#### **BOARD OF APPEALS**

### **September 13, 2023**

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

#### AGENDA

**AP2023-036:** An appeal was filed by Verizon for a special exception to establish a commercial communication tower and a variance from the minimum setback of the distance equaling the total height of the tower (155 ft.) & equipment plus 200 ft. for a total setback of 355 ft. from the Rural Village district to 139 ft. 9 in. for the western boundary for the proposed tower on property owned by Robert & Marvina Veil Jr. and located at 21536 Leitersburg Smithburg Road, Smithsburg, Zoned Rural Village and Agricultural Rural. - **Postponed to the October 11, 2023 Hearing.** 

**AP2023-042:** An appeal was filed by Knoedler Jefferson LLC for variance from the parking requirement of 5 parking spaces per 1,000 sq. ft. of gross leasable area of the structure for commercial retail sales; 75 parking spaces to the existing 41 parking spaces on property owned the appellant and located at 19918 Jefferson Boulevard, Hagerstown, Zoned Residential Transition, Postponed to the October 11, 2023 Hearing.

**AP2023-043:** An appeal was filed by Austin Bard for a special exception to expand the existing dog kennel business and variance from the required 400 ft. setback to 276 ft. from the North property line on property owned by Marcie McCleary and located as 18126 Lappans Road, Fairplay, Zoned Rural Village and Agricultural Rural.- **GRANTED** 

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 September 4, 2023. 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



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

## **ZONING APPEAL**

Property Owner: Appellant:	Robert & Marvina Veil Jr. 21536 Leitersburg Smithsburg Road Hagerstown MD 21742 Verizon 1095 6th Avenue New York NY 10036		Docket No: Tax ID No: Zoning: RB Overlay: Zoning Overlay: Filed Date: Hearing Date:	AP2023-036 09006753 RV; A(R) No 07/13/2023 09/13/2023
Property Location:	21536 Leitersburg Smit Hagerstown, MD 2174	0		
Description Of Appeal	minimum setback of th	ne distance equaling et for a total setbac	g the total height o k of 355 ft. from t	tower and a variance from the of the tower (155 ft.) & he Rural Village district to 139
Appellant's Legal Inter	rest In Above Property:	Owner: No	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No
		Lessee: Yes	Contract to Purchase:	No
Previous Petition/Apr	Paal Docket No(s):	Other:		
Previous Petition/Appeal Docket No(s): Applicable Ordinance Sections:		Washington Coun 4.22 A 2	ty Zoning Ordinar	nce Table 3.3(1) R & Section:
Reason For Hardship:				
If Appeal of Ruling, Da Ruling Official/Agency	-			
	sidential	Proposed Use:	Commerical Cor Compound	nmuinication Tower &
Previous Use Ceased For At Least 6 Months: Area Devoted To Non-Conforming Use -		Existing: Proposed:	Date Ceased:	

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

day of

Appellant Signature

State Of Maryland, Washington County to-wit:

Sworn and subscribed before me this Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC 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: AP2023-036

#### State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 7/13/2023, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Brendan Sikora and made oath in due form of law as follows:

Brendan Sikora 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 09/13/2023, 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 08/29/2023 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

Brendan Sikora

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 **Notary Public** 

**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

## **ZONING APPEAL**

Property Owner:	Robert & Marvina Veil Jr. 21536 Leitersburg Smithsburg Road Hagerstown MD 21742		Docket No: Tax ID No: Zoning:	AP2023-036 09006753 RV; A(R)
Appellant:	Verizon 1095 6th Avenue New York NY 10036		RB Overlay: Zoning Overlay: Filed Date: Hearing Date:	No 07/13/2023 08/16/2023
Property Location:	21536 Leitersburg Smith Hagerstown, MD 21742	-	0	
Description Of Appeal	minimum setback of the	e distance equaling t for a total setback	the total height o of 355 ft. from th	tower and a variance from the f the tower (155 ft.) & ne Rural Village district to 139
Appellant's Legal Inter	est In Above Property:	Owner: No	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No
		Lessee: Yes	Contract to Purchase:	No
		Other:		
Previous Petition/App	eal Docket No(s):			
Applicable Ordinance	Sections:	Washington Count 4.22 A 2	y Zoning Ordinan	ce Table 3.3(1) R & Section:
Reason For Hardship:				
If Appeal of Ruling, Da	te Of Ruling:			
Ruling Official/Agency	:			
	sidential	Proposed Use:	Commerical Com Compound	nmuinication Tower &
Previous Use Ceased For At Least 6 Months:			Date Ceased:	
Area Devoted To Non-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.

bandan M In

**Appellant Signature** 

State Of Maryland, Washington County to-wit:

Sworn and subscribed before me this 13 day of 32



My Commission Expires

MJZM

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

## **AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)**

Docket No: AP2023-036

#### State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 7/13/2023, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Brendan Sikora and made oath in due form of law as follows:

Brendan Sikora 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 08/16/2023, 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 08/01/2023 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

Sandan &

**Brendan Sikora** 

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

**Notary Public** Kathryn B Rathvon NOTARY PUBLIC SHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 07, 2025

Seal

**My Commission Expires** 



### **OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT**

This is to certify that <u>Phillip</u> Stetler is authorized to file an appeal with the Washington County I <u>cellular</u> <u>klecommunications</u> former located <u>at 21636 Leitersburg</u> Smithsburg Rd., The said work is authorized by <u>the underriged</u>	Board of Appeals for on property on property on property
the property owner in fee.   PROPERTY O	MNED
Robert C.) Name Z1531. Leik	
Nancy H Eichelberger NOTARY PUBLIC WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES April 26, 2025	Code
Owner's Signa	ture
Sworn and subscribed before me this $3^{\circ}$ day of My Commission Expires: $4/26/25$ Notary Public	H. Eichellungen
AUTHORIZED	REPRESENTATIVE
<u>Phillip</u> Name <u>3620</u> Address <u>Baltimore</u> City, State, Zip	Stetler Commbree Dr., Suite 707 B, MD ZIZZT Code
Authorized Box	
Sworn and subscribed before me this $19^{1/2}$ day of	$J_{AB}$ , 2023.
My Commission Expires: May 09, 2027	JACQUELYN BREACH Notary Public-Maryland <del>Baltim</del> ore County My Commission Expires May 09, 2027
747 Northern Avenue   Hagerstown, MD 21742   P: 240.313	2430   F: 240.313.2461   Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1

WWW.WASHCO-MD.NET



80 West Baltimore Street | Hagerstown, MD 21740 | P: 240.313.2460 |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 21536 LBitersburg Smithburg Rd Leitersburg,	MD 21742
Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One)	
Owner (Including Joint Ownership) Lessee Contra	ict to rent/lease
Contract to PurchaseOther	
Use Proposed: Communications Towar	
Zoning Ordinance section and subsection(s) providing for proposed use:	n 4.22
If filing functionally similar to a principal permitted use or special exception use, please lis describe the use similarities:	at the use and
Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet         Has any previous petition or appeal involving this property been made to the Board?         Yes      No	
If yes, give docket number(s):	
Additional comments, if any:	
I hereby certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge, accurately supplied the informat above referenced appeal.	ion required for the
Signature of Appellant 3620 Commerce Dr.	Ste. 707, Baltimore,
Address of Appellant <u>ps+b+ler@_sitelinkwirele</u> ss.com <u>_443-977-7561</u> Email of Appellant Phone Number of Appellant	MD 21227
This appeal form is to be used to assist the customer in gathering the information necess submit an application. However, the application shall be processed in person.	ary to

Revised April 7, 2021

# **verizon**<sup>√</sup>

June 6, 2023

#### Statement of Certified Engineer Site Selection and Performance Standards

Site Name:LeitersburgSite Address:21536 Leitersburg Smithsburg Road, Hagerstown, MD 21742

Latitude: 39.691711 Longitude: -77.618489

The proposed communications tower was selected by Verizon Wireless (VZW) to improve wireless coverage in Leitersburg, MD and the north east corner of Washington County, MD. The main coverage objective is to bridge the gap between Reid, MD and Smithsburg, MD and enhance wireless coverage on Leiters Mill Rd, Leitersburg Smithsburg Rd, US Route 60, 62 and 418. In addition, the site will help offload existing VZW sites in the area which will in turn improve in-building coverage for residents and businesses in the area. Verizon Wireless is committed to providing state of the art wireless services that benefit your community.

Sincerely

Hamed Semati

Hamed Semati RF Engineer – Washington/Baltimore/Virginia 10170 Junction Drive Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

### Applicant: Verizon Wireless Special Exception Project Narrative Site Name: Leitersburg Tax ID Number: 006753 21536 Leitersburg Smithburg Road, Leitersburg, MD 21742

Verizon Wireless proposes to install a new cell tower in Washington County, Maryland, in compliance with the Washington County Zoning Ordinance. The proposed facility will be located at 21536 Leitersburg Smithburg Road, Leitersburg, MD 21742.

First and foremost, it is important to note that the purpose of this proposed cell tower is to enhance cellular coverage and capacity in the area. In today's world, reliable cellular service is critical for communication, emergency services, and economic growth. The proposed cell tower will improve cellular service, which will benefit the residents, businesses, and visitors in the area.

In accordance with the Zoning Ordinance, the proposed cell tower meets all applicable zoning requirements. The proposed tower generally meets the setback and height requirements outlined in the ordinance and is located on a parcel of land zoned A(R).

Furthermore, the proposed tower is designed to blend in with the surrounding environment. It will be a monopole design, which is the most common design for modern cell towers. The proposed monopole will be 155' in height. The tower will be a neutral color that will help it blend in with the surrounding area. Additionally, the tower will be designed to minimize visual impact that will make it less noticeable.

In addition to complying with zoning requirements, the proposed tower will be designed with safety in mind. The tower will be engineered to withstand severe weather conditions, such as high winds and heavy snowfall, and it will be constructed with materials that meet or exceed all applicable safety standards.

It is important to note that the proposed tower will be subject to extensive public review and input. The Washington County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposal, and residents and stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions.

Below is a narrative addressing the Zoning Ordinance directives and how Verizon will address each item in *bold and italics*.

#### Compliance with Washington County Zoning Ordinance, Section 4.22

#### A. Design requirements

In addition to the applicable requirements for a site plan as specified in Section 4.11, the applicant shall provide the following information as part of the site plan submittal. These provisions shall apply to towers in all districts where permitted as a principal permitted or special exception use:

- Subject to a minimum setback of a distance equaling the total height of the tower and equipment. The setback shall be measured from the base of the tower to the boundary line of the property owned, leased, or controlled by easement by the applicant. The tower will meet property line setback requirements to the north, south, and to the east. Verizon will not meet the western setback (139'9") and therefore requests a setback variance.
- 2. Subject to a minimum distance requirement of a distance equaling the height of the tower and equipment plus 200 feet from the RT, RS, RU, RM and RV districts or the nearest part of any existing dwelling, school, church, or institution for human care, in any other district. *As previously stated, Verizon requests a setback variance to the western boundary. The tower will not meet the requirement of "a distance equaling the height of the tower plus 200 feet from the RV district."*
- 3. Subject to a minimum setback from all overhead transmission lines of a distance equaling two times the height of the tower and equipment. *N/A*
- 4. Subject to a height not to exceed 200 feet. Measurement of tower height shall include the tower structure itself, the base pad, and any other equipment attached thereto which extends more than twenty (20) feet over the top of the tower structure itself. The tower height shall be measured from grade. *The proposed structure will measure 155 feet above ground level.*
- 5. Proposed towers shall meet the following minimum separation requirements from existing towers or towers which have been issued a permit but are not yet constructed. (a) Monopole towers shall be separated from all other towers, whether monopole, self-supporting lattice, or guyed, by a minimum of seven hundred and fifty (750) feet. (b) Self-supporting lattice or guyed towers shall be separated from all other self-supporting or guyed towers by a minimum of fifteen hundred (1,500) feet. (c) Self-supporting lattice or guyed towers shall be separated from all monopole towers by a minimum of seven hundred (1,500) feet. (c) Self-supporting lattice or guyed towers shall be separated from all monopole towers by a minimum of seven hundred and fifty (750) feet. N/A
- 6. All towers shall be designed for co-location, which shall mean the ability of the structure to allow for the placement of comparable equipment for other carriers. An application for a tower shall be accompanied by an affidavit from the applicant stating that one ten (10) foot space on the proposed tower will be specifically reserved for use by the County, and that other spaces will be made available to other future users, when possible. *The tower is designed to accommodate Verizon and up to three (3) additional carriers.*

- 7. Fencing shall be provided around the base of the tower and any associated equipment buildings. *Verizon will comply with this requirement.*
- 8. All sites shall be identified by means of a sign no larger than two square feet affixed to the fence identifying the entity using the site and shall provide the telephone number of a contact person in the event of an emergency. *Verizon will comply with this requirement.*
- 9. Towers not requiring FAA painting or marking shall have an exterior finish which enhances compatibility with adjacent land uses, as approved by the Planning Commission or Board of Zoning Appeals. Towers shall not be lighted unless specifically required by the FAA. The tower will be a muted grey/steel color and will blend, to the extent possible, with existing adjacent land uses. The tower will not be lighted.
- 10. In order to protect the natural skyline, towers should be sited within areas of mature vegetation and should be located down slope from ridge lines, and toward the interior of the parcel whenever possible. Placement should only be considered elsewhere on the property when valid technical data supplied by the applicant indicates that there is no other suitable location. *The tower will be sited amidst existing, mature trees and vegetation. It will not be located along a ridge line and is located as much to the interior of the property as is practically possible.*
- 11. Towers proposed to be located within the Appalachian Trail corridor special planning area as identified in the adopted Comprehensive Plan for the County, any "AO" Antietam Overlay zoning district or "HP" Historic Preservation zoning district shall utilize stealth technology as defined in Article 28A to minimize visual impact. *The tower is not proposed to be located within the Appalachian Trail corridor or in any Antietam Overlay or Historic Preservation zoning district.*
- 12. (a) A Commercial Communication Tower that is out of service for a continuous six (6) month period will be deemed to have been abandoned. The Zoning Administrator may issue a Notice of Abandonment to the Owner of the Tower that is deemed to be abandoned. The Owner shall have the right to respond in writing to the Notice of Abandonment setting forth the reasons for operation difficulty and providing a reasonable timeframe for correction action, within thirty (30) days from the date of the Notice. The Administrator shall withdraw the Notice of Abandonment and notify the Owner that the Notice has been withdrawn if the Owner provides information that demonstrates the Tower has not been abandoned. *Noted.*(b) If the Tower is determined to be abandoned, the Owner of the Tower shall remove the Tower and all related equipment at the Owner's sole expensed within three (3)

months of the Date of Notice of Abandonment. If the Owner fails to remove the Tower

and related equipment, the Administrator may pursue legal action to have the Tower removed at the Owner's expense. *Noted.* 

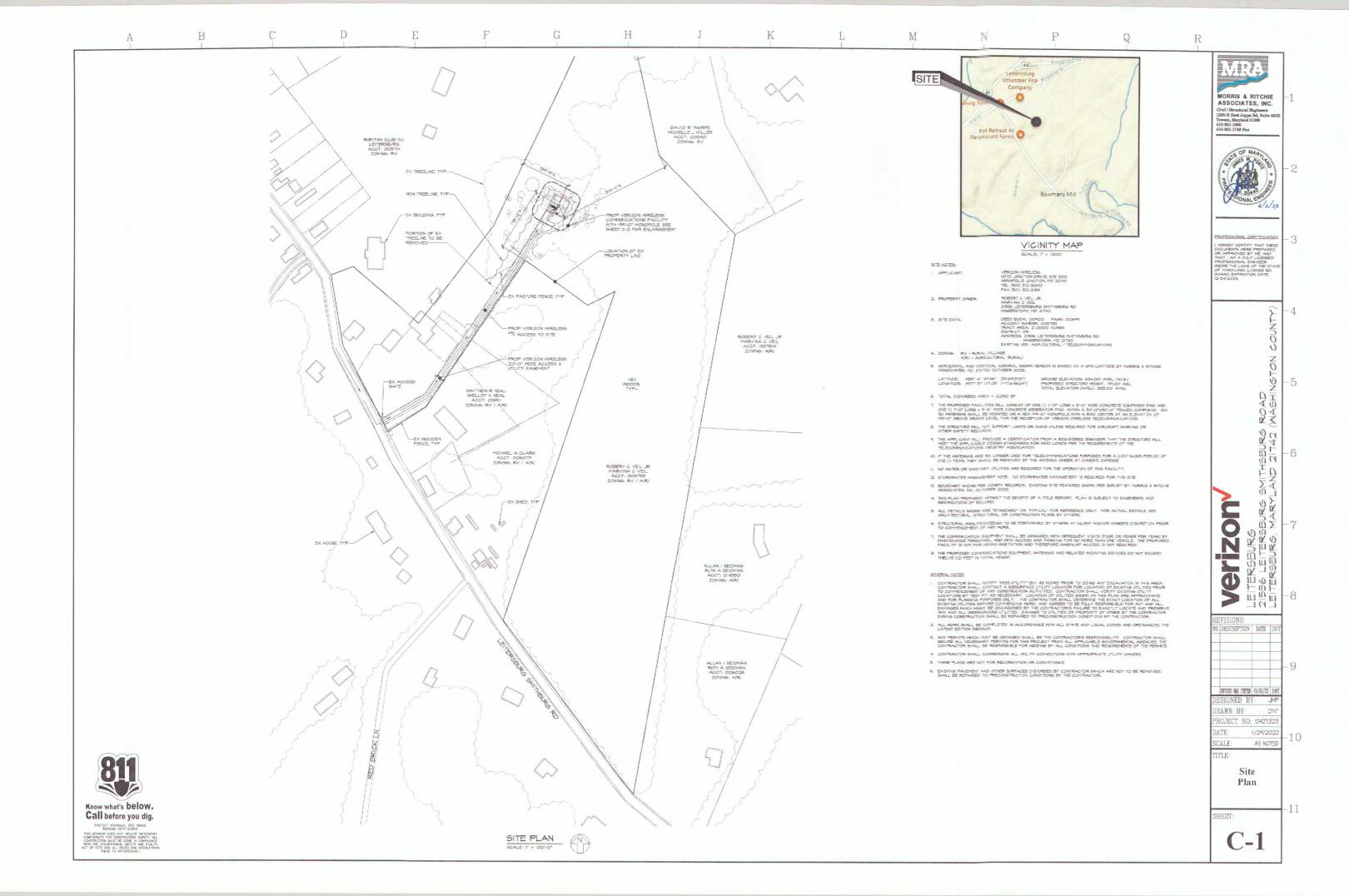
#### B. Additional Provisions for Towers Permitted by Special Exception

In addition to the limitations, guides and standards enumerated in Section 25.6, the Board of Zoning Appeals shall consider the following provisions when considering a request for a special exception for a commercial communications tower.

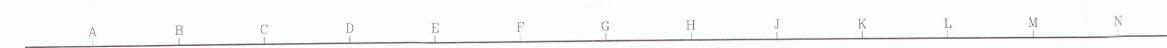
- In those cases where a proposed tower is part of a grid or network, the applicant shall provide a map indicating the location of any existing or proposed towers in the grid or network within Washington County and within one (1) mile of the County boundary. Upon request, Verizon will gladly provide a map indicating existing Verizon sites within Washington County.
- 2. The tower shall be compatible with and shall not adversely impact the character and integrity of surrounding properties. Consideration shall be given to the view shed associated with scenic and historic areas and to the use of stealth technology to minimize the visibility of the proposed tower. *Verizon submits that the tower will not adversely impact the character and integrity of surrounding properties.*
- 3. The applicant shall submit a visual analysis which may include, photo simulation, field mock-up, elevations or other visual or graphic illustrations to determine visual impact. Consideration shall be given to views from public areas as well as from private residences. The analysis shall assess the cumulative impacts of the proposed facility and other existing and foreseeable towers in the area, and shall identify and include all feasible mitigation measures. As part of the special exception application package, Verizon has included photo simulations to help show the visual impact of the proposal.
- 4. The Board may include conditions on the site where the tower is to be located if such conditions are necessary to preserve the character and integrity of the area affected by the proposed tower and mitigate any adverse impacts which arise in connection with approval of the special exception. *Noted.*

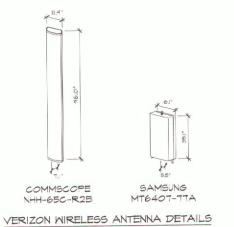
In conclusion, the proposed cell tower is a necessary and appropriate addition to the community. It will enhance cellular service, comply with zoning requirements, blend in with the surrounding environment, and ensure safety. I urge you to approve this proposal in accordance with the Washington County Zoning Ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration.

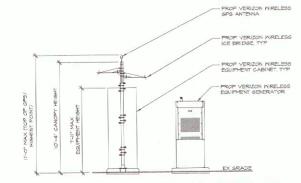




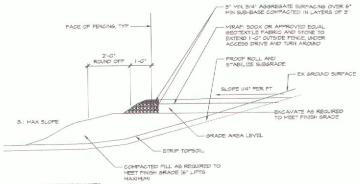












CONSTRUCTION NOTES

- CLEAR AND GREE THE LAND ALONG THE ACCESS DRIVE REMOVE ALL DUSTING ORGANIC WATERIAL TO SUITABLE SUBGRADE PLOUG SUITABLE SUBGRADE AND THEN PLACE AGGREGATE BASE. SUBTABLE SUBDADE SPECIFICATION HARYLARD DOT: SECTION 204 SRADED AGGREGATE BASE COURSE VIRSINIA DHT. SECTION 210 AGGREGATE BASE COURSE

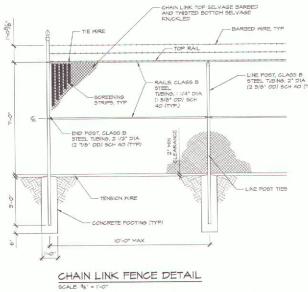
LEASE AREA, ACCESS DRIVE & TURN AROUND AREA SURFACING SCALE: 12" = 1'-0



Know what's below. Call before you dig.

PROTECT YCARGELE, GVET THEE TORKING DAYS HOTICE THIS DRAWING DOES NOT RELUEE NECESSARY COMPONENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION SAFTY, ALL CONSTRUCTION MUST BE DORE IN CON-THE TO THE DORE IN CONSTRUCTION OF A DAY AND ALL PALLS AND RESULTATIONS THERE TO APPLICTEMENT.

	-	MANUEL CONTRACT			RAD CENTER	ANTENNA TECHNOLOGY	ANTENNA COLOR CODING	
SECTOR	P05	MANUFACTURER	MODEL #	AZIMUTH	(FT)		NA	
	2	JMA	NA MX06FR0860-02	N/A 4*	N/A I5I'-0"±	N/A 100/850/2100 (6 CABLES)	TX, PURTESISTEEVREDIGREEN/TRUTS (PVG/YG/M) RX, PURTESISTEEDIGREEN/TRUTS (PVG/YG/M) RX, PURTESISTEEDIGREEN/TRUTS (PVG/YG/M) RX, ORANGEZEEDIGRAAGE (O/2000) TX, ORANGEZEEDIGRAAGE (O/2000)	
ALPHA	з	AML	MX06FR0860-02	4*	151'-0"±	100/850/1400 (6 CABLES)	RUG, DRANGEL/REED/GRANGE (2014/00) TX: PURPLE/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/GREED/FINA RX: PURPLE/GREED/FINA (PVRPL) FX: PINA/GREED/FINA (PVRPL) FX: PINA/GREED/FINA (PVRPL) FX: PINA/GREED/FINA (PVRPL)	
	4	NONE	N/A	NA	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	1	NONE	NA	NA	N/A			
	2	MA	MX06FR0860-02	124*	151'-0"±	100/850/2100 (6 GABLES)	TX: PURILBIGREEVENUEVERAPLE (PUIS/BIGHN) RX: PURILBIGREEVENUEVERAPLE (PUIS/BIGHN) RX: PURILBIGREEVENUEVERAPLE (DOB BIGHN) RX: PURILBIGREEVENUEVERAPLE (OFBO) RX: PRANEEZEUEVERANGE (OFBO) RX: PURILBIGREEVENUEVENUE(DOB BIGHN)	
BETA	3	AML	MX06FR0860-02	124°	151°-0°±	100/850/1900 (6 CABLES)	7%, proper ElektEtTNULLUKKEREDNYKERUL (PUIS/MAI/Mai RAK, proprieteRev20EU/CSPREPRUET, (PUIS/CSPRU) TAK, INNORULLETINK, (PT2PP) RXK, PINS/CSBLEDINK, (PT2PP) RXK, PINS/CSBLEDINK, (PT2PP) RXK, PINS/CSBLEDINK, (PT2PP)	
	4	NONE	N/A	N/A	N/A			
	L	NONE	NA	N/A	NA			
	2	AML	MX06FR0860-02	244*	151'-0"±	100/850/2100 (6 CABLES)	TIC: PURPLE/WRITE/TILL //PURPLE/PURPLE IPU/O/Y0/PU BKK, FURPLE/PURPLE/PURPLE/PURPLE IPU/O/Y0/PU BKK, FURPLE/PURPLE	
GAMMA	Э	AML	MX06FR0860-02	244*	151'-0":	100/850/1900 (6 CABLES)	1%, REALEY, CARENY, TELLONG SEEVER, REL ENGLY (S. 19) ROC, PRENLEY, CHLLONG SEEVER, REL ENGLY (S. 19) ROC, PRENLEY, CHLLONG SEEVER, REL ENGLY (S. 19) ROC, PREVENTIELONG SEEVER, REL ENGLY (S. 19) ROC, PR	
	4	NONE	N/A	N/A	NA			
- TC	P RAIL	BARBED HIRE				14×0° 6ATE	OTTENNA, UKLESS AUTED OTHERMASE	
RAILS, CL STEEL TUBING, I (15/8* OI 40 (TYP)	V4° DIA	LINE POS STEEL TU (2 5/8' O	T, CLASS B BINS, 2 <sup>*</sup> DIA DI SCH 40 (TYP)			CHAIL LING	PARE TY INTERNET IN THE ACTION	
2' MIN					-	1 V2' 2'12' CHAN LINK TRAD LOCKS AND CHA		
	THE REAL	LINE POST	T TIES				-2' Mis	
NG (TYP)					NY.	SALVANZED GATE CENTER STOP - 6%		
x		*			Ŕ	CENTER STOP - 6%		
ICE DET	AIL					14' DC		
<ul> <li>40 PIPE PER</li> <li>40 PIPE PER</li> <li>50 D) SCHEDU</li> <li>CONFORMING</li> <li>EEL AT POSTS</li> <li>30 RINGS SPAC</li> <li>OD TWISTED</li> </ul>	ASTM-FIO PER ASTM- LE 40 PIP TO ASTM- AND RAIL ED MAX 2 AURE TO M	HFI083. TE PER ASTM-FI083. A342. S. A SINGLE WRAP OF 14" INTERVALS. MATCH WITH FABRIC.				TIPICAL HOURS, INSE FERGE NOT L GATE POST CONVERT, TERMINA MEDTAS JP THRE & FETT OR L 2. LINE TRAVEL I AND TAU ID 2. LINE TRAVEL I AND TAU ID 3. LINE TRAVEL I AND TAU ID 4. TOP RALE, BRACE RALL ID 5. TER TREE, MIRRING TO AN AND AND 5. TER TREE, MIRRING TO AN AND AND 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUELD STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUELD STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUELD STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUELD STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUE DOUELD STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUE DOUE STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUE DOUE STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUE DOUE STAN 5. BARBED ARKS, DOUE STAN 5. BARBED AR		
TH MUSHROOM	TYPE CAT	TCH AND LOCK, KEYED L BE COMPLIED WITH, IP TS, ALL SIDED, (COLOR						



#### TYPICAL WOVEN WIRE FENCE NOTES

- Implicat. November Parket Rottes

   I. GATE HOST: CONSER, TERVICAL GR 11

   J. GATE HOST: GIP THER, IS FETT OR 12

   J. GATE HOST: GIP THER, IS FETT OR 12

   J. GATE FRANCE: 1/0 AC 2016 OCH

   J. GATE FRANCE: 1/0 AC 2016 OCH

   J. GATE FRANCE: 1/0 AC 10.6 (J. GATE)

   J. GATE FRANCE: 1/0 AC 10.6 (J. GATE)

   J. GATE FRANCE: 1/0 AC 10.6 (J. GATE)

   J. TOR FRAIL BRACE RALL 1/04 (J. DIA)

   J. TENSION MIRE: 1 GA GAL/VANIZE

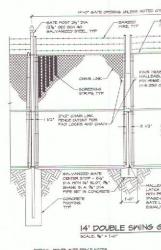
   J. BARDED MIRE: 1 GAGE STRAND (J. GATE)

   J. BARDED MIRE: 1 GARDEL MARTEN MIRE

   J. DACAL GORDANCE OF BARDEL MARTEN MIRE

   J. DACAL GORDANACE OF GARDEL MAREED MAREE

- REQUIRED. I. CHAINLINK FEXCE SHALL INCLUDE VERITCAL PVC SCREENING SLATS, ALL SIDED, (CO GREEN OR BLACK)

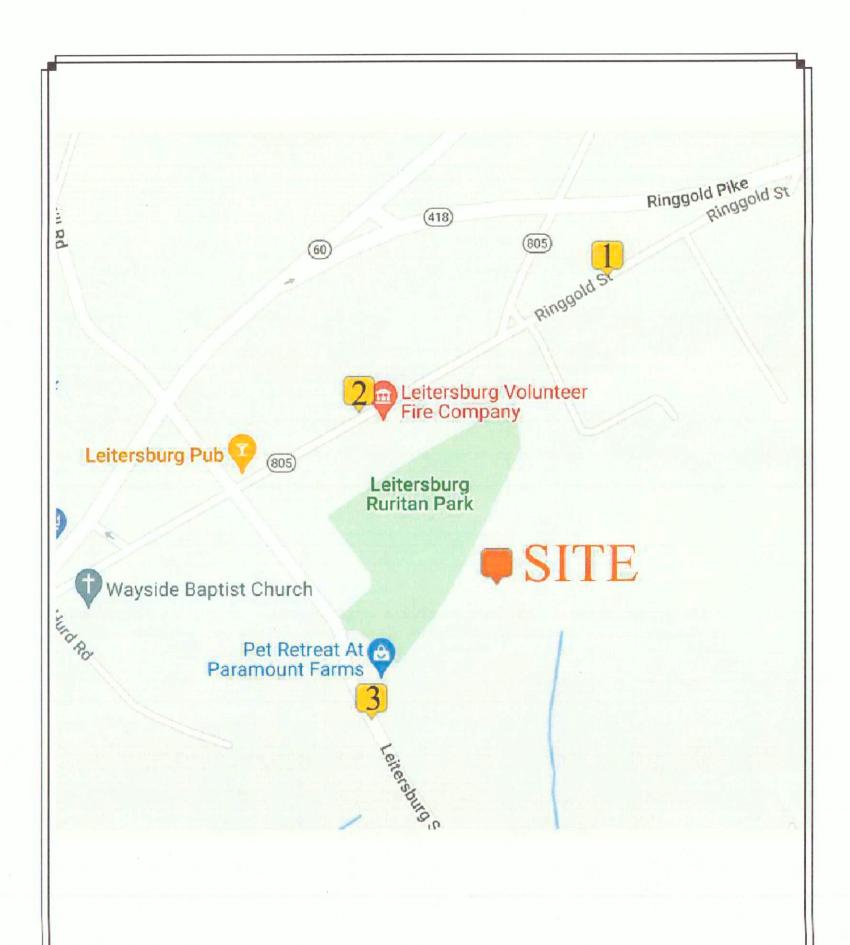




Q

R

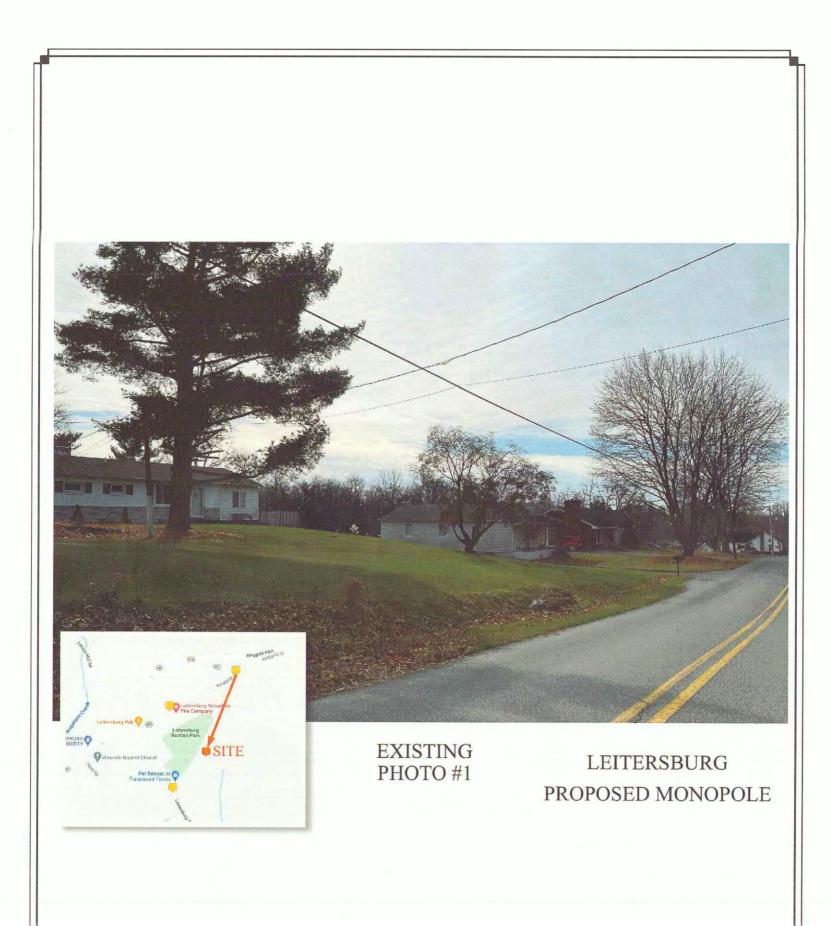


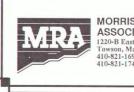




## **Leitersburg** Overall Site Layout

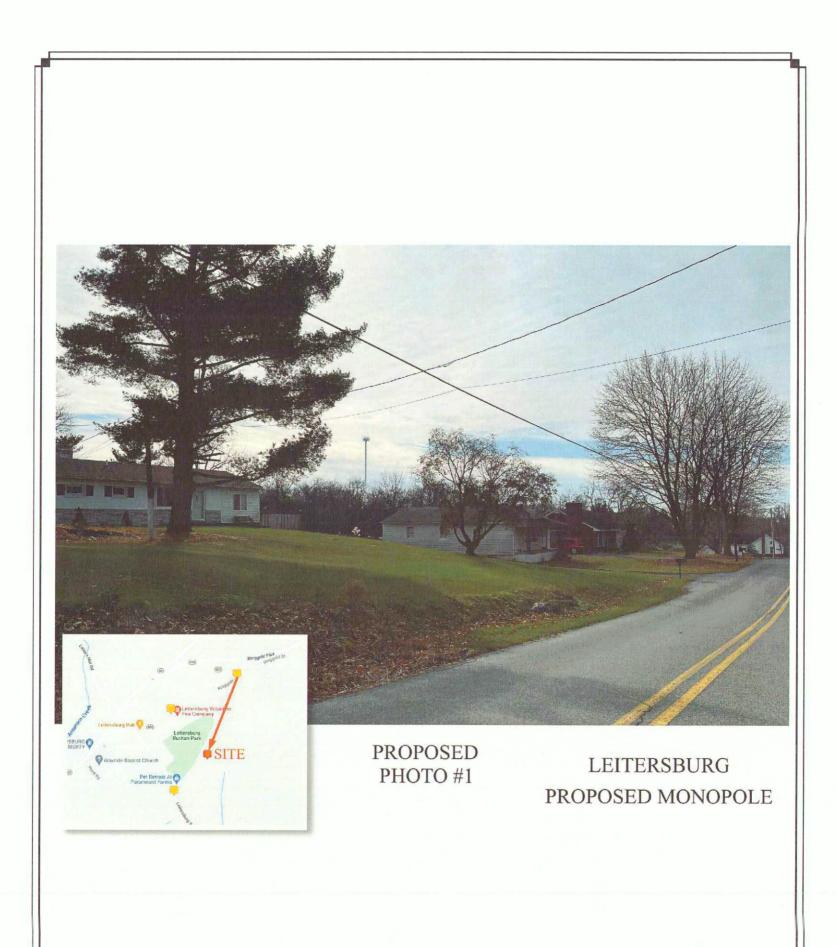


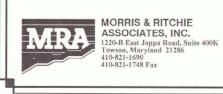




## **Leitersburg** Existing View 1

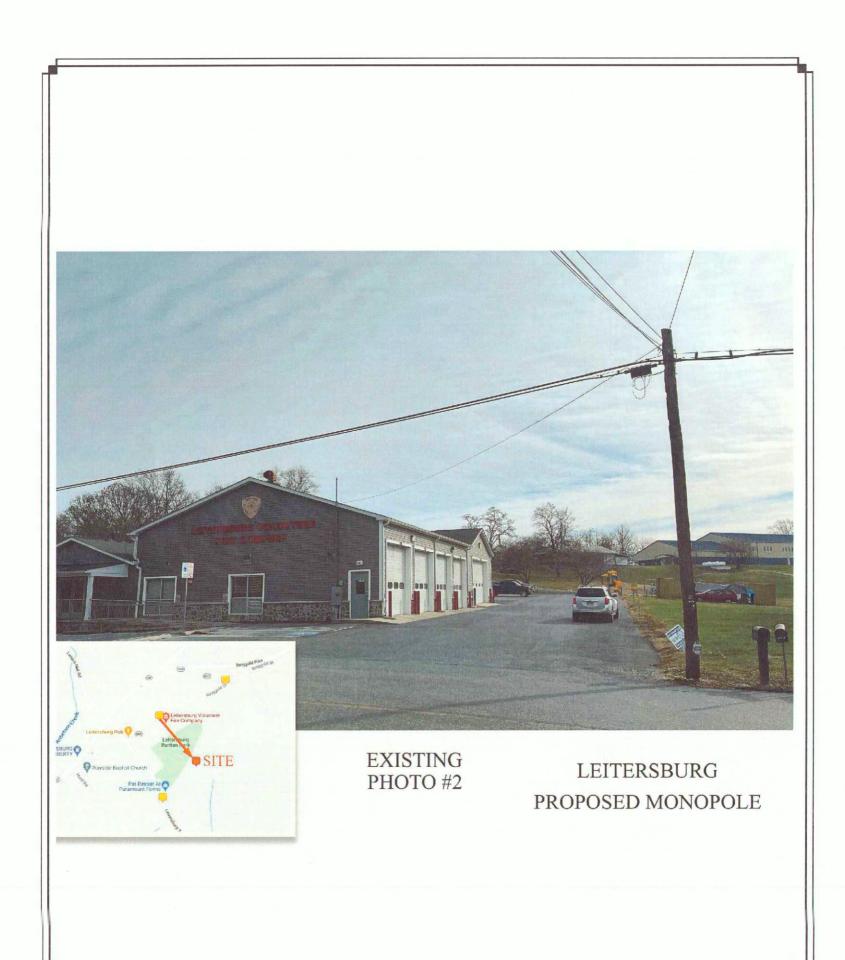






## Leitersburg Proposed View 1





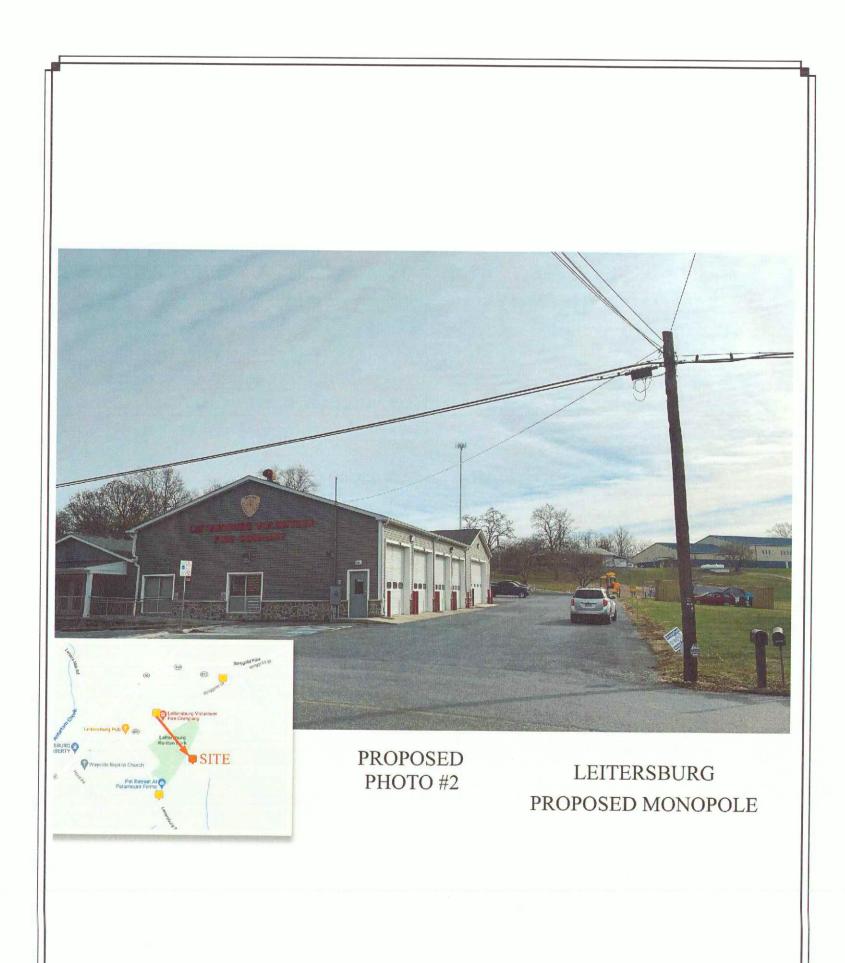


8

MORRIS & RITCHIE ASSOCIATES, INC. 1220-B East Joppa Road, Suite 400K Towson, Maryland 21286 410-821-1690 410-821-1748 Fax

## **Leitersburg** Existing View 2



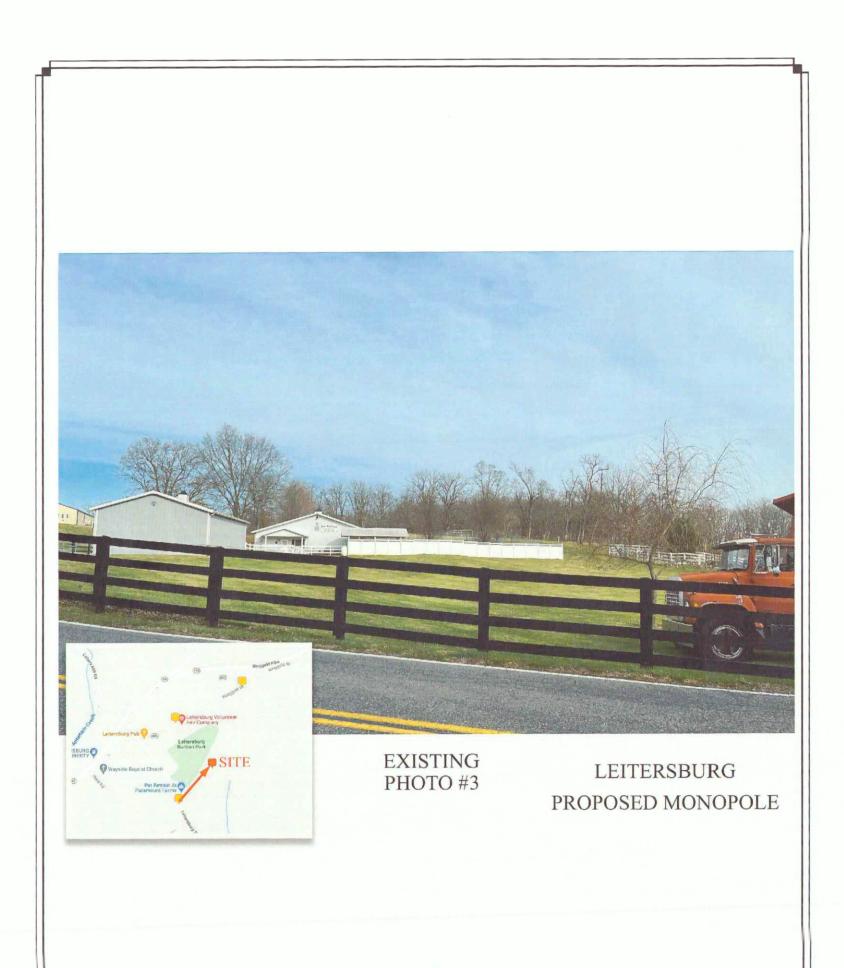




## Leitersburg Proposed View 2



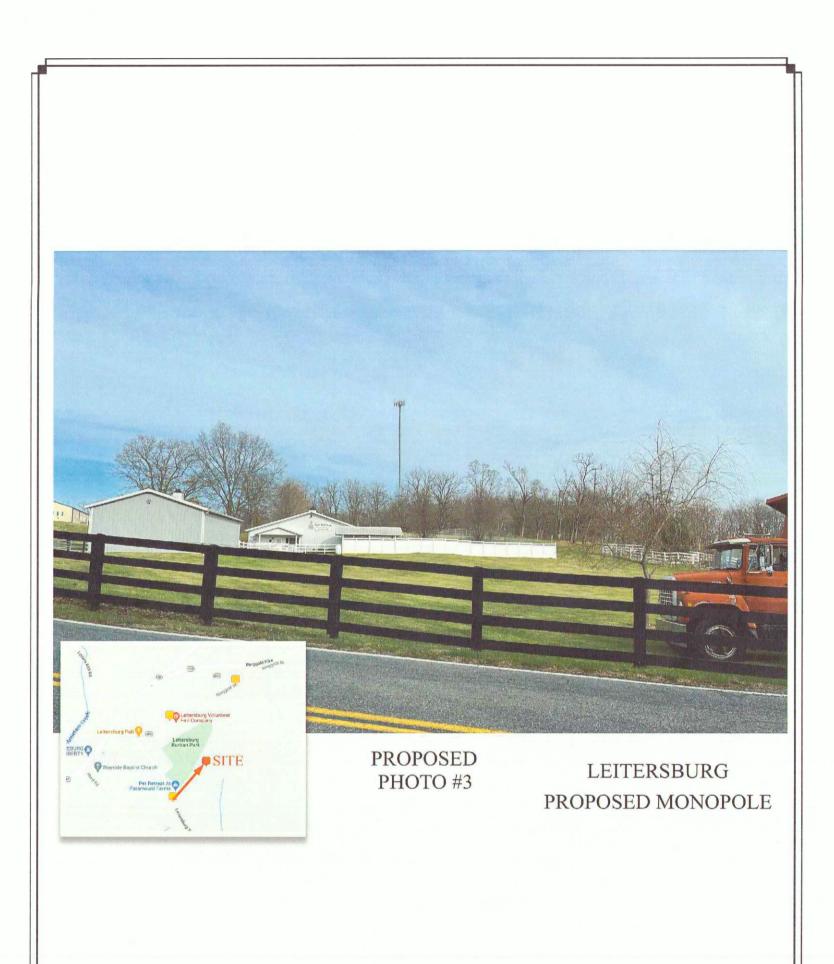






## **Leitersburg** Existing View 3







## Leitersburg Proposed View 3





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: Appellant:	Knoedler Jefferson LLC 1020 Hawlings Road Brookeville MD 20833 J. Chris Knoedler 1020 Hawlings Road Brookeville MD 20833			Docket No: Tax ID No: Zoning: RB Overlay: Zoning Overlay: Filed Date: Hearing Date:	AP2023-042 18018497 RS No 08/18/2023 09/13/2023
Property Location:	19918 Jefferson Boulev Hagerstown, MD 21742			nearing Date.	03/13/2023
Description Of Appeal:	Variance from the park	ing requir ucture for			per 1,000 sq. ft. of gross parking spaces to the existing
Appellant's Legal Intere	est In Above Property:	Owner: Lessee:		Contract to Rent/Lease: Contract to Purchase:	No
Previous Petition/Appe	al Docket No(s):	<b>Other:</b> AP93-01 AP2023-			l, AP2021-034, AP2011-035,
Applicable Ordinance S	ections:			ty Zoning Ordinan	ce Section: 22.12 B1
Reason For Hardship: If Appeal of Ruling, Dat Ruling Official/Agency:	Cannot expand parking e Of Ruling:	due to ex	kisting size	e and conditions o	f the property.
Existing Use: Reta	ail	Propose	d Use:	Retail	
Previous Use Ceased Fo Area Devoted To Non-O		Existing: Propose		Date Ceased:	

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 <u>22nd</u> day of <u>August</u>, 20<u>23</u>. Debra Sue Rickard



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

## **AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)**

Docket No: AP2023-042

#### State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 8/18/2023, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared J. Chris Knoedler and made oath in due form of law as follows:

J. Chris Knoedler 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 09/13/2023, 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 08/29/2023 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

J. Chris Knoedler

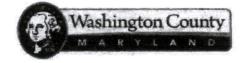
Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

Debra Sue Eckard 4-11-2025

**Notary Public** 

**My Commission Expires** 

Seal



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 19918 JEFFERSON OWD HAGERSTOWN, MD
Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One)
Owner (Including Joint Ownership) Lessee Contract to rent/lease
Contract to PurchaseOther
Specify the Ordinance section and subsection from which the variance is desired:
Specify the particular requirement(s) from which a variance is desired in that section or subsection:
FOR COMMERCIAL RETAIL SALES
Describe the nature and extent of the desired variance from Ordinance requirements: listed above: ORDINANCE PERUIZES 75 SPACES
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?

If yes, list docket number(s): APZ0Z3-033

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

107.0 HAWLINGS PD BROOKEYILLEMD Signature of Appellant Address and of Appellant 301. 518. 1308 CHRISKNOEDLER QVERIAN 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

**Board of Zoning Appeals** 

Appeal for Variance

19918 Jefferson Blvd Hagerstown, MD 21742

Reasons why ordinance requirements in question would impose undue hardship.

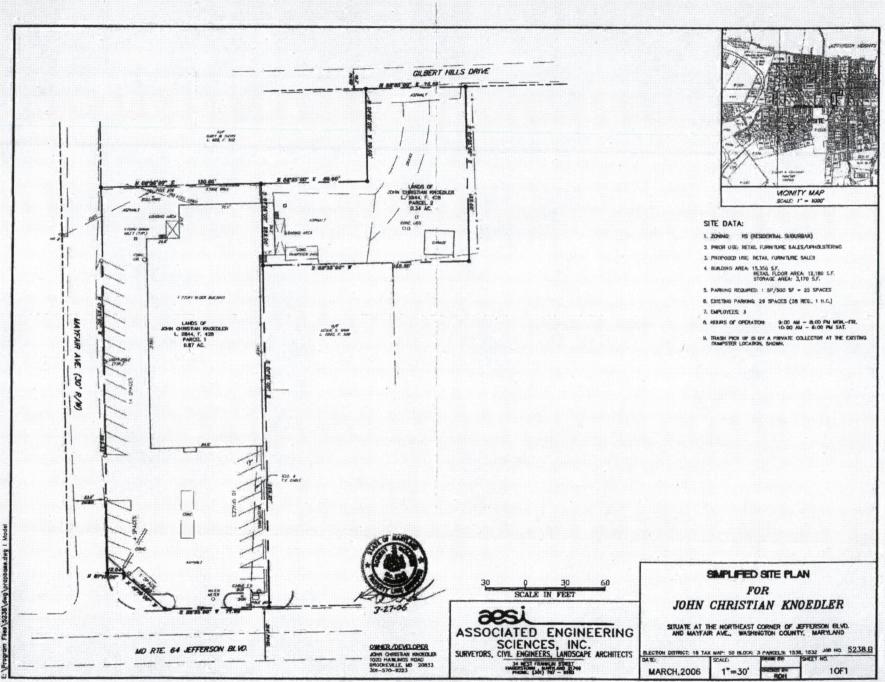
1. Size and scope of required number of parking spaces is limited to the 41 existing spaces by property size.

2. Ordinance requirement would deem property unleasable for building's historical and intended uses.

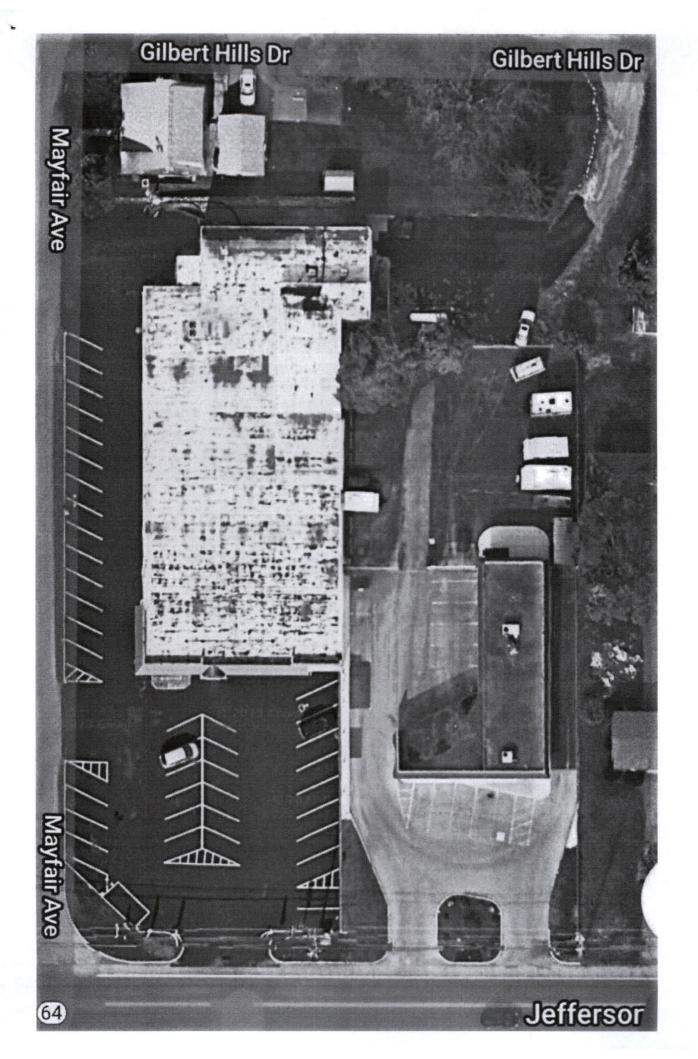
DG Market has done a study on the number of cars that visit our store per hour. For a DGPM, an average of 31 cars will visit our store in an hour. The average number of customer cars that will be in our stores parking lot is only 5, but those 5 cars will change 6 times within the hour (making the average 31 cars visiting out store).

Chris Knoedler

(301) 518-1308



monton,2008





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: Appellant:	18126 Lappans Road Fairplay MD 21733 Austin Bard 1592 Wilkson Lane Chambersburg PA 17202		Docket No: Tax ID No: Zoning: RB Overlay: Zoning Overlay Filed Date: Hearing Date:	AP2023-043 12003811 RV; A(R) No : 08/18/2023 09/13/2023	
Property Location:	18126 Lappans Road Fairplay, MD 21733				
Description Of Appeal:	Special exception to ex required 400 ft. setbac			ss and variance from the line.	
Appellant's Legal Inter	est In Above Property:	Owner: No	Contract to Rent/Lease:	No	
		Lessee: No	Contract to Purchase:	Yes	
		Other:			
Previous Petition/Appe	eal Docket No(s):	AP96-140, AP20	01-045, AP2013-00	2	
Applicable Ordinance S	Sections:	Washington County Zoning Ordinance Table 3.3 (1) M, Section 4.9			
Reason For Hardship:	Setback requirement w	ould prevent the	dog kennel expans	ion from being done.	
If Appeal of Ruling, Dat		_			
Ruling Official/Agency:					
Existing Use: Dog	g Kennel Business	Proposed Use:	Expanding Dog	Kennel Business	
Previous Use Ceased For At Least 6 Months:			Date Ceased:		
Area Devoted To Non-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 \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,

20\_\_\_\_\_

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

## **AFFIDAVIT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 25.51(C)**

Docket No: AP2023-043

#### State of Maryland Washington County, To Wit:

On 8/18/2023, before me the subscriber, a Notary of the public of the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Austin Bard and made oath in due form of law as follows:

Austin Bard 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 09/13/2023, 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 08/29/2023 and will remain until after the above hearing date.

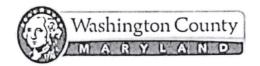
Austin Bard

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

**Notary Public** 

Seal

**My Commission Expires** 



80 West Baltimore Street - Hagerstown, MD 21740 | 11 240.313.2460 || 240.313.2461 | Ife and Europeaned 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 18126 Lappans Road Fairplay MD 21733	
Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One)	
Owner (Including Joint Ownership) Lessee Contrac	t to rent/lease
x Contract to PurchaseOther	
Use Proposed: Expansion of current business	
Zoning Ordinance section and subsection(s) providing for proposed use: <u>514.2</u> 12	.2 (d) 19.3 (c)
If filing functionally similar to a principal permitted use or special exception use, please list describe the use similarities: Sume use (kenel) / Larger building	the use and
Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet         Has any previous petition or appeal involving this property been made to the Board?        Yes      No	
If yes, give docket number(s): <u>AP96-104</u> Oct 30+11 1996	
Additional comments, if any:	
I hereby certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge, accurately supplied the information	on required for the
above referenced appeal.	

Signature of Appellant Austin Bard

Etail of Appellant

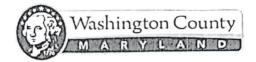
1592 Willscon Lane Clambersburg PA 17202 Address of Appellant

717-340-4514 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 April 7, 2021





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:

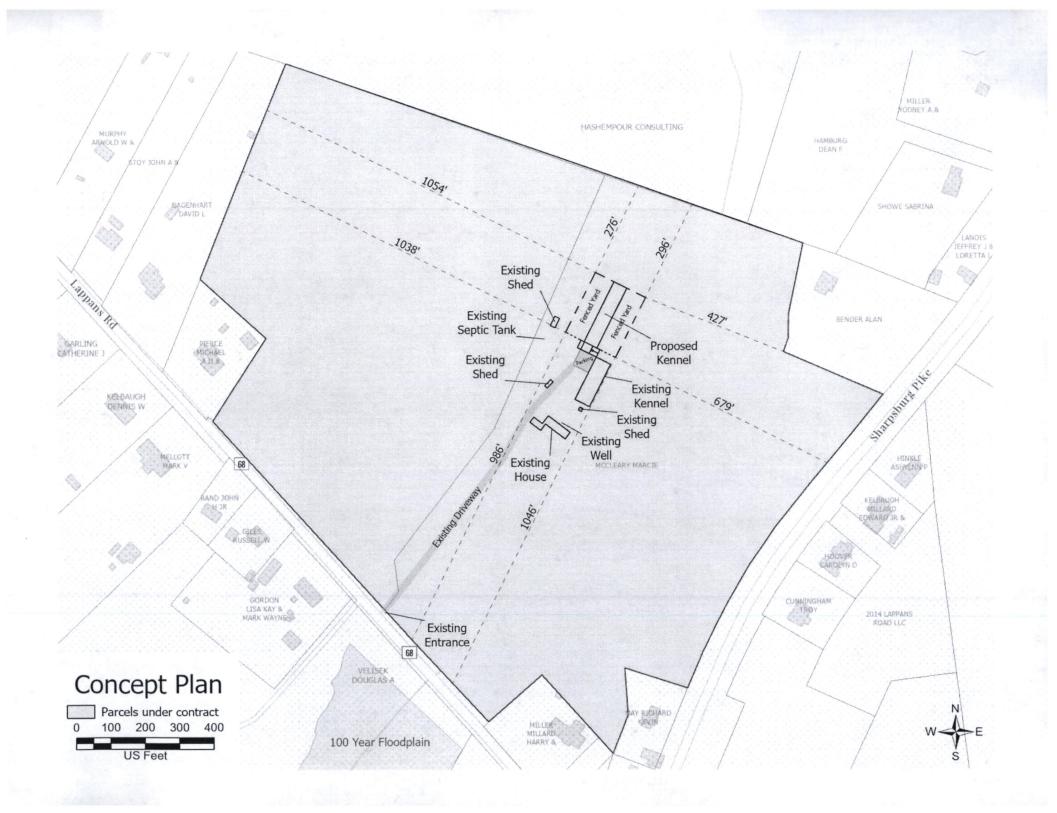
TOHOWS.
Location 18126 Lappans Road Fairplay, MD 21733
Appellant's present legal interest in above property: (Check One)
Owner (Including Joint Ownership) Lessee Contract to rent/lease
Contract to PurchaseOther
Specify the Ordinance section and subsection from which the variance is desired: $25.56 + 25.6$
Specify the particular requirement(s) from which a variance is desired in that section or subsection: Variance, from the required 400' back side set back to 200'
Describe the nature and extent of the desired variance from Ordinance requirements: listed above: Add a new 61'X 216' building to board days. (161'X 216' w/ferring)
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: A 400' building Set back would prevent vs from building a new dog kennel on said property. Provide Detailed Explanation on Separate Sheet
Has any previous petition or appeal involving this property been made to the Board?
If yes, list docket number(s): AP96-104 Oct 30th 1996 (current owner)
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 1592 Wilkson Lanc Chambersburg PA 17202 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



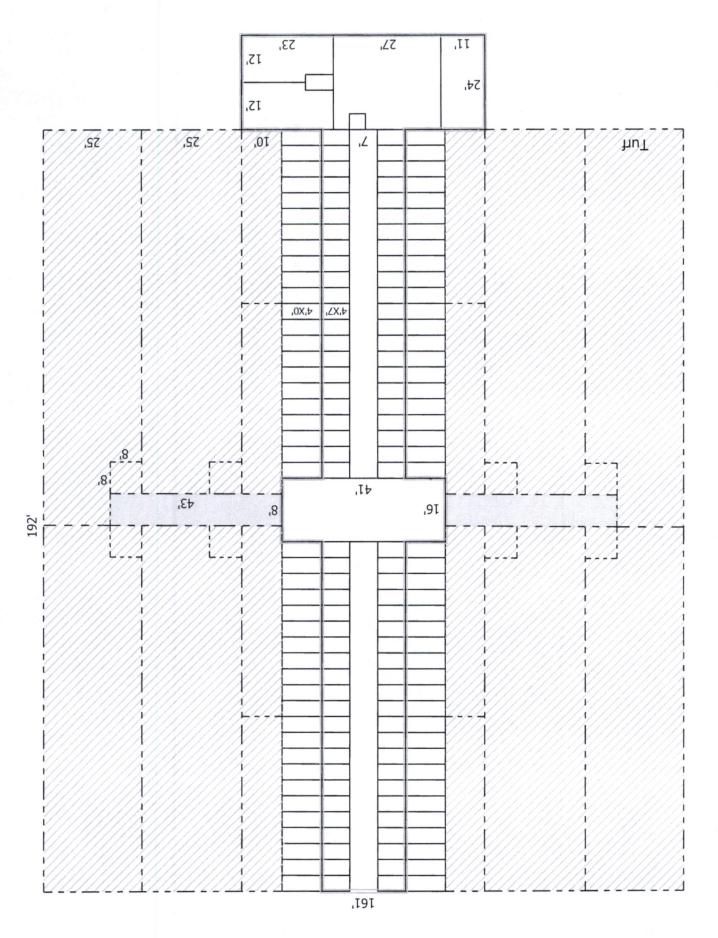
### OWNER REPRESENTATIVE AFFIDAVIT

This is to certify that <u>Austin Ban</u> is authorized to file an appeal with the Was <u>A new Isenn</u> located <u>18126</u> <u>Lappans</u> Boud The said work is authorized by <u>Marcie</u>	el building Fairplay, MD 21733	on property
the property owner in fee.		
	PROPERTY OWNER	ĺ
A STATE AND	Marcie A. McCleany	1
	Name 18126 Lappans Rd.	
S TARF	Address	
	Thirday ND 21733	
Control B Colored	City, Stale, Zip Code	
77011 CO.	Marcie J. Milleary	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Owher's Signature	
Sworp and subscribed before me this	the day of august , 20 à	13
,	Christina & Poole	
My Commission Expires: 7-24-27	Notary Public	
	AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
	Hustin Bard	
	1592 Wilkson Lanc	
	Address <u>Chambersburg</u> , PA 17202. City, State, Zip Code	
	Authorized Representative's Signature	
Sworn and subscribed before me this $\_\mathcal{I}$	1	23
	Notáry Public Wy Comm	eaith Of Pennsylvania - Notary Sea Itam E Kopp, Notary Public - Franklin County Ssion Expires September 28, 202 mmission Number 1088170
My Commission Expires: $9/28/23$		
747 Northern Avenue - Hagerstown, MD 2	21742 240.313.2430	7-1-1
•	CUMLAND PLACE OF CONTRACT OF THE STREET	× .
	and the second sec	

WWW.WASIICO-MD.NET



# Proposed Building Dimensions



### **Other Information**

#### Existing

#### Location of any freestanding signage

Driveway entrance

Number of employees

5 to 6

Mon, Wed Fri - 8am - 12pm and 4pm - 5:30pm Tues - Thurs - 8am -12pm and 2pm - 5:30pm Saturday - 9am - 12pm Sunday - Closed

#### Proposed

Same as existing

Same as existing

Monday-Friday: 7:00am - 9:00am, 5:00pm -6:30pm

> Saturday: 7:00am - 10:00am Sunday: 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Hours of Operation

## Neighbors

DAGENHART DAVID L - 18044 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 HASHEMPOUR CONSULTING - 13902 CARLSON FARM DR. GERMANTOWN MD 20874 PIERCE MICHAEL A II - 18100 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 CUNNINGHAM TROY - PO BOX 30 FUNKSTOWN MD 21734 BENDER ALAN - 8820 SHARPSBURG PIKE FAIRPLAY MD 21733 2008 LAPPANS LLC - PO BOX 4217 HAGERSTOWN MD 21741 GARLING CATHERINE J - 18045 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 HOOVER CAROLYN D - PO BOX 114 FAIRPLAY MD 21733 GILES RUSSELL W - 18117 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 RAND JOHN H JR - 8539 OLD 126 WARFORDSBURG PA 17267 KELBAUGH DENNIS W - 18103 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 KELBAUGH MILLARD EDWARD JR - 8803 SHARPSBURG PIKE FAIRPLAY MD 21733 MCNAMEE MARK D - 18154 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 MCNAMEE MARK D - 18154 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 MAY RICHARD TODD - C/O MAYS SERVICE STATION FAIRPLAY MD 21733 MILLER MILLARD HARRY - 18146 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 HINKLE ASHYLNN P - 8807 SHARPSBURG PIKE FAIRPLAY MD 21733 VELISEK DOUGLAS A - 18125 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 GORDON LISA KAY MARK WAYNE - 18123 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 MELLOTT MARK V - 18105 LAPPANS RD FAIRPLAY MD 21733 MAY RICHARD KEVIN - 8835 SHARPSBURG PIKE FAIRPLAY MD 21733 STOY JOHN A - 7539 SHARPSBURG PIKE BOONSBORO MD 21713 HAMBURG DEAN F - 311 FRIDINGER AVE HAGERSTOWN MD 21740

## BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

						*							
AUSTIN BARD						*	Ap	Appeal No.: AP2023-043					
Appellant						*							
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	

### **OPINION**

Austin Bard (hereinafter "Appellant") requests a special exception to expand the existing dog kennel business and variance to reduce the required setback from 400 feet to 276 feet on the north property line at the subject property. The subject property is located at 18126 Lappans Road, Fairplay, Maryland and is zoned Rural Village and Agricultural, Rural. The Board held a public hearing on the matter on September 13, 2023.

### **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:

Marcie McCleary owns the subject property located at 18126 Lappans Road,
 Fairplay, Maryland which is also known as Widow's Mite Farm. The property is zoned
 Rural Village and Agricultural, Rural.

2. The subject property consists of a farm and residence, as well as an existing kennel building for Ms. McCleary's dog kennel business. The subject property spans both parcels 185 and 277, with the residence and business primarily located on parcel 185, and parcel 277 being mostly farmland.

3. In 1996, the subject property was the subject of a special exception request to establish the dog kennel business. The Board granted the special exception and a variance for a freestanding sign in case AP96-140. 4. Since 1997, the dog kennel business has operated at the subject property. It has had capacity for up to fifty (50) dogs although is rarely at full capacity at any given time.

5. Appellant proposes to expand the business by constructing a 41 by 192-foot building for an additional fifty (50) kennel stalls which connect to outdoor runs. The total capacity for the business would then be up to 100 kennel spaces.

6. The proposed building would be located just beyond the existing parking area and would run in the same direction as the existing kennel building. As a result, the building would be located approximately 276 feet from the northern boundary line.

7. Appellant is in the business of commercial kennel operations and operates kennels in Pennsylvania and elsewhere in Maryland. They are committed to cleaning kennels and runs every day when occupied and they have a practice of letting only two (2) dogs out at a time for run time.

8. Appellant reports only minimal noise complaints related to its other kennel facilities.

9. Ms. McCleary reports that the business tends to have seasonal trends, but that she has never had any complaints about barking, noise or the general operation of the kennel business.

10. There was no opposition presented to this appeal.

### Rationale

## Special Exception

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, nearby public gatherings or the conservation of property values. The proposed project involves expanding a business that has existed in that location for more than twenty-five (25) years. It is unlikely such a project would have any impact on roads or traffic, the neighboring properties and/or businesses, and public gatherings. Aside from the presence of additional dogs and construction of an additional building, the Board finds it is likely there would be no discernable impact from the expansion of the business at the subject property. 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 and therefore should be granted.

### Variance

The Board has authority to grant a variance upon a showing of practical difficulty or undue hardship. §§ 25.2(c) and 25.56.<sup>1</sup> "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).)

In the instant case, the required setback for the proposed use is 400 feet, given the nature of the use and nearby residential properties. Appellant proposes to locate a new kennel building approximately 276 feet from the northern property line and thus, seeks this variance. Appellant testified during the hearing that it was possible to turn the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "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).

proposed building so that it ran parallel to the northern property line, thus alleviating the need for variance relief. Appellant further testified that doing so would make the new building inconsistent with the position of the other existing buildings on the property. Moreover, it would result in the outdoor run area being more exposed to the northern boundary line and neighboring properties. The proposed location of the new building attempts to mitigate the outdoor run areas by having them open to the east and west sides of the subject property, further from neighboring properties and uses. Appellant's variance request is designed to address the practical difficulty imposed by having to locate the building. It does not confer any special benefit upon Appellant and will help to mitigate any concerns or impact that additional dogs may have on neighboring properties. Under the circumstances, the Board finds that Appellant has satisfied the criteria for variance relief and the request should be granted.

Accordingly, the request for a special exception to expand the existing dog kennel business at the subject property is hereby GRANTED, by a vote of 4 to 1. The request for a variance to reduce the required setback from 400 feet to 276 feet on the north property line at the subject property is hereby GRANTED, by a vote of 4 to 1. Both the special exception and variance requests are granted with the standard condition that the use be consistent with the testimony and evidence presented to the Board.

#### BOARD OF APPEALS

By: Tracie Felker, Acting Chair

#### Date Issued: October 12, 2023

#### 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.