) Property upon which the application or appeal is concerned shall be posted conspicuously by a zoning notice no less in size than twenty-two (22) inches by twenty-eight (28) inches at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the hearing.
- 2. The sign must be placed on the property within ten (10) feet of the property line which abuts the most traveled public road.
- 3. The sign must be posted in a conspicuous manner not over six (6) feet above the ground level, and affixed to a sturdy frame where it will be clearly visible and legible to the public.
- -. The sign shall be maintained at all times by the applicant until after the public hearing. If a new sign is needed or required, please contact the Plan Review Department at 240-313-2460.
- 5. An affidavit certifying the property will be posted for the minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the public hearing date.

Proper posting of the sign will be spot checked by the Zoning Inspector. IF SIGN IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE, IT MAY RESULT IN RESCHEDULING OF THE HEARING.



WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

47 Northern Avenue | Hagerstown, MD 21742-2723 | P.240.313.2430 | F.240.313.2431 | Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

June 14, 2022

Obidi Holdings LLC 97 Lily Lane Frankfort MA 04438

RE:	Docket No:	AP2022-029
	Zoning Dist:	RS
	Zoning Overlay:	No
	RB Overlay:	No
	Location:	13316 Marsh Pike
		Hagerstown, MD 21742

Your appeal for the above referenced property has been made for a zoning permit which would authorize the following:

Special exception to establish a full service physicians' office in existing commercial building

The appeal is scheduled to be heard by the Board of Appeals on 07/06/2022, at 6:00 pm. This public hearing will be held in Public Meeting Room 2000, on the second floor of the County Administration Building, at 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland.

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact the Permitting Office at 240-313-2460 to make arrangements no later than 06/27/2022. Any person desiring a stenographic transcript shall be responsible for supplying a competent stenographer.

You are hereby requested to be present, either in person or represented by agent or counsel, to present your case.

Sincerely,

K L.T.

Katie Rathvon Zoning Coordinator

Attachment Appeal For Special Exception 13316 Marsh Pike Hagerstown, Maryland

Owner: FHCPM, LLC

Applicant/Contract Buyer: Obidi Holdings, LLC

Description: Currently the property is a mixed use kind of property in transition. There is an apartment on the top floor for rental, there is retail space (Red Hill Tactical), storage space and garage space being used by occupants, including especially B&E Services. B&E Services, an HVAC company that performs heating and air conditioning service and installations in a four state area, operates its company offices at this location.

The Applicant is in the process of acquiring this Property, contingent upon the decision of the Board for the requested Special Exception. It is the intent of the Applicant over time to convert the Property almost totally into a facility to hold a Physician's Family Practice operated by Dr. Chukwuemeka Obidi. This would be a second location with the other location being located at 303 Memorial Blvd. W, Hagerstown, Maryland. The practice located at the Property would provide for both pediatric services as well as medical services for adults. The apartment would probably be kept, at least for the foreseeable future, as an apartment.

At this time, there are no plans to demolish the building. It is likely that asbestos siding will be removed and replaced with another type façade, but no other work currently planned, other than to generally improve and maintain it. It is expected over time that the parking facilities and open space will be expanded and improved as needed for the use of the building and practice growth.

At first, it is anticipated that there will be in the near term approximately three to four medical providers (doctors, physician assistants and nurse practitioners) with perhaps three additional personnel (receptionist, nurse, administrative). Appointments would be by appointment (walk-ins would be discouraged), and so it would be expected, at first, there would be eight to nine patients at any time. Once again, the request is to eventually occupy the Property, other than the apartment, for this medical office only, and be allowed to fully utilize the building, improvements and parking as the Family Practice grows, keeping in mind, of course, that there will be practical and physical constraints on how large it can grow in existing footprint. Any further change would need governmental approvals.

The hours of operation are expected to be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with limited hours on Saturdays of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Sunday hours are not expected.

The hope is that this would be a good location, not only for the Applicant, but also for this part of Hagerstown, as there are not many Family Practice offices in this part of town – adding to convenience for the neighborhood. Given past uses of the Property, any disturbance from operation of the practice should not be materially different from what has existed, and over time more compatible to the uses around the Property. With various uses over the years, and location and frontage along the major

thoroughfare, this request and use, planned for over a long term, should serve to stabilize the Property as far as the neighboring properties are concerned as well.

Past uses such as a lawn and garden center for sales and service, retail gun sales and service, electrician's office with trucks and storage of needed equipment have all generated various levels of traffic, including trucks for delivery and transport of equipment and other items. The traffic created by professionals and patients would not be more disruptive. Approval of this request will hopefully prevent a litany of other requests such as this and the last one over time providing more peace of mind for all involved.

This proposal for use at the Property as a medical office facility will not adversely affect the public health, safety, security, morals or general welfare, nor will it create dangerous traffic conditions or jeopardize the lives or property living in the neighborhood of the Property.

Given the history of the Property, its use for the requested purpose is more compatible and appropriate for the Property than as a residential property any longer. Access to the Property is off of the main road and does not disrupt residential traffic in the area. There is nothing about the Property that would cause the use herein for which the Special Exception is being requested to have adverse effects above those inherently associated with the Special Exception at any other location in the zoning district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Obidi Holdings, LLC

By:

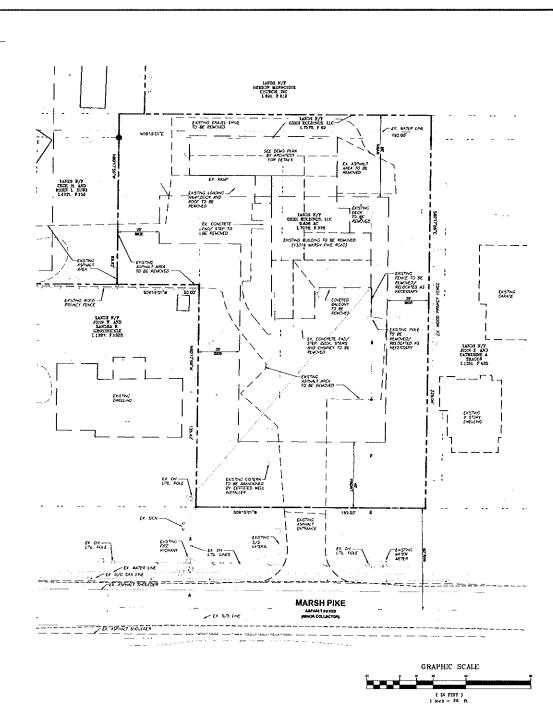
Chukwuemeka Obidi, M.D.

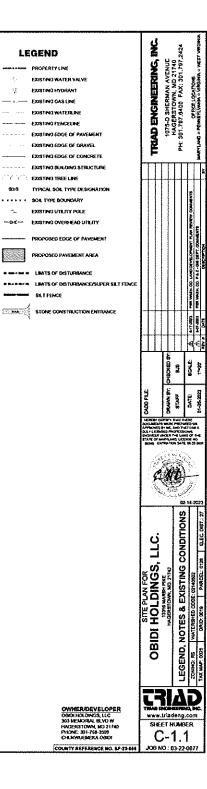
SNC. **OBIDI HOLDINGS, L.L.C.** 2424 Exhibit D TRIAD ENGINEERING, 1075-D SHERMAN AVENUE HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740 301.797.6400 FAX: 301.797. OFFICE LOCATIONS SHEET INDEX: LOCATION MAP: SITE DATA: TYPE OF USAGE COMMERCIA COVER SPEET COVER SPEET SUBJECT HOTES AND EXISTING CONDITIONS. SITE OFFAN S 1. COVER SHEET C 10 C11 C20 ACREAGE PER TAX ASSESSMENT OFFICE D 825 ACRES C21 C30 C31 C40 C41 C50 C60 C70 ZONING RS - RESIDENTIAL SUBURBAN DISTRICT 1-1 Ë PHYSICAL ADDRESS 13316 MARSH PIKE 13 5> AGERSTOWN, MD 21742 PURPOSE OF PLAN USAGE CHANGE ITS. Ω. 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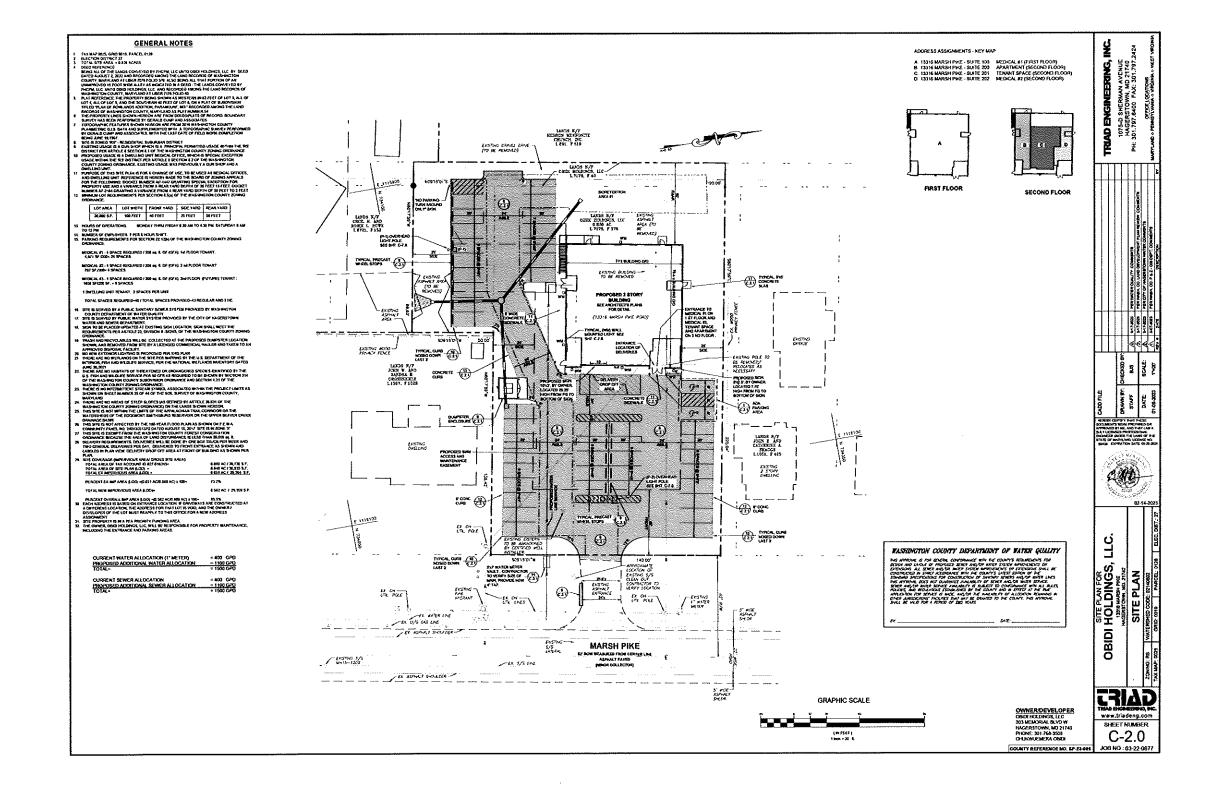
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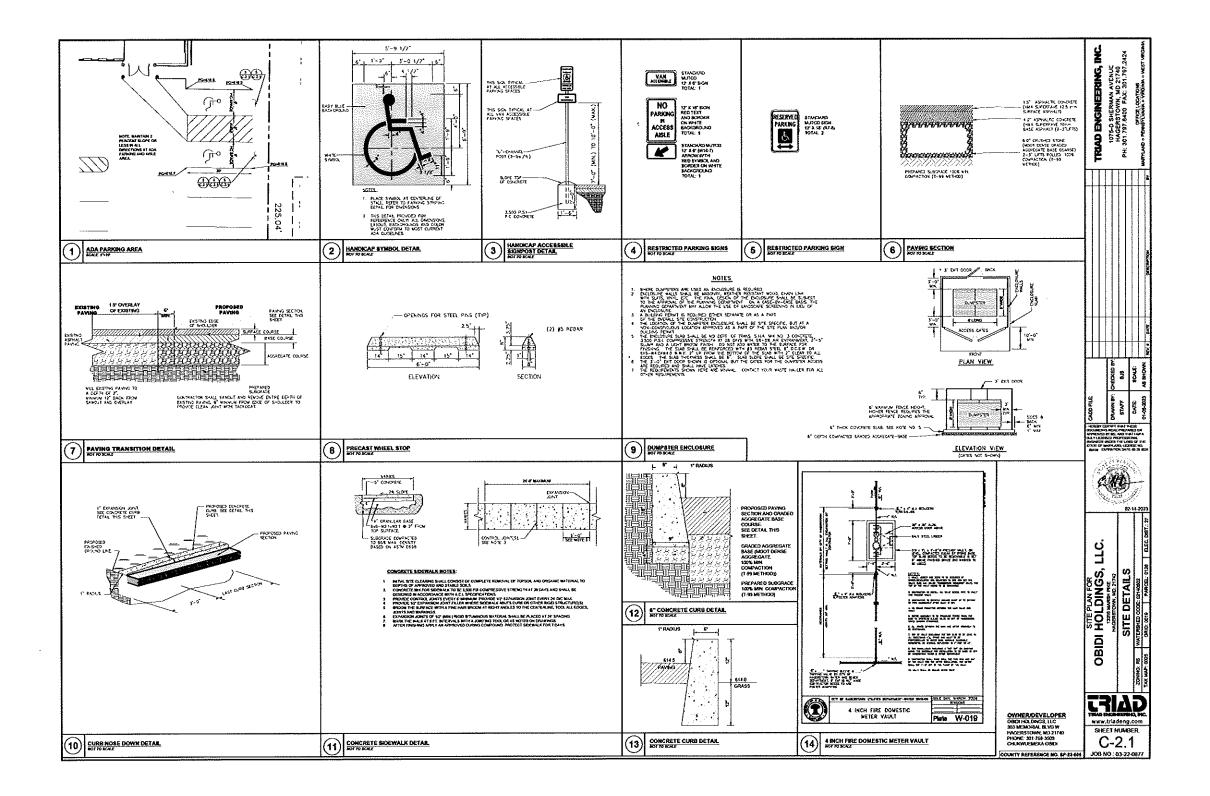
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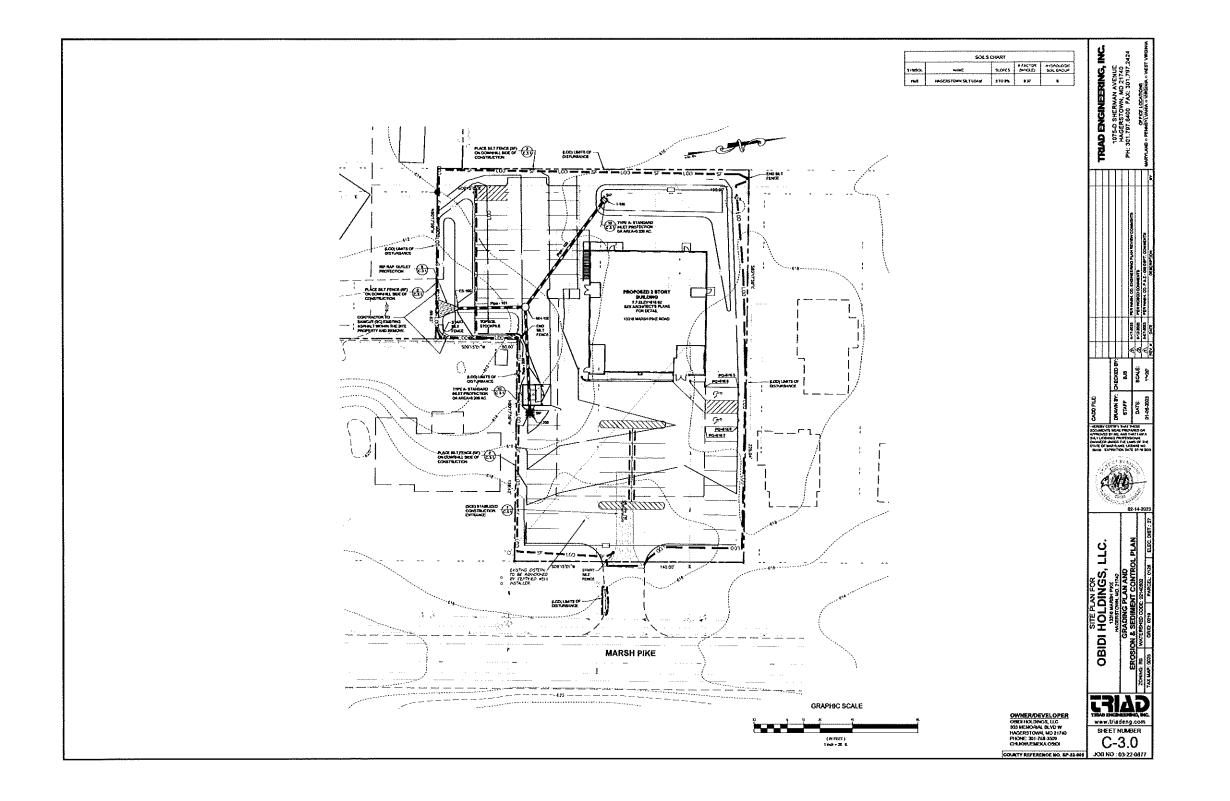
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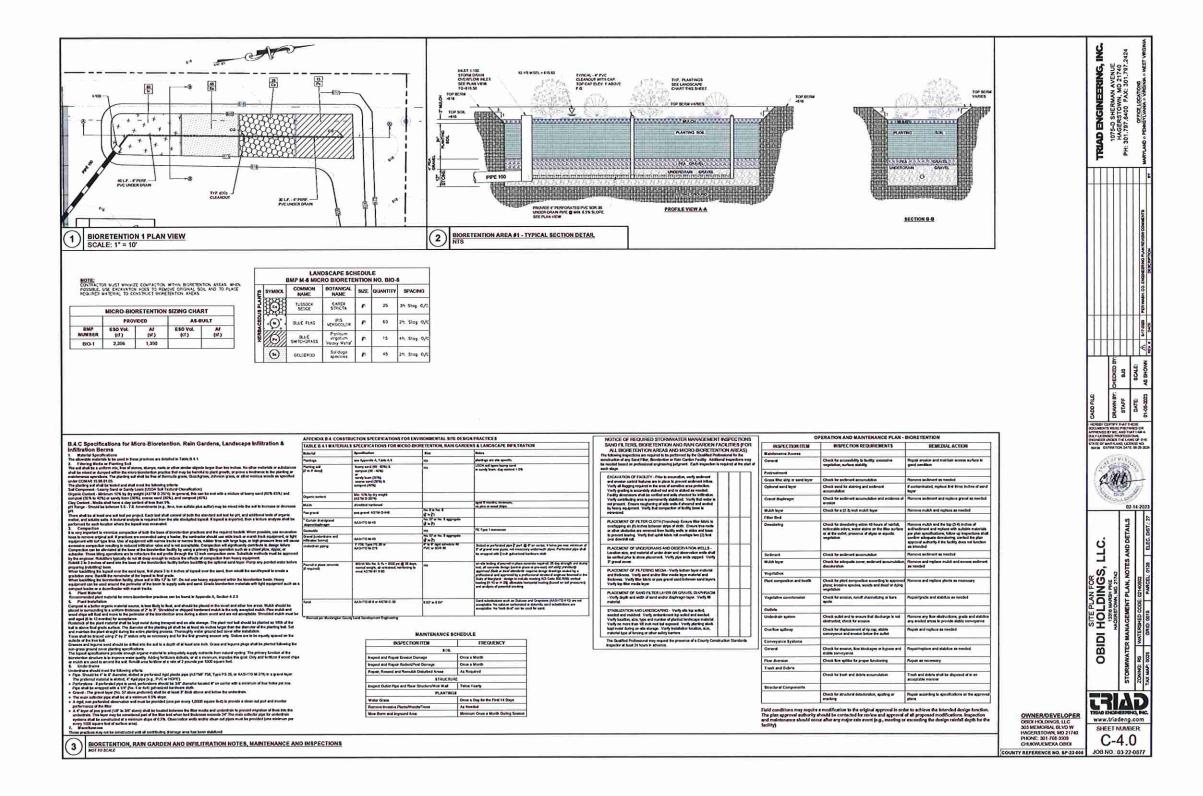


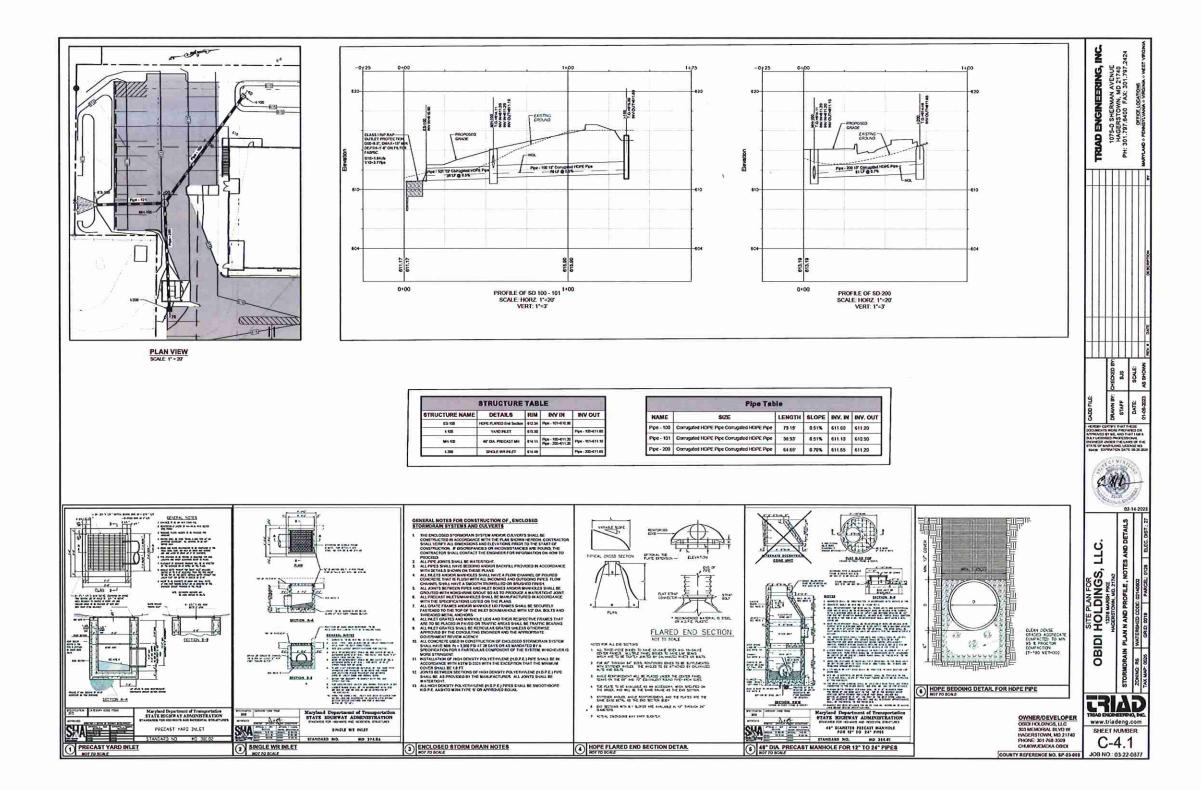


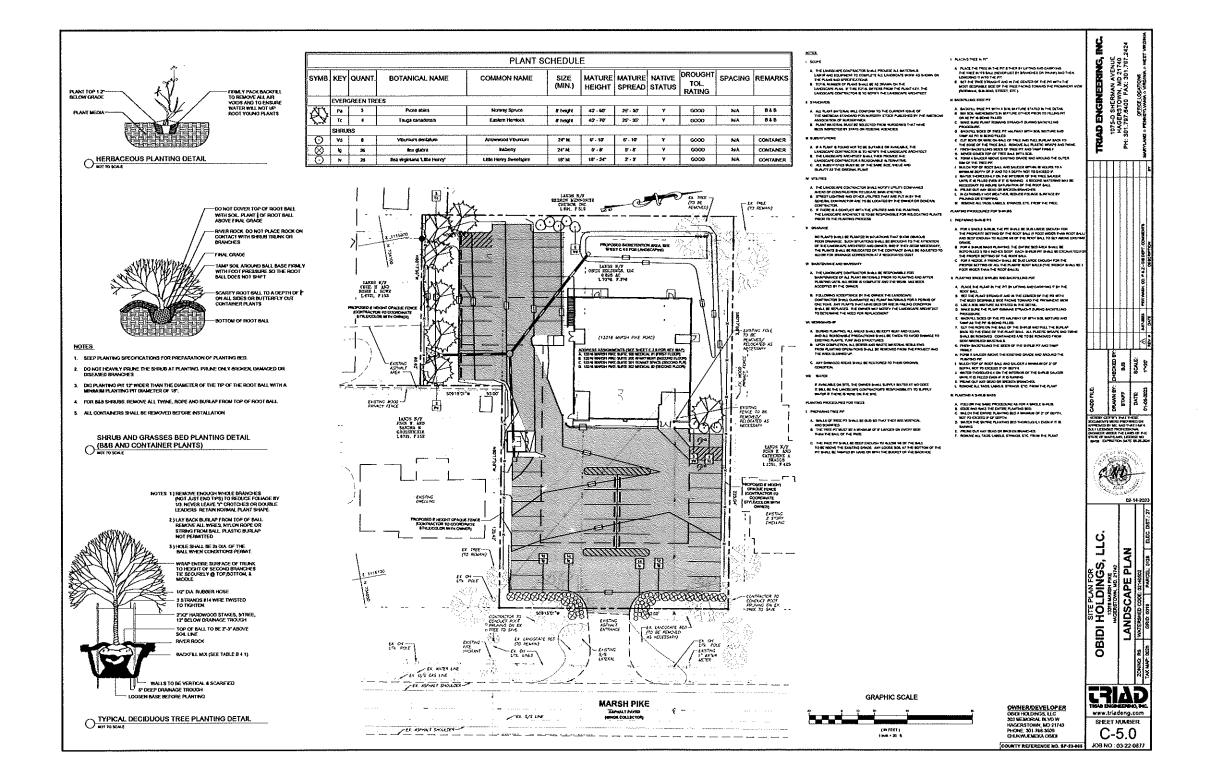


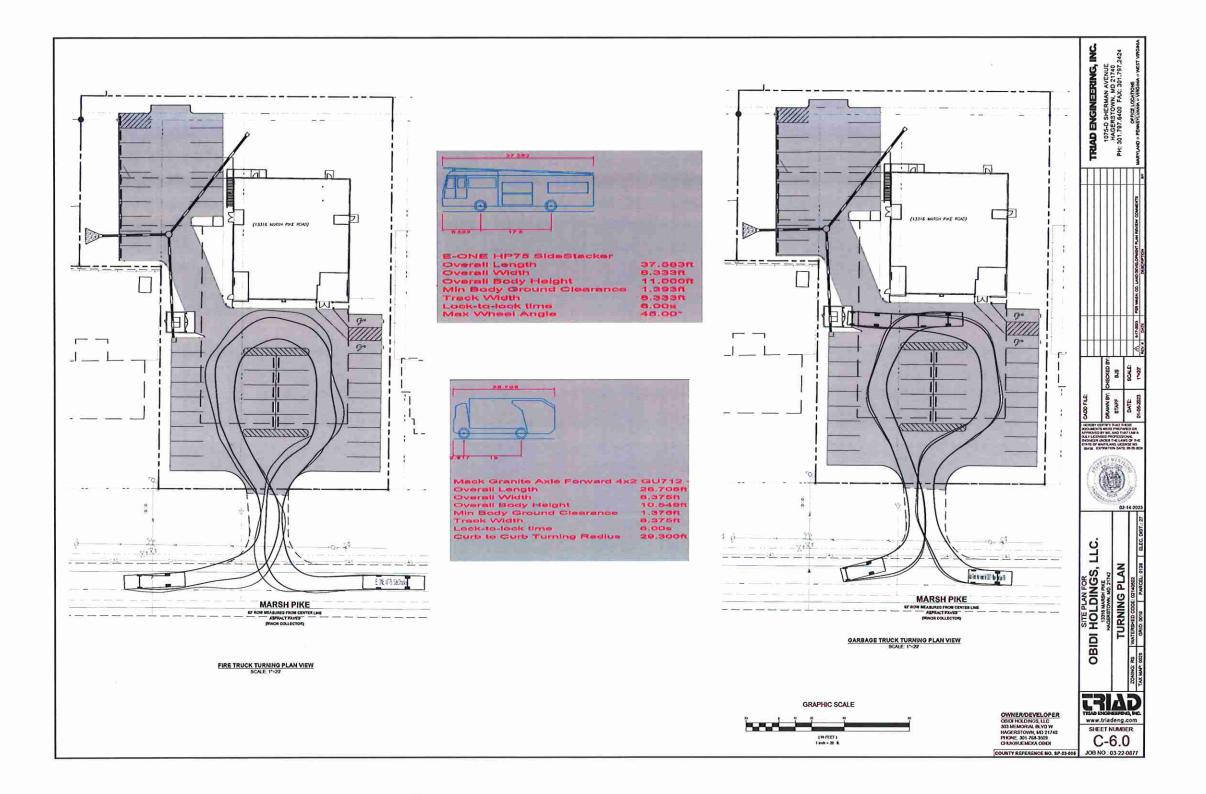


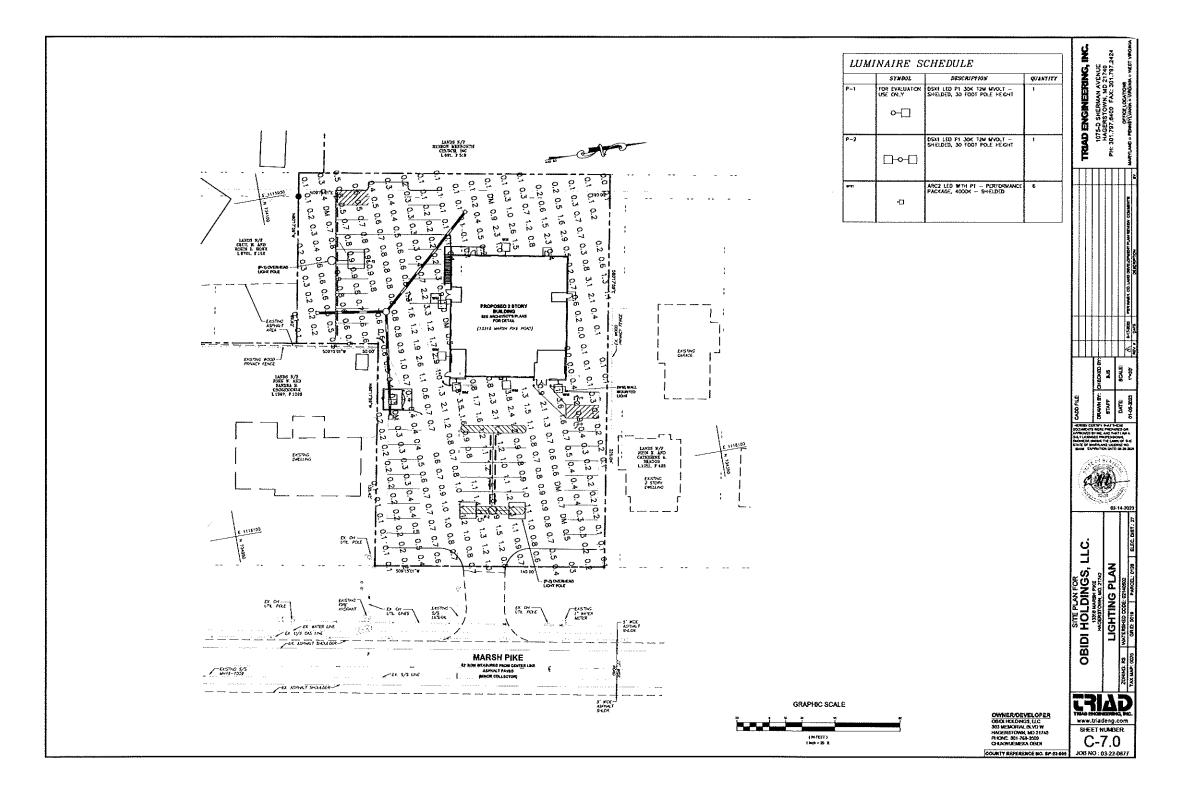
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				*	ONCE SITE IS STABLIZED, NOTIFY WASHINGTON COUNTY SOL CONSERVATION DISTRICT	
					(ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION) AT (240) 313-2400 OF INTENT TO PERFORM SWM WATER QUALITY WORK 5 DAYS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.	. vî 🛛 🖥
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					CONSTRUCTION) AT (240) 313-2400 AT LEAST 5 DAYS PROR TO THE REMOVAL OF ANY SOL EROSION AND SEDMENT COURTOL FEATURES, TO SCHEDULE A FINAL SITE CLOSE-OUT REVIEW MEETING V(REGETATION MUST MEET THE 55N OVERALL	BIDI
					CLOSE-OUT REVIEW MEETING (VEGETATION MUST MEET THE 55% OVERALL STABILIZATION REQUIREMENT PER THE 2011 MARYLAND STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR SOLE REDGION AND SEDMENT CONTROL PRIOR TO SCHEDULING	O N
				8	SAID MEETING) UPON APPROVAL BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SOL CONSERVATION DISTRICT, REMOVE	S.
					ALL SEDMENT CONTROL DEVICES. STABLIZE, SEED AND MULCH ANY AREAS DISTURBED DURING CONTROL REMOVAL.	
						LSIV
					OWNER/DEVELOPER OBDI HOLDNOS, LLC	TEIAD ENGINEERINO, www.triadeng.co
					303 MEMORIAL BLYD W HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740	SHEET NUMBER
					PHONE: 201-768-350 CHUKWUEMBKA OBDI	C-3.1
					COUNTY REFERENCE NO. 8P-434	











BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

						*							
Obidi Holdings, LLC							Appeal No.: AP2024-020						
Appellant													
						*							
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	

OPINION

Obidi Holdings, LLC (hereinafter "Appellant") requests a special exception to establish a full-service physicians' office in a new commercial building at the subject property. The subject property is located at 13316 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland and is zoned Residential Suburban. The Board held a public hearing in this matter on May 22, 2024. Appellant was represented by Tracie Clabaugh, Esq. at the hearing.

This appeal was heard pursuant to Article 25 of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County and upon proper notice to the parties and general public as required.

Findings of Fact

Based upon the testimony given, all information and evidence presented, and upon a study of the specific property involved and the neighborhood in which it is located, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

Appellant is the owner of the subject property, which is located at 13316
 Marsh Pike, Hagerstown, Maryland. The subject property is zoned Residential
 Suburban.

2. The subject property consists of approximately .82 acres improved by a commercial building and situated among a number of surrounding mixed uses including several residences, a senior living community, a salon, a bank, two (2) churches and an elementary school.

3. Appellant operates a family medical practice on Memorial Boulevard in Hagerstown, Maryland. Appellant proposes to construct another office at the subject property as a second location for the practice.

4. Appellant originally planned to renovate the existing building at the subject property and retain the residence on the second floor. The original plan included asbestos remediation but was otherwise to re-purpose the existing building elements. However, it was determined that certain portions of the building were not constructed sufficiently resulting in stability issues for the planned renovations. There are significantly increases costs to reinforce structural elements and bring the building into compliance with current code requirements.

5. Appellant proposes to demolish the existing building and construct a new building with a smaller footprint at the subject property. The building would have two (2) floors, with the medical practice on the first floor and a residence and tenant space on the second floor. The first floor would have twelve (12) patient exam rooms.

6. The proposed design has approximately forty-five (45) parking spaces assigned for the new building, pursuant to the Ordinance requirements. Appellant does not expect to need even half of those spaces for the proposed medical practice.

7. The proposed medical practice would be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday.

8. Appellant plans to have two (2) providers, four (4) to five (5) in-office staff and two (2) to three (3) virtual staff at the proposed second office.

9. Patients will be seen by staggered appointment only and at any given time, it is expected there would be a maximum of nine (9) to ten (10) cars in the parking lot. Appellant expects a maximum of three (3) to four (4) patients in any given hour.

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10. The Board approved Appellant's special exception request to establish a full-service physicians' office in an existing commercial building at the subject property in Case No. AP2022-029.¹

11. Appellant's neighbor John Skaggs, who lives immediately to the north testified that he was in support of the proposed project.

12. Appellant's neighbor, John Grossnickle testified that as long as there a buffer for his property, he supports the proposed project.

13. There was no opposition presented to this appeal.

Rationale

Procedural History

Appellant initially applied for special exception approval for the subject property in the summer of 2022. The matter came before the Board on July 6, 2022 and the special exception was granted pursuant to a written decision dated August 4, 2022. The Board subsequently voted to amend typographical errors in the original opinion on November 30, 2024 and the Amended Opinion was issued on December 22, 2022.

Appellant began the planning and development process and was ultimately issued a demolition permit in 2024. As demolition work was set to begin, County staff discovered that Appellant's plan had changed from a renovation project to a demolition and rebuild project. At that time, it was determined that Appellant would need a new special exception because the prior special exception use had been approved specifically for the existing building at the subject property. Appellant promptly filed this request for a special exception.

¹ AP2022-029 was originally heard on July 6, 2022 and issued a written opinion containing clerical errors. The Board subsequently approved corrections to the Opinion at a hearing on November 30, 2022 and the Amended Opinion was issued on December 22, 2022.

Special Exception Request

The Board has authority to grant a special exception pursuant to Section 25.2(b) of the Zoning Ordinance for Washington County, Maryland. A special exception is defined as "a grant of a specific use that would not be appropriate generally or without restriction; and shall be based upon a finding that the use conforms to the plan and is compatible with the existing neighborhood." Article 28A. In addition, Section 25.6 sets forth the limitations, guides, and standards in exercise of the board's duties and provides:

Where in these regulations certain powers are conferred upon the Board or the approval of the Board is required before a permit may be issued, or the Board is called upon to decide certain issues, the Board shall study the specific property involved, as well as the neighborhood, and consider all testimony and data submitted, and shall hear any person desiring to speak for or against the issuance of the permit. However, the application for a permit shall not be approved where the Board finds the proposed building, addition, extension of building or use, sign, use or change of use would adversely affect the public health, safety, security, morals or general welfare, or would result in dangerous traffic conditions, or would jeopardize the lives or property of people living in the neighborhood. In deciding such matters, the Board shall consider any other information germane to the case and shall give consideration to the following, as applicable:

- (a) The number of people residing or working in the immediate area concerned.
- (b) The orderly growth of a community.
- (c) Traffic conditions and facilities
- (d) The effect of such use upon the peaceful enjoyment of people in their homes.
- (e) The conservation of property values.
- (f) The effect of odors, dust, gas, smoke, fumes, vibrations, glare and noise upon the use of surrounding property values.
- (g) The most appropriate use of the land and structure.
- (h) Decision of the courts.
- (i) The purpose of these regulations as set forth herein.
- (j) Type and kind of structures in the vicinity where public gatherings may be held, such as schools, churches, and the like.

The Board finds no cause for concern with respect to the number of people residing or working in the area, traffic conditions, or the conservation of property values. There was also no evidence of any concern for dust, noise, odor, smoke, fumes, vibrations or glare from the proposed use. Appellant provided testimony that outdoor lighting will be low height, designed to minimize spillage onto neighboring properties. Two of Appellant's immediate neighbors testified that they did not oppose the proposed project and thus, did not believe that the proposed medical office would disturb the peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

The Board expressed some concerns about the design and plan for the new building as it related to the orderly growth of the community. Appellant's proposed building appears to be completely different from any of the residences or other buildings in the immediate vicinity. During the hearing for the first special exception request, Appellant did not yet have a concept drawing to share with the Board. Now the project is well into the engineering and development phases and the design drawings seem different from the envisioned concept of the previous request. There is also tenant space on the second floor that was not part of the prior plan for this project. The Board was concerned that the proposed use would expand into a clinic or other mixed use which might impact the surrounding properties.

The plan calls for a large parking lot with approximately forty-five (45) parking spaces, despite the testimony that there would be limited staff and patients in any given hour at the practice. The Board considered imposing conditions to limit the parking, but ultimately noted that the proposed parking spaces were dictated by the Ordinance and a variance would be required to reduce the number of spaces required.

The Board discussed the possibility of imposing other conditions to address concerns with the design and possible expansion. However, the need for multiple conditions for a special exception use calls into question the appropriateness of such a use at the subject property. The Board's concerns culminate in a lingering uncertainty about the true impact of the use on the surrounding properties. Given this uncertainty, the Board cannot determine the degree to which any such impact may be adverse. For these reasons, the Board is unable to find that the proposed use at the subject property will have no greater "adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zone." *Schultz v. Pritts,* 291 Md. 1, 15 (1981). Appellant has not satisfied the criteria for a special exception and therefore the request must be denied.

Accordingly, the request for a special exception to establish a full-service physicians' office in a new commercial building at the subject property is hereby DENIED, by a vote of 3 to 2.

BOARD OF APPEALS

By: Jay Miller, Chair²

Date Issued: June 18, 2024

Notice of Appeal Rights

Any party aggrieved by a final order of the Authority in a contested case, whether such decision is affirmative or negative in form, is entitled to file a petition for judicial review of that order to the Circuit Court for Washington County within thirty (30) days of the date of the order.

² Mr. Miller was a Board member and served as Chair at the time of the hearing and decision in this matter. His term has since expired, and he is no longer a member of the Board of Appeals.