

Plattsburgh, New York

Building & Zoning Dept.

41 City Hall Place

Plattsburgh, New York 12901

Ph: 518-563-7707 Fax: 518-563-6426

Plattsburgh

CLASS A VARIANC	
Date 06/06/22	Appeal No 2323
An application is hereby made t allow the property use as herein	to the Zoning Board of Appeals pursuant to the City of Plattsburgh Zoning Ordinance for a variance to described.
Applicant:	MATT RIVERS
Applicant's Address:	10 TRAFALGAR DRIVE
	PLATTS BURCH, NY 12901
Telephone No.:	518 - 569 - 7792
Parcel Identification:	207.13-2-43
Location of Request:	LATERAL EXTENSION OF FRONT PORCH
Property Owner:	MATT RIVERS
Request Description:	LOUKING TO EXTEND FRONT PORCH LATERALLY BY 6' BUILD
Zoning District:	RI
Section Appealed:	360-11
Previous Appeal:	No.: Date:
Identify Applicant's Right to A	pply for Variance:
Ownership:/	Long Term Lease:Contract To Purchase:
Other (Please Explain):	
13 copies of existing	riances must be accompanied by: g and proposed site plan plus original application. g and proposed floor plan.
The Zoning Board of Apper provided they are directly	als may impose reasonable conditions and restrictions on the grant of area and use variance related to and incidental to the proposed use of the property. Such conditions shall be

LISA M. BEEBIE
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01 BE6395749
Qualified in Chaten County

*Signatures other than Property Owner require a Letter of Authorization to application expires August 5,262

consistent with the spirit and intent of the zoning law, and shall be imposed for the purpose of minimizing any adverse

impact such variance may have on the neighborhood or community

* Matthew Commer/Applicant)

HATT RIVERS

Print First and Last Name



Building and Zoning Department 41 City Hall Place Plattsburgh, NY 12901

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PROCEDURE IN APPEALING THE ZONING ORDINANCE CLASS B VARIANCE

DEADLINE FOR FILING APPLICATION _	June	24,20	22	
ZONING BOARD MEETING DATE				CHINCIL CHAMBERS

The Zoning Board of Appeals has been empowered to hear and decide all appeals to the Zoning Ordinance and to do so the Board holds public meetings once a month.

The attached appeal application must be completely filled out and returned to the office for action by the Zoning Board of Appeals at their monthly meeting. The filing fee for said application is as follows:

One and Two-family dwellings - \$50.00 PP
Multiple Dwellings \$150.00
Commercial Properties \$150.00

All checks should be made payable to the "City Chamberlain". In order for your appeal to be heard in the same month you apply, the appeal form and fee must be received by this office three weeks prior to the scheduled meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals. All applicants or their representatives should attend the Zoning Board of Appeals Public Meeting of their appeal to answer any questions the Board may have regarding their request.

In filling out the form, please be specific and supply the Zoning Board of Appeals with all the necessary information requested on the form. If you are requesting a variance from the ordinance, you must detail why the literal enforcement of the ordinance will produce an undue hardship, while the variance requested will adhere to the spirit of the ordinance and do substantial justice. Financial disadvantage to the property is no proof of hardship within the purpose of zoning. In addition to the above, an applicant must submit adequate drawings and a site plan of all requests, which will involve any construction, alterations, or physical change of their property. THIRTEEN (13) copies of the entire packet including drawings, site plans and the original application are required (we recommend the plans be approved before the THIRTEEN (13) copies are made).

Before the Zoning Board of Appeals may hear and decide your appeal, this office must first:

- Publish the request in three successive issues of the Press-Republican newspaper not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) days before the hearings.
- 2. Notify, by letter, all adjoining property owners of your request

This office is responsible for implementing the above requirements.

If there are any questions, please contact this office. Thank you for your cooperation.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

CITY HALL

PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK 12901

STANDARDS OF PROOF - AREA VARIANCE

A. The applicant for an area variance is not entitled to an area variance unless he has furnished competent proof to satisfy the "practical difficulty standard" and that the variance, if granted will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

In order to satisfy the practical difficulty standard, the applicant must prove that the Zoning Ordinance as it applies to his land creates significant economic injury and that the variance, if granted, will not produce a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood. The courts of this state hold that "significant economic injury cannot be established except by dollars and cents proof which includes:

1. The original purchase price of the premises.

2. The current market value of the premises without an area variance.

3. The projected market value of the premises with the variance having been granted."

"Projected market value" in item 3 does not include any cost of valuation for the proposed construction. It includes only the current market value without any variance plus the "value of the right to build." The "value of the right to build" may be said to be the "value of the building permit". How much more valuable is the entire property with a building permit allowing the future construction of the proposed work? Projected market value which includes the value of the work to be constructed will be rejected.

Projected market value can be best shown by the in-person testimony of a real estate appraiser who is present at the hearing. Written appraisals may be less satisfactory because the writer is not present to answer any questions:

The difference between the current market value without the variance and the projected market value with the variance is the amount of economic injury. If the Zoning Board of Appeals determines that this economic injury is significant, then the applicant may be entitled to the area variance.

However, if a town official comes forward at the hearing with testimony establishing that it is important in this particular instance to enforce the Zoning Ordinance as it is written, in order to protect the health, safety and welfare, then the application must be denied. It is important to note that such testimony must be by a town official or someone hired by the town to give the testimony. If the Zoning Board of Appeals agrees with the Town Official that it is important in this case to enforce the Zoning Ordinance as written, then the applicant is not entitled to the area variance, unless he presents further testimony that the enforcement of the ordinance as written will deprive him of any reasonable use of his land. If applicant proves that, then he is entitled to the area variance.

B. The second question to be determined by the Zoning Board of Appeals is whether the the propose will alte the essential character of the neighborhood. Will a substantial detriment to adjoining properties be created? If it will, then the variance may be denied.

C. Other Grounds for Denial:

1. Whether the variance applied for is the minimum variance that is necessary.

2. Is the variance sought one that is merely desirable for the greater enjoyment of the property, as opposed to one that is necessary for continued practical utilization of the premises? (Bielak v. Zoning Board of Appeals, 78 AD 2d 435).

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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STANDARDS OF PROOF - AREA VARIANCE

- 3. Is this hardship self-created? An area variance cannot be denied solely on the ground of self-created hardship, but is a factor to be considered.
- 4. Is the plight of the owner due to personal problems of the owner as opposed to matters dealing with the land or buildings? While an area variance may not be denied solely on this basis, it is a factor to be considered.

Area Variances Standards

The state statues define area variances as: "the authorization by the zoning board of appeals for the use of land in a manner which is not allowed by dimensional or physical requirements of the applicable zoning regulations."

General City Law, 81-b(1)

The state statues then go on to provide the zoning board with the standards for granting the area variances;

- "(b) In making it's determination, the zoning board shall take into consideration the benefit to the applicant if the variance is granted, as weighed against the detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood or community by such grant. In making such determination the board shall also consider:
- (1) whether an undesirable change will be produced in the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties will be created by the granting of the area variance;
- (2) whether the benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance;
 - (3) whether the requested area variance is substantial;
- (4) whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental condition in the neighborhood or district; and
- (5) whether the alleged difficulty was self-created; which consideration shall be relevant to the decision of the board of appeals, but shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance.

The board of appeals , in the granting of area variances, shall grant the minimum variance that it shall deem necessary and adequate and at the same time preserve and protect the character of the neighborhood and the health, safety and welfare of the community."

Area or Dimensional Variances

Area variances may be granted where setback, frontage, lot size or yard requirements of this Code cannot be reasonably met. In making it's determination the ZBA shall take into consideration the benefit to the applicant if the variance is granted, as weighed against the detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood or community by such grant. In making such determinations the board shall also consider the following criteria:

Please give a written response to each section.

(1) Will an undesirable change be produced to the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties be created by the granting of the area variance? No. THE ADDITIONAL 6' OF LATERAL FRONT DECLI WILL NOT AFFECT THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEGATIVELY AT ALL.

(2) Can the benefit sought by the applicant be achieved by some method, feasible to the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance?

No. I (AN NOT BUILD THE FRONT PORCH OUT CLOSEN TO

THE ROAD (OR THAT WOULD CAUSE MORE OF AN ISSUE), SO I AM LOOKING TO BUILD LATERLALLY, WHERE IT WILL NOT ENCROACH ON THE ROAD.

- (3) Is the requested area variance substantial?

 NO. I AM ONLY LOCKING TO BUILD AN ABBITOWAL G'X 19" OF FRONT POSECH.
- (4) Will the proposed variance have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood?

 NOT AT ALL. IF ANY THING, IT WILL ENHANCE THE NEIGHBOR HOOD.
- (5) Has the alleged difficulty been self-created? No. This information shall be relevant to the decision of the board but shall not necessarily preclude granting of the variance.

THE EXISTING TINY BOXED-IN PORCH WAS LIKE THIS WHEN WE MOVED IN.

Variances

One of the basic powers given by law to a zoning board of appeals is called the "variance" power. The board has the authority to "vary," or modify, the strict letter of a zoning ordinance or local law in cases where this strict interpretation could cause practical difficulties or unnecessary hardships for an individual.

Appeals boards are frequently confronted with requests for variances. There are two types of requests that come before the board, and the standards by which they are judged differ. A <u>use variance</u> is a request to utilize property for a use or activity which is not permitted by the zoning ordinance, and the applicant must demonstrate nunnecessary hardship. An <u>area variance</u> is a request for relief from dimensional standards contained in the zoning ordinance, and it requires a demonstration of "practical difficulty."

The basic standards for determining unnecessary hardship and practical difficulty have been established and refined by the courts in numerous cases.

Use Variance

An individual who wants to utilize property for a use that is not permitted by the zoning ordinance must apply for a use variance. An applicant for a use variance must demonstrate unnecessary hardship by satistying each of the following three tests:

1. Uniqueness

The applicant must prove that there are certain features or conditions of the land that are not generally applicable throughout the zone AND that these features make it impossible to earn a reasonable return vithout some adjustment. If the features or conditions are generally applicable throughout the district, a variance should not be granted. In those situations where the difficulty is shared by others, the relief should be accomplished by an amendment to the zoning ordinance, not a variance.

2. Reasonable Return

The applicant must demonstrate an inability to realize a reasonable return under any of the uses permitted by the zoning ordinance. There must be a "dollars and cents" proof of the applicant's inability to realize reasonable return; speculation or qualitative assessment is inadequate. Failure to realize the highest return is not considered a hardship.

3. Character

The applicant must prove that the requested modification will not change the character or quality of the neighborhood. In addition, the "spirit" of the ordinance or local law should be preserved.

The applicant for a use variance must meet all three tests before the appeals board may grant relief. A use variance should not be granted if the "unnecessary hardship" was created by the applicant. If the appeals board grants a use variance to an applicant who has falled to meet each of the tests, it cans the risk of assuming the function of the legislative body and making a decision contrary to the legislative intent of the zoning ordinance.

An increasing number of use variance requests is often the sign of an "aged" zoning regulation. The appeals board should not circumvent the legislative process by granting use variances. Instead, the appeals board should advise the governing body of the need to reexamine and amend the Zoning ordinance.

*Area Variance

In the case of an area variance, the applicant is seeking modification of dimensional standards, such as yard requirements, set-back lines, lot coverage, frontage requirements or density regulations, so that the property may be utilized for one of the uses permitted by the zoning ordinance. The appeals board may grant relief if the applicant can demonstrate that strict compliance with the regulations would cause practical difficulty.

The determination of practical difficulty is a three-step process. 3

- First, the applicant must demonstrate that the application of the zoning ordinance to his property causes significant economic injury.
- 2. Once the applicant has demonstrated economic injury, then the municipality must show that the regulation in question is reasonably related to a legitimate exercise of the police power.
- 3. Last, assuming the municipality has met its burden of proof, the applicant must demonstrate that the restrictions, as strictly applied in his case, are unrelated to the public health, salety or welfare of the community and that granting the variance will not adversely affect the community.

In making a determination of practical difficulty, the appeals board may consider:4

- How substantial the variation is in relation to the requirement;
- 2. The potential effect of increased density on available municipal, county and state facilities and servivices;
- 3. Whether the variance will cause a substantial change in the character of the neighborhood;
- 4. Whether the difficulty can feasibly be mitigated by some other method; or
- 5. Whether the interests of justice will be served in granting the variance.

The appeals board should grant the minimum relief necessary to allow reasonable use of the land in question. Not every applicant for an area variance is automatically entitled to receive relief. Each application should be carefully considered against the requirement for proof of practical difficulty.

Summary

The major difference between a use variance and an area variance involves the use of the property. An area variance results in a modification of physical restrictions so that an allocable use may be established on the property. By contrast, a use variance permits the establishment of a use which is prohibled by the zoning ordinance and the zoning map. It is for this reason that the standards for a use variance are more stringent than the standards established for an area variance.

Frequently, the appeals board is encouraged to make legislative decisions under the guise of use variance, requests. The appeals board should exercise caution when confronted with a request for a use variance, and only grant those which meet the tests established for determining unnecessary hardship. The appeals board should resist the inclination to correct deficiencies in the zoning ordinance through the exercise of its variance power. If particular provisions of the zoning ordinance are inappropriate or unjust, the appeals board should recommend that the legislative body (City Council, Town Board, Board of Trustees) take the necessary steps to amend the ordinance or local law.

Otto v. Steinhilber, 282 NY 71 (1939), Yillage of Bronxville v. Francis, 150 NYS 2d 906 (1956); Jayne Estates v. Raynor, 22 NY 2d 417 (1968); Douglaston Civic Association, Inc. v. Klein, 51 NY 2d 963 (1980).

²Fayetteville v. Jarrold, 53 NY 2d 254 (1981).

" Fulling v. Palumbo, 21 NY 2d 30 (1967); National Merrit, Inc. v. Werst, 41 NY 2d 438 (1977).

**Waschsberger v. Michalls, 19 Misc 2d 909 (1959).

Department of Planning



Note:

617.20 Appendix B Short Environmental Assessment Form

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 - Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information			
Name of Action or Project:			
10 TRAFALGAR DRIVE - FRONT PORCH			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map):			
10 TRAFALGAR DRIVE, PLATTSBURCH, NY (SEE	ATTACHED)		
Brief Description of Proposed Action:			
LOUKING TO REBUILD FRONT PURCH, ADDING 6' LAT	EMALLY TO THE EACT		
Name of Applicant or Sponsor:	Telephone		
MATT RUERS	Telephone: 518 569 7792		
Address:	E-Mail: shortstop 88@1	notmail. c.	eta
Address: 10 TRAFALGAR Drive			
City/PO: PLATTS BUZGH	State.	Zip Code:	1
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, leadministrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to	the environmental resources th	NO	YES
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: BUILDING PERMIT - CITY OF PLATTS BUZGH		NO	YES
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned	x 120' acres x 1'6' acres (IM ADDITION 7x 1'6' Pe x 120' acres	TO EXIST	724 (
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action Urban Rural (non-agriculture) Industrial Comm Forest Agriculture Aquatic Other (Parkland	ercial PResidential (suburb (specify):	an)	

* (FROM # 1 ABOUTE)! THE INTENT OF ME PROPOSE ACTION IS TO UP GRAJE THE EXISTING PURCH,
Page 1 of 4

ADDING AN ADDITIONAL 6' LATERALLY TO THE EARTENLY SIDE OF THE EXISTING PORCH. THIS WILL NOT NEGATIVELY AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT OR NEIGHBORHOOD, THE ONLY AFFECTS WILL BE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE PROPERTY AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning reg	ulations?	YES	N/A
b. Consistent with the adopted compreh	nensive plan?		
Is the proposed action consistent with the landscape?	he predominant character of the existing built or natural	NO	YE
Is the site of the proposed action located Yes, identify:	d in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area?	NO	YE
. a. Will the proposed action result in a s	substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	NO	YE
b. Are public transportation service(s)	available at or near the site of the proposed action? TAYIS & UBERS TRAVEL ON THE READ		V
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations	s or bicycle routes available on or near site of the proposed action?		
. Does the proposed action meet or excee f the proposed action will exceed require	ed the state energy code requirements? ments, describe design features and technologies	NO	YI
0. Will the proposed action connect to a	n existing public/private water supply? Connected to House	NO	YI
If No, describe method for provid	ding potable water:		
1. Will the proposed action connect to ex	cisting wastewater utilities? Connected to House	NO	Y
If No, describe method for provid	ling wastewater treatment		
a. Does the site contain a structure that Places? b. Is the proposed action located in an	at is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic	NO	Y
			L
	proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain lated by a federal, state or local agency?	NO	Y
	lly alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? and extent of alterations in square feet or acres:		
☐ Shoreline ☐ Forest	occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all th Agricultural/grasslands Early mid-successional		
☐ Wetland ☐ Urban	Suburban	1.210	
Does the site of the proposed action of by the State or Federal government as	ontain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed threatened or endangered?	NO	Y
6. Is the project site located in the 100 years.	ear flood plain?	NO	Y
7. Will the proposed action create storm f Yes,	water discharge, either from point or non-point sources?	NO	J.
a. Will storm water discharges flow to			L
	eted to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)?		11

	Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?	1,	10	YES
11 1	es, explain purpose and size:			
	Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility?	1	OY	YES
	Yes, describe:			
20.	Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoi completed) for hazardous waste?	ng or	NO	YES
lf Y	Yes, describe:			
KN Ap	FFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO NOWLEDGE plicant/sponsor name: MATT RUERS Date: 06/06 nature: Matthew Shie			OF M
	ponses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"			
		No, or small impact	Me	odera:
		No, or small	Me to in	odera
res		No, or small impact may	Me to in	odera o largo mpact may
res	ponses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?" Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning	No, or small impact may	Me to in	odera o largo mpact may
1. 2.	will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	No, or small impact may	Me to in	odera o largo mpact may
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1 2 3 4 5	Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations? Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land? Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community? Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)? Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway? Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate	No, or small impact may	Me to in	odera o largo mpact may
1 3 4. 5. 6.	Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations? Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land? Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community? Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)? Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway? Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities? Will the proposed action impact existing:	No, or small impact may	Me to in	odera o largo mpact may
1234567.	Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land? Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community? Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)? Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway? Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities? Will the proposed action impact existing: a. public / private water supplies?	No, or small impact may	Me to in	odera o larg mpac may

		No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
0. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potenti problems?	al for erosion, flooding or drainage		
1. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental re	sources or human health?		
Part 3 - Determination of significance. The Lead Agency is requestion in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact relement of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be a duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also cumulative impacts.	may occur", or if there is a need to excant adverse environmental impact, pany measures or design elements that so explain how the lead agency determined to considering its setting, probates.	plain why a please comp t have been mined that to ability of oc	a particular plete Part 3. included by the impact curring,
Check this box if you have determined, based on the inforthat the proposed action may result in one or more pote environmental impact statement is required. Check this box if you have determined, based on the inforthat the proposed action will not result in any significant a	ntially large or significant adverse in mation and analysis above, and any	mpacts and	an
Name of Lead Agency	Date		
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible	Officer	
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different	from Perns	neible Offic

PRINT

