ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING
Date 8/16/6/

IN RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING \* BEFORE THE

AND VARIANCE - SE/S Lodge Farm Road,

250' SW of the c/l North Point Road \* ZO

(2855 Lodge Farm Road)

15<sup>th</sup> Election District

5<sup>th</sup> Council District

ZONING COMMISSIONER

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No. 01-251-SPHA

Thomas E. Gray, Jr. & Lillian F. Gray Pugh Petitioners

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner for consideration of Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance filed by the owners of the subject property, Thomas E. Gray, Jr. and his grandmother, Lillie F. Gray Pugh. The Petitioners request a special hearing to approve an amendment to the previously approved site plan in prior Case No. 95-91-SPH to permit the construction of a 3500 sq.ft. (50' x 70') building for the storage of construction equipment. In addition, the Petitioners request variance relief from Section 1B01.2.C.1.a of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a rear yard setback of 12 feet in lieu of the required 30 feet for the proposed building. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence and marked as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of the request were Thomas E. Gray, Jr., co-Petitioner/Property owner, and David Billingsley on behalf of Central Drafting and Design, Inc., who prepared the site plan. There were no Protestants or other interested persons present.

This Zoning Commissioner is familiar with the subject property by virtue of the prior hearing held in Case No. 95-91-SPH. That matter came before the undersigned for consideration of a Petition for Special Hearing to approve an existing construction equipment storage yard as a nonconforming use of the subject property. By Order dated February 17, 1995, the Petition for Special Hearing was granted and an area of the property designated as nonconforming for a

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construction equipment storage yard. In the written decision for that case, the nature of the business and historical use of the property were detailed. As indicated therein, the property is approximately 1.34 acres in area, zoned D.R.5.5. At that time, the property featured two structures, a one-story dwelling known as 2855 Lodge Farm Road, and a one-story block building of 1732 sq.ft., which served as a shop and office for the business that occupies the property. Apparently, a construction business was established on the property many years ago by Ms. Pugh's deceased husband and is now operated by her grandson, Thomas E. Gray, Jr. At one time, the business included a coal hauling operation, a towing business, and a welding operation.

The instant Petitions were filed as the result of the Petitioners' plan to construct another construction equipment storage building on the subject property. As shown on the site plan, the proposed structure will be a one-story building, 3500 sq.ft. in area. Pursuant to the relief granted in prior Case No. 95-91-SPH, only a portion of the site was determined to be nonconforming. A copy of the site plan approved in that case was submitted into evidence in the matter before me as Petitioner's Exhibit 4. That plan shows the area of the nonconforming use for the construction equipment storage yard. The proposed building will be located entirely within that area. Thus, the Petitioners are not proposing to increase the area of the nonconforming use as established in Case No. 95-91-SPH. Areas of the property outside the demarcation of the nonconforming use will continue to be subject to the limitations of the D.R.5.5 zoning classification.

Mr. Gray testified that the proposed building will actually be an improvement insofar as the impact of the nonconforming use on the neighborhood. That is, he indicated that much of the equipment is now stored out of doors and is visible from other properties and subject to the elements. The proposed building will eliminate this problem and protect the equipment from the elements.

The variance relief requested relates to the location of the building and the nearest property line. As more particularly shown on the plan, the rear portion of the building will fall within 12 feet of the adjacent property line. This rear portion of the site also coincides with the

area of the nonconforming use. Mr. Gray indicated that construction of the building where proposed would be most appropriate and would provide a buffer to adjacent properties.

Based upon the testimony and evidence offered, I am persuaded to grant the relief requested. The Petitioner is reminded that the activities of the business must exist only within the area of the nonconforming use as described in Case No. 95-91-SPH. However, I concur that construction of the building will mitigate the sights and sounds associated with the use from other properties and should therefore be granted. Thus, the Petition for Special Hearing should be approved. I am also persuaded that the siting of the building is appropriate and that the Petitioners have met the requirements of Section 307 of the B.C.Z.R. for variance relief to be granted.

Pursuant to the advertisement posting of the property and public hearing on these Petitions held, and for the reasons set forth herein, the Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance shall be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this day of March, 2001 that the Petition for Special Hearing seeking approval of an amendment to the previously approved site plan in prior Case No. 95-91-SPH to permit the construction of a 3500 sq.ft. (50' x 70') building for the storage of construction equipment, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED; and,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 1B01.2.C.1.a of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a rear yard setback of 12 feet in lieu of the required 30 feet for the proposed building, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restriction:

1) The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until the 30-day appeal period from the date of this Order has expired. If an appeal is filed and this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bis



Suite 405, County Courts Bldg. 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-4386

Fax: 410-887-3468

March 16, 2001

Mr. Thomas E. Gray, Jr. Ms. Lillie F. Gray Pugh 2855 Lodge Farm Road Baltimore, Maryland 21219

RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING and VARIANCE SE/S Lodge Farm Road, 250' SW of the c/l North Point Road (2855 Lodge Farm Road)

15<sup>th</sup> Election District – 5<sup>th</sup> Council District
Thomas E. Gray, Jr. & Lillian F. Gray Pugh - Petitioners Case No. 01-251-SPHA

Dear Mr. Gray & Ms. Pugh:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance have been granted, in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Department of Permits and Development Management office at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bjs

cc: Mr. David Billingsley
Central Drafting & Design, 601 Charwood Court, Edgewood, Md. 21040
People's Counsel; Case/File



# **Petition for Special Hearing**

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at _	2855L0DGE	FARM	ROAD
	presently zoned _		

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve

A request to revise the approved site plan (Case No. 95-91SPH) to permit the construction of a 50' X 70' (3500 S.F.) building for storage of construction equipment.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Special Hearing, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

Legal Owner(s):

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition.

### Contract Purchaser/Lessee:

			THOMAS E. GRAY, JR.
Name - Type or Print	<del></del>	Nam	e-Type or Print Laws E. Hay L.
Signature			Signature  LILLIE F. GRAY PUGH
Address		Telephone No.	Name - Type or Print Knoy Pugh
City	State	Zip Code	Signature
Attorney For Petition	<u>ier:</u>		2855 LODGE FARM ROAD (410)477-5115 Address Telephone No.
			BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21219
Name - Type or Print		City	State Zip Code
			Representative to be Contacted:
Signature			DAVID BILLINGSLEY CENTRAL DRAFTING & DESIGN, INC.
Company			Name 601 CHARWOOD COURT (410)679-8719
Address		Telephone No.	Address Telephone No.
ļ		_	EDGEWOOD, MARYLAND 21040
City	State	Zip Code	City State Zip Code
			OFFICE USE ONLY
		_	ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING
Case No. 01-25	<u>si-SP</u> A (	7	UNAVAILABLE FOR HEARING

ORDER RECEIVED

REV 9/15/98



# **Petition for Variance**

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at 2855 LODGE FARM ROAD

which is presently zoned D.R. 5.5

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s)

1801.20.1.a to allow a rear yard of 12 feet instead of the required 30 feet.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty) Maintaining the required 3D foot rear yard reduces the area available for storage of construction equipment by approximately 140D S.F. (area between building and existing storage yard) and limits the area available for storage and maneuverability in front of the proposed building.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.
I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

Legal Owner(s):

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/We are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition.

### Contract Purchaser/Lessee:

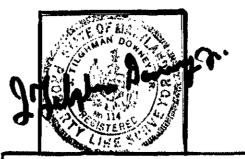
REV 9/15/98

#### THOMAS E. GRAY, JR. Name - Type or Print Name - Type or Print Signature Signature LILLIE F. GRAY Telephone No. Name - Type or Print Address State Zip Code Signatur City 2855 LODGE FARM ROAD (410)477-5115 Attorney For Petitioner: Telephone No. Address BALTIMORE. MARYLAND 21219 State Zip Code City Name - Type or Print Representative to be Contacted: Signature DAVID W. BILLINGSLEY CENTRAL DRAFTING & DESIGN, INC. Company (410)679-8719 Telephone No. 601 CHARWOOD COURT Address Telephone No. Address EDGEWOOD. MARYLAND 21040 Zip Code State City State Zip Code OFFICE USE ONLY Case No. DI- 251-SPH ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING UNAVAILABLE FOR HEARING Date 12-18-00 **Reviewed By**

01-251-SPHA

# **ZONING DESCRIPTION**2855 LODGE FARM ROAD

Beginning at a point on the south side of Lodge Farm Road (30 feet wide), distant 242 feet from the intersection formed by the south side of said Lodge Farm Road with the center of North Point Road, thence being all of Lot 409 as shown on the plat of Lodge Forest recorded among the Baltimore County Plat Records in plat book 10 folio 76 and all of Lot 4 as shown on the plat of St. Lukes Church Property recorded among the Baltimore County Plat Records in plat book 64 folio 94. Containing 1.340 acres of land more or less and being located in the 15<sup>TH</sup> Election District and the 7<sup>TH</sup> Councilmanic District of Baltimore County, Maryland.



CENTRAL DRAFTING & DESIGN, INC. 601 CHARWOOD COURT EDGEWOOD, MD 21040 (410) 679-8719

01-251-SPHA

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLA OFFICE OF BUDGET & FINANCE MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPT	No.	90147	19 27	PATE TELETY PATE CEASE THE RASTO POWEROUS (4:16:10)
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FOR: CCULLULA A S.F.	TOT LA	3 C 2 C 3 2		Editmore County, Waryland
DISTRIBUTION WHITE - CASHIER PINK - AGENCY YELLOW - CUS	TOMER	.it		CASHIER'S VALIDATION

#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in <u>Towson, Maryland</u> on the property identified hersin as follows:
Casq: #01-251-SPHA
2855 Lodge Farm Road, approximately 250'
SW of centerline North Point Road
15th Election District—7th Councilmanic District
Legal Owner(s): Little F. Gray Pugh & Thomas E. Gray, Jr.
Special Hearing: to approve an amendment to the approved site plan in case number 95-91-SPH to permit the construction of a 50-foot by 76-foot building for storage of construction equipment. Variance: to allow a rear yard of 12-feet in tion equipment. Variance: to allow a rear yard of 12-feet in lieu of the required 30-feet.

Hearing: Thursday, February 8, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue.

LAWRENCE E, SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County
NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for spe-cial accommodations Please Contact the Zoning Commis-

sioner's Office at (410) 887-4386:

(2) For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391.

C445993 1/244 Jan. 25

## CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

1					
TOWSON, MD, 12	5			_ , 20 <u>C</u>	<u>)1</u>
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexe	ed ac	dve	rtiser	nent	was
published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly n	iews	pap	er pu	blished	d in
Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of _			<u>.                                    </u>	succes	sive
weeks, the first publication appearing on	25	5	<b></b> ,	20 <u>01</u>	<u>_</u> .
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THE JEEFE	RSC	)N	IAN,		
J. 1000 2011	' Ø		Cal Marie Law Street or World Street	***********	

LEGAL ADVERTISING

# CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

	RE: Case No.: 01-231-31-4
	Petitioner/Developer: Lille GRAY PUGIT
	THOMAS CLAY JX
	Date of Hearing/Closing: 8 Feb 2001
Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204	
Attention: Ms. Gwendolyn Stephens	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
were posted conspicuously on the propert	
The sign(s) were posted on 24 J41	( Month, Day, Year)
	Sincerely,  Signature of Sign Poster and Date)
	(Printed Name)  1508 Leslie Road (Address)  Dundalk Maryland 21222 (City, State, Zip Code)
	(410) 282-7940 (Telephone Number)

RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING PETITION FOR VARIANCE 2855 Lodge Farm Rd, SE/S Lodge Farm Rd, appx. 250' SW of c/l North Pt Rd 15th Election District, 7th Councilmanic

Legal Owner: Thomas E. & Lillie F. Gray, Jr. Petitioner(s)

- BEFORE THE
- \* ZONING COMMISSIONER
- \* FOR
- \* BALTIMORE COUNTY
- Case No. 01-251-SPHA

### ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

All parties should copy People's Counsel on all correspondence sent/ documentation filed in the case.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

ule S. Demilio

Max Timmeman

FEB - 9

CAROLE S. DEMILIO Deputy People's Counsel Old Courthouse, Room 47

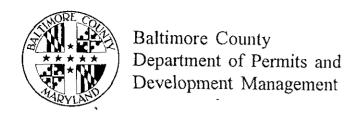
400 Washington Avenue

Towson, MD 21204 (410) 887-2188

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 19th day of January, 2001 a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to David W. Billingsley, Central Drafting & Design, Inc., 601 Charwood Court, Edgewood, MD 21040, representative for Petitioners.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN



Director's Office County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 410-887-3353

Fax: 410-887-5708

January 10, 2001

## NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 01-251-SPHA

2855 Lodge Farm Road

SE/S Lodge Farm Road, approximately 250' SW of centerline North Point Road 15<sup>th</sup>Election District – 7<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Lillie F. Gray Pugh & Thomas E. Gray, Jr.

Special Hearing to approve an amendment to the approved site plan in case number 95-91-SPH to permit the construction of a 50-foot by 70-foot building for storage of construction equipment. Variance to allow a rear yard of 12-feet in lieu of the required 30-feet.

Thursday, February 8, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts **HEARING:** Building, 401 Bosley Avenue

Arnold Jablon Director

C: Lillie F. Gray Pugh & Thomas E. Gray, Jr., 2855 Lodge Farm Road, Baltimore 21219 David Billingsley, Central Drafting & Design, Inc., 601 Charwood Court, Edgewood 21040

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24, 2001.

(2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY
Thursday, January 25, 2001 Issue – Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Thomas E. Gray, Jr. 2855 Lodge Farm Road Baltimore, MD 21219

410 477-5115

### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 01-251-SPHA

2855 Lodge Farm Road

SE/S Lodge Farm Road, approximately 250' SW of centerline North Point Road

15<sup>th</sup>Election District – 7<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Lillie F. Gray Pugh & Thomas E. Gray, Jr.

Special Hearing to approve an amendment to the approved site plan in case number 95-91-SPH to permit the construction of a 50-foot by 70-foot building for storage of construction equipment. Variance to allow a rear yard of 12-feet in lieu of the required 30-feet.

HEARING: Thursday, February 8, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts

Building, 401 Boslev Avenue

-

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

GDZ

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

# DEPARTMENT F PERMITS AND DEVELOF ENT MANAGEMENT ~ ZONING REVIEW

## ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

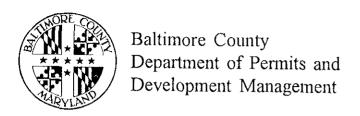
The <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

For Newspaper Advertising:
Item Number or Case Number: 0(-251-SPA)
Petitioner: THOMAS & GRAY, JR.
Address or Location: <u>7855 LONGE FARM ROAN</u>
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: THOMAS E.GRAY, VR.
Address: Z855 LODGE FARM ROAD
BALTO MO ZIZIA
Telephone Number: (410) \$775 477-5/15

Revised 2/20/98 - SCJ



Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

February 2, 2001

Thomas E Gray Jr 2855 Lodge Farm Road Baltimore MD 21219

Dear Mr. Gray Jr.:

RE: Case Number: 01-251-SPHA, 2855 Lodge Farm Road

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on December 18, 2000.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from several approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

Very truly yours,

W. Carl Ruchards, Jr.

W. Carl Richards, Jr. 652 Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR: gdz

**Enclosures** 

 David Billingsley, Central Drafting & Design Inc, 601 Charwood Court, Edgewood 21040
 People's Counsel

### **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

**DATE:** March 6, 2001

Department of Permits & Development Mgmt.

FROM:

Robert W. Bowling, Supervisor Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For January 16, 2001

Item Nos. 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, and

265

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items, and we have no comments.

RWB:HJO:jrb

cc: File



Office of the Fire Marshal 700 East Joppa Road Towson, Maryland 21286-5500 410-887-4880

January 9, 2001

Department of Permits and
Development Management (PDM)
County Office Building, Room 111
Mail Stop #1105
111 West Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

ATTENTION: Gwen Stephens

RE: Property Owner: SEE BELOW

Location: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF January 8, 2001

Item No.: 251, 254, 255

Dear Ms. Stephens:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

4. The site shall be made to comply with all applicable parts of the Fire Prevention Code prior to occupancy or beginning of operation.

REVIEWER: LIEUTENANT HERB TAYLOR, Fire Marshal's Office PHONE 887-4881, MS-1102F

cc: File

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

TO:

Arnold Jablon

FROM:

R. Bruce Seeley MRBS

DATE:

January 19, 2001

SUBJECT:

**Zoning Petitions** 

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of January 8, 2001

DEPRM has no comments for the following zoning petitions:

Item #	Address
251	2855 Lodge Farm Road
254	6311 Sherwood Road
255	800 Race Road
257	2005 Security Boulevard
258	15505 Carroll Road
259	10407 Vincent Road
261	1018 Wagner Road
262	15 Hanover Road 10 Westminster Pike
263	9639 Belair Road
265	1678 Bullock Circle

J2/8

## BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Arnold Jablon, Director

Department of Permits and

Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

JAN 25

**DATE:** January 25, 2000

**SUBJECT:** 

Zoning Advisory Petition(s): Case(s) 01-251.

The Office of Planning has reviewed the above referenced case(s) and has no comments to offer. For further questions or additional information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Mark A. Cunningham in the Office of Planning at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by:

**Section Chief:** 

AFK/JL:MAC



Parris N. Glendening Governor John D. Porcari Secretary Parker F Williams Administrator

Date: 1.10.01

Ms. Ronnay Jackson
Baltimore County Office of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Baltimore County

Item No. 251

JRA

Dear. Ms. Jackson:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not affected by any State Highway Administration projects.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Larry Gredlein at 410-545-5606 or by E-mail at (lgredlein@sha.state.md.vs).

Very truly yours,

P. J. Doedle

Kenneth A. McDonald Jr., Chiet Engineering Access Permits Division

### PETITIONER(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

CENTRAL DRAFTING & DESIGN. DAVID BILLINGSLEY	ADDRESS GOI CHARWOOD COURT EDGEWOOD, MID. 21040 2855 GODSE FARM R. (MI) 2
Thomas ECRAY SE.	2855 600SE FARM R. (B) AL
	,

PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING TN RE:

SE/S Lodge Farm Road, 220 ft.

W of North Point Road 2855 Lodge Farm Road 15th Election District 7th Councilmanic District

Lillie F. Pugh and Gray Transport, Inc., Petitioners

BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

CASE No. 95-91-SPH

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Special Hearing for the property located at 2855 Lodge Farm Road in the Sparrows Point section of Baltimore County. The Petition is filed by Lillie Pugh, Thomas E. Gray, Jr., and Gray Transport, Inc.; all legal owners of the property. Relief is requested to approve an existing construction equipment storage yard as a nonconforming use.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing held for this case was Lillian F. Pugh and her grandson, Thomas E. Gray, Jr., property owners. Also present in support of the Petition. was Carl Hobson and Janice Ramsey. The Petitioners were represented by Norman R. Stone, Jr., Esquire. Virginia Tolbert and Pearl Gintling appeared as Protestants.

The site plan, Petitioner's Exhibit No. 1, shows that the subject property is located on Lodge Farm Road, nor far from Back River in Sparrows The property is zoned D.R.5.5 and is approximately 1.34 acres in The site is improved with two large structures. The first is a one area. story stucco single family dwelling which is 1,248 sq. ft. in area. structure is located in the front of the property immediately adjacent to Lodge Farm Road. The rear of the subject lot is improved with a one story That building is 1,732 sq. ft. in area and serves as an block building. office and shop for the business which operates on the property. The property also contains a trailer, which is used for storage, and a small wooden shed.

The subject construction equipment storage yard occupies 13,034 sq. ft. of the property. That portion of the site is shown on the site plan and is surrounded by a wooden stockade fence. Much of the yard is covered by gravel. However, other portions are in grass and dirt. Mrs. Pugh testified that she has lived on the site for 54 years, having moved there in 1939. She testified that her husband originally operated a construction business on this site. Her husband passed away approximately 17 years ago. Mrs. Pugh indicated that the business included a coal hauling operation, a towing business and a welding operation. Mrs. Pugh also produced a number of pictures showing the previous activities. Several of these pictures were introduced into evidence and show the trucks used on the site and the business activities thereon in the early 1940s.

Thomas E. Gray, Jr. also testified. He is Mrs. Pugh's grandson and now operates the business, which he describes as a contracting business and He described in detail the vehicles which are located and welding shop. used in the business. They include 4 tandem axel dump trucks, a small bobcat, 1 single axel truck, as well as welding equipment and snow plows which are used in inclement weather. Mr. Gray apparently purchased the property from his family about 2-1/2 years ago and has been using the site for approximately 8 years. He indicated that about 1/3rd of the area of the property is used as the construction equipment storage yard and he also described the surrounding area and history of the site. He confirmed that his grandfather (Mrs. Pugh's husband) worked on the site until the late 1960s or early At that point in time, his father took over the business until Mr. 1970s. Gray began operating the business in the late 1980s. Mr. Gray testified that the same type of activities are now conducted by the business as were before; namely, welding, hauling, towing and similar activities.

testified that the operation of the business had never been abandoned or discontinued on the subject site.

Carl Hobson, an uncle of Thomas Gray also testified in support of the Petition. He has been familiar with the site since the 1950s and described the activities of this business since that time. His testimony was echoed by Janice Ramsey, President of the North Point Peninsula Community Coordinating Council. She has no complaints with the subject business.

Certain testimony was also received from Pearl Gintling and Virginia Tolbert, nearby residents. They acknowledged that other commercial activities are nearby and voiced concerns that the residential communities within this area need be protected.

As noted above, this matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Special Hearing seeking approval of a nonconforming use. A nonconforming use is defined in Section 101 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) as "A legal use that does not conform to a use regulation for the zone in which it is located or to a special regulation applicable to such a use."

The nonconforming use designation is often used to grandfather an otherwise illegal use. Zoning initially came to Baltimore County by act of the County Commissioners in 1945. In 1955, the regulations were comprehensively amended and readopted. The 1955 regulations are the predecessor regulations to the current version of the BCZR.

All of these regulations have recognized the validity of nonconforming uses. A nonconforming use can be conferred on a given use of property which existed prior to the prohibiting regulation. For so long as the use is not changed, been abandoned or discontinued, the use may continue irrespective that the present zoning classification would prohibit such a use. Noncon-

forming uses are governed by Section 104 of the BCZR; the provisions of which are self explanatory.

In this case, the uncontradicted testimony and evidence offered is that the Gray Transport Company business has operated from this site continuously and uninterruptedly since the early 1940s. In that same predates the effective date of the first set of zoning regulations in Baltimore County, it is clear that the use is nonconforming.

The testimony was also compelling that the use has not significantly changed over the years. That is, similar activities are now conducted on the site, as compared with the prior business. These include the welding service and certain hauling, towing and plowing activities. Moreover, it is clear that the nature of the business should be defined as a construction equipment storage yard and not a trucking facility or other use. A construction equipment storage yard, as defined by Section 101 of the BCZR is "The use of any space, whether inside or outside of building for the storage of construction equipment or machinery, including landscaping equipment and associated materials." This description fits the use conducted on this site.

Other evidence offered in this case is contained within a letter from the aforementioned Janice Ramsey, President of the North Point Peninsula Community Coordinating Council. She asked that this Zoning Commissioner impose three conditions on the use of this property. Mr. Gray expressed a willingness to be bound by these conditions. However, unlike Petitions for Special Exception or Variance, this Zoning Commissioner's decision in granting the Petition for Special Hearing cannot be conditioned, per se. That is, the Baltimore County Code and Baltimore County Zoning Regulations allow the Zoning Commissioner to condition variance or special exception relief so as to prevent adverse impact on the surrounding locale. The issue presented

in this case is different. If the use is nonconforming, it is permitted irrespective of any impact which might result.

Nonetheless, some of the concerns expressed by Mrs. Ramsey and agreed to by Mr. Gray are applicable by operation of law. Specifically, Section 104 of the BCZR imposes limits on the expansion of nonconforming uses. A nonconforming use cannot be expanded or enlarged except as provided in that Section (i.e., no more than 25% of the ground floor area of the building so used). Moreover, the nonconforming use cannot be discontinued or abandoned. If said use is discontinued or abandoned for more than one year, the right to continue such a use is forfeited. Moreover, the character of the nonconforming use must remain consistent.

Based upon these provisions of the BCZR, it is clear that a conferring of nonconforming use status on the property will not be a basis nor shall same set precedent for future zoning changes in the area. This was one concern of Mrs. Ramsey. Moreover, as noted above, the expansion or change in character of the nonconforming use is regulated and prohibited by Section 304. Moreover, I find that the number of construction equipment vehicles to be stored on the site should not exceed 7 and the size of those vehicles should be no larger than a tandem axel dump truck with a load capacity of 65,000 pounds. This finding is not made as a condition to the relief granted, but represents my findings of fact that the equipment stored on this site since the 1940s has not exceeded this number or size of vehicles. Thus, the Petitioner is limited to the vehicles which he identified at the hearing, namely, 4 tandem axel dump trucks, a small bobcat, a single axel dump truck and the various snow plows and welding equipment. Obviously, these vehicles may be replaced due to age or disrepair, however, the number or size of replacement vehicles is limited as provided herein.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the Petition for Special Hearing should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County this day of February 1995, that, pursuant to Petition for Special Hearing, approval to allow an existing construction equipment storage yard as a nonconforming use, be and is hereby GRANTED subject, however, to the following restriction which are conditions precedent to the relief granted herein:

- 1. The Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30 day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.
- 2. The Petitioners shall comply with all recommendations and requirements of DEPRM relating to the development of this site, including, but not limited to, those comments contained within the ZAC comment from DEPRM dated September 27, 1994.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for

Baltimore County

LES:mmn

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

September 27, 1994

TO:

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM:

J. Lawrence Pilson

Development Coordinator, DEPRM

SUBJECT:

Zoning Item (#91/ 2855 Lodge Farm Road

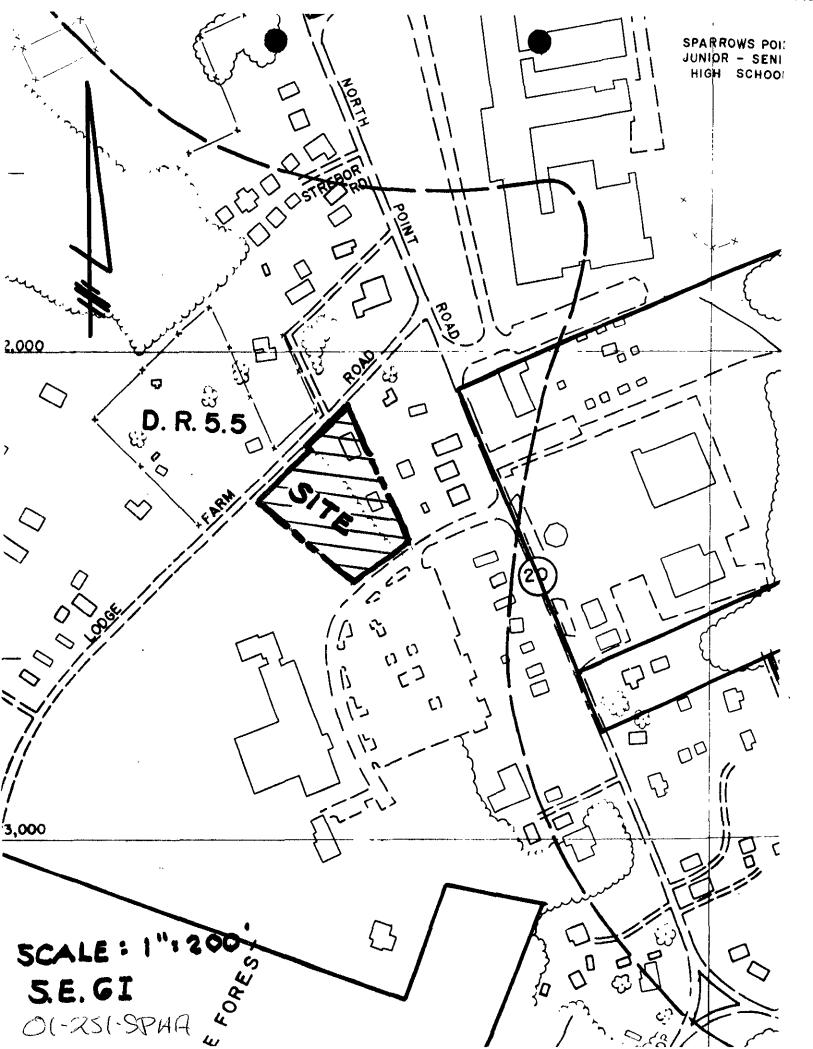
Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of September 19, 1994

The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management offers the following comments on the above-referenced zoning item.

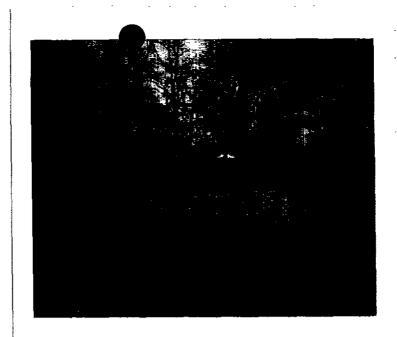
The site is in proximity to a residential area and a nursing home. We have no objections to the expansion provided that airborne particulate does not become a problem and Maryland State noise standards are met at all times.

JLP:SAR:sp

LODGE/DEPRM/TXTSBP

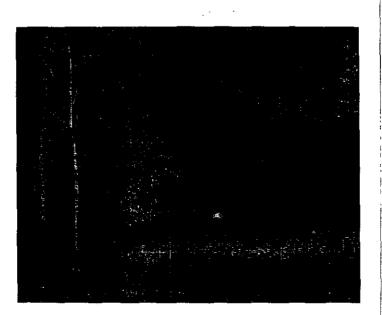












Red No3

