IN RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION AND VARIANCE

E side Ridge Road, 1100 feet N of Freeland and Ridge Roads
6th Election District
3rd Councilmanic District
(21109 Ridge Road)

Chad Neal

Legal Owner

- BEFORE THE
- * DEPUTY ZONING
- * COMMISSIONER
- * FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

* Case No. 08-426-XA

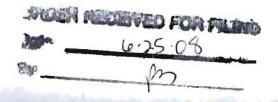
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner for consideration of Petitions for Special Exception and Variance filed by Chad Neal for property located at 21109 Ridge Road. The Special Exception is requested pursuant to Section 1A01.2.C.14 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to allow a landscape service operation. The Variance requests are as follows:

- From Section 400.3 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit an accessory building (garage) height of 21 feet in lieu of the required 15 feet; and
- From Sections 400.1 and 101 of the B.C.Z.R. to allow an accessory building (garage) size of 2,520 square feet; and
- From Sections 1A01.3.B.3 and 404.1.B of the B.C.Z.R. to permit a side yard setback from garage of 18 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet and 50 feet, respectively.

The subject property and the requested relief are more fully described on the site plan which was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

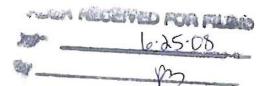
Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of the Special Exception and Variance requests were Petitioner Chad Neal and his wife Jennifer Neal, as well as Gary and Linda Neal, Petitioner's parents and the legal owners of the subject property. Also appearing in support of the requested relief were Petitioner's attorney, Michael R. McCann, Esquire and Jeffrey Penza of



Penza + Bailey Architects, the firm that prepared the site plan. There were no Protestants or other interested persons in attendance at the hearing, though several individuals residing on Ridge Road sent letters of opposition that are contained in the case file and will be discussed later in this Order.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property is an irregular-shaped property and contains 1.09 acres zoned R.C.2. The property is located on the east side of Ridge Road and north of Freeland Road in the Freeland area of Baltimore County. The property is improved with a 1½-story wood frame single-family dwelling with aluminum siding. It is also improved with a one-story wood frame three-car garage with matching siding located at the end of the driveway toward the rear of the property, and a small shed located close to the rear property line.

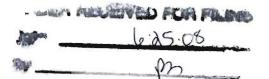
Gary and Linda Neal have owned the property since 1985. For the last 13 years, Gary Neal and his son, Chad Neal, (collectively referred to as "Petitioners") have owned and operated Whispering Meadows, Inc., a landscaping business specializing in conservation projects including forest and wetlands restoration. The business has operated with three employees -- father and son and a seasonal employee. Petitioners have used the basement of the dwelling on the subject property as an office for the administrative functions of the business (i.e. filing, bookkeeping, etc.). Because of the duration and size of their projects, Petitioners normally store all their landscaping equipment on jobsites, moving it from one site to another as work is completed at one location and needed at another; however, some subtle changes in the business involving smaller jobs and requiring storage of equipment for intervals of time dictate the need for a central location for the business and its equipment. As such, Petitioners request a special exception to use the subject property for a landscape service operation. In addition, Petitioners desire to erect an



accessory building on the rear of the property for storage of equipment, and request several variances from the height, size, and side yard setback requirements of the B.C.Z.R.

In support of the requested relief, Petitioners submitted a number of photographs which depict their property and improvements thereon, as well as photographs depicting nearby properties. Marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners' Exhibits 2A through 2D are photographs of Petitioners' property. These photographs show the dwelling and three-car garage, and also show the rather large side and rear yard areas at the north side of the property. Petitioners' Exhibit 2D also shows a heavily wooded area to the rear of the property near the proposed location of the accessory building. Marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners' Exhibits 3A through 3C are photographs of the property to the immediate north at 21117 Ridge Road. This property was previously owned for a number of years by Petitioner Gary Neal's father. According to Petitioners, in 2002, the property was sold to the Winkler family and is the location of their fence business known as Winkler Fencing. As shown in the photographs, located to the rear of the property are several accessory buildings which appear to be related to the fencing business. Also marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners' Exhibits 4A through 4C are photographs of the property to the immediate south at 21105 Ridge Road. These photographs depict a single-family dwelling with three accessory structures located to the rear of the property.

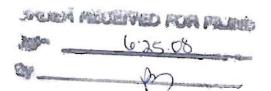
Petitioners desire to use the property for a landscape service operation and for the accessory building of the size proposed is driven by the need to store equipment for the business indoors, away from unsightly views and away from the elements. In particular, Petitioners wish to store two skip loaders (i.e. 'bobcat"), two trucks, one cherry picker (a large apparatus used for trimming trees), and a flatbed trailer for lawn mowing equipment. Petitioner Chad Neal testified that the height variance is primarily to accommodate the man-lift attached to the cherry picker, as



well as to have a similar peaked roofline, and the size of the building is necessary to adequately store all the equipment. He also emphasized that the accessory building will be used strictly for storage. There will be no inventory of any parts or materials, nor any deliveries or loading and unloading. There will be no customers serviced at the location. All work is performed at other properties where the company's projects are located.

Also testifying in support of the requested relief was Jeffrey Penza, a principal with the firm of Penza + Bailey Architects. Mr. Penza has been a licensed architect for the past 21 years and specializes in custom residential and institutional uses. He is familiar with the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations and has acted as a consultant for Petitioners on the proposed use of the property as a landscape service operation and particularly as to the location of the proposed accessory building on the property. Mr. Penza was offered and accepted as an expert in land use and zoning and interpretation of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations.

As shown on the site plan which also contains a floor plan and side and end elevations, the building would be rectangular in shape (36 feet wide by 70 feet long) with an exterior of ribbed metal, tan in color with a three foot green lower base. The building would also have a pitched roof comparable to other similar structures on Ridge Road and to the garage and dwelling on the subject property. The west side of the building facing Ridge Road would have two 12 foot by 12 foot garage style doors. The south side of the building would have an entrance near the front end and another garage door near the back end. To visually illustrate some of the similar structures on Ridge Road, Mr. Penza submitted several photographs that were marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners' Exhibits 5A through 5D. These photographs show large garage-like accessory structures of varying heights and sizes on Ridge Road within one-half mile of the subject property. Specifically, Petitioners' Exhibits 5C and 5D depict accessory structures very



similar to that proposed by Petitioners. In terms of placement of the building as proposed, the need for the side yard variance of 18 feet is due to an existing septic reserve area to the rear of the property and the desire to not be so close to the rear of the property so as to necessitate a rear yard variance. At the same time, Petitioners wish to have the building set back far enough so as to not be visible from Ridge Road.

Turning to the relevant special exception criteria, Mr. Penza testified that the proposed use of the property as a landscape service operation satisfies all the criteria set forth in Section 502.1 of the B.C.Z.R. In particular, the proposed use will not be detrimental to the health, safety or general welfare of the locality, will not create congestion in roads or streets, and will not create a potential hazard from fire, panic or other danger. Additionally, and although of substantial size, the placement of the accessory building toward the rear of the property will not overcrowd the land. There will still be sufficient open space in the front and side yards, as well as much of the rear yard. The use will not interfere with the provision of public services or with adequate light and air, and will not be inconsistent with the property's agricultural zoning classification or with the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R., and will not be detrimental to any other applicable special exception criteria.

Moreover, in addition to meeting the requirements outlined in Section 502.1 of the B.C.Z.R., the proposed landscape service operation will also satisfy the requirements of Section 404.3.C of the B.C.Z.R. Mr. Penza testified that the property is of sufficient size to accommodate the proposed building. He also testified that the location of parking and storage will be compatible with surrounding uses and will be properly screened. The vehicles and equipment will be sufficiently screened by virtue of their storage inside the building. The building itself will be

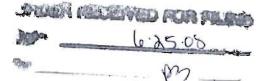


landscaped with shrubs and trees to provide screening from the road and from adjacent residentially used properties.

A Petition in Support of Special Exception and Variances was circulated by Petitioners and signed by 10 individuals residing on Ridge Road near the subject property, including the neighbors immediately adjacent on either side. This petition was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners' Exhibit 7.

In opposition to the requested variance relief, the undersigned received seven letters from residents also residing on Ridge Road. These residents universally voiced their objection to the proposed height and square footage of the accessory building, as well as the variance request from the side yard setback requirements. They view the proposed accessory building as a commercial use structure that might set a precedent for similar requests in the future, as well as potentially denigrating property values and creating an increase in traffic and exhaust fumes on Ridge Road. The letters were marked and accepted into evidence as Protestants' Exhibits 1A through 1G.

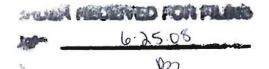
The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are contained within the case file. The comments received from the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management (DEPRM) dated April 16, 2008 indicate that prior to building permit approval the septic area must be shown on the site plan. The proposed building must be 20 feet from the Septic Reserve Area. If plumbing is proposed in the building, percolation tests may be required. Comments received from the Office of Planning dated April 9, 2008 indicate that office does not oppose Petitioners' special exception and variance requests, but recommends that the accessory structure not be converted into a dwelling unit or apartment, not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, kitchen or bathroom facilities. A landscape plan that shows the existing and proposed landscaping should be submitted, and should also show access to the site and limits of



the gravel-covered areas. In addition, the proposed garage should have a style and architecture that is consistent with the surrounding rural character of the community.

In regard to the requested special exception to use the property for a landscape service operation, I am persuaded to grant this relief. Section 1A01.2.C.14 permits a landscape service operation in the R.C.2 Zone by special exception provided the criteria set forth in Section 502.1 of the B.C.Z.R. are met, subject also to the provisions of Sections 404.1 and 404.3 of the B.C.Z.R. Section 404.1.B of the B.C.Z.R. requires that controlled-environment structures and accessory structures be located at least 50 feet from any property line, including any right-of-way line. Petitioners have requested a variance from this requirement that will be addressed below. Section 404.3.C states that a landscape service operation is subject to the following additional standards: (1) that the site shall be of sufficient size and properly designed to insure protection of existing neighboring dwellings from noise, dust, glare and other nuisance factors, and (2) that the location of the vehicle parking and equipment storage area shall be compatible with surrounding uses and shall be screened from residentially zoned or used properties as specified in Section 404.1.C. The uncontroverted testimony and evidence from Petitioners and their architectural consultant indicates that the proposed use meets the required 502.1 criteria and meets the requirements of Section 404.3. Because I am also persuaded to grant the variance from the side yard setback requirement of Section 404.1.B, I am convinced that the use proposed at the subject location would not have any adverse effects above and beyond those inherently associated with such a special exception use irrespective of its location within the zone (See, Schultz v. Pritts, 291 Md. 1 (1981)), nor would the use be detrimental to the primary agricultural uses in its vicinity.

In regard the request for variances, based on the testimony and evidence, I find special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of



the variance requests. These are the kind of peculiar circumstances that make the regulations impact this property disproportionately compared to others in the district. Therefore I find the property unique in a zoning sense. I further find that strict compliance with the Zoning Regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship.

Finally, I find these variances can be granted in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of said regulations, and in such manner as to grant relief without injury to the public health, safety and general welfare.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on these petitions held, and after considering the testimony and evidence offered, I find that the Petitioners' request for Special Exception and the requests for Variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County, this _______ day of July, 2008 that Petitioner's request for Special Exception pursuant to Section 1A01.2.C.14 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to allow a landscape service operation is hereby GRANTED; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Petitioner's Variance requests as follows:

- From Section 400.3 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit an accessory building (garage) height of 21 feet in lieu of the required 15 feet; and
- From Sections 400.1 and 101 of the B.C.Z.R. to allow an accessory building (garage) size of 2,520 square feet; and
- From Sections 1A01.3.B.3 and 404.1.B of the B.C.Z.R. to permit a side yard setback from garage of 18 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet and 50 feet, respectively

be and are hereby GRANTED.

The granting of the above relief shall be subject, however, to the following conditions:

1. Petitioners may apply for any permits required and be granted same upon receipt this Order; however, 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, Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

- 2. Petitioners or subsequent owners shall not convert the subject accessory structure into a dwelling unit or apartment. The structure shall not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, kitchen or bathroom facilities.
- 3. The use of the structure is limited to the storage of equipment related to the special exception use of the property for a landscape service operation. Any proposed change in the use of the accessory building from the storage of equipment related to the landscape service operation shall require a public hearing. In addition, if such use of the property for a landscape service operation is discontinued or abandoned by Petitioners or subsequent owners, then the structure shall be removed at Petitioners' or the subsequent owners cost and expense within ninety (90) days of such discontinuance or abandonment.
- 4. Petitioners shall submit a landscape plan to the Office of Planning that shows the existing and proposed landscaping, and also shows access to the site and the limits of the gravel-covered areas.
- 5. The proposed accessory building shall be constructed so as to have a style and architecture that is consistent with the surrounding rural character of the community.
- 6. Prior to building permit approval, the septic area must be shown on the plan. The proposed building must be 20 feet from the Septic Reserve Area. If plumbing is proposed in the building, percolation tests may be required.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK
Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:pz





Petition for Special Exception

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County for the property located at 21109 field Fred Fred Miles which is presently zoned RC-Z

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 Exception under the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to use the herein described property for

landscape revice operation parsont do \$ 1401.2.6(14)

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

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Special Exception, 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.	al owner(s) of th	e property which
Contract Purchaser/Les	ssee:		Legal Owner(s):		
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Petition for Variance

Deed Reference: __ 22/1 59_ Tax Account # @6 14 0100 50

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)

(rece attached)

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

(to be established at hearing)

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.

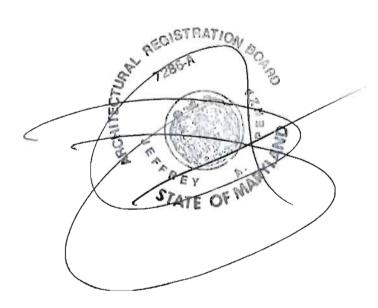
				y declare and affirm, under the are the legal owner(s) of the this Petition.	
Contract Purchaser	/Lessee:		<u>Legal Owner</u>	<u>(s):</u>	
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Signature	C. McCani	1 /A	MICH	mel R. McG	11
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Attachment to Petition for Variances 21109 Ridge Road, Freeland MD 21053

- 1. BCZR section 400.3 to permit an accessory building (garage) of 21 feet in height in lieu of required 15feet.
- 2. BCZR sections 400.1 and 101 to allow accessory building (garage) of 2520 square feet.
- 3. BCZR sections 1A01.3.B.3 and 404.1.B to permit sideyard setback from garage of 18 feet in lieu of required 35 feet and 50 feet, respectively.

08-426-4241

BEGINNING FOR THE SAME AT A POINT ON THE EAST SIDE OF RIDGE ROAD MARKED BY A STONE, AN ORIGINAL CORNER MARKER FOR ROBINSON'S MAIN TRACT, IT BEING AT THE END OF THE SOUTH 25 1/2 DEGREES EAST 26 PERCHES LINE OF THE WHOLE TRACT AND RUNNING THENCE FROM THIS POINT OF BEGINNING ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF RIDGE ROAD SOUTH 9 1/2 DEGREES WEST 120 FEET TO A POINT THENCE BY LINES OF DIVISION ALONG LAND OF THE GRANTOR NORTH 82 1/2 DEGREES EAST 293 FEET THENCE NORTH 18 1/2 DEGREES WEST 200 FEET THENCE ALONG A LOT ABOUT TO BE CONVEYED TO LESTER NEAL SOUTH 82 1/2 DEGREES WEST 237 FEET TO THE FIRST MENTIONED LINE THENCE ALONG THE SAID LINE AND BINDING THEREON SOUTH 25 1/2 DEGREES EAST 80 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS 21109 RIDGE ROAD.



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: # 08-428-XA

21109 Ridge Road

E/side of Ridge Road, 1100 feet north of Freeland and Ridge Roads

6th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District

Legal Owner(s): Chad Neal

Special Exception: for a landscape service operation.

Variance: to permit an accessory building (garage) of 21 feet in height in lieu of the required 15 feet and to allow accessory building (garage) of 2520 square feet and to permit side yard serback from garage of 18 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet and 50 feet respectively.

Hearing: Monday, May 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. In Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue,

Towson 21204.

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN, III

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations 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. 5/006 May 1

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

5/1/ 2068
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 on5 1 ,20 <u>CS</u> .
💢 The Jeffersonian
☐ Arbutus Times
☐ Catonsville Times
☐ Towson Times
Owings Mills Times
☐ NE Booster/Reporter
☐ North County News

LEGAL ADVERTISING

OFFICE	OF BU	OUNTY, DGET A US REC	ND FIN				No.	1409 3-12-08 3	PAID RECEIPT BUSINESS ACTUAL THE ORD 12/2008 3/12/2008 09:00:29 1
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CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

RE: Case No: <u>08-424-XA</u>

Petitioner/Developer: MICHAEL

Mc CANN R.A.

Date Of Hearing/Closing: 5/19/08

11 West Chesapeake Ave	Room 111
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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: <u>のら 476 犬A</u>	•
Petitioner: CHAD NEAL	
Address or Location: 21109 RIDGE RD FREELAND	MD
	21053
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO: Name:MICHAEL MC CANIU	·
Address: 118 W. PENNSYLVANIA AVE	
TOUSON MD ZIZOY	
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Revised 2/20/98 - SCJ



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTH APP k 1 TROOS, Director
Department of Permits and
Development Management

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: 08-426-XA

21109 Ridge Road

E/side of Ridge Road, 1100 feet north of Freeland and Ridge Roads

6th Election District – 3rd Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Chad Neal

<u>Special Exception</u> for a landscape service operation. <u>Variance</u> to permit an accessory building (garage) of 21 feet in height in lieu of the required 15 feet and to allow accessory building (garage) of 2520 square feet and to permit side yard setback from garage of 18 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet and 50 feet respectively.

Hearing: Monday, May 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson 21204

Timothy Kotroco

Director

TK:klm

C: Michael McCann, 118 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson 21204 Chad Neal, 21109 Ridge Road, Freeland 21053

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2008.

- (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, May 1, 2008 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Michael McCann 118 W. Pennsylvania Avenue Towson, MD 21204

410-825-2150

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: 08-426-XA

21109 Ridge Road

E/side of Ridge Road, 1100 feet north of Freeland and Ridge Roads

6th Election District – 3rd Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Chad Neal

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Hearing: Monday, May 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson 21204

ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

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



JAMES T. SMITH, JR.

County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director

Department of Permits and

Development Management

May 15, 2008

Chad Neal 21109 Ridge Rd. Freeland, MD 21053

Dear Chad Neal

RE: Case Number: 2008-0426-A, Address

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing **ONLY** by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on March 12, 2008. 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,

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

1. Cal Richal

WCR:amf

Enclosures

c: People's Counsel

Michael R. McCann, 118 W. Pennsylvania Av., Towson, MD 21204



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

JOHN J. HOHMAN, Chief Fire Department

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

March 26, 2008

ATTENTION: Zoning Review Planners

Distribution Meeting Of: March 24, 2008

Item Number: 418,419,420,421,422,423,424,426,427,428,429,430,431,432,433,434

and 435

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.

1The 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

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

DATE: April 1, 2008

Department of Permits & Development

Management

Dennis A. Kennedy, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT:

FROM:

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For March 31, 2008

Nos. 08-401, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 426 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434,

435, 438, 439, and 440

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

DAK:CEN:clw

cc: File

ZAC-NO COMMENTS-03282008.doc



Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor John D. Porcari, Secretary Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

Date: MARCH 24, 2008

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

RE: **Baltimore County**

Item No. 8-426-XA 21109 RIDGEROAD

SPECIAL EXCEPTION

VARIANCE

NEAL PROPERTY

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. 8-426-XA

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,

1 Steven D. Foster, Chief For Engineering Access Permits

Division

SDF/MB

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: April 9, 2008



BY:____

SUBJECT: 8-42

8-426 - Special Exception and Variance

The Office of Planning does not oppose the petitioner's request for special exception or to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 26 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 15 feet provided the following conditions are met:

- 1. The petitioner or subsequent owners shall not convert the subject accessory structure into a dwelling unit or apartment. The structure shall not contain any sleeping quarters, living area or kitchen facilities.
- 2. The proposed garage shall have a style and architecture that is consistent with the surrounding rural character of the community.
- 3. Submit a landscape plan that shows existing and proposed landscaping. Also show access to the site and the limits of the gravel-covered areas.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Jessie Bialek at 410-887-3480.

Prepared by

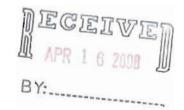
Section Chief:

AFK/LL: CM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence





TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco

FROM:

Dave Lykens, DEPRM - Development Coordination

DATE:

April 16, 2008

SUBJECT:

Zoning Item # 08-426-XA

00-420-AA

Address

21109 Ridge Road

(Neal Property)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of March 24, 2008

_____ The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management has no comments on the above-referenced zoning item.

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

Prior to building permit approval, the septic area must be shown on the plan. The proposed building must be 20 feet from the Septic Reserve Area. If plumbing is proposed in the building, percolation tests may be required. -S. Farinetti; Ground Water Management

RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION

AND VARIANCE

21109 Ridge Road; E/S Ridge Road, 1,100' N *

Freeland & Ridge Roads

6th Election & 3rd Councilmanic Districts

Legal Owner(s): Chad Neal

Petitioner(s)

BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

FOR

BALTIMORE COUNTY

* 08-426-XA

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/documentation filed in the case.

RECEIVED

MAR 2 4 2008

Per....

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel

Jefferson Building, Room 204

105 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

(110) 001 2100

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 24th day of March, 2008, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Michael McCann, Esquire, 118 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204, Attorney for Petitioner(s).

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CASE NAME		
CASE NUMBER_	08-	476-XA
DATE		

PETITIONER'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL
Stiffer FENZA	7 church st 401 Good Ballere Ark	Jacobos PA 17407	Priza a les va Paris
GAM VEW	21/09 RIDGE RD	FREEDAND MD 21053	CeM
Senater neal	7 Church St.	Jacobus Pa 17407	
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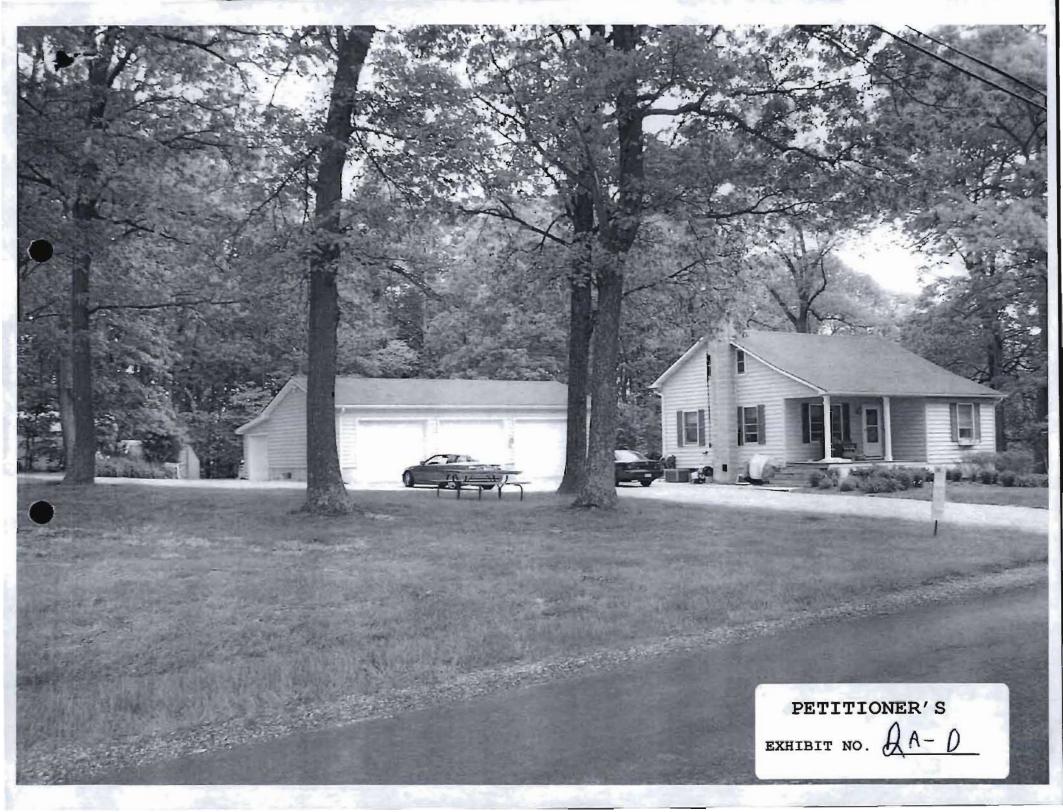
08-426-XA

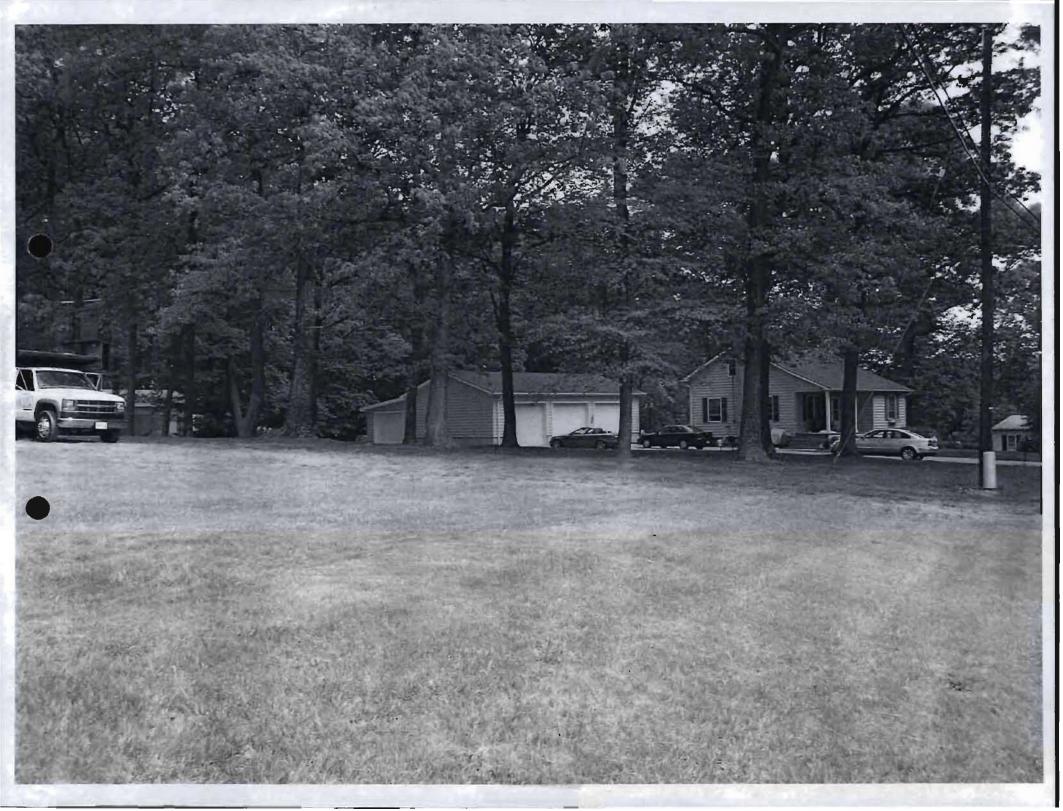
Exhibit Sheet

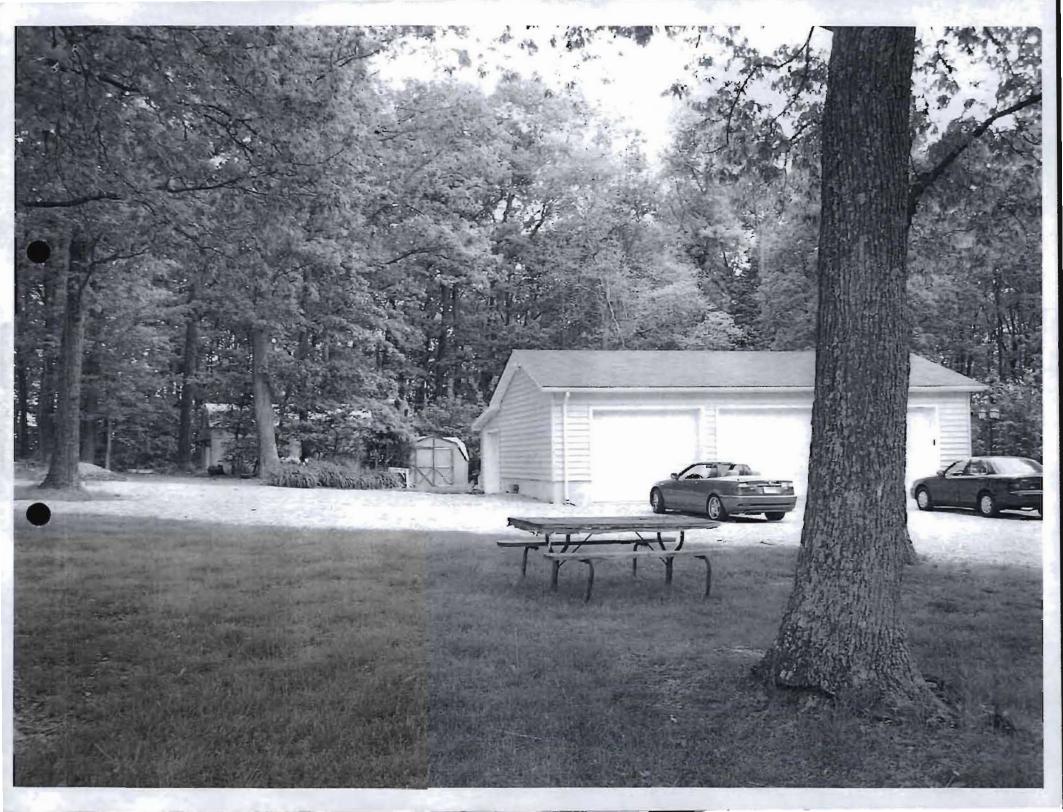
Petitioner/Developer

Protestant

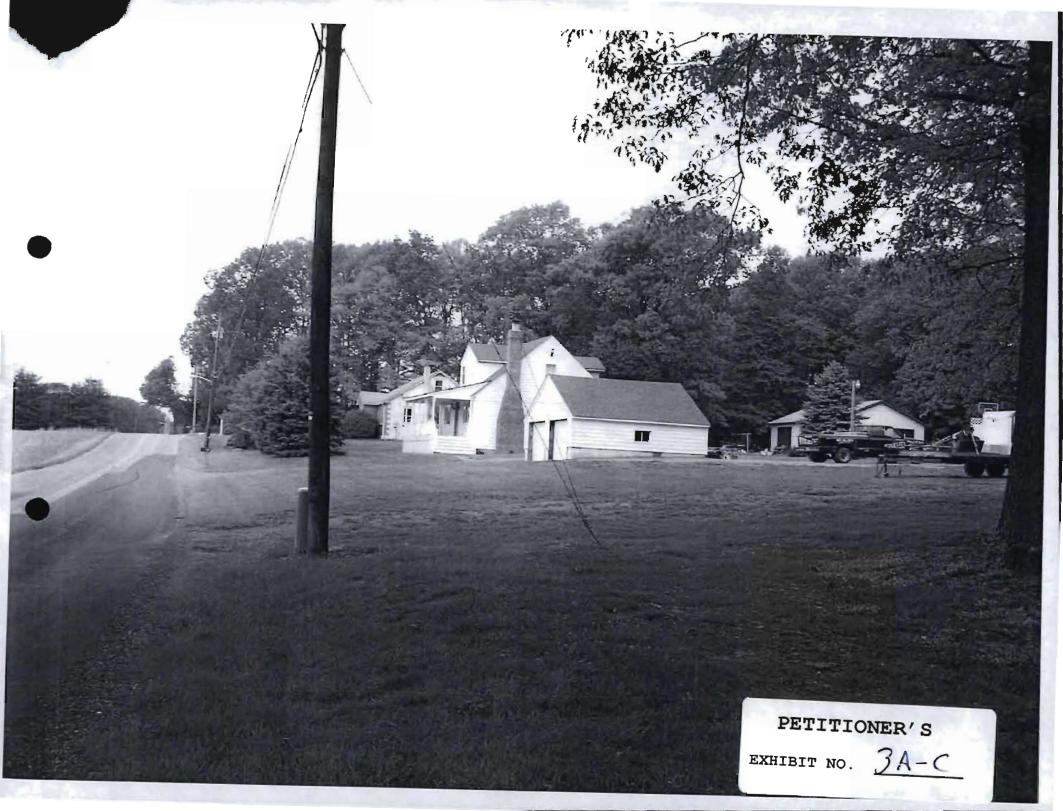
No. 1	site plan	Pelities against relief
No. 2	photon of property	
No. 3	plates of property to	
No. 4	plates of property to	
No. 5	photos of similar garage.	
No. 6	photo of large County building 4/37 mile	
No. 7	Pelitier in support of	
No. 8	ctack you letter from really John's Waterses	
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No. 11		
No. 12		



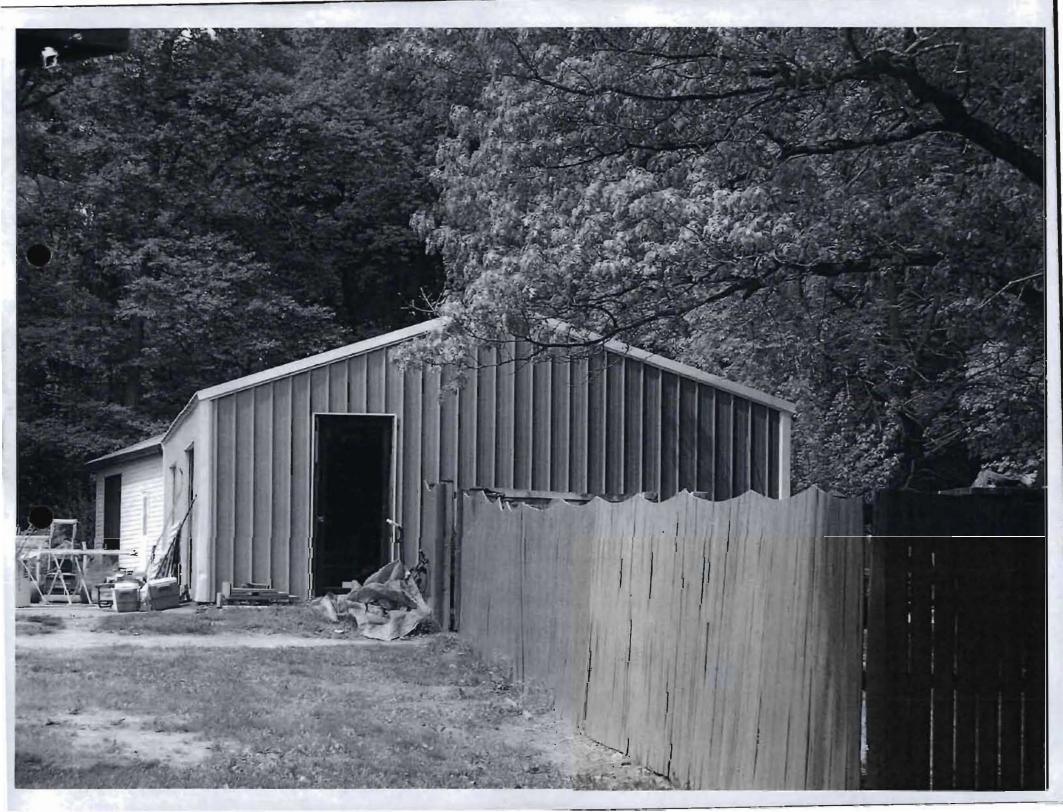


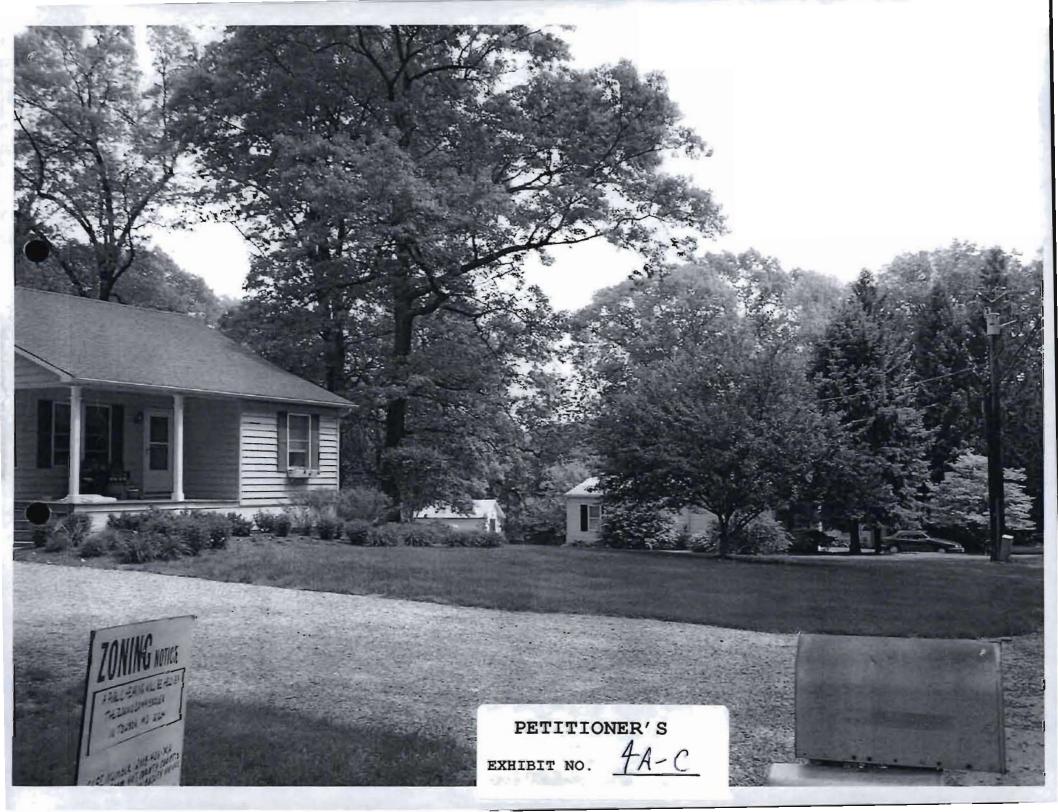


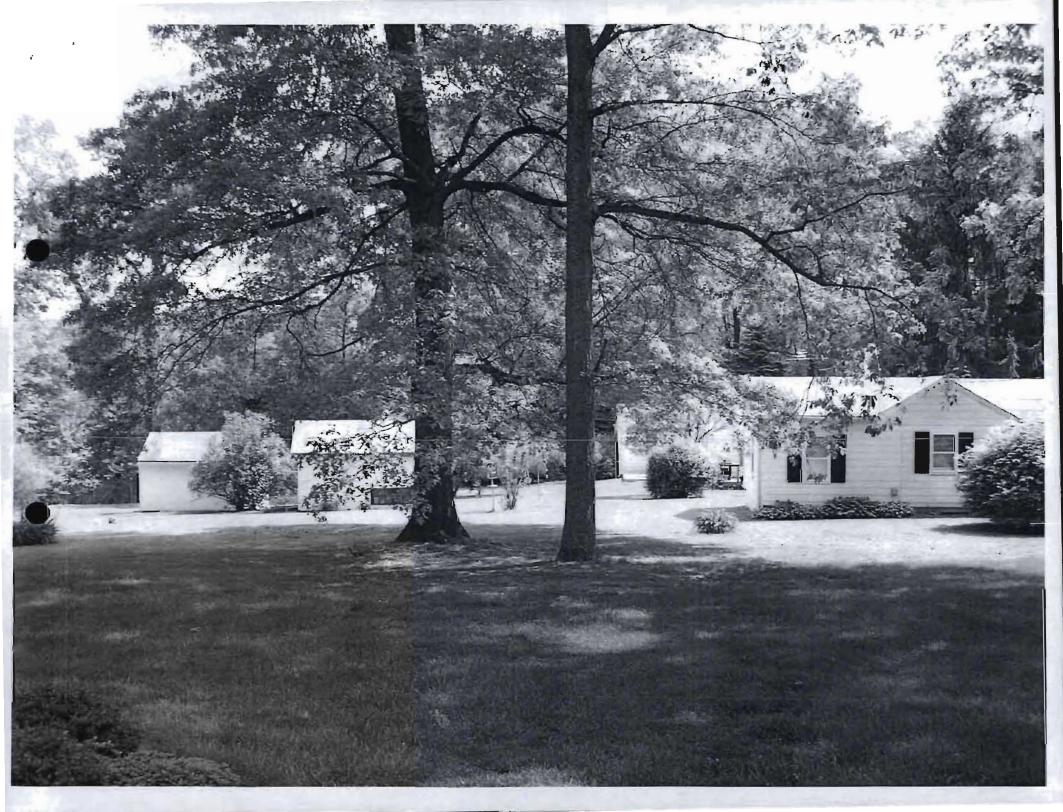


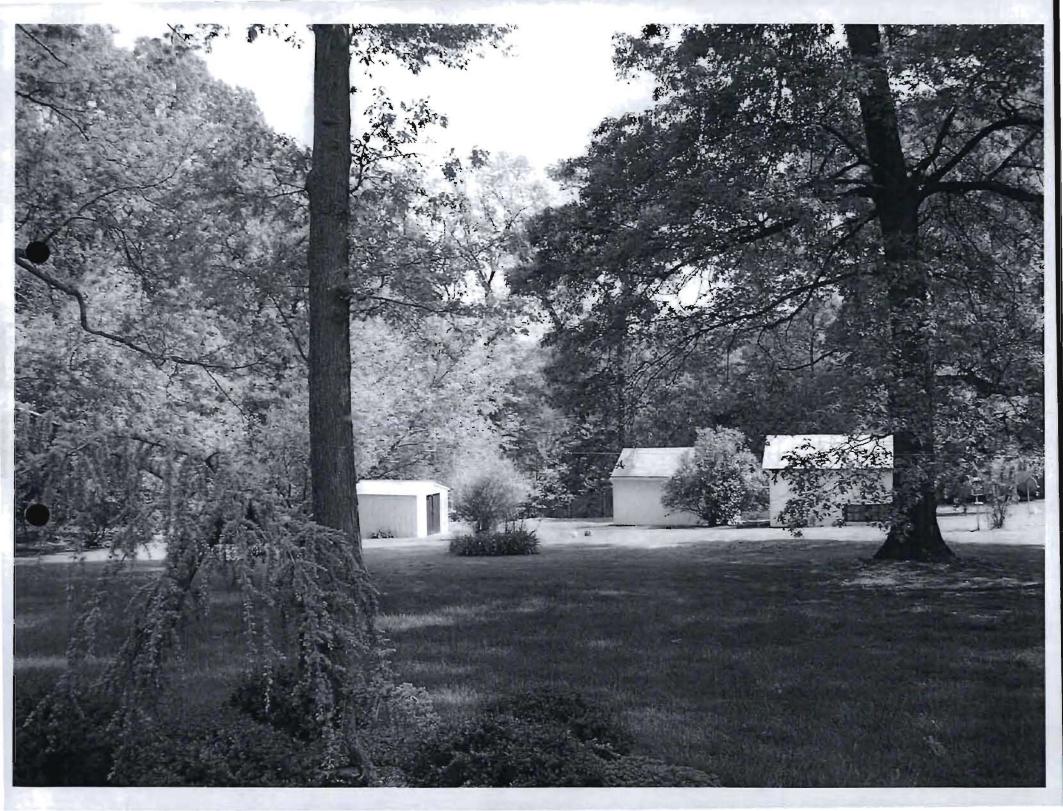


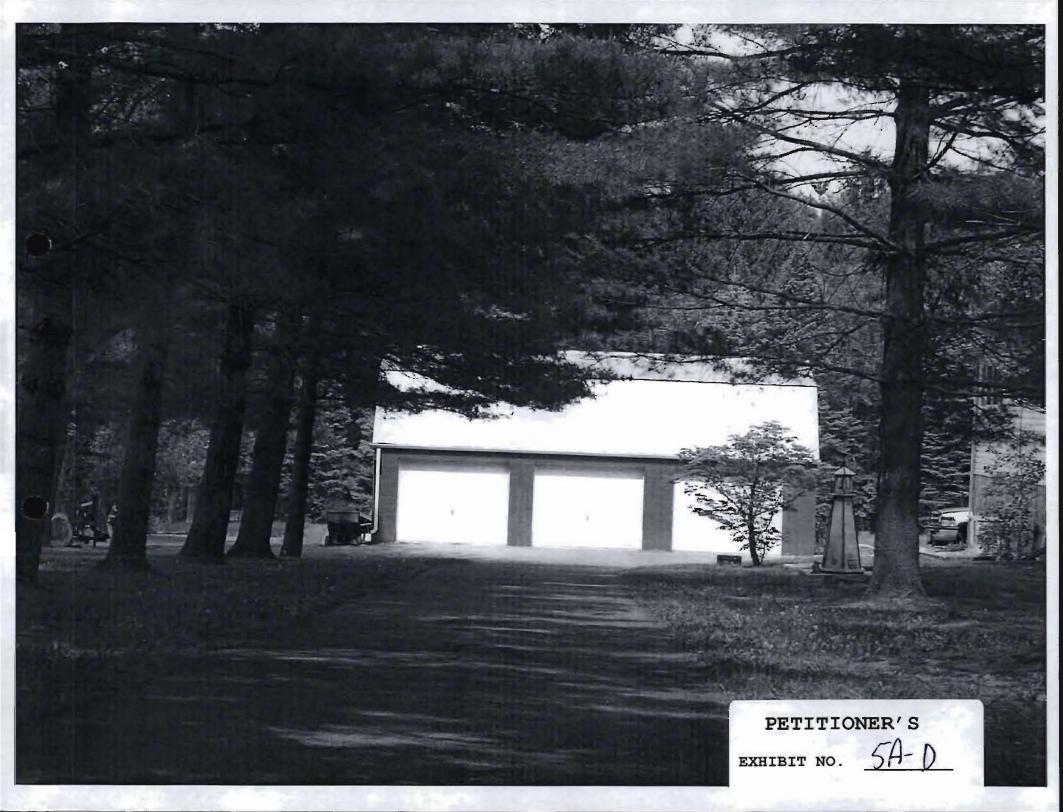


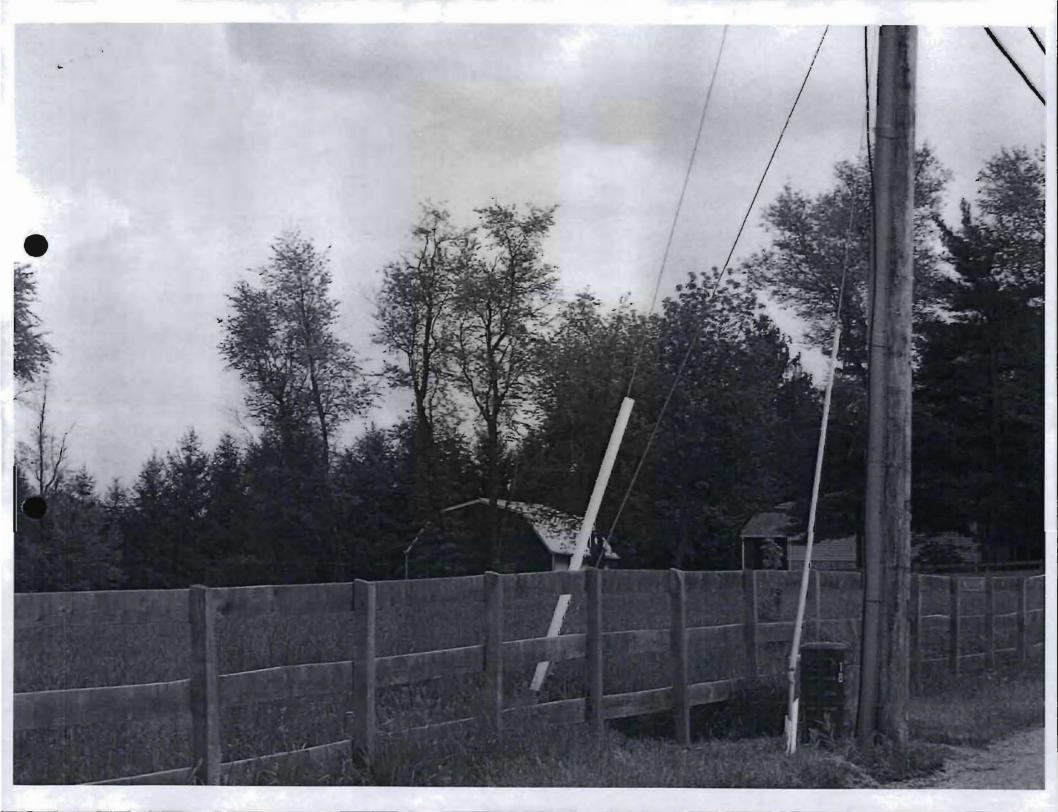


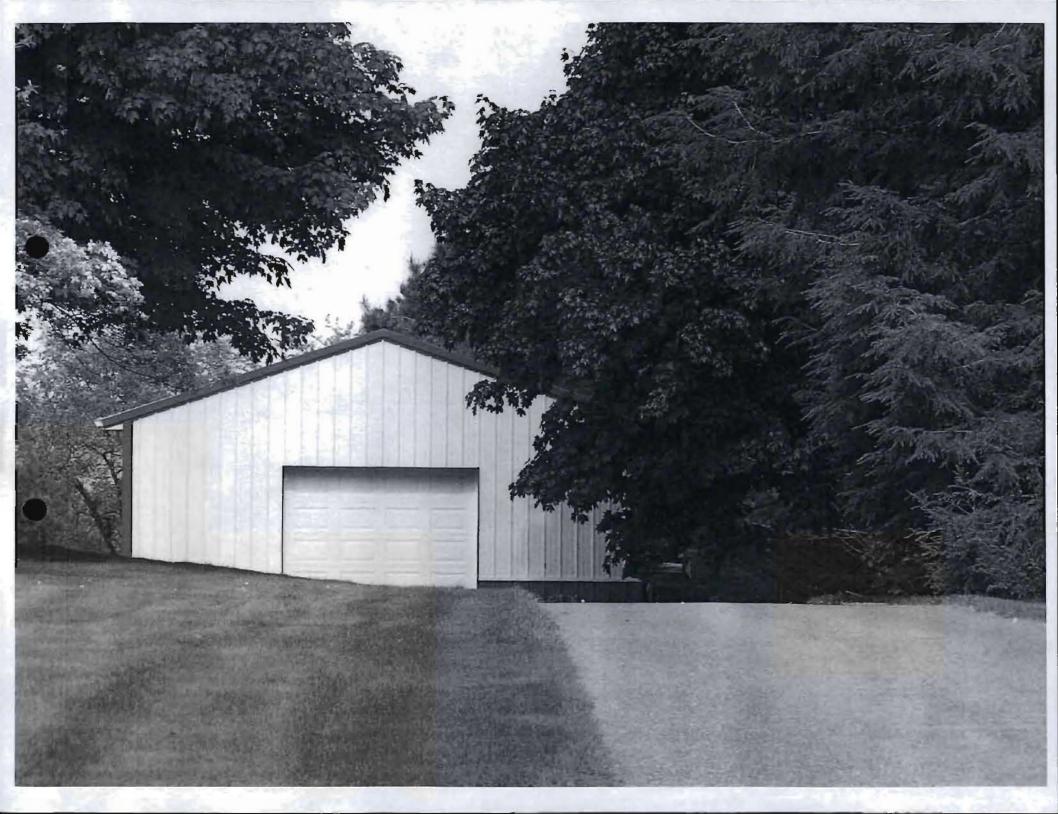
















Petition in Support of Special Exception and Variances Before the Baltimore County Zoning Commissioner Case No. 08-426-A/21109 Ridge Road

We, the undersigned, approve and support the Petition for Special Exception and Petition for Variances filed by Chad Neal at 21109 Ridge Road requesting approval to construct a new garage for his landscape service operation. Mr. Neal has shown us the plans for this garage and/or explained what he is proposing. We believe that Mr. Neal's proposal meets the standard in Section 502.1 of the County's Zoning Regulations, a copy of which is attached hereto.

<u>Name</u>	Address	<u>Date</u>
(PIO) Jean Simons	21105 Ridge Rd. Freeland Md. 21053	5/09
James Julyon	7 seelen md 21053	5-9.02
Shuly Wille	Freeland my 21053	5-9/5
(P8) James Minhal	Philand My	59.08
Rivert & yes	21016 Ridge Rd. 21010 Ridge Rd	5-14-08
Bedy Yeages	Juliana Tila 2000	3-14-08
(96+112) William Windler	ALLO KIGGE KD 21053	5-14-08
Hober & A. Moure	is Freeland Md. 2105	3 5/14/08
(1787) Sirhand Corma	21131 Ridge Rol	5/14/08
Som Marzello	21202 KIDGE KD	5/15/08

PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO.

502.1 Before any special exception may be granted, it must appear that the use for which the special exception is requested will not:		
A. Be detrimental to the health, safety or general welfare of the locality involved;		
B. Tend to create congestion in roads, streets or alleys therein;		
C. Create a potential hazard from fire, panic or other danger;		
D. Tend to overcrowd land and cause undue concentration of population;		
E. Interfere with adequate provisions for schools, parks, water, sewerage, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences or improvements;		
F. Interfere with adequate light and air; [Bill No. 45-1982]		
G. Be inconsistent with the purposes of the property's zoning classification nor in any other way inconsistent with the spirit and intent of these Zoning Regulations; [Bill No. 45-1982]		
H. Be inconsistent with the impermeable surface and vegetative retention provisions of these Zoning Regulations; nor [Bill No. 45-1982]		
I. Be detrimental to the environmental and natural resources of the site and vicinity including forests, streams, wetlands, aquifers and floodplains in an R.C.2, R.C.4, R.C.5 or R.C.7 Zone. [Bill No. 74-2000]		

reeland Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses c/o Scott Wagner, Secretary 355 N. Main St. Shrewsbury, PA 17361 717-235-8989

(Lot1)

Freeland Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

October 22, 2007

Whispering Meadows 21109 Ridge Road Freeland, Md 21053

Dear Chad,

We just to thank you again for all the hard work you and your crew have done for us over the years we've been neighbors.

We appreciate the help with the landscaping of our Kingdom this past September and donating the use of your equipment again. The leaves are dropping so we'd like to use the blowers later this month or next and hopefully you won't have to push snow anytime soon.

The use of your equipment and gas certainly saves us a considerable amount of money and the generosity of your time is also appreciated.

Sincerely,

hott Wagner

The Freeland Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Preach this good news of the Kingdom

PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO.



CASE NUMBER: 8-426-XA

21109 Ridge Road

Location: E side Ridge Road, 1100 feet N of Freeland and Ridge Roads.

6th Election District, 3rd Councilmanic District

Legal Owner: Chad Neal

SPECIAL EXCEPTION Landscape service operation.

VARIANCE To permit an accessory building (garage) of 21 feet in height in lieu of required 15 feet and to allow accessory building (garage) of 2520 square feet and to permit side yard setback from garage of 18 feet in lieu of required 35 feet and 50 feet, respectively.

Hearing: Monday, 5/19/2008 at 9:00:00 AM, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Room 407, Towson 21204

OPPOSE	FAVOR
Stuart and Elizabeth Leinwand	
21011 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9568	
Thomas and Bonnie Mason	
21025 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9568	
Christopher Marciniak	
21321 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9594	
Douglas Bellin	
21330 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9544	
Carolyn Anoff	
21217 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9572	
Tara and Martin Kuser	
21334 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9544	
Ray V. Beacham	
21301 Ridge Road	
Freeland, MD 21053-9594	

PROTESTANT'S

EXHIBIT NO.

1A-6

May 7, 2008

Re: Variance No.: 2008 – 426 - XA

HearingMonday, May 19, 2008

9:00 a.m.

Baltimore County Zoning OFC Room 407 – Towson, MD County Courts Building 21204

To: Hearing Officers/Members Variance Committee – Baltimore County

To: All neighbors on Ridge Rd – Freeland MD 21053

When you purchased or rented your home on Ridge Rd. Freeland, MD 21053 you, hopefully, correctly, assumed that you were purchasing/renting valuable property that was and would continue to be zoned residential and/or agricultural. Further, you assumed that Baltimore County, MD would protect your property rights – and NOT allow devaluing of your property.

Within their rights – our neighbors, the Neals – Whispering Meadows Landscaping –have requested that Baltimore County allow them a "Variance" to construct a large building – 21 FEET HIGH – and 2520 SQ FT to hold landscaping equipment. Further, their Variance Request asks that they the building be exempted from the set back rules that – all of our homes have had to comply with.

You have the right to KEEP the zoning and ask Baltimore County to NOT allow DEVALUING of your property by this COMMERCIAL USE structure being placed on Ridge Rd. If this VARIANCE is allowed, and this COMMERCIAL USE BUILDING goes in this allows other COMMERCIAL use "VARIANCE" APPLICANTS TO ARGUE THAT A PRECEDENT HAS BEEN ALLOWED IN THE PAST AND SHOULD BE ALLOWED **PRESENTLY AND IN THE FUTURE.** This means that an even LESS DESIRABLE commercial application may be granted in the future – thus DENIGRATING our property values further.

You have the right to state that the building they are proposing would INCREASE THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES PUTTING OUT EXHAUST FUMES AND GENERALLY CAUSING AN INCREASE IN TRAFFIC ON Ridge Rd. Please place your name on this line Tom + Bonnie Mason place your address on this line 21025Ridge Rd Free land MD sign your name on the following Warnestotten, place this letter in the mail with a 4 line cent stamp – the mailing address is pre-printed on the back -- simply tri-fold, scotch tape. and place in mailbox. Thanking you in advance for your effort to maintain property values and peacefulness.

41 4

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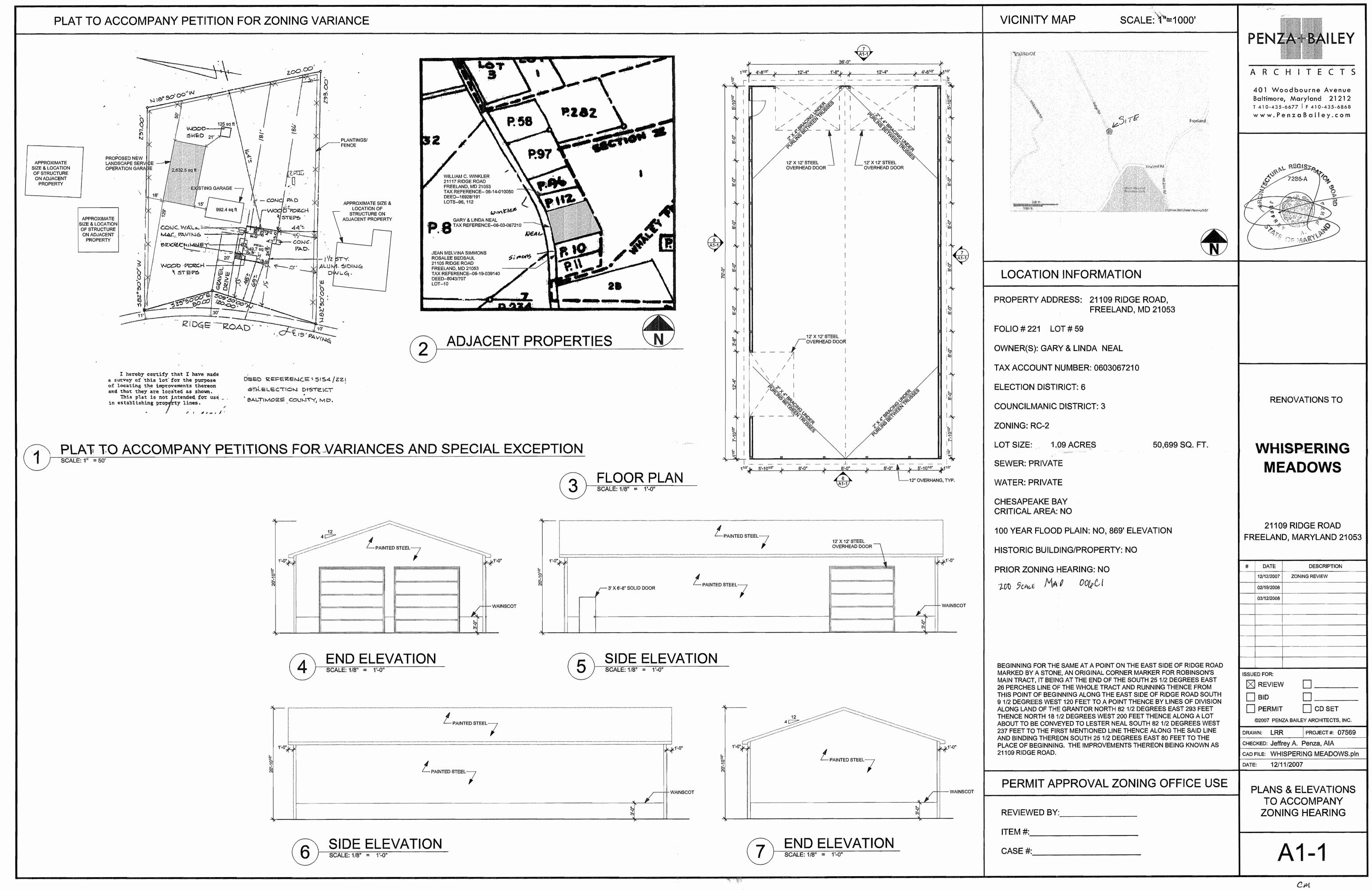
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PETITIONER'S

EXHIBIT NO.

CM 426 08-426-XA