IN THE MATTER OF

THE APPLICATION OF

TIMOTHY LUECKING – LEGAL OWNER

FOR SPECIAL HEARING AND VARIANCE ON
PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE SW/S

\*
SMITHWOOD AVE, 900' SE EDMONDSON
AVENUE (114 SMITHWOOD AVENUE)

1ST ELECTION DISTRICT

1ST COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

\*

BEFORE THE

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

OF

BALTIMORE COUNTY

CASE NO. 08-218-SPHA

#### **ORDER OF DISMISSAL**

This matter comes to the Board of Appeals by way of an appeal filed by Christopher Russell and Mary Ellen Russell, Protestants, from a decision of the Zoning Commissioner dated January 23, 2008, in which the requested zoning relief was granted.

WHEREAS, the Board is in receipt of a letter of withdrawal of appeal filed via facsimile on June 12, 2008, by Christopher Russell and Mary Ellen Russell, Appellants /Protestants (a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof); and

WHEREAS, said Appellants request that the appeal taken in this matter be withdrawn and dismissed as of June 12, 2008,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2008 by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County that the appeal taken in Case No. 08-218-SPHA be and the same is hereby **DISMISSED**.

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Lawrence S. Wescott

Maureen 🗗 Murphy

Lywrenec M. Stanl

# 116 Smithwood Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228

June 12, 2008

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County Second Floor, Suite 203 105 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204 FAX: (410) 887-3182

RE: Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance

SW/S Smithwood Avenue, 900' SE of Edmondson Avenue

(114 Smithwood Avenue)

1<sup>st</sup> Election District – 1<sup>st</sup> Council District Timothy Leucking, et al – Petitioners

Case No. 08-218-SPHA

Dear Staff:

Effective immediately, we hereby withdraw our appeal, submitted February 22, 2008, to the above-referenced Commissioner's decision. We assume that this obviates the need to conduct the evidentiary hearing scheduled for July 2, 2008; your response to verify would be appreciated.

6-12-08

Christopher Russell

\_\_\_

Mary Ellen Russell

Date

8128

J- 1-F



## County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

JEFFERSON BUILDING SECOND FLOOR SUITE 203 105 WEST CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON WAPYLAND, 21204 410-887-3130 FAZ 410-887-3182

July 1, 2008

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Russell 116 Smithwood Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228

RE: In the Matter of: *Timothy Luecking – Legal Owner / Petitioner*Case No. 08-218-SPHA / Order of Dismissal

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Russell:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Order of Dismissal issued this date by the Board of Appeals of Baltimore County in the subject matter.

Very truly yours,

Kathleen C. Bianco Administrator

Kathlein Biancolog,

#### Enclosure

c: Tom Tacka
Keith R. Truffer, Esquire
Timothy Luecking and Christopher Luecking
G. Dwight Little, PE/Little & Associates, Inc.
Jim Seannel
Mary Lang
Office of People's Counsel
William J. Wiseman III /Zoning Commissioner
Pat Keller, Planning Director
Timothy M. Kotroco, Director /PDM



IN RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING \*

AND VARIANCE

SW/S Smithwood Avenue, 900' SE of

Edmondson Avenue

(114 Smithwood Avenue)

1<sup>st</sup> Election District

1<sup>st</sup> Council District

Timothy Luecking, et al Petitioners

BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

OF

**BALTIMORE COUNTY** 

Case No. 08-218-SPHA

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 property, Timothy Luecking and Christopher Lucking, through their attorney Keith R. Truffer, Esquire. The Petitioners request special hearing relief from Section 32-4-409 of the Baltimore County Code (B.C.C.), to allow for easement access to (proposed) Lot 2 in lieu of the required in-fee strip. The Petitioners are also requesting variance relief from Section 1B02.3C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.), to allow for minimum lot widths of 53 feet and 50 feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 100 feet in a D.R.2 zone; to allow for a minimum lot size of 7,450 square feet and 7,396 square feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 20,000 square feet; to allow for a minimum side yard setback on 13 feet on Lot 1 in lieu of the required 15 feet and a sum of side yard setbacks of 27 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet; to allow for a minimum side yard setback of 4 feet on Lot 2 in lieu of the required 15 feet and a sum of side yard setbacks of 25 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet; to allow for a minimum front yard setback of 18 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet, and finally from Section 102.4 to allow for a minimum lot size of 7,390 square feet in lieu of the required 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a right-of-way at



Date 1-23-08

By

least 30 feet wide over which the public has an easement of travel. The subject property and the requested relief are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence and marked as Petitioners' Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of these petitions were Timothy and Christopher Luecking, owners of the property, G. Dwight Little, PE, of Little & Associates, Inc., the engineering firm that prepared the site plan and Keith R. Truffer, Esquire, of Royston, Mueller, McLean & Reid, LLP, attorney for the Petitioners. Also appearing and testifying at the hearing were Jim Seannel and Mary Lang who provided a historical overview of the property's use. Appearing as Protestants and interested persons in this matter were the nearby and adjacent neighbors residing on Smithwood Avenue, namely Mary Ellen and Christopher Russell and Tom Tacka, a member of the *Old* Catonsville Neighborhood Association.

The first person to testify was G. Dwight Little, P.E., who was accepted as an expert in the area of engineering and land planning, and stated that he is familiar with the property at 114 Smithwood Avenue, had visited it and had prepared the plat which indicates all lot dimensions, improvements, adjoining streets and rights-of-way as well as all other pertinent features of the site. The subject property is approximately .37 acres in gross area and has been improved by two existing dwellings for many years. It is the owners' desire to divide this long-existing situation of two houses on a single lot into two lots. The proposed lot line between the two residences creates a need for variances from the applicable area requirements as to minimum front and side yard setbacks, minimum lot size and minimum lot width. It was Mr. Little's opinion that the houses which have long-existed on this property are in complete harmony with the rest of the neighborhood. Indeed, two similarly sized lots in the neighborhood were each also improved by two similarly sized residences. It was Mr. Little's further opinion that a grant of the requested

variances would be in harmony with the intent of the zoning regulations and would create no injury to public health, safety and general welfare.

Testimony was next received by Christopher Luecking, an owner of the property. Mr. Luecking and his brother, Timothy Luecking, purchased the property in 2005. The condition of the two residences was very poor. Since that time, the Lueckings have, pursuant to Baltimore County permits, upgraded each of the two residences at a cost of approximately \$100,000.00 per each house. It is Mr. Luecking's intention to subdivide the property and sell the improvements as separate residences. Mr. Luecking testified that he has made efforts to sell the property in its current state without success. He testified that buyers are simply not interested in both houses together. Without the requested variances, he cannot make full use of the property as separate residences and cannot convey them separately.

Testimony was received from James Scannell. Mr. Scannell resides at 116 ½ Smithwood Avenue, a lot immediately north of the subject property. Mr. Scannell testified that he has resided on that property since 1965 and is familiar with the property from the late 1940's, when he made deliveries of ice to the subject residences. Mr. Scannell described the history of the area as at one time having been part of a farm. The subject lot as well as his own lot were divided out by two brothers who each built residences on the rear of the property for their respective in-laws. At some point in time, Mr. Scannell's property was subdivided from 116 Smithwood Avenue. Mr. Scannell testified that the two existing residences on 114 Smithwood Avenue have always been in existence and have been continuously used as residences to date.

The final witness for the Petitioner is Mary Lang who is a family friend of the original owner. Ms. Lang testified that she has been familiar with the property since the 1950's and regularly visited her friend. Ms. Lang testified that the two existing residences have always been on this single lot and have been continuously used as residences to date. Reference was also

Date 1-33-08
By 60

made to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation Real Property Data Search for the property indicating that the primary structure was built in 1920.

The neighbors who appeared included Christopher and Mary Ellen Russell and Mr. Tom Tacka. These witnesses expressed no objection to the variances and other relief sought and indeed supported the proposed subdivision of the property that would allow in-fee ownership rather than rental units. Mr. and Mrs. Russell expressed concern over an existing easement on the property line between the two properties. At the hearing, the Petitioners and Mr. and Mrs. Russell agreed that this easement would be extinguished by the parties as part of a separate agreement outside the zoning process.

While, at first blush, the number of variances requested by the Petitioners might tend to signal a dramatic change from the existing conditions on the property and in the neighborhood. In fact, this is not so. The uncontradicted testimony is that these residences have existed on this lot for much of the 20th century and into the 21st century. Other lots in the immediate area have the exact same circumstance, to wit, two residences on a single lot or what was at one time a single lot. None of the neighbors who appeared objected to the requested variances and other zoning relief.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, I am persuaded to grant the relief requested. There were no adverse Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments submitted by any County reviewing agency. I further find that the relief granted will not have a detrimental impact to the health, safety, or general welfare of the surrounding locale and is appropriate in this instance. I will note, however, that the comment received from the Bureau of Development Plans Review, dated November 29, 2007, suggested that if access to Lot 2 is granted through the existing easement, it was their recommendation that the driveway be

widened to 16-feet wherever possible. As noted by Mr. Little, this will be accomplished after the driveway extends past the existing house on Lot 1.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on these petitions held, and for the reasons set forth herein, the relief requested shall be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County this day of January 2008, that the Petition for Special Hearing requesting relief from Section 32-4-409 of the Baltimore County Code (B.C.C.), to allow for easement access to Lot 2 in lieu of the required in-fee strip, be and is hereby GRANTED; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 1B02.3C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.), to approve minimum lot widths of 53 feet and 50 feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 100 feet in a D.R.2 zone; to allow for a minimum lot size of 7,450 square feet and 7,396 square feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 20,000 square feet; to allow for a minimum side yard setback on 13 feet on Lot 1 in lieu of the required 15 feet and a sum of side yard setbacks of 27 feet of the required 40 feet; to allow for a minimum side yard setback of 4 feet on Lot 2 in lieu of the required 15 feet and a sum of side yard setbacks of 25 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet; to allow for a minimum front yard setback of 18 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet, and finally from Section 102.4 to allow for a minimum lot size of 7,390 square feet in lieu of the required 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a right-of-way at least 30 feet wide over which the public has an easement of travel, in accordance with Petitioners' Exhibit 1, be and are hereby GRANTED.

Any appeal of this decision must be made in accordance with Section 32-3-401 of the Baltimore County Code.

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN, III
Zoning Commissioner
for Baltimore County

for Baltimore County



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

January 23, 2008

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN III

Zoning Commissioner

Keith R. Truffer, Esquire Royston, Muller, McLean & Reid, LLP 102 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 Towson, MD 21204

RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING AND VARIANCE

SW/S Smithwood Avenue, 900' SE of Edmondson Avenue (114 Smithwood Avenue)

1<sup>st</sup> Election District - 1<sup>st</sup> Council District
Timothy Luecking, et al - Petitioners

Case No. 08-218-SPHA

Dear Mr. Truffer:

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

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN, III Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

WJW:dlw Enclosure

Timothy Luecking, 102 Fairfield Drive, Catonsville, MD 21228
 Christopher Luecking, 1504 Idlewilde Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228
 G. Dwight Little, PE, Little & Associates, Inc., 1055 Taylor Avenue, Suite 307, Towson, MD 21286

Mary Ellen and Christopher Russell, 116 Smithwood Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228 Tom Tacka, 115 Smithwood Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228 Jim Seannell, 116 ½ Smithwood Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228 Mary Lang, 554 South Rolling Road, Catonsville, MD 21228 People's Counsel; Development Plans Review; File



# **Petition for Special Hearing**

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

THEYWAY	for the property located at	14 Smithwood Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21228
	which is presently zoned	
(This petition		oning office, in triplicate, with original signatures.)
wner(s) of the prop and made a part here county, to determine	erty situate in Baltimore County and v	nits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal which is described in the description and plat attached heretoing under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore ner should approve
or we, agree to pa ounded by the zoning	ted and advertised as prescribed by the ny expenses of above Special Hearing ng regulations and restrictions of Baltir	e zoning regulations. g, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be more County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore
ounty.	pen: owns	Ve do solemnly declare and affirm, under the nalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal er(s) of the property which is the subject of Petition.
ontract Purchaser	<u>/Lessee:</u>	Legal Owner(s):
		Timothy Luecking
ame - Type or Print	<del></del>	Name - Type or Print
anatura.		1.11/(
ignature		Signature Christopher Luecking
ddress	І вјерћопе По.	Name - Type or Print
	No.	Christoph Lucking
ty	State Zip Code	Signature
ttorney For Petitio	ner:	540 S. Rolling Road 410746 404 Address Telephone No.
eith R. Truffe	er	Baltimore, MD 21228 City State Zip Code
and to		Representative to be Contacted:
gnature Mug11e	er, McLean & Reid, LLP	Keith R. Truffer
ompany	.i., itolican a kera, bbi	Name
02 W. Pennsylv odress Suite 60	zania Avenue 410-823-1800 10 Telephone No.	102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue 410-823-1800 Address Suite 600 Telephone No.
owson. MD 2120	,	Towson, MD 21204 City State Zip Code
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ase No. <u>08 - 2</u>		TIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING
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	Date 1-23-09	11 3 21 3
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## **SPECIAL HEARING**

Special hearing for relief from BCZR§ 32-4-409 to allow for easement access to Lot 2 in lieu of the required in-fee-strip.

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# **Petition for Variance**

## to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County for the property

which is presently zoned DR2

Deed Reference: 2 2 64 1/1 9 8 Tax Account #0 1 0 4 3 5 0 0 1 0

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)

See Attached

of the zoning regulations of Baltimore County, to the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty.)

Property is improved by two dwellings which were lawfully constructed prior to 1955 and the creation of BCZR. Without the requested variances, and due to the unique nature of the property, the owners will be unable to use the dwellings separately as they are without adequate land to make the lots fully conforming.

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.

			perjury, that I/we are the legal is the subject of this Petition.	owner(s) of th	ne property which
Contract Purchases	r/l essee:		Legal Owner(s):		
Compact i bichase	77E C350E.				
Name - Type or Print			Timothý Luecking Name - Type or Print		
Name - Type of Print			Name - Type of Primy	And the second second	
Signature			Signature		
			Christopher Luecki	ng	
Address		Telephone No.	Name - Type or Print	acking	,
City	State	Zip Code	Signature /	11	
Attorney For Petition	oner:		540 S. Rolling Ros	id 04)	10746 2045 Telephone No.
Keith R. Truffe	~		Baltimore, MD 2122	9	relephone iva
Name - Type or Print		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	City	State	Zip Code
•			Representative to be C	ontacted:	
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Royston, Muelle	er. McLean & R	Reid. LLP			
Company			<u>Keith R Truffar</u>	·	
102 W. Pennsyl	vania Avenue.	&1.0≈823+1800	102 W. Pennsylvani	a Avenue	410-823-1800
Address Suite 600	1	Telephone No.	Address Suite 600	L INVENIO	Telephone Na.
Towson, MD 212	04	·	Towson, MD 21204		
City	State	Zip Code	Chy	State	Zip Code
Case No. OS-	2185PHA		Office Use Only		
Case No.	21031111	Estim	sated Length of Hearing		
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REV 8/20/07	ARCEIVED	FOR FILING	tweed byDap	11-8-0	7
Date_	(-23		7		
Bv	19				

I/We do solemply declare and affirm, under the penalties of

- A. Variance from BCZR§ 1B02.3.C.1 to allow for minimum lot widths of 53 feet and 50 feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 100 feet in a DR-2-Zone.
- B. Variance from BCZR§ 1B02.3.C.1 to allow for a minimum lot size of 7.450 square feet and 7.396 SF on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 20,000 square feet.
- C. Variance from BCZR§ 1B02.3.C.1 to allow for a minimum side yard setback on 13' on Lot 1 in lieu of the required 15' and a sum of side yard setbacks of 27' in lieu of the required 40'.
- D. Variance from BCZR§ 1B02.3.C.1 to allow for a minimum side yard setback of 4' on Lot 2 in lieu of the required 15', and a sum of side yard setbacks of 25' in lieu of the required 40'.
- E. Variance from BCZR§ 1B02.3.C.1 to allow for a minimum front yard setback of 18' in lieu of the required 40'.
- F. Variance from BCZR§ 102.4 to allow for a minimum lot size of 7390 square feet in lieu of the required 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a right-of-way at least 30 feet wide over which the public has an easement of travel.

G:\LITIGATIONS\KRT\Luecking\Smithwood Ave\Variances.doc

DESCRIPTION TO ACCOMPANY
PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE
LUECKING PROPERTY
SOUTHWEST SIDE OF SMITHWOOD AVENUE
SOUTHEAST OF EDMONDSON AVENUE
FIRST ELECTION DISTRICT
FIRST COUNCILMANTIC DIATRICT
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Beginning for the same at the end of the following course and distance measured from the intersection of the centerline of Edmondson Avenue with the centerline of Smithwood Avenue (1) Southeasterly 400 feet, more or less, thence binding on or along the centerline of Smithwood Avenue (1) South 31 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East 54.97 feet, thence leaving Smithwood Avenue and running the three following courses and distances, viz: (2) South 55 degrees 58 minutes 17 seconds West 307.56 feet, thence (3) North 34 degrees 56 minutes 14 seconds West 50.00 feet, and thence (4) North 55 degrees 03 minutes 46 seconds East 310.81 feet to the point of beginning; containing 0.37 of an acre of land, more or less.



#### **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: #08-218-SPHA

114 Smithwood Avenue

S/west side of Smithwood Avenue, 900 feet +/- s/east of Edmondson Avenue

1st Election District - 1st Councilmanic District

Legal Owner(s): Timothy & Christopher Luecking Variance: to allow for minimum lot widths of 53 feet and 50 feet on Lots 1 & 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 100 feet in a DR 2. To allow for a minimum lot side of 7,540 square feet and 7,369 square feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 20,000 square feet. To allow for a minimum side yard setback on 13 feet on Lot 1 in lieu of the required 15 feet and sum of side vards setbacks of 27 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum side yard setback of 4 feet on Lot 2 in lieu of the required 15 feet, and sum of side yard setbacks of 25 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum front yard setback of 18 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum lot size 7,390 square feet In lieu of the required 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a right-of-way at least 30 feet wide over which the public has an easement of travel. Special Hearing: to permit relief from Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to allow for easement access to Lot 2 in lieu of the re-

quired in-feet-strip. Hearing: Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. In Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Ave-

nue, Towson 21204.

#### WILLIAM J. WISEMAN, III

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

MOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations Please Contact the Zoning Commissioner's Office at (410) 887-3868.

(2) For information concerning the File and/or Hearing. Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391. 12/218 Dec. 20 158538

## CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

[2 20 , 2007
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published
n the following weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Md.,
once in each ofsuccessive weeks, the first publication appearing
on 12 20 ,2007.
The Jeffersonian
☐ Arbutus Times
☐ Catonsville Times
☐ Towson Times
☐ Owings Mills Times
☐ NE Booster/Reporter
☐ North County News

LEGAL ADVERTISING

### CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

RE: Case No .: 08 ~ 218 - 5PHA

Petitioner/Developer: LUECKING

Date of Hearing/Closing: JAN. 9, 2008

Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

3225 RYERSON CIRCLE (Address)

BALTIMORE, MD, 21227 (City, State, Zip Code)

(Telephone Number)

# ZONING NOTICE

CASE # 08-218-SPHA

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BY THE ZONING COMMISSIONER IN TOWSON, MD

ROOM 407, COUNTY COURTS BUILDING

PLACE: TOWSON, MD. 21204

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2008

DATE AND TIME:

AT. 9:00 A.M.

TO ALLEN SER MUMILIM LOT WIDTH OF SSPEET AND AKLANUE SOFEET ON LOTS 142 RESPECTIVELY, IN LIEU OF THE

IN LIEU OF THE RESUMED TRACE SQUARE FROT. TO ALLOW FOR A MINIMUM SIDE YARD MYDACK OF TO THE THE LOT ! IN LIEURS THE REQUIRES IFFERT AND BUY OF SIZE VALO SETEMENT OF ET PERT IN LIEU. THE PARTY PROPERTY AND DETENDED OF 18 SEET INCHES OF THE RESURED AD PARTY TO THE MINIMUM LOT BITS 7,790 SQUARE PEET IN LIST OF THE REQUISED ED, ORD THE & S DOES NOT A BUT OUR BREST OF WEY ST LEAST BO FEET WIDE OVER WHICH THE

TO PERMIT RELIEF FROM BALTIMORE COUNTY FORING REGULATIONS TO ALLOW PAR BASEMENT ACCESS TO IN LIEU OF THE REQUIRES IN-FRET- STATE.

POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER CONDITIONS ARE SOMETIMES NECESSARY. TO CONFIRM HEARING CALL 887-3391

DO NOT REMOVE THIS SIGN AND POST UNTIL DAY OF HEARING, UNDER PENALTY OF LAW

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



**BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND** PAID RECEIPT OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE No. 07623 BUSINESS ACTUAL MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPT Date: //.07. b 7 11/08/2007 11/08/2007 11:49:28 WALKIN JRIC JUR >>RECEIPT N 354400 11/00/2007 BELN Rev Sub Sub BS Rept 5 528 ZONING VERIFICATION Dept Fund Agcy Orgn Orgn Source Rev Catg Acct Amount 007623 006 6150 130--Recpt Tot \$130.00 \$130.80 CK \$.00 CA Baltimore County, Haryland Total: 131 --Rec T. Lucking From: For: CASHIER'S VALIDATION DISTRIBUTION WHITE - CASHIER PINK - AGENCY YELLOW - CUSTOMER

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT 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: 08-2185PHA				
Petitioner:TIMOTHY T. & CHRISTOPHER G. LUECKING				
Address or Location: 114 SMITHWOOD AVENUE				
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:				
Name: _TIMOTHY T. LUECKING				
Address: 1504 IDLEWILDE AVE.				
CATONSVILLE, MD 21228				
Telephone Number: 410-746-2042				

### Department of Permit and Development Manager ant

Director's Office County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 Tel: 410-887-3353 • Fax: 410-887-5708





## **Baltimore County**

James T. Smith, Jr., County Executive Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

November 29, 2007

#### 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: 08-218-SPHA

114 Smithwood Avenue S/west side of Smithwood Avenue, 900 feet +/- s/east of Edmondson Avenue 1<sup>st</sup> Election District –1<sup>st</sup> Councilmanic District Legal Owners: Timothy & Christopher Luecking

<u>Variance</u> to allow for minimum lot widths of 53 feet and 50 feet on Lots 1 & 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 100 feet in a DR 2. To allow for a minimum lot side of 7,540 square feet and 7,369 square feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 20,000 square feet. To allow for a minimum side yard setback on 13 feet on Lot 1 in lieu of the required 15 feet and sum of side yard setbacks of 27 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum side yard setback of 4 feet on Lot 2 in lieu of the required 15 feet, and sum of side yard setbacks of 25 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum front yard setback of 18 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum lot size 7,390 square feet in lieu of the required 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a right-of-way at least 30 feet wide over which the public has an easement of travel. <u>Special Hearing</u> to permit relief from Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to allow for easement access to Lot 2 in lieu of the required in-feet-strip.

Hearing: Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building,

1 **B**osley, Ayenue, Towson 21204

otroco

Timothy Kotroco Director

TK:klm

C: Keith Truffer, 102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Ste. 600, Towson 21204 Timothy & Christopher Luecking, 540 S. Rolling Road, Baltimore 21228

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2007.

- (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.



Visit the County's Website at www.baltimorecountyonline.info

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

Thursday, December 20, 2007 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Timothy Luecking 1504 Idlewilde Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228 410-746-2042

#### 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: 08-218-SPHA

114 Smithwood Avenue

S/west side of Smithwood Avenue, 900 feet +/- s/east of Edmondson Avenue

1<sup>st</sup> Election District –1<sup>st</sup> Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Timothy & Christopher Luecking

<u>Variance</u> to allow for minimum lot widths of 53 feet and 50 feet on Lots 1 & 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 100 feet in a DR 2. To allow for a minimum lot side of 7,540 square feet and 7,369 square feet on Lots 1 and 2 respectively, in lieu of the required 20,000 square feet. To allow for a minimum side yard setback on 13 feet on Lot 1 in lieu of the required 15 feet and sum of side yard setbacks of 27 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum side yard setback of 4 feet on Lot 2 in lieu of the required 15 feet, and sum of side yard setbacks of 25 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum front yard setback of 18 feet in lieu of the required 40 feet. To allow for minimum lot size 7,390 square feet in lieu of the required 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a right-of-way at least 30 feet wide over which the public has an easement of travel. <u>Special Hearing</u> to permit relief from Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to allow for easement access to Lot 2 in lieu of the required in-feet-strip.

Hearing: Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building,

401/Bosley Ayenue, Towson 21204

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN III
ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

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.





JEFFERSON BUILDING SECOND FLOOR, SUITE 203 105 WEST CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND, 21204

Hearing Room #2, Second Floor FAX: 410-887-3182 Jefferson Building, 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue Opper oper with appropriate of the appropriate of t

April 2, 2008

### NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT

CASE #: 08-218-SPHA

IN THE MATTER OF: TIMOTHY LUECKING AND

CHRISTOPHER LUECKING - Legal Owners / Petitioner s

114 Smithwood Avenue 1st Election District; 1st Councilmanic District

1/23/2008 – Z.C.'s decision in which requested zoning relief was GRANTED.

#### **ASSIGNED FOR:**

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

NOTICE:

This appeal is an evidentiary hearing; therefore, parties should consider the

advisability of retaining an attorney.

Please refer to the Board's Rules of Practice & Procedure, Appendix B, Baltimore County Code.

IMPORTANT: No postponements will be granted without sufficient reasons; said requests must be in writing and in compliance with Rule 2(b) of the Board's Rules. No postponements will be granted within 15 days of scheduled hearing date unless in full compliance with Rule 2(c).

If you have a disability requiring special accommodations, please contact this office at least one week prior to hearing date.

Kathleen C. Bianco Administrator

C.

Appellants /Protestants

: Christopher and Mary Ellen Russell

Protestant

: Tom Tacka

Counsel for Petitioners /Legal Owners

Petitioners /Legal Owners

G. Dwight Little, PE/Little & Associates, Inc.

Jim Seannel

Mary Lang

: Keith R. Truffer, Esquire

Office of People's Counsel

William J. Wiseman III /Zoning Commissioner Pat Keller, Planning Director

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director /PDM

: Timothy Luecking and Christopher Luecking

Requested: MARCH 11, 2008

## **APPEAL SIGN POSTING REQUEST**

41 B3

**CASE NO.: 08-218-SPHA** 

114 SMITHWOOD AVE.

1<sup>st</sup> ELECTION DISTRICT

APPEALED: 2/22/2008

ATTACHMENT – (Plan to accompany Petition – Petitioner's Exhibit No. 1)

## \*\*\*COMPLETE AND RETURN BELOW INFORMATION\*\*\*\*

## **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

TO: Baltimore County Board of Appeals 400 Washington Avenue, Room 49

Towson, MD 21204

Attention: Kathleen Bianco

Administrator

CASE NO.: 08-218-SPHA

LEGAL OWNER: TIMOTHY LUECKING

This is to certify that the necessary appeal sign was posted conspicuously on the property located at:

114 SMITHWOOD AVENUE

SW/S SMITHWOOD AVE., 900' SE EDMONDSON AVENUE

		4
The sign was posted on	29	2008.
Ву:	Chon	
(Signature of Sign Po	oster	3
(D: A)		(Nen)
(Print Name)		)

Requested: MARCH 11, 2008

# APPEAL SIGN POSTING REQUEST

1st ELECTIO



2008



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director

Department of Permits and

Development Management

January 2, 2008

Keith R. Truffer Royston, Mueller, McLean & Reid, LLP 102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Mr. Truffer:

RE: Case Number: 08-218-SPHA, 114 Smithwood Avenue

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing **ONLY** by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on November 8, 2007. This letter is not an approval, but only a **NOTIFICATION**.

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,

U. Cal Rich

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR:amf

**Enclosures** 

c: People's Counsel

Timothy Luecking Christopher Luecking 540 S. Rolling Road Baltimore 21228

1-9-08 Jan

## BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

### INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

**DATE:** December 19, 2007

JECEIVEN I dec 2 6 2007

BY:....

SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Petition(s): Case(s) 08-218- Variance

The Office of Planning has reviewed the above referenced case(s) and has no comments to offer other than the attached minor subdivision review comments.

For further questions or additional information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Dennis Wertz in the Office of Planning at 410-887-3480.

Prepared By:

**Division Chief:** 

CM/LL Attachment:





#### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

#### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

DATE: November 29, 2007

Department of Permits & Development Management

iciii

FROM:

Dennis A. Kennedy, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For December 3, 2007

Item No. 08-218

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning item and we have the following comment(s).

If access to lot 2 is granted through the existing easement, we recommend that the driveway be widened to 16-feet wherever possible.

DAK:CEN:clw cc: File

ZAC-ITEM NO 08-218-11282007.doc



700 East Joppa Road Towson, Maryland 21286-5500 410-887-4500

County Office Building, Room 111, 2007 Mail Stop #1105 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 December 3, 2007

ATTENTION: Zoning Review Planners

Distribution Meeting Of: November 26, 2007

Item Number: 217 218 219,220,222,224,225,226,227,228,229,232

Pursuant to your request, the referenced plan(s) have been reviewed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

1. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time.

Lieutenant Roland P Bosley Jr. Fire Marshal's Office 410-887-4880 (C)443-829-2946 MS-1102F

cc: File





Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

John D. Porcari, Secretary Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

Date: Nov. 26,2007

Ms. Kristen Matthews
Baltimore County Office Of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Baltimore County

Item No.8-218-5PHA

14 SMITHWOOD AVENUE LUECKING PROPERTY

VARIANCE

SPECIAL HEARING

Dear Ms. Matthews:

Thank you for the opportunity to review your referral request on the subject of the above captioned. We have determined that the subject property does not access a State roadway and is not affected by any State Highway Administration projects. Therefore, based upon available information this office has no objection to Baltimore County Zoning Advisory Committee approval of Item No. 8 218 6744.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Michael Bailey at 410-545-2803 or 1-800-876-4742 extension 5593. Also, you may E-mail him at (mbailey@sha.state.md.us).

Very truly yours,

Steven D. Foster, Chief Engineering Access Permits

Division

SDF/MB

RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING

AND VARIANCE

114 Smithwood Avenue; SW/S Smithwood

Avenue, 900' SE of Edmonson Avenue

1<sup>st</sup> Election & 1<sup>st</sup> Councilmanic Districts \*

Legal Owner(s): Timothy & Christopher Luecking

Petitioner(s) \*

BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

FOR

BALTIMORE COUNTY

08-218-SPHA

### **ENTRY OF APPEARANCE**

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

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

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 29<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed Keith Truffer, Esquire, Royston, Mueller, McLean & Reid, LLP, 102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204, Attorney for Petitioner(s).

RECEIVED

NOV 2 5 2008

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

mormo

Per..... \$

# 116 Smithwood Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228

February 22, 2008

Baltimore County Zoning Office 401 Bosley Avenue, Suite 405 Towson, MD 21204

RE: Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance SW/S Smithwood Avenue, 900' SE of Edmondson Avenue (114 Smithwood Avenue)

1<sup>st</sup> Election District – 1<sup>st</sup> Council District
Timothy Leucking, et al – Petitioners
Case No. 08-218-SPHA

#### Dear Staff:

This letter appeals the above-referenced Commissioner's decision. We also request a copy of the transcript of the January 9 hearing.

We appeal because the Commissioner's decision does not accurately reflect our position as we stated it at the January 9 hearing on this matter. Specifically, we stated that we would not oppose the Petitioners' request to subdivide their property, provided that the Petitioners first agreed to terminate the existing easement on 114 and 116 Smithwood Ave. Instead, the Commissioner's decision at page 4, paragraph one, indicates that we expressed no objections to the relief sought and that we supported the subdivision of the property without any preconditions. As the Commissioner's decision merely states:

At the hearing, the Petitioners and Mr. and Mrs. Russell agreed that the easement would be extinguished by the parties as part of a separate agreement outside the zoning process.

Moreover, at the January 9 hearing, the Commissioner indicated that he would wait to issue his decision until we confirmed with him that the easement had been terminated. Indeed, the petitioner's attorney promised at the hearing that he would get back to us "within 48 hours" with documentation to support such an agreement. The Commissioner then issued his January 28 decision, despite the fact that the petitioners have not yet followed through on their promise to terminate the easement.

In addition, our attorney provided to the Petitioner's attorney a document which, when ratified, would extinguish the existing easement. As of today's date, we still have not received the signed documents from the petitioners, and the existing easement is not yet extinguished. Consequently, and consistent with our stated position at the January 9 hearing, we must continue to oppose the petitioner's request to subdivide the property until the easement is terminated.

Note also that we would be happy to immediately withdraw this appeal upon our receipt of the fully ratified agreement that terminates the existing easement.

Christopher Russell

2.22.08

Date

Mary Ellen Russell

Date

#### Bill Wiseman - RE: UPDATE re: 114/116 Smithwood

From: "Keith R. Truffer" < ktruffer@rmmr.com>

To: 'Tee Tillman' <tee.tillman@colonytitle.com>

**Date:** 01/17/08 5:58 PM

Subject: RE: UPDATE re: 114/116 Smithwood

CC: "wwiseman@co.ba.md.us" <wwiseman@co.ba.md.us>, "Christopher Russell"

<crussell@energypathfinder.com>, "chrisl56@comcast.net" <chrisl56@comcast.net>

Dear Mr. Tillman. I respond to Mr. Russell's note this morning. Because he directed the email to me, I include him in this response. This is also true for the Zoning Commissioner. I have prepared a simple agreement which I have sent to my client for review. As soon as I hear back, I will forward the draft to you for Mr. Russell.

I expect to be able to get this to you tomorrow.

Thanks very much. Let me know if you have any questions.

Keith

Keith R. Truffer 102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue Suite 600 Towson, Maryland 21204-4526 (410) 823-1800

From: Christopher Russell [mailto:crussell@energypathfinder.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2008 9:56 AM

To: Keith R. Truffer; 'Tee Tillman'
Cc: wwiseman@co.ba.md.us

Subject: UPDATE re: 114/116 Smithwood

#### Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Baltimore County zoning hearing conducted on January 9, we expected to see "within 48 hours" from Mr. Truffer's office a draft agreement regarding the abandonment of the easement currently applied to 114/116 Smithwoood. Commissioner Wiseman asked to be kept up to date with our progress.

Any word is appreciated.

Representing the owners of 114 Smithwood: Mr. Keith R. Truffer
Royster, Mueller, McLean & Reid, LLP
102 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 823-1800

Representing my wife and me: Mr. Edwin E. Tillman, Jr. Tillman, Shehan & Letzkus 10320 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 410 Columbia, MD 21044 (410) 884-1160

Christopher Russell
BLOG UPDATED WEEKLY: http://energypathfinder.blogspot.com
P.O. Box 21049

Baltimore, MD 21228 phone: (410) 788-0616 cell: (703) 459-7091 crussell@energypathfinder.com



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director

Department of Permits and

March 5, Bevelopment Management

Keith Truffer Royston, Mueller, McLean & Reid, LLP 102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Ste. 600 Towson, MD 21204

Dear Mr. Truffer:

RE: Case: 08-218-SPHA, 114 Smithwood Avenue

Please be advised that an appeal of the above-referenced case was filed in this office on February 22, 2008 by Mr. & Mrs. Russell. All materials relative to the case have been forwarded to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals (Board).

If you are the person or party taking the appeal, you should notify other similarly interested parties or persons known to you of the appeal. If you are an attorney of record, it is your responsibility to notify your client.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to call the Board at 410-887-3180.

Timothy Kotroco Director

TK:

c: William J. Wiseman III, Zoning Commissioner Timothy Kotroco, Director of PDM People's Counsel

#### **APPEAL**

Petition for Special Hearing & Variance 114 Smithwood Avenue SW/S Smithwood Ave., 900' SE Edmondson Avenue 1<sup>st</sup> Election District — 1<sup>st</sup> Councilmanic District Legal Owner: Timothy Luecking

Case No.: 08-218-SPHA

Petition for Special Hearing & Variance (November 8, 2007)

Zoning Description of Property

Notice of Zoning Hearing (November 29, 2007)

Certification of Publication (The Jeffersonian - December 20, 2007)

Certificate of Posting (December 21, 2007) by Garland Moore

Entry of Appearance by People's Counsel (November 29, 2007)

Petitioner(s) Sign-In Sheet - One Sheet

Protestant(s) Sign-In Sheet - None

Citizen(s) Sign-In Sheet - One Sheet

**Zoning Advisory Committee Comments** 

#### Petitioners' Exhibit

- 1. Site Plan
- 2. Letter from Katherine Holtman

### Protestants' Exhibits:

Existing Easement Agreement

Miscellaneous (Not Marked as Exhibit) - None

Zoning Commissioner's Order (GRANTED - January 23, 2008)

Notice of Appeal received on February 22, 2008 by Mr. & Mrs. Russell

c: People's Counsel of Baltimore County, MS #2010
Zoning Commissioner
Timothy Kotroco, Director of PDM
Keith Truffer, 102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Ste. 600, Towson 21204
Timothy Luecking, 102 Fairfield Drive, Catonsville 21228
Christopher Luecking, 1504 Idlewild Avenue, Catonsville 21228
G. Dwight Little, 1055 Taylor Avenue, Ste. 307, Towson 21286
Mr. & Mrs. Russell, 116 Smithwood Avenue, Catonsville 21228
Tom Tacka, 115 Smithwood Avenue, Catonsville 21228
Jim Seannell, 116 ½ Smithwood Avenue, Catonsville 21228
Mary Lang, 554 South Rolling Road, Catonsville 21228

date sent March 6, 2008, klm

CASE #: 08-218-SPHA

## IN THE MATTER OF: TIMOTHY LUECKING AND CHRISTOPHER LUECKING – Legal Owners /Petitioners

114 Smithwood Avenue

1<sup>st</sup> Election District; 1<sup>st</sup> Councilmanic District

SPH – To allow for easement access to proposed Lot 2 ilo required in-fee strip; VAR – To allow for minimum lot widths of 53' and 50' on Lots 1 and 2 respectively ilo req'd 100' in a DR 2 zone; for minimum lot size of 7,450 sf and 7,396 sf on Lots 1 and 2 respectively ilo req'd 20,000 sf; for minimum side yd setback of 13' on Lot 1 ilo req'd 15' and a sum of side yard setbacks of 27' ilo req'd 40'; for minimum side yard setback of 4' on Lot 2 ilo req'd 15' and a sum of side yd setbacks of 25' ilo req'd 40'; to allow minimum front yd setback of 18' ilo req'd 40' and to allow minimum lot size of 7,390 sf ilo req'd 20,000 for a lot which does not abut on a r/w at least 30' wide over which the public has an easement of travel.

1/23/2008 – Z.C.'s decision in which requested zoning relief was **GRANTED**.

4/02/08 - Notice of Assignment sent to following parties; hearing assigned for Wednesday, July 2, 2008 at 10 a.m.:

Christopher and Mary Ellen Russell Tom Tacka Keith R. Truffer, Esquire Timothy Luecking and Christopher Luecking G. Dwight Little, PE /Little & Associates, Inc. Jim Seannel Mary Lang Office of People's Counsel

William J. Wiseman III /Zoning Commissioner

Pat Keller, Planning Director

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director /PDM

6/11/08 T/C from Mr. Russell regarding process for withdrawing appeal. He and his wife are sole appellants; will be submitted a letter of withdrawal of appeal, signed by both of them, requesting that this appeal be dismissed.

6/12/08 – Notice of Withdrawal of Appeal filed by Christopher and Mary Ellen Russell this date via FAX; Order of Dismissal to be issued; case pulled from July hearing date.

Case No.: 08-218 SPAA 114 SmiTHWOOD AVE.

### **Exhibit Sheet**

### Petitioner/Developer

#### Protestant

No. 1	SITE PLAN	Easement agreement
No. 2	LEHER from Kathere Holline	
No. 3		
No. 4		
No. 5		
No. 6		
No. 7		
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No. 10		
No. 11		
No. 12		

Municipal

Tax Exempt:

**Exempt Class:** 



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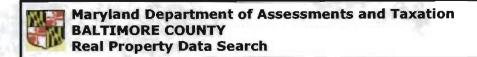
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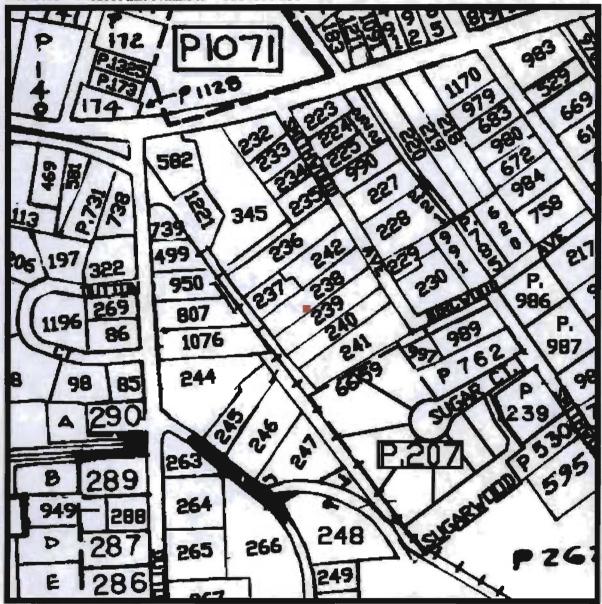
Special Tax Recapture:

\* NONE \*



Go Back View Map New Search

District - 01Account Number - 0104350010



Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2004. For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning web site at <a href="https://www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html">www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html</a>

## PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CASE	VAME		
CASE	NUMBER	8-218	-SATA
DATE	1-9	-08	34

# PETITIONER'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL
Dwight Little	Royen Munica Sure 600	1. Towson, MD 21286	
Kong Truckon	Royan Muain Suite 600		
* FILL LUECKING	102 FAIRFIKIO DR.	CATONS VILLE MD. 2185	8.
CHRISTOPHER LUECKING	1504 IDLEWILDE AVE.	CATONSVILLE MD 21228	CHRIS L 56 & COMCAST-NET
· .		· .	
4			
addres used in	Fact Number 08-199	> Same as noted above	J.W.
-		,	
		·	
	<u> </u>		

CASE NAME\_ CASE NUMBER 8-218-5PHA DATE\_1/9/08

## CITIZEN'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL
Mary Ellen Russell	116 Smithwood Ave.	Catorsville, MD 21228	
TOM TACKA	115 SMITHWOOD AVE	CAtonsville, MD 21228	
CHRISTOPHER RUSSEU	116 SMITHWOOD AVE	CATONSVILLE, MD 21228	
+ JIM Sennell	116/2 Sm, th ward free	CHTONSVILLE MY 2125	
+MARY LANG	554 L Rolling Rd	CATONSVIlle Md 21228	
# RIM	d Citizens sheet be	it fest, feel for	
Pol	d Citizens sheet be		
1211	II ONE C.		
		_	
·			

Case No.: 08-218 SPAA 114 Smithwood AVE.

### Exhibit Sheet

### Petitioner/Developer

### Protestant

No. 1	SITE PLAN	Easement agement
No. 2	LEHER from Kathere Hollman	
No. 3		
No. 4		
No. 5		
No. 6		
No. 7		
No. 8		
No. 9		
No. 10		
No. 11		
No. 12		

To whom it may concur Q, Matherine R. Holtman lived at 114/2 ponuthwood Overue (back house) from February, 1947 until 1957 When @ that Turned moved along with my mother Phyllis and sister June to 114 Smithwood Avenue (front house). When we moved from the back house it was immediately rented? re rented for many years Matherine R Holtman

Bradley framow 1/8/2008 Howard Courty, MD
my commission exp. 3/27/2010

PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO. \_ Z\_

Baltimore County, Maryland

Zoning Commission

Case Number 8-218-SPHA

Statement of Christopher H. and Mary Ellen Russell Owners, 116 Smithwood Avenue

Submitted January 9, 2008

PROTESTA	ANT'S
EXHIBIT NO.	1

### CONTENTS

Statement of Christopher & Mary Ellen Russell	pp. 3-4
Photos of earlier construction.	p. 5
Photos of current construction.	p. 6
Copy of "Deed and Agreement" that prescribes existing easement	pp. 7-9
Boundary survey	p. 10
Copy of correspondence from C. Russell to Messrs. Leucking, dated 10/20/2005, offering to terminate existing easement	pp. 11-12
Copy of correspondence 2/19/07 in which C. Luecking reasserts his claim to the existing easement.	pp. 13-14

My name is Christopher Russell. My wife, Mary Ellen, and I have jointly owned and resided at 116 Smithwood Avenue since December 1998.

We understand that today's hearing invites comments regarding the proposed subdivision of the parcel at 114 Smithwood. Frankly, my wife and I need to understand our rights, privileges, and responsibilities should the proposal be approved and become final.

At issue is an existing private easement, recorded as a "Deed and Agreement" with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, dated April 19, 1983, Liber 514, pages 412-414. This easement, which is currently still in effect, was created to correspond with driveway construction completed in 1983 and in place until 2005. The easement is depicted in the attached boundary survey and is approximated in Figure A of this document. We ask the hearing officer to be fully aware of the consequences of subdivision, given the complication of an existing easement:

- 1. The existing easement was created in 1983 by the previous owners of 114 and 116. As designed, the existing easement benefited the property at 114 by providing access and egress in lieu of there being a driveway built to code and entirely situated on that property. Note that this easement provides reciprocal access, that is, both properties have complete access to the entire easement. I defer to the attached "Deed and Agreement" for further details about the scope and purpose of the existing easement.
- 2. In 2005, the current owners of 114 Smithwood installed on that property a new, wholly contained driveway that provides access to both structures on that parcel. Access and egress to 114 Smithwood can now be accomplished without crossing the property line onto 116 Smithwood. Thus, the existing easement applies to a physical layout that no longer exists.
- 3. Nevertheless, in a letter to me dated February 19, 2007, Mr. Chris Luecking reasserted his rights to the existing easement. Note that my wife and I have no need or desire to exercise access to 114 per the rights granted to us by the existing easement.
- 4. Subdivision of the parcel at 114 Smithwood would demand the creation of a new easement that assigns rights between Lots 1 and 2 of the subject parcel. This new easement, we believe, would need to completely overlap the entire width of the new driveway construction at 114, beginning from the street and continuing to some point between the two houses on that parcel. Any new easement will overlap that part of the existing easement as now applied to 114 Smithwood.
- 5. My wife and I would appreciate an explanation of the rights, obligations, and responsibilities that accrue to us from a configuration of overlapping easements. Note that the new easement would necessarily have to recognize and be consistent with the terms of the existing easement. If the existing easement is to remain in place, then my wife and I must also be parties to the creation of any overlapping

easement. On the other hand, if the current easement is terminated, then my wife and I have no legal interest in the prescriptions provided by an easement that lies solely within the boundaries of 114.

6. Note that the law disfavors unnecessary encumbrances of property. The footprint of the existing easement unnecessarily encumbers both 114 and 116 Smithwood Avenue, because it has no practical relationship to the physical construction that now exists. This hearing now considers creation of a new easement that, in combination with the existing easement, will unnecessarily encumber not two, but three properties at once.

My wife and I seek an outcome that adequately serves the law by terminating the existing easement, and relieves us and all future owners of 114 Smithwood parcels from irrelevant property interests.

## **CONFIGURATION, 1982 - 2005**

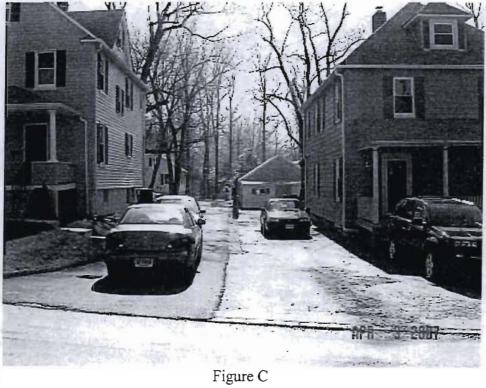


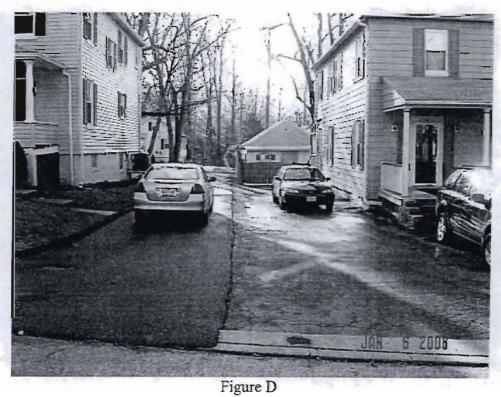
Figure A: Yellow lines approximate boundary of current easement. Arrow indicates boundary surveyor's spike (orange spray paint).



Figure B

## **CONFIGURATION, FROM 2005**





LIEER 6514 P45:412

#### DEED AND AGREEMENT

WITNESSETH:

That in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars TSIV.001 202 109:39 in hand paid by each of the parties herein to the other, and the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, the said Jacksons, Holtman and Diehlmann, their mortgagees, for themselve their respective heirs, successors or assigns, forever, do declare and create an easement or right of way for the purposes of egress and ingress for vehicular and pedestrian traffic, over the southern-most four feet of the lands of Jackson and the northern-most four feet of the lands of Diehlmann at a point beginning in the center of Smithwood Avenue, as now laid out, and extending therefrom approximately 97.83 t feet along the common property line of Jackson and Diehlmann. This Agreement is entered into for the purposes of forever establishing an easement for ingress and egress to the owners, users, invitees licensees and any other persons lawfully coming upon said properties to afford access by way of ingress and egress to the said properties. This Agreement is entered into for the purpose of forever settling any dispute which has arisen or may the future arise as a result of a claim for prescriptive easement

STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS THATION

TRANSFER TAX NOT REQUIRED
Director of Finance
BACTURCHE COULTY MATTER
AUthorized Signature
Director of Social Signature
Director of Social Signature
Social Sig

GRICULTURAL TRANSFER TAX
OF APPLICATION
TOURISM TAX

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over a portion of said properties and shall be a burden upon and a benefit to each of their respective properties to the extent of such easement area. The parties do further covenant and agree that they shall maintain in common the said easement area in order to effectuate such ingress and egress and shall reasonably accommodate one another in order to afford such common means of ingress and egress in and to the properties. This beed and Agreement is entered into for the purposes of settling forever any and all matters arising out of Baltimore County, Equity case No. 166/54/82E774, and the parties covenant and agree to execute such further assurances as may be required by the stipulated Settlement Agreement filed in the said Equity Case.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.
WITNESS:

Katherine Diehlmann (SEAL)

Mi Jifar (SEAL)

Marshy Harkson SEAL

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF HOWEL' to wit:

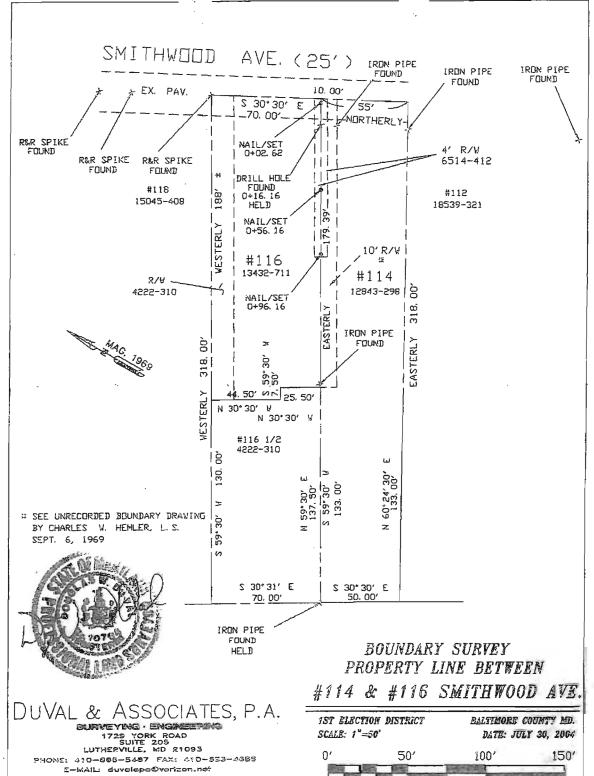
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 10 day of h(Crist), 1982, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, personally appeared Katherine Diehlmann, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and she acknowledged that she executed the foregoing for the purposes therein contained.

AS WITNESS my hand and Motarial Seal.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 7/1/86

LICERS 5 1 4 FAS 4 1 4 STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF 15 LT. to wit: DHEREBY CERTIFY that on this 1 day of 1 (1917), 1982, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, personally appeared PHYLLIS HOLTMAN, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and she acknowledged that she executed the foregoing for the purposes therein contained. I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal. My Commission Expires: 7/1/86 STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF PAGE, to wit: I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this it day of the State of before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, personally appeared THOMAS J. JACKSON and MARJORIE L. JACKSON, known to me for satisfactorily proven) to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument, and they acknowledged that they executed the foregoing for the purposes therein contained. AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal My Commission Expires: 7/1/86 UNION TRUST COMPANY OF MARYLAND WITNESS: (SEAL) Gordon De George WESTVIEW FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION BY: Varline Q. Var MERCANTILE-SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST A for record APR 20 1983 at Per Elmer E. Kahline, Jry Clerk



#### Christopher & Mary Ellen Russell 116 Smithwood Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228

October 20, 2005

Messrs. Luecking:

Per the recommendation of our legal counsel, Mr. Edwin Tillman, Esq., ratification of this document would enact an agreement that respects mutual rights and interests regarding the termination of the existing driveway easement (reference: liber 6514, pages 412-414) between the properties of 114 Smithwood Avenue and 116 Smithwood Avenue. Specifically, ratification of this agreement would cause the following actions to take place in this sequence:

- 1. Owner of 116 Smithwood will remove the existing fence that straddles the property line between 114 and 114 Smithwood. This will occur in a timely fashion to facilitate step 2 (below).
- 2. Owner of 114 Smithwood will then proceed with installation of a new driveway, wholly contained on 114 Smithwood.
- 3. Within 15 days of the completion of the new driveway on 114 Smithwood, the owners of 114 and 116 Smithwood jointly petition the office of Mr. Tillman to proceed with the termination of the above-referenced easement.
- 4. Upon termination of the subject easement, the owner of 114 Smithwood will completely and forever be relieved of all responsibilities for maintenance and upkeep of the parcel currently defined by the subject easement.

The following repeats the procedure for termination of easement, as originally presented to Mr. Chris Luecking in correspondence dated October 5, 2005:

- 1. With ratification of this document, Mr. Tillman will draft the termination documents required by the county. Owners of both 114 and 116 Smithwood are required to sign those documents.
- 2. Mr. Tillman will require a copy of the deed for 114 Smithwood.
- A description of the area defined by the easement will be required (already accomplished).
- Mr. Tillman will submit the documented request to the county's Office of Budget and Finance.

5. The County's Land Records office then assigns a recordation number that officially logs the termination.

Ratification:

Christopher Russell

Mary Ellen Russell

Owners, 116 Smithwood Avenue

Catonsville, MD 21228

Tim Leucking Chris Luecking

Owners, 114 Smithwood Avenue

Catonsville, MD 21228

Chris Lucking 1504 Idlewilde Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228

February 19, 2007 Mr. Christopher Russell 116 Smithwood Avenue Catonsville, Md. 21228

Re: 114 Smithwood Avenue

Dear Mr. Russell,

I am writing this note several days after our most recent (Thursday, February 15) discussion regarding the property lines between your house at 116 Smithwood Avenue and the referenced property that is owned by my brother and me.

In the past, when you and I talked about this subject, I realize that my emotions got the better of me, and I did not act in a calm manner. Our "discussion" on Thursday, February 15 was no different and for that I sincerely apologize.

However, I wanted you to know that you said something that day that really got my attention. You said "It's ALWAYS something with you, Mr. Luecking. What is it THIS time?" After I went home that evening, I really thought about that statement because it upset me to think that I might be one of those neighbors who is constantly nagging and complaining about one thing or another. So I really thought about what you said for a few days and I had an "ah hah!" moment. I realized that from your perspective, it must seem like it is about where you park your car blocking the easement, your fence on my property, where you place your trash, and where your grass cuttings and shovelled snow is placed. I can definitely see your side of it and why you feel and suggested that "it's always SOMETHING".

However, from my perspective, it is and has always been about only ONE thing: the established legal boundary lines and easement between our properties, which have been established and defined by survey and are not in question.

Perhaps you have never seen a copy of the survey, or you question the accuracy of it. If the former, I'd be happy to show you my copy of the survey, and, if the latter, I invite you to have your own survey performed to satisfy once and for all whatever lingering doubts you clearly still have about exactly where your property ends and mine begins.

While I know that we will probably never be able to speak rationally about this subject, my hope is that we can at least peacefully coexist, if not as neighbors then as adjoining property owners. In that regard, please do not place your personal belongings (including, but not limited to, your car, fence, grass clippings, and shovelled snow) on my property or block the established easement.

My promise to you is that I will never knowingly interfere or infringe upon your property and I respectfully ask that you do the same in return.

Regards,

Chris Luecking

ZERTIFIED WIZIL

Christopher Luccking 1504 Idlewilde Ave. Calonsville, MD 21228



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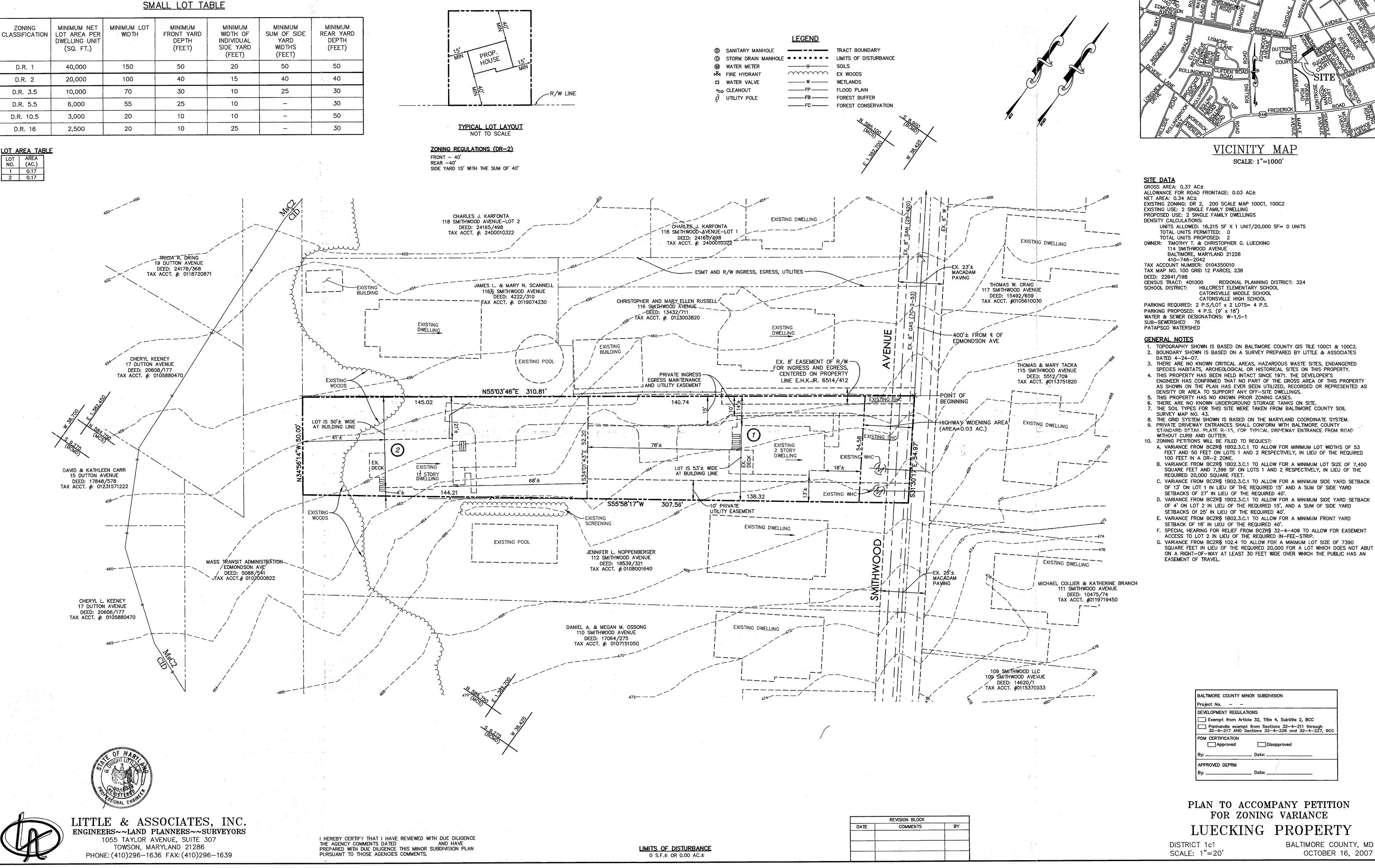


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EN 2012 2/21/07 MR. CHRISTOPHER CUSSELL 116 SMITHWOOD BYE CRTONSVILLE, MD. GLIZZS

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



PETITIONER'S
EXHIBIT NO. /