COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNT No. 5831-RXV

. OPINION

This is a petition for reclassification from an "R-6" Zone to an "R-A" Zone, a special exception for un elevator apartment building, and variances to Sections 216 and 217.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County on land located on the southeast corner of York Road and Hillside Avenue in the Ninth District of 3altimore County.

This property, once the location of the Towson Nurseries, has been the subject of zoning petitions in the past and attempts to zone the property for motel use and for office building use have been vigorously opposed by community protest. The use of the property for elevator apartment has found the support of all but a few of the former pro-

There are actually four separate requests in this petition; the reclassification, the special exception and the two variances. We shall discuss each separately and our order shall cover all four.

There have been a number of changes in the immediate area since the adoption of the land use map for the Ninth District on November 14, 1955. Most of these changes have been on the west side of York Road. However, they have brought large office buildings almost directly across from the subject property and have had an effect on the subject property. Also, a reclassification on the east side of York Road to the south in the same black as the subject property has been granted except for a 40 foot buffer strip on the side along Cedar Avenue. Mr. Harry U. Riepe, Real Estate expert for the petitioner, pointed out that out of the 4,848 acres which makes up the entire subject tract, 3.8 acres were zoned "R-A", leaving just a little more than one acre in an "R-6" classification. This, in his opinion, was an error. The Board is unanimous in its opinion that there have been sufficient changes in the area to warrant a reclassification. It is desirous of maintaining a buffer strip on Cedar avenue but inasmuch as 30 feet are required for a rear yerd setback, sees no danger in allowing the entire reclassification requested.

With regard to the special exception for an elevator apartment building, the Board is again unanimous that it should be granted subject to the following restrictions:

Messrs. Power and Mosne 3h W. Chesspeake Avenue Towson h, Maryland

Att: William F. Mosne

There may be no more than 250 living units in the

There shall be no ingress or egress from Cedar Avenue

There shall be no incress from York Road except that provisions may be made that cars coming from the south on York Road may make a right turn movement 3. into the subject property. It must be so constructed that it be impossible for all intent and purpose to make a left turn into the subject property by care going in a southerly direction on York Road

There shall be no egress from the subject property into York Road except that a lane shall be provided allowing cars leaving the subject property to make a right hand turn into York Road in a northerly direction

Terrace Dale Road shall be so widened as to provide adequate ingress and egress to and from the subject property. It shall also be aligned to the present entrances on the west side of York Road to the Blue Cross, Humble Oil, apartment complex to allow, if necessary, one traffic signal to control both the east and west sides of York Road to this point.

Every effort be made in the design of the building to do away with straight line appearance of a brick mass.
Use of balconies, indentations, etc. could add greatly
to the appearance and the character of the building

Screening and planting shall be provided on the per-7. imeter of the entire property to adequately screen parking lots and add beauty and atmosphere to the completed project

A minimum parking facility for 300 cars

All interior parking must be so designed that cars will not be parked below or above one another. This is to say that all cars must be on one level of parking, but the levels may be of different floor level in different sections of the building

No use other than open spaces may be made of the property on the eastern boundary of the property within 40 feet of Cedar Avenue

Paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 7 must be approved by the Office of Planning and Zoning of Baltimore County. With respond to paragraph 6, after finished and complete plans are made of the proposed exterior, these plans must be approved with regard to the exterior design only, by the Office of Planning and Zoning of Baltimore County

of York Rd. & S/S 2 #5831-F

E/S

5831-

#5831

February 20, 1963

Re: Petition for The Yorkdale Corporation, for Elevator Apartment Building, including accessory busines uses for tenants

Yours very truly, JAMES R. DYER

The Zoning Advisory Committee have reviewed the subject tion and have the following comments to make:

ity calculations moved Gross Acreage = Net Acreage = Number of dwelling units per acre Gross Number of dwelling units per acre Net =

(a) in other was distribult of got his on to come were

D will agt adored all if tent

Density calculations should be indicated on the plan as follows: Gross Acresse =

Parking data should also be indicated on the plan as follows: real number of parking spaces required for dwalling. real number of parking spaces required for retail makes rotal number of parking spaces spaces. To see the parking space area. (One space for each 200 sq. ft. of commercial floor area).

The interior parking layout should be indicated on the plan-

If I can be of any assistance, please do not heuitate to

PERITION FOR RECLASSIFICATION, SPECIAL EXCEPTION FOR ELEXATOR APARTMENT BUILDING AND VARIANCES to Section 216 and 217.7 of the section 217.7 of t

BEFORE : ZONING COMMISSIONER BALTIMORE COUNTY

: No. 5831-RXV

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Please enter an appeal on behalf of petitioner to the County Board of Appeals from so much of the Zoning Commissioner's order of May 17, 1963, that denied petitioner a variance to the Zoning Regulations to construct 325 units on the subject property. No appeal is taken from any other portions of said Order.

POWER AND MOSNER BY: William F. Mosner Attorneys for Petitioner

June /4 , 1963

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the aforegoing Notice of Appeal were mailed to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, Court House, Towson 4, Maryland, Board of Appeals of Baltimore County, Court House, Towson 4, Maryland, and to ERNEST TRIMBLE, ESQUIRE, Attorney for Protestants, Jefferson Building, Towson 4, Maryland.

WILLIAM F. MOSNER

JUN 94 83

In considering Section 502.1 of the Zoning Regulations the Board can see no way in which this petition for special exception could have an adverse effect. Sections A, C and E leave no question to be discussed.

- 3 -

Section B - dealing with traffic - seems to offer no problem. While York Road is heavily travelled at the present time, the existence of 250 apartment units on the subject tract would add only a small fraction to the present traffic. In addition, the construction of Burke Avenue and Stevenson Lane from York Road to Charles Street, and the construction of St. Joseph Road from Stevenson Lane north will reduce York Road traffic in the near

Section D - overcrowding of land and undue concentration of population has been raised as an objection due to the density variance requested. This Board does not feel that 250 families living on the subject property would cause any undue hardship and the actual buildings would cover only 19% of the land.

Section F - dealing with light and air has been mentioned as an objection. The variance requesting the allowable height is being denied and the height of the building will be only that allowed in the Zoning Regulations. Certainly this will not cause interference with adequate light and air.

With regard to the variance to Section 216 asking for additional height for the building, the Board is unanimous in denying this request. A building higher than that allowed by the Regulations would be completely out of character to the remainder of the area and could cause hardship to neighbors in regard to light and air.

With regard to the variance to Section 217.7 for an increase in density to 325 living units, the Board is unanimous that this would exceed the practical capacity of the property. We feel that strict compliance with the Zonina Regulations with regard to density would result in practical difficulty and unreasonable hardship, and that in granting relief any variance should be in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the Regulations. Therefore, we grant a variance for 250 living units. We cannot see where any injury to the public health, safety, and general welfare would occur from this variance.

ORDER

For the reasons set forth in the aforegoing Opinion, it is this 17 of September, 1963 by the County Board of Appeals, ORDERED that the reclassification petitioned for, be and the same is hereby aranted: that the special exception petitioned for, be and the same is hereby granted subject to the eleven (11) restrictions outlined in

> The granting of the reclassification, the special exception and variances, is subject to approval of the site plan by the State Powle es, is subject to approval of the site plan by the State Road Bureau of Public Works and the Office of Planning and Zoning

BALTIMORE COUNTY No. 5831-RIV

this Order; that the Variance to Section 216 is hereby denied; and the Variance to Section 217.7 for 250 units is hereby granted.

Any appeal from this decision must be in accordance with Chapter 1100, ubtitle B of Muryland Rules of Procedure, 1961 edition.

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUN TY

NOTE: Mr. Austin did not sit at this hearing

NE: PETITION FOR REDIASSIFICATION, SPECIAL EXCENTION FOR ELEVATOR ARABITOST SULLINGS AND VARIABLES : to Sections 216 and 21/1 of Coring Regulations = 5.5.0 Ger. : Tork Read and Hillicha Aronno, 9th Dist., The Torkiale Corp., : Petitions. ZONING COMMISSIONER Œ

The patitions in the above cattled matter seeks a realization true a TMC* Cone to an TMC* TWO to be TMC* TWO to be property a special exception for an elevator apartment building, and a variance to Settlema ZIV, and ZIS of the Buildings Coupy Doning Revisitions. The reclassification requested is a reasonable request and is in line with toler estings TMC* TWO more except the coupy of the Coupy Coupy

In addition, the potitioner requests a variance from an allowable bright of 61 feet at a sebback of 55 feet to a proposed height of 93 feet. The actual variance requested is small and it would be a bardship in designing the building bet to permit the variance requested.

It was also requested that a variance be granted from Section 217.7 in that it would be impractical to erect this elevator apartment building at the allowable Illi, 8 units and that it would be practical only if 35 units are permitted.

The subject property has been subject to soming considerations at some langth and it seems offinite that the allowable number of units is not consistent with the size of the lot and the type of building that could be arected on this property. However, JC units are in excess of the maximus within should be allowed and after such consideration, examination of the property and examination of the plus, it is considered that the maximum allowed should be 250 units.

For the above reasons the reclassification should be granted, also the special acception for the elevator spartment building and the requested variances as limited herein.

Commissions of Lintee brain.

It is this \(\frac{1}{2} \) for deep of May, 1963, by the Zening
Commissions of Bultimore Commission.

Commissions of Bultimore Commission that a portion of the property sound 1865; should be and the same in bruby reclassified from an "Not" Zone to an "Not" Zone to an "Not".

Zone to an "Not" Zone and a special acception for an alerator apartment building abould be and the mass is granted, from and after the date of this Covier.

It is further GEDERED that a veriance to Section 217.7 to permit 286 units instead of the requested 355 units is hereby granted, also the variance to section 226 to permit a height of 93 feet instead of the allowable 67 feet.

· PETITION FOR ZONING RE-CLASSIFICATION AND/OR SPECIAL EXCEPTION

TO THE ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY:

1, or we THE TOREDALE CORPORATION legal owner... of the property situate in Baltimore MAP County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part befrest, thereby petition (1) that the roning status of the herein described property be re-classified, pufsuart # 9 to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, from an R-6 zone to an cg/3-6 zone; for the following reasons: The bulk of the property described on the attached Plate is R-A, but $RA \times V$ a small portion thereof is R-G, and the entire arrange is properly chiesi- $\frac{1}{2} |I|^{1/2} \times I$ flable as R-A. The applicant wishes to reclassify only the R-G portion to R-A.

See Attached Description

and (2) for a Special Exception, under the said Zoning Law and Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to use the herein described property, for. Elevator apartment buildings, including accessory business uses for the convenience of its tenants.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above re-classification and/or Special Exception advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law for Baltimore

THE YORKDALE CORPORATION BY: Murtly H. Stenling Legal Owner Contract purchases Address Maryland Natural Book Bldg Balto, Mil POWER AND MOUNED BY: Mm Mosna 34 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson 4, Maryland ORDERED By The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimere County this lat day

required by the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, in two newspapers of general circulation through-out Baltimore County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing be had before the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County in Room 106, County Office Building in Towson, Baltimore

County, on the 2200 1-83 day of April , 1963 , at 1:00 o'clock I AN O FAR ioner of Baltimore County 10 m 8 years

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND 30'63"

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO Mr. John G. Rose, Zoning Commissioner Date FROM Mr. George E. Gavrelis, Deputy Director

SUBJECT Zoning Petition #5831-RXV.

In connection with your hearing on the subject petition you requested that the Planning staff study the question and problems of a removable density on the Prockade Compression property. At the densities allowed matter with Mr. Dill; we are of the egistent that densities allowed by the Soning Sachaltiess are removable and we cannot reconsent for an

135

PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE FROM AREA AND HEIGHT REGULATIONS

TO THE ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY:

I, or we Tap Jorkshale Corporation legal owner of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof. #9 hereby petition for a Variance from Section 216 and 217.7 SE(.3-C -RA-XV 4/11/63 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the

ens: findicate hardship or practical difficulty Variance from 114.8 apartments to 325 units is required in order to permit owner to make reasonable use of its land and to retain the residential classification.

Variance on the north and south sides from an allowable height of 67 feet at a setback of 55 feet to a proposed height of 93 feet is necessary due to the shape of the lot and the impracticality of othersize designing the building.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations.

Low we, agree to pay expense of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petulinon and further agree to and are to be bound by the routing regulations and restrictions of Billimore Country adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law For Baltimore Country. THE YORKDALE CORPORATION

Contract purchaser Legal Owner POSER AND HOSNER Patitioner's Attorney Protestant's Attorney

February 196. 3, that the subject matter of this petition be advertised, as irred by the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, in two newspapers of general circulation through Baltimore County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing be had before the Zoning missioner of Baltimore County in Room 106. County 0360 Building in Towson, Baltimore -22nd ---- day of April ---

ORDERED By The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this _____let-

P.M. M.

Gires a 100-o'clock

#5831

Terrace Dale Portion

Be_iming for the size in the center line of Persone Dale at the scilbased corner of the second parces of land which by deed dated speakener 23, 1958 and recorded among the Land Recents of Baltisone Doubty in Liber (1.8 Ms. 3319, folio 651 was conveyed by Fister . Low to the Baltisone Life Improved among the Land Recents of Baltisone Life Improved and the Control North 509 301 West 10 Fest more or less to the vest like of the present 91. 6. 3 souther area, thence northwas terly smallel to defar twens and timing on said soning like, North 50° hi! 20° East 18° fest mayor of less, to the cutling and the provided in the Control North 50° hi! 20° East 18° fest mayor of less, to the cutling 24 times Life Daurance Company that of many 7, 1956 and recorded many the aforesaid land records in like Cul. N. No. 25%, folio 269, thence thinding on the east cutling or said parcel, Subst 19° cl. 20° Nest 20° fest before the second control of the control

Containing O.k acres of land more or less.

Millside Portion

Regiming for the same at the nouthwest corner of Ceder Avenue and, Hilliads Avenue, and running themse on the west of e-Te Coder Avenue, South SC [3] 20 The L. 200, Text, themse leading Ceder Avenue, Scott SC [3] 20 The Code Avenue, Scott SC [3] 20 The Ceder Avenue, Whent Lik Scott Norw or less to the eart line of the result in thing on said second, line, Scott SC [3] 20 The Law Ceder Avenue, the code of Hilliads Avenue, the code that Like Ceder Ceder

Containing 0.7 acres of land more or less.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

John G. Rose Date April 22, 1963 James E. Dyer

This office is not satisfied with the access as indicated on the petitioner's plot plan. If the reclassification and special exce, is granted the site plan and entrances should be subject to the approval by the Office of Planning and Zoning.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TO Mr. John G. Rose, Zoning Commissioner Date April 11, 1963

FROM Mr. George E. Cavrelis, Deputy Director

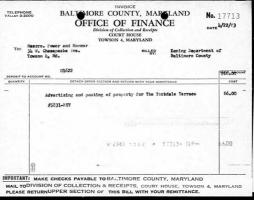
SURECT. 5531-MEY. No.5 to No.4, Special Exception for Elevator Spatiant Buildings, including accessory untriness uses from the control of the

9th District HEARING: Honday, April 22, 1963 (1:00 P.M.)

The staff of the Office of Planning and Zoning has reviewed the subject petition for reclassification in part, from Red to Red soning together with special exception for an elevator spartnent building with variances. It has the following advisory comment to make with respect to pertinent planning

- 1. The 9% District Zoning Map created spartness soning along the easterly portion of York Read in recognition of the churacter of existing land mages and as a gride to future development or resse of the land. The Pan District Chinning Map case 2011, 18th the fronting of Scient Fermes in the Scient Scient Scient Chinning Scient Chinning and Chinning Scient Chinning and Scient Scient
- 2. The Flamming staff Concurs with the Concept of willising the subject property for an elevator quarternt with conventions, justifies a consensor, uses Bowers. A the Flamming staff questions the positioner's request for variances which would permit 155 rather than the IIS apartment units allowed by the wind would permit 155 rather than the IIS apartment units allowed by the would appear that the special exceptions are requested with each to ever-crowd land, cause undue concentration of population, and would not be in accord with the spirit can intent of the Connel Boulations.

TELEPHONE



BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYIOND TELEPHONE VALLEY 3-3000 No. 18429 OFFICE OF FINANCE DATE 6/20/63 Division of Collection and Receipt COURT HOUSE TOWSON 4, MARYLAND BILLED Office of Flanning & Zoning 119 County Office Bldg., Townen h, Md. COST \$35.00 No.5831-RXV 0-2163 Het e e e trp-55.00

IMPORTANT: MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TOBALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND MAIL TODIVISION OF COLLECTION & RECEIPTS, COURT HOUSE, TOWSON 4, MARYLAND PLEASE RETURNUPPER SECTION OF THIS BILL WITH YOUR REMITTANCE.

BALTINERE COUNTY, MARYIMAD No. 17828 OFFICE OF FINANCE DATE 6/4/63 Division of Collection and Recei COURT HOUSE TOWSON 4, MARYLAND Ernest C . Trimble, Esq., Jefferson Building Townen h, Maryland BILLED Office of Planning & Zoning 119 County Office Bldg., Tousen h, Haryland QUANTITY | 01.622 Coat of apped - The Yorkdale Corp. propert No.5831-RXV

COST \$70.00 6--563 9647 . . . 119-IMPORTANT: MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INFORMATION OF COLLECTION & RECEIPTS, COUNTY, IMPRILABILITY MAIL TO DIVISION OF COLLECTION & RECEIPTS, COUNTY HOUSE, TOWSON 4, MARYLAND PLEASE RETURN UPPER SECTION OF THIS BILL WITH YOUR REMITTANCE.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARY AND OFFICE OF FINANCE Division of Collection and Recei COURT HOUSE TOWSON 4, MARYLAND

No. 16401

DATE 2/1/63

	Towson L, Md.	BILLED Zoning Department of
SIT TO	ACCOUNT NO. 01622	
-	LETACH UPPER SECTION AND RETURN WITH YOUR REMITTANCE	
	Betition for Reclassification & Special Exception for The Torkdale Corp.	

50.00 4-163 5256 . . TIPnon

IMPORTANT! MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND MAIL TODINISION OF COLLECTION OF THIS BILL WITH YOUR REMITTANCE.

PLEASE RETURNUPPER SECTION OF THIS BILL WITH YOUR REMITTANCE.



IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

No. 353 September Term, 1963

VORKDALE CORPORATION

EDWIN R POWELL

Henderson, C. J. Hammond Presiott Horney Marbury Oppenheimer,

Filed: December 7, 1964

quired some five acres of land on the east side of York Road about a mile south of Towson (all but about an acre, which was goned for one or two-family residential use, was zoned for apartment use), asked the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County in until to reclassify the residentially zoned acre to apartment use, to grant a special exception for an elevator apartment, to wrant a variance allowing an additional twenty-three feet in neight for the proposed building, and to grant a density variance permitting the apartment house to embrace three hundred twentyfive living units. Edwin E. Powell, the appellee, a nearby property owner, protested. The roning commissioner granted Yorkdale's requests with the exception of the number of living units which was cut to two hundred eighty-five. Powell appealed to the Board of Zoning Appeals which denied the height increase, further reduced the number of living units to two hundred fifty and otherwise affirmed the commissioner. Powell appealed to the circuit court where, by agreement, the case was heard and decided on the question of whether the zoning ordinances of Baltimore County gave the zoning officials power to grant a variance as to

Vanishale Compountion the appellant, which in 1960 ac-

The case was argued before Judge Berry on November 13, 1963, and on December 4 he held that Art. 3, Sec. 307 of the zoning

regulations of maltimore County entitled "Variances" ("The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County and the Board of Zoning Appeals, upon appeal, shall have and are hereby given the power to grant variances from area and height regulations * * ** where stylet compilance with the law would result in "practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship"), read with Art. 2, Jec. 217.7 of those regulations (which defines permissible densities), did not authorize a variance in density.

Yorkdale appealed to this Court and the case was argued on April 28, 1964. While a decision was under consideration, we were informed that the Baltimore County Council had on December 2, as signed into law by the County Executive on becember 3 and 1963, passed Bill 107, which/became effective January 20, 1964, to amend Art. 3, Sec. 307, so as to spell out that "no increase in residential density beyond that otherwise allowable by the Zoning Regulations (Sec. 217.77 shall be permitted as a result of any such grant of a variance from height or area regulations."

Feeling that the amendment might have made the main issue most, we set the ease down for reargument, Md. Rule 835 a 2, and the point was briefed and argued.

Maryland consistently has followed the rule that "an appellate court to bound to decide a case according to existing last, even though a judgment rightful when rendered by the court below should be reversed as a consequence," as Judge Markell, for the Court, repeated in Moman's Club v. State Tax Corn., 195 Md. 16, 19 (or, it may be noted, even when a judgment wrong when

rendered is made right by the change in the law). See also for this proposition that a change in the law after a decision below and before final decision by the appellate Court will be applied by that Court unless yested or accrued substantive rights would be disturbed or unless the legislature shows a contrary intent, Keller v. State, 12 Md. 322; Day v Day, 22 Md. 530; Gordy v. Prince, 175 74. Md. 688; Comtarham v. Children's Society, 185 Md. 97; and Tudor Arms Apts. v. Shaffer, 191 Md. 342.

The rule has been applied in zoning cases. In Banner v. Home Sales Company D, 201 Md. 425, a property owner on November 27, 1947, sought a change of proposed zoning of five acres as "Cottage Residential" to a group housing plassification, so that he could proceed with his housing projects on which he had spent a large amount of money. The Board of County Commissioners of Anne Arundel County granted the request on December 2, 1947, and classified the five acres as "Group Housing." On December 19, 1951, the owner applied for permits to build seventy-three group houses. On March 6, 1952, before construction of the houses had begun, protestants filed a petition for a change in the zoning of the five acres from "Group Housing" to "Cottage Residential." While the petition for a change was being considered, the owner began to build the foundations for the seventy-three group houses. Annu Arundel County had no provision for zoning appeals and the protestants filed a bill in equity, alleging that the change in 1947 to "Group Housing" was arbitrary, discriminatory and illegal, and proving a declaration that such

law which did away with witnesses and the de novo theory on appeals Af from the Compensation Commission's action and required the court review to be confined to the record before the Commission, was held to be applicable to an appeal entered before the asendment to the law. Also relied on were State v. Jones, 21 Md. 432 (statute shortening period of limitations upheld), and Elliott v. Elliott, 38 Md. 357 (new statute authorized court to restrict remarriage of offending party). Judge Brune, for the Court, said further in Beechwood (pr. 256-257):

"Our views are reinforced by the special rule of statutory construction that right much are of purely statutory origin and have no basis at months are siped out when contain and several control that the statutory provision creating that speaking regardless are supported to the statutory provision and the statutory provision creating the speaking regardless of the statutory provision and the statutory provision to percent are statutory provinced to be correct can be decembed as vested right.

See also Ireland v. Shipley, 165 Md. 90; Richardson v. Richardson, 217 Md. 310; Ziffrin v. United States, 318 U. S. 73, 78, 87 L. Ed. ofl (Supreme Court held that since "a change in the law between a nici prius and an appellate decision requires the appellate count to apply the changed law" a change in the law as to motor

reard by the Commission after the change in the law. Chief Judge Brune, for the Court, said (p. 254):

** * where the effect of the new statute is not to issuary contains substanting explain but only to alter the processing substanting substanting of the substanting o Relied on was Thomas v. Penna. R. Co., 162 Md. 509, where a new

soning be declared invalid and void and that construction be enjoined until the zoning commissioner and the Board act on the petition for rezoning.

The chancellor held that the change to "Group Housing" zoning was valid, and the protestants appealed. At the argument before us, it was agreed that since the passage of the decree appealed from, the property had been rezoned by the Anne Arvadel County officials back to "Cottage Residential." This Court said (p. 428): "The case before us has therefore become moot. . . . The wonling contested in the case before this Court has been superseded by the zoning authorities."

There was a similar holding in Lake Fls. Asun. v. Bd. or Zon. Appeals, 209 Md. 561. The circuit court, on September 15, 1955, affirmed the Board of Zoning Appeals in its action in remoning a piece of ground from residential to "E" Commercial. The protestants appealed to this Court and, thereafter, on November 8, 1955, a new land use map for the area was adopted which zoned the property "Business Local." It was stipulated at the argument here that the uses permitted under "Business Local" are not the same as were permitted under "E" Commercial and that the commercial uses under the former are more restricted than they were under the latter. This Court said (p. 565):

In the Banner case the ultimate change in zonion of the property satisfied the purposes of the appellants, shareas, in the present case, it is assumed that the new land the by them not wells; the appellants of the cause of action, i. e., the coming classification that was the subject of ittigation, was extinguished by eyes!

In Grau v. Board of Zoning Appeals, 210 Md. 19, the circuit court had affirmed the Board in the reclassification of two lots at the northwest corner of Loch Raven Boulevard and Pussula Road in Scitimore County from "B" (Semi-detached) Residential to "E" Commercial. The Board's action was on July 17, 1953, the circuit court's on June 24, 1955. The protestants appealed to this Court. On November 14, 1955, the County Commissioners adopted a new noning map for the area and zoned the lots R 6 (residential one and two families) on the new map. This Court held the case most ". . . because the reclassification ordered by the Board of Zoning Appeals . . . has been superseded by the County Commissioners."

It would seem to follow from the decisions in Banner, Lake Palls and Quau that an applicant for rezoning to a more intense use of his property, who has been successful before the zoning authorities and the circuit court does not acquire a vested or substantive right which may not be wiped out by legislation which takes effect during the pendency in this Court of the appeal from the actions below.

The decisions in these zoning cases are consistent with decisions in other areas of administrative law. See Beechwood Coal Co. v. Lucas, 215 Md. 248. There, the law in effect when the industrial accident happened made the findings of the Medical Board binding on the Commission if there was any evidence to support them. The Legislature deleted this provision effective June 1. This Court upheld the right of the Commission to review and disturb the findings of the Medical Board since the case was

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scake the bill an emergency measure. Mr. Rose, the zoning commissioner, apoke to the Council, advising the members that the zoning department favored the principle of the bill but opposed the bill

carrier permits which became effective after the application to

must be followed by the Commission) and Burlington Truck Lines v.

and the hearing before the Commission but before its decision

United States, 371 U. S. 156, 9 L. Ed. 2d 207 (a change in the

a case and before the District Court heard the appeal, required

the reviewing court to remand for consideration in light of the

govern and be applicable here to make Judge Berry's decision cor-

rect, whother it was or not when he rendered it, the always para-

sount consideration is the intention of the legislative body which

changed the law and, if it did not intend the change to apply to

pending proceedings, the court will not so apply it. Yorkdale

finds evidence that the Baltimore County Council did not intend

the fact that the amendatory law, according to its terms, was to

The minutes of the County Council show that at the council

to make the density variance change apply to pending cases in

meeting on December 2, 1963, Bill No. 107 was called for final

reading and vote. The chairman suggested an amendment that sould

take effect "forty-five days after its enactment."

ing applicable to an administrative application which because ef-

fective administrative law four months after the Commission decid-1

change in the law). See also 82 C. J. S. <u>Statutes</u> Sec. 421, p. 996.

Yorkdale urges that even if the usual rule would otherwise

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The motion of the chairman to make Bill 107 an energency measure failed, and the bill was passed to take effect forty-

five days after its enactment. Yorkdale's contention that the Council did not intend Bill 107 to apply to pending proceedings would seem to be based on

these arguments: (a) the failure of the Council to make the mileffective as an emergency measure the day the County Executive signed it (when under Art. 3, Sec. 308 (g) of the Charter of Baltimore County it would become law) and its action in passing it as an ordinary law which would become effective forty-five days after the executive signed it, shows that the Council wanted the zoning authorities to continue to have power to grant density

Ingoon the passage of any legislation * * * the same shall be presented * * to the County Executive for his approval and stable countries of the supproval and stable countries of the supproval and stable countries of the supproval and supproval and supproval with the superoval endoped provides of the superoval endoped provides of the superoval endoped supproval to the same. Open approval by the County Executive any such legislication shall stand entoles.

variance until the effective date of the new law; and (b) because

the Council continued the status quo as to new applications during that period it meant the old law to continue to apply to and control applications which had been made before the effective date of the new law, even though such applications had not yet been finally acted on, either by the zoning authorities or the courts.

We cannot ascribe to the Council the intent Yorkdale arguer for. Almost every bill passed by the Council takes effect fortylive days after its enactment just as almost every bill passed by the State Legislature takes effect on June 1 (under Art. III, Sec. 31, and Art. XVI, Sec. 2, of the Constitution of Maryland), even though it was passed by the Legislature and approved by the Covernor months before, Art. 3, Sec. 308 (f) of the Charter of

"All public local laws and ordinances enacted by the County Council shall take effect forty-five days after their enacteant, unless by the affirmative vote of five sembers of the County Council any such law or ordinance declared an anneal of the effective on a late, date, or declared an anneal of the effective on a late, date, or declared an emergency measure affecting the public health, safety or welfare, in which latter event the same shall take effect from the date of its enachment.

The Notes to the Baltimore County Home Rule Charter of Arthur S. Machen, Jr., Reporter to the Charter Board of Baltimore found in Baltimore County Charter, 1955, at p. 79, constitute, according to the Reporter, ". . . contemporaneous comment' in that they are derived from the official records of the Charter Board assembled during the period when the Charter was being dearted" and were intended to serve three purposes:

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(a) to guide the voters who would adopt or reject the proposed Charter at the 1956 election; (b) to help the first County Council and officials; and (c) in appropriate instances to serve "the Bench and Bar in construing the Charter itself." The Notes s any doubt, if the Charter provisions themselves left any, that the end of the forty-five day period was to be the equivalent of June 1 in the State legislative plan and that the Council was to have the same right as the State Leg'slature to postpone the effective date or, in any emergency "necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety" (Constitution of Maryland, Art. XVI, Sec. 2) to make a law immediately effective, provided a specified number of legislators, greater than the number required to pass an ordinary bill (turee-fifths of the State Legislature; five of seven of the Council) concurred in the belief of emergency.2

 2 Jose p. 99 of the Reporter's Notes, Baltimore County Charter, 1959, where it is said:

"(f) Sprice two Base of Jave; Energency Measurest on Beauting, in sind the possibility that the constitutional searing, in sind the possibility that the constitutional search, the proposed by the Acts of 1955, Chapter 577 may be in force proposed by the Acts of 1955, Chapter 577 may be in force proposed by the proposed by the Chapter 577 may be decided and ordinances or the Councils has not provided that lase and ordinances or the Councils. However, the resulting the calendar day, but rather that they shall take effect by a resulting shift can send in the tenure care. However, by a resulting shift can send in the tenure care of forthey Council to Liven the body period. The Council side has been provided. The Council side has been considered to take effect free the date of the search provides and the latter respect, the privilege of declaring legislation. this latter respect, the privilege of declaring legislative tenergency' so as to advance its effective date is the sake

Attorney General Ritchie suggested in 1 Op. A. C. 286 that it would be wish for the State Legislature to add to every ordinmry httl a section stating that this Aut shall take effect June 1 and since this opinion the practice has been sustomary. Thomas y, Folice Commissioner, 211 Md. 357, 361. The Baltimore County Council seemingly has followed the same practice, customarily adding to bills/not to take effect until later than forty-five days after enactment, or not emergency bills, the express direction that the ordinance shall take effect forty-five days after its enactment.

It would seem to follow that if the customary postponement of the effective date of a law, either under the State constitu-Stonal provisions o. the Baltimore County Charter provisions meant, without more, a legislative intent that the usual rule that the law in effect when a case is finally decided controls, even though it has been changed since the decision below, was not to apply to pending proceedings, hardly ever, if ever, would

2 (cont'd) procedure followed on the state level in Article XVI, section 2 of the State Constitution.

(The change proposed by Ch. 557 of the laws of 1595 was approved at the 1996 election and amended Art. XI-A, Jec. 3, of the Constitution to provide as follows:

the charters of the various Counties shall or the counties shall or to exceed forty-five, mixth say but need to be consecutive, that the County can do the consecutive that the county shall be consecutive that the counties and the counties are the counties and the counties are the counties and the counties are t

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the so-called usual rule be applied. This Court has not so interpreted the legislative intent. The Act of the General Assembly that changed the workmen's compensation law, dealt with in the continued came, was approved by the Governor on March : 4, 1950. atthough under Art. III, Sec. 31, or the State Constitution, 1100 alread every other State law, it was not to and did not become effective until June 1. The Beechwood opinion found no significance in the fact that sixty-eight days had elapsed between the time the bill was enacted and when it became effective - during which the findings of the Medical Board would continue to be conclusive and not subject to review by the Compensation Commitsion if there was legal evidence to support them. Instead, this Court said (speaking through Chief Judge Brune at p. 256):

"In this case, as in the Thomas case, the repealing statute contains no saving climar sewering existing appears, Judge Bond there said (162 Mg) are compressed to the sords of the savended statute? are compressed the saving contained the saving contained to the saving the sa

In the Thomas case, supra, the amending act was approved by the Governor on April 17, 1931, and the new law became effective June 1, 1931 - forty-five days later. The Court in the Thomas round no more significance in this than did we in Beechwood.

Indeed, Chief Judge Bond there said (p. 512):

The appellant denies the propriety of construing the act to have a retrospective operation, so that it should apply to have a production of the vitnesse again on the act peal which may be a considered the act of the act

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issed on the principles that the legislature must, if the anagany man and the state of the state of the state of the standard by the state of the state of the state of the standard by recovering grounds of pending appeal, or chang-landard the state of the state of the state of the parts, and in verteen's compute disadvantage of litt-from the liberal attitude required to accomplish the par-sent of the state of the previous appeals. Thus, the restriction the apply to the

No added significance sought by Yorkdale can with certainty or accuracy be attached to the fact that the County Council did not adout the amendment to make Bill 107 an emergency measure. To do this in any case the Council, like the State Legislature, must find by a substantial majority that the public health or safety will be adversely affected unless legislation is made inmediately effective. Failure to pass a bill as an emergency measure ordinarily would mean no more than that not enough members thought the public interest required immediate emergency aid, not that the legislative body intended to do away with the usual rules as to the application and effect of new or changed laws. Tala proposition would not be altered because a motion to make a bill an emergency measure failed before the vote which passed the bill took place. Both the State Legislature, under the Constitution, and the Council, under the Charter, accommonweed xxxxxxxxxxxx can pass almost any bill as an emergency measure and because they do not do so, in any given instance, whether they in terovote against so doing or merely fail to act at all on the proposition, should not be accorded significance as an indication that they intended the bill they pass as an ordinary measure should not be subject to the usual rules.

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In the case before us, the Council may well have thought that no difference in result would follow, as far as the application of the law to pending cases was concerned, whether the law was an emergency or an ordinary measure. The attitude of the coming commissioner, as revealed to the Council, was that he wanted a moratorium on density variances and special exceptions for apartments for 180 days, and the Council might have anticipated that no new variances would be granted during the forty-five days from machient to effective date. There was a real and scrious medtion whether sec. 307 of the County zoning regulations which was assented by Bill 107 did not, as it existed, already mean what the amendment made by Bill 107 said it was to mean. The protestants in the caue then before Judge Berry had so contended and argued on November 13 and the decision was under consideration when the Council passed Bill 107 and sent it to the Executive. did not
The bill was not enacted and/xxxx become a law until December 5, 1963, when the County Executive signed it. Judge Berry's decision holding that the old law meant what the new law provided for was filed December 4, 1963, so that when Bill 107 became law, the only judicial decision extant was that no density variances could be granted, either in the case before us or to any one else. On this state of the facts, even on Yorkdale's theory no difference in result would follow whether the bill was an emergency measure or an ordinary bill.

We can find no sufficient evidence of legislative intent that Bill 107 was not to be subject to the usual rules, and hold

therefore that since the amended law came into effect while the case was pending before us, the case is moot. The appeal will

APPEAL DIUMISSED, JITH COSTS.

#5831-RX

EDMIN E. POWELL

VB

BOARD OF APPEALS OF
BALTIMORE COUNTY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT #9
FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY 5E1.3-C

I MISC. DOCKET No. 7 Folio 314 RA-X

OPINION

This appeal from the County Soard of Appeals in a soming matter presents an interesting question of construction of the soming regulations and one which has never before been passed on by the Courts.

The Board of Appeals granted a variance pursuant to Section 307 from the density requirements as set forth in Section 217.7 of the Regulations in connection with a re-institution to an RA Zone for a high rise apartment.

In this case the Board refused a request for a variance in density to 325 living units but granted a variance for 250 living units.

The tract reclassified contains about five acres not density which under Section 217.7 weald allow not more than 18 families per acre, or 5) families.

While the Board's opinion does not make it clear in what respect compliance with the density provisions established by the Bagulations would result in "practical difficulty or unreasonable hardming" the legality of its action as to its being arbitrary or unreasonable is not now before the Court but only the question of the power of the Board to grant the variance at all.

The Appellants were Protestants before the Board and contend here that the Zoning Regulations do not authorize the Zoning Commissioner or the Board of Appeals to great a variance with respect to density regulations since Section 307 grants the *power to great variances from area and height regulations (Italies supplied) where strict compliance . . . would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship, * but does not mention density regulations.

The question appears to resolve Itself into whether the "density" regulation in Section 217.7 is included in "area and height regulations so as to be subject to a variance under section of in other words, is "density" area or height?

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, BALTO. CO.

#5831 RXV

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STATE TOWN PAGE 1547 ACR. WE KNOW HORRO ENGINE 108 SECTION OF THE PAGE 15 THE STATE OF THE PAGE 15 THE STATE OF THE STATE O

Black's Law Mictionary (In Tottion) at page 136 defines are as follows: "The word areas has a somewhat clastic menting, originally it meant a broad piece of level ground, but in modern use it can mean any place surface, the inclosed space or which a building stands . . . a particular orient of sur-

face."

The word "height" has a consonly accepted meaning and to this Court clearly does not include "density".

The Petitioner argues that "density" was intended to be included in area because it is contained in Section 217 entitled "Area Regulations", but this fourt does not find this controlling since it may well have been inserted where it is simply for lack of a more appropriate location for it.

Its other argument is that since the administrative agencies have long assumed the power to grant variances from "density" their interpretation should be given great weight by the Courts.

While the Court recognizes this principle it thinks it should be applied only when there is some ambiguity or Joubs it the law or regulation which the Court does not find to be present here. See <u>larger wa Royers</u>, 220 Md. 271, 279.

The real difficulty with the Feitinner's argument is that Section 307 simply does not mention "density" as being subject to a variance and if it was intensed that "density" should be included it would have been quite simple to have Section 307 include the word, and the fact that it was not included is certainly some evidence that it was not intended to be included.

It may well be that it would be desirable to make "density" the subject of a variance, or even that it was an oversight in the advotion of the Pegulations, but in either event this Dourt feels chiling to take the language as it finis it and not to legislate by means of a strained judicial construction. In other words, if the power to great variance in "density" cases is desirable it should be done by the legislative, not the judicial, broom of government.

Upon careful consideration this Court is forced to conclude that the Zoning Regulations do not provide for the granting of a variance from leasity regulations and that the County Joans of Appeals had no power to grant the variance from which this appeal is taken.

Tis case is remanded to the Board for the passage of such Order as it may find appropriate but not to include any variance from density regulations.

Judge C

December 4, 1963

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

TOWNON, MD. 48th figure 1 15 52.

THIS IS TO CRETIFY, That the annexed advertisement was published in THE COUNTY INVEST WEEK. As well as the published in The COUNTY INVEST WEEK. As well as a secondary reveals before the All-one is each of 699. accounts weeks before the LEGS. day of April 1 16.55. the first publication appearing on the \$510. day of April 1 16.55.

THE COUNTY NEWS WEEK

CONTROL OF CASE OF CAS

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

TOWSON, MD. 4th April 19 63.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That the annexed advertisement was published in THE COUNTY NEWS WEEK, a weekly newspaper printed and published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of One successive weeks before the 287sd day of April 19.53, the drst

day of April 19 63, the feation appearing on the 4th day

THE COUNTY NEWS WEEK

District 12 Date of Postine Transport of BALTIMORE COUNTY Transport of Postine 12 Date of

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YORKDALE CORPORATION

STATE & POWELL

Henderson, C.J. Prescott

Dissenting Oninton by Prescott, J concurred in by Horney & Martury, JJ.

Piled: December 7, 1964

I find myself in complete accord with the majority as to the law which controls the decision herein (although not in full agreement as to the manner in which all of the law mentioned therein is expressed); but, it frequently occurs that the proper application thereof is as difficult as determining the applicable law.

It must be borne in mind that the single question involved is the granting of a density variance, and the case turns entirely upon presumptions and rules of statutory construction: and our attention should not be drawn away from this fact by the first part of the majority opinion, where four or five cases are cited with little, if any, emphasis on the questions of presumptions, or of legislative intent. (It is the writer's belief that the County Council of Baltimore County evinced a clear and unmistakable intention that Bill 107 should not apply to pending litigation, and that intention will be shown by the minutes of the council's meeting after a statement of the Maryland law.) In a similar situation as ours, it was stated by Chief Justice Malthie in Demarest et al. v. Zoning Comm., 59 A. 2d 293 (Conn.), "the matter becomes one of presumed intent [of the legislative body]." (Emphasis added.) And Chief Judge Lehman, for the New York Court of Appeals, in Shielcrawt v. Moffett, 61 N.E. 2d 435, said:

"General principles may serve as guides in the search for the intention of the Legislature in a particular case but only where better guides are not available. We have said that they 'povern in derault of the disclosure by the Legislature of a different . . . In the end, it is in consideration of good sense and justice that the solution must be found." (Italics added.) These statements seem to be in full accord with the Maryland law which will now be set forth; and it will be noted that nearly all of the Maryland cases cited by the majority are included therein. It will also be noted that in none of the cases cited by the majority was the question of legislative intent raised by extrinsic evidence; they were all decided on general presumptions and rules of statutory construction. Bill No. 107 did not change the classification of zoning of any property, nor did it eliminate any classification of zoning; it was an "ordinance" to amend former Section 307, so that after the effective date of the amendment (forty-five days after December 5, 1963) "no increase in residential density beyond that otherwise allowable by the Zoning Regulations shall be permitted as a result of any such grant of a variance from height or area regulations "

This Court, in Higgins v. City of Balto., 206 Md. 89, held that zoning ordinances are usually prospective in nature. And this seems peculiarly appropriate when the ordinance is pro-

mulgated by a legislative body such as the Council in a charter county. There can be little doubt that laws, generally, are enacted to regulate future conduct; in other words, they, ordimarily, are prospective in nature. And "a statute will not be given a retrospective operation, unless its words are so clear, strong and imperative in their retrospective expression that no other meaning can be attached to them, or unless the manifest intention of the Legislature could not otherwise be gratified (emphasis added). Tax Comm. v. Power Company, 182 Md. 111, 117. See also Taggart v. Mills, 180 Md. 302; Anne Arundel County v. Snyder, 186 Md. 342. And an amendatory Act such as that here involved takes effect, like other legislative enactments, only from its effective date, unless an intent to the contrary is expressed in the Act, or may be clearly implied from its provisions. Tax Comm. v. Power Company, supra.

To this well-established rule of statutory construction must be added the qualification that statutes which merely affect a remedy or law of procedure, ordinarily, apply to actions begun after their passage, whether the right of action accrued before or after the change in the law. Ireland v. Shipley, 165 Md. 90; Kelch v. Keehn, 183 Md. 140; Beechwood Coal Co. v. Lucas, 215 Md 248; Richardson v. Richardson, 217 Md. 316; Demarest et al. v. Zoning Commission etc. et al., supra; 50 Am. Jur., Statutes 5 482; 82 C.J.S. Statutes § 416. In Richardson, supra, Chief Indge Brune,

5. such intent with greater certainty. (Italics added.) Van Antwerp v. State, 55 N.W. 2d/(Mich.); Romanchuk v. Flotkin, 9 N.W. 2d 421 (Minn.). And this rule applies to all statutes, whether they relate merely to remedies, precedure to enforce remedies, or otherwise; and it also applies to the effect that a statute has upon pending actions and proceedings. 82 C.J.S., Statutes, \$ 416, "ending actions and proceedings.

I will not attempt to determine whether the ordinance here involved is purely "remedial" in nature, as the majority make no specific ruling thereon, and I think the legislative body which enacted the same manifested a clear intention as to whether it should be applied prospectively or retrospectively, and as to whether it should affect pending cases. There can be no doubt that a legislative body, when no constitutional proscriptions are violated, may exclude legislation from affecting pending cases. See, for example, § 3, Chapter 94, Acts of 1957 (The Administrative Procedure Act), wherein it is provided that certain repeals "shall not affect pending proceedings. " See also Article 66 1/2, Section 1.

The majority opinion makes no claim that the legislative intent as to whether or not Bill 107 should affect pending proceedings is ascertained or arrived at by any language in the Bill itself, but turns the case entirely upon general presumptions and general rules of statutory construction. This is an important phase of the

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There can be little doubt that, under proper circumstances, the Courts may resort to the legislative history of a statute when seeking to learn the legislative intent which motivated its enactment. <u>Ealto. Transit Co. v. MTA., supra; Pressman</u> v. Barnes, 209 Md. 544; Nelson v. Westland 011 Co., 96 F. Supp. 656 (D.C., N.D.) 2 Sutherland Statutory Construction (3rd ed.), 5 4305. The learned author, in the work last cited, states the

Theore the true meaning or the statute may be a consideration must be given to the problem in solid properties that the problem prior property of the the legislature Medicased likelif, legislative with the consideration of statute under ladity, the and to the operation; the statute under ladity and to the operation; and administration of the statute prior to litigation.

Under the Baltimore County Charter, a Bill enacted by the County Council may take effect as an emergency measure (from the date of its passage, forty-five days after its enactment where no effective date is named in the Bill, or from a specific date named therein later than forty-five days. In the absence of constitutional or statutory proscriptions, the latter is permissible. Cf. Thomas v. Police Commissioner, 211 Md. 357; 82 C.J.S., Statutes,

At a meeting of the Council on December 2, 1963, Bill No. 106 was called for final reading and vote. It was pass i as an emergency measure, to take effect from that date, which shows

that the Council was keenly alert as to the difference between emergency and ordinary Bills. Immediately thereafter, Bill No. 107 was likewise called for final reading and vote. The preamble states that Sections 23-20 and 23-21, which require at least one public hearing by the Director of Planning and at least one such hearing by the Council before adopting a zoning regulation, were complied with; so the Bill was being considered only after previous deliberation thereon. This Bill, as drawn, called for an effective date of forty-five days after its enactment. Whereupon, as shown

"BILL No. 107 was called and the Chrisman stated that he had an amendment that would make this bill mergency measure. Mr. 300m 5.0ses, Soning Commissions, the superard before the Council and explained that the suggested a 180 day period during which me superard and all slight-like superiod suring which me superard and all superard that the supera

by the minutes of the meeting, the following occurred:

"Mr. Malcola Dill, Director of Flamming, appeared before the Council and stated than he, took council and stated than he, took council and the council and the council and the capacity of the council and the capacity of the

statute * * * applies to all actions whether accrued, pending or future, unless a contrary intention is expressed (italics added). And, as a general proposition, the law at the time of this Court's

But, if there be one rule of statutory construction, which

for the Court, stated the rule as follows: "Ordinarily a change

affecting procedure only, and not substantive rights, made by

decision is to be applied, even though it requires a reversal of the lower court's judgment, which was proper under the law existing when it was entered. Gordy v. Prince, 175 Md. 688; Cockerham v. Children's Society, 185 Mt. 97; Tudor Arms Apts. v. Shaffer, 191 Md. 342; Moman's Club v. State Tax Comm., 195 Md. 16.

the court decisions recognize and upon which the authorities agree, it is that the intention of the Legislature should be effectuated. McKeon v. State, 211 Md. 437; Query Development Corp/ Mont. County, 212 Md. 138; Tax Comm. v. Power Company, supra; Balto. Transit Co. v. MIA, 232 Md. 509; 82 C.J.S., Statutes \$ 414; 50 Am. Jur., Statutes, § 223; and see the long line of Maryland cases to like effect, too numerous to cite, collected in the Maryland Digest, Statutes, key number 181 (1). This rule has been termed the "primary." "fundamental," "paramount," and "cardinal," rule of statutory construction (compare Height v. State, 225 Md. 251, where most of these adjectives are used). All other ruler of statutury

construction are subordinate thereto, 82 C.J.S., Statutes, \$ 321, and "all other rules serve but as guides to assist in determining

There followed a motion to amend the Bill so as to make it an emergency ordinance. The Council refused to enact the Bill as an emergency measure, the motion for amendment being defeated. The Bill was then enacted as originally presented to "take effect forty-five days after its enactment." In other words, the Council explicitly wanted the zoning authorities to have the power to grant "residential density" variances under Section 307 (a power they had exercised for years) for a period of forty-five days after December 5, 1963. Thereafter, this power should cease, and the question of the future granting of such variances should depend upon subsequent ordinances. This was a clear manifestation that the legislative body enacting Bill 107 did not intend it to have a retrospective effect, or that it was to affect panding litigation under Section 307 challenging the authority of the zoning officials to grant variances thereunder. A holding to the contrary, in effect, renders Bill 107 an emergency measure taking effect from the date of its passage (which the Council Flatly refused to do), for, if the Bill affects pending appeals, in the ordinary course of

events, an appeal to the trial court from the granting of any vari-

ance within forty-five days after December 5, 1963, would not likely be heard, and a subsequent anneal to this Court certainly met he heard, unit? after the effective date of Sill 107.

As I read the minutes, there was no thought by the Council that, in the passage of Bill 107, it was permanently density involving doing away with/variances xxxxxxxxxxhigh-rise apartments, but, by its passage, after forty-five days, there would be a moratorium thereon until a new comprehensive ordinance relative thereto should be formulated and enacted. The holding of the majority produces this unusual, if indeed not incongruous, result. It cannot be doubted (and it is not questioned) that the zoning authorities had the power to grant variances such as that involved for a period of forty-five days after December 5, 1963; therefore if a half a dozen such variances were granted after December 5th, but before the expiration of forty-five days and no appeal were taken from their granting, they would be good and valid variances, while that of appellant would be voided (even though granted prior to the later variances) simply because an appeal had been noted. I am unable to attribute to the Council an intention to accomplish such an unfortunate result

On the contrary, when the Council flatly refused to pass the Bill as an emergency measure, which, if passed as such, would have taken away the power of the zoning officials to grant variances 10.

for high-rise apartments from the date of its electment and left little doubt that (upon applying the general presumptions and rules of statutory construction) the Bill was intended to affect pending litigation, the Council deliberately did not intend it to take effect as an emergency measure nor intend it to affect pending cases. In the Nelson case, supra, there was deleted from a statute, during the course of its enactment, a provision that would have made it retroactive. The plaintiff argued that the deletion was made because it was merely surplusage, but Judge Vogel stated: "By deleting that part which would have given it a retroactive effect, the Legislature was saying that it should not have such effect. It seems to me that conclusion is inescapable." To me, it is likewise inescapable that when the Council refused to enact Bill 107 as an emergency measure, it was saying that the Bill should not be an emergency measure, in fact or in effect.

In Black, Interpretation of Laws (2nd Ed.), p. 389, the learned author states the rule thus:

This said that, in the absence of any converse declaration in the set, showever on the converse declaration in the set, showever of the converse declaration in the set, showever of the converse of the set of the converse o

See also McGovern v. Connell, 43 N.J. Law 105; Dewart v. Furdy, 29 Pa. 113; Jackman v. Inhabitants of Garland, 64 Me. 133; Reis v. Oraff, 51 cal. U6. cf. Lydecker v. Babcock, 26 Atl. 925 (N.J.). The same author, op. oit., pp. 584 and 585, states:

who been eather, top. Oat., pp. 90% and 90%, states:

"An acquired property statute, like other legislative acts alkes effect only from the passage,
and will not be structured as retroated as retroa

This Court, through Chief Judge MoSherry, in Roland Park Co. v. State, 80 Md. 453, stated: "The result which may follow from one construction, or another, of a statute, is always a potent factor, and is sometimes, in and of itself, conclusive as to the correct solution of its meaning." See also Phillips v. Palto. City, 110 Md. 431; Tyrie v. Ralto. Cty., 215 Md. 135; Height v. State, suppa. It seems that the unfortunate results pointed out above should weigh heavily towards a conclusion that the Council did not intend Bill 107 to affect pending cases, especially since that intention is derived from no language in the Bill itself, but entirely from general presumptions and rules of construction.

I think the case is not moot, and it should be decided in accordance with the law as it was when the variance was granted

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(which was as it had been interpreted by the county officials for years).

Although not basing this dissent upon wha follows, it seems appropriate to make one or two observations relative to the majority opinion. It states, "Maryland consistently has rollowed the rule that an appellate court is bound to decide a case according to existing laws. There can be little doubt that this is the general rule, as pointed out above herein, but the quotation is so broad that it is hard to square with such cases as Appeal Tax Court v. W.M.R.R. Co., 50 Md. 274. There, petitions of the appellees under an 1876 law were pending in the court below when the Act of 1878, Ch. 413, became a law. This latter Act repealed the 1676 law. On appeal, it was held that the Act of 1878 was not retrospective, and what had been done under the previous law, although it had been repealed at the time of the hearing of the appeal, was not rendered ineffectual or nugatory. Shepard shows that this case has been followed many times.

Again, in Big Savage Ref. Corp. v. Geary, 209 Md. 362, the trial judge was reversed for applying existing law at the time he heard the case. This Court stated: "The learned trial judge . . decided that Chapter 82, of the Acts of 1955, supra, effective June 1, 1955, governed the action of the Commission [Workmen's Compensation Commission] in this case. However, the

review of the court is limited to a review of the evidence before the Commission based upon the law in effect at that time. It [Chapter 82] in no way governed the review by the Commission on May 3, 1955, when it passed its order because it was not in effect at that time [italics added]." And this was the holding even though Chapter 82 related purely to "procedural" matters (See Beechwood Coal Co. v. Lucas, 215 Md. 248, where the language quoted from $\underline{\rm Big\ Savage}$ was repeated. It is cited in the majority opinion with no mention made of this aspect of the case), which, ordinarily, would call for a retrospective application thereof and its application to pending appeals. See the authoritics cited above to that effect and those cited in the majority

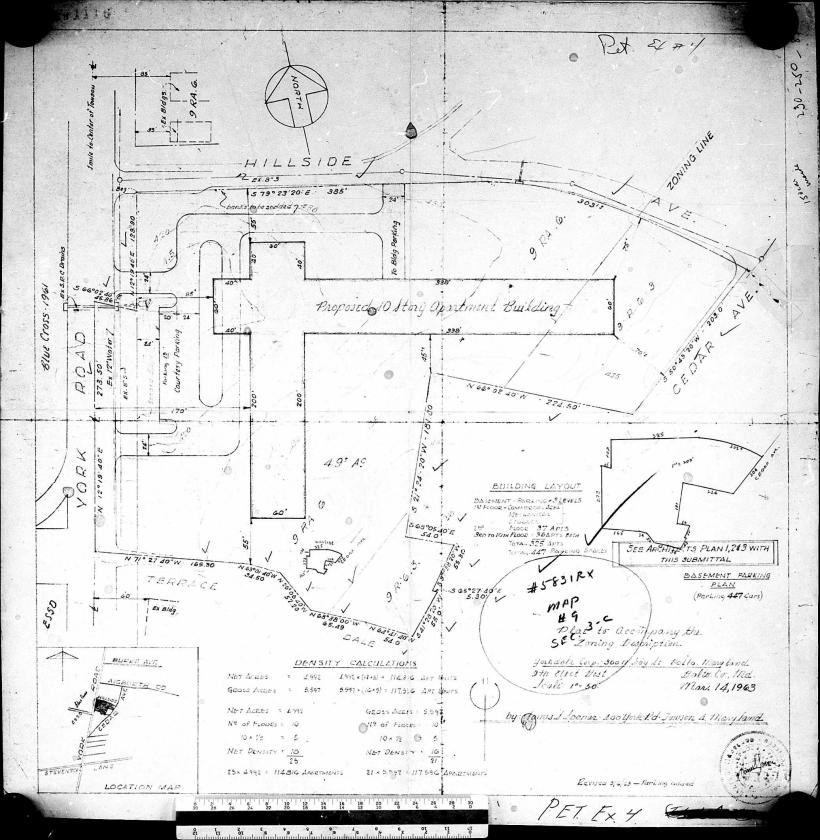
Two further observations will be made before coneluding. The majority opinion citesthe Banner, Lake Palls and Grau cases, wherein it was held that the issues involved had become moot. In each of those cases, the zoning authorities had changed the zoning classification or done away with the classification altogether. The Court, in Lake Falls, succinctly states the reason for its rulings: "The cause of action, i.e., the zoning classification that was the subject of litigation was extinguished by repeal."

This case and the language quoted were cited by the ap-peliant. It seems that the majority opinion should answer the quotation, but no me ition is made thereor.

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In the instant case, there was no reclassification of the property or extinguishment of its former classification, but Bill No. 107 merely took away the power of the zoning officials, after a day certain, to grant density variances. In the Thomas case, 162 Mi. 509, cited by the majority, the Legislature, during the pendency of litigation, repealed entirely the former method of appeal in Workmen's Compensation cases and adopted a new one. On the grounds that the new law was purely procedurel in nature and, if it did not apply, no appeal whatsoever would be available, it was held that the new law was retrospective in effect. It has little, if any, analogy to the case at bar.

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J.S.S.

DATE 5-10-60 Description of Yorkdale Corp. Property

HEET 1 OF 1 1583

BEGINNING for the same at the intersection formed by the east side #9 of York Road and the south side of Hillside Avenue and running thence along the south side of Hillside Avenue, 3. 79° 23' 20" R. 385 feet and SEC.3-6 by a curve to the right the distance of 303 feet, more or less, to the west side of Cedar Avenue, thence binding on the west side of Cedar Avenue 4/11/63 S. 500 43' 20" W. 203.00 feet, thence leaving the west side of Cedar Avenue N. 66° 02' 40" W. 224.50 feet, S. 21° 24' 20" W. 181.80 feet. s. 68° 05' hG" E. 5h.00 feet. S. 37° 38' 20" W. 55.30 feet, S. 65° 27' 40 E. 5.30 feet and S. 110 28' 20" W. 55.00 feet to the center line of Terrace Dale, thence binding on the center line of Terrace Dale the five following courses and distances: N. 640 41' 40" W. 54.00 feet, N. 680 38' 00" W. 65.49 feet, N. 26° 06' 40" W. 52.20 feet, N. 63° 01' 40" W. 34.50 feet and N. 71° 27' 40" W. 165.30 feet to the center line of York Road, thence binding on the center line of York Road N. 12° 19' ho" E. 273.50 feet. thence S. 66° 02' 40" E. 45.86 feet to the east side of York Road, thence binding on the east side of York Road N. 120 19' ho" E. 129.90 feet to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING 4.9 acres of land, more or less.

Saving and excepting from the reclassification that portion nowzzoned $R\!\!-\!\!A$

