

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MAUREEN E. MURPHY
Chief Administrative Law Judge
ANDREW M. BELT
Administrative Law Judge
DEREK J. BAUMGARDNER
Administrative Law Judge

May 14, 2024

Robert Henry, Jr. – <u>rdhenry@comcast.net</u> 3818 Chestnut Road Baltimore, MD 21220

RE: AMENDED MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Petition for Variance Case No. 2024-0040-A

Property: 3818 Chestnut Road

Dear Mr. Henry:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Baltimore County Code § 32-3-401(a), "a person aggrieved or feeling aggrieved" by this Decision and Order 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 Office of Administrative Hearings at 410-887-3868.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. BELT Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

AMB:dlm Enclosure

c: J. Scott Dallas- jsdinc@aol.com Observer - recedal@yahoo.com IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE
(3818 Chestnut Road)
15th Election District

5th Council District Robert Henry, Jr. Legal Owner

Petitioner

* BEFORE THE

* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

* HEARINGS OF

* BALTIMORE COUNTY

* CASE NO. 2024-0040-A

* * * * * * * *

AMENDED ORDER ON MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Now pending is a Motion for Reconsideration of the April 8, 2024 Opinion and Order issued in the above-captioned case filed by the Petitioner, *pro se*. (Petitioner was represented at the hearing before the ALJ by J.S. Dallas, Inc.) The Motion contends (1) the site plan (Pet. Ex 1) that was entered into evidence does not property reflect the proposed placement of the replacement dwelling (See revised site plan Pet. Ex. 1a);(2) that the proposed structure should be rebuilt 6 ft. further northwest toward the waterward property line; and; (3) the Modified Buffer Area ("MBA") required by DEPS should be reduced from 80 ft. to the existing 74 ft. now present from the existing structure. (This request was not part of the Zoning relief requested in the original hearing.)

The Petitioner's original request for zoning relief was granted conditioned upon conformance with DEPS comments. The evidentiary record will be modified to reflect the revised location of the proposed dwelling. Even with the revision of the placement of the proposed structure that is now incorporated into the evidentiary record for this matter, the Order is still contingent upon DEPS approval. Consequently, Petitioner may choose to seek such approval separate and apart from this Order.

For all these reasons, the Motion for Reconsideration will be denied.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED this <u>14th</u> day of **May**, 2024, by this Administrative Law Judge that the Motion for Reconsideration is hereby **DENIED**.

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

ANDREW M. BELT Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

AMB/dlw



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MAUREEN E. MURPHY
Chief Administrative Law Judge
ANDREW M. BELT
Administrative Law Judge
DEREK J. BAUMGARDNER
Administrative Law Judge

May 9, 2024

Robert Henry, Jr. – <u>rdhenry@comcast.net</u> 3818 Chestnut Road Baltimore, MD 21220

RE:

MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Petition for Variance Case No. 2024-0040-A

Property: 3818 Chestnut Road

Dear Mr. Henry:

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(3818 Chestnut Road)
15th Election District
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Robert Henry, Jr.

Legal Owner

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* BEFORE THE

* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

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The Petitioner's original request for zoning relief was granted conditioned upon conformance with DEPS comments. Without a revised site plan, the evidentiary record cannot be modified at this time. Even if such a revision of the placement of the proposed structure were to be incorporated in the Order for this matter, such an Order would still be contingent upon DEPS approval. Consequently, Petitioners may choose to seek such approval separate and apart from this Order.

For all these reasons, the Motion for Reconsideration will be denied.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED this <u>9th</u> day of May, 2024, by this Administrative Law Judge that the Motion for Reconsideration is hereby **DENIED**.

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

ANDREW M. BELT Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

AMB/dlw



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MAUREEN E. MURPHY
Chief Administrative Law Judge
ANDREW M. BELT
Administrative Law Judge
DEREK J. BAUMGARDNER
Administrative Law Judge

April 8, 2024

Robert Henry, Jr. – <u>rdhenry@comcast.net</u> 3818 Chestnut Road Baltimore, MD 21220

RE:

Petition for Variance

Case No. 2024-0040-A

Property: 3818 Chestnut Road

Dear Mr. Henry:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Baltimore County Code § 32-3-401(a), "a person aggrieved or feeling aggrieved" by this Decision and Order 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 Office of Administrative Hearings at 410-887-3868.

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ANDREW M. BELT Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

AMB:dlm Enclosure

c: J. Scott Dallas-<u>jsdinc@aol.com</u> Observer-<u>recedal@yahoo.com</u> IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE (3818 Chestnut Road)

15th Election District 5th Council District Robert Henry, Jr. *Legal Owner* * BEFORE THE

* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

* HEARINGS OF

* BALTIMORE COUNTY

Petitioner * CASE NO. 2024-0040-A

* * * * * * * *

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") as a Petition for Variance filed by Robert Henry, Jr. ("Petitioner") for property located at 3818 Chestnut Road, Middle River (the "Property"). Petitioner is requesting Variance relief from the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"), § 1A04.3.B.2.b to permit a replacement dwelling with side setbacks of 11 feet on each side in lieu of the required 50 feet on each side.

A public WebEx hearing was conducted virtually in lieu of an in-person hearing on April 3, 2024. The Petition was properly advertised and posted. The Petitioner, Robert Henry, Jr., appeared at the hearing along with J. Scott Dallas a surveyor who prepared the Site Plan and is marked as Exhibit 1. There were no protestants or interested citizens that attended the hearing.

Zoning Advisory Committee ("ZAC") comments were received from the Department of Planning ("DOP") and the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability ("DEPS") they did not oppose the requested relief with conditions.

The subject property is located along Chestnut Road at the intersection with Seneca Road in the Middle River area of Baltimore County. The property consists of an approximately 19,300 SF parcel zoned RC-5 with an existing detached dwelling which the applicant proposes to raze.

Similar style residential dwellings surround the property as well as forest conservation, farm land and Seneca Creek.

The R.C.5 zoning classification was established in response to concerns over wasteful and disorderly rural-residential development and inadequate lot sizes for on-lot sewer and water systems. These issues could result in undue financial hardships and negatively affect the safety and welfare of citizens. In identifying specific areas suitable for rural-residential development, the aim is to direct future growth towards these areas and prevent disorderly development patterns. The R.C.5 zoning classification serves to provide suitable areas for rural-residential development, minimize encroachments on natural resource areas, and provide a minimum lot size for proper onlot sewer and water system functioning.

Petitioner, Robert Henry ("Mr. Henry") testified that his family has owned the property for 73 years and the existing dwelling was occupied until it was recently vacated to prepare for demolition. He explained that he had shared drawings for the proposed structure with neighbors on both sides. Mr. Henry also noted that his one neighbor recently built a modern sized dwelling, while his other neighbor has a substantial remodeled original dwelling that had been added to.

Mr. Dallas testified that the proposed dwelling will be constructed over the existing dwelling's footprint, with the increase in footprint occurring towards the street side of the property. Mr. Dallas noted that the proposed structure will actually be located farther from the waterfront as well. The side setback on the eastern property line for the existing structure is 11 ft. which will remain the same. The side setback on the western property line for the existing structure is 14 ft., and is proposed to be reduces to 11ft. Mr. Dallas explained that the 50ft. narrow lots result from a 1921 subdivision and the current structure was built in 1941 and thus, is non-conforming with present RC5 regulations.

A variance request involves a two-step process, summarized as follows:

- (1) It must be shown the property is unique in a manner which makes it unlike surrounding properties, and that uniqueness or peculiarity must necessitate variance relief; and
- (2) If variance relief is denied, Petitioner will experience a practical difficulty or hardship.

Cromwell v. Ward, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995).

As previously noted, the subject property is unique due to its extremely narrow width resulting from the original 1921 subdivision. If relief were denied, the Petitioner will experience a practical difficulty in that it would prohibit the construction of a modern dwelling on the property. I find that the variance is within the spirit and intent of the BCZR and that it will not harm the public health, safety or welfare.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this <u>8th</u> day of **April**, **2024**, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance pursuant to BCZR, § 1A04.3.B.2.b to permit a replacement dwelling with side setbacks of 11 feet on each side in lieu of the required 50 feet on each side.be, and it is hereby, **GRANTED**.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

- 1. Petitioner may apply for necessary permits and/or licenses upon receipt of this Order. However, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until 30 days from the date hereof, during which time an appeal can be filed by any party. If for whatever reason this Order is reversed, Petitioner would be required to return the subject property to its original condition.
- 2. Petitioner must comply with the DEPS comment, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

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

ANDREW M. BELT Administrative Law Judge

AMB/dlm

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence



TO:

Hon. Maureen E. Murphy; Chief Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM:

Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE:

February 27, 2024

SUBJECT:

DEPS Comment for Zoning Item

2024-0040-A

Address:

3818 CHESTNUT RD

Legal Owner: Robert Henry, Jr.

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of February 23, 2024.

The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability has reviewed the subject zoning petition for compliance with the goals of the State-mandated Critical Area Law listed in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, Section 500.14. Based upon this review, we offer the following comments:

1. Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that result from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have run off from surrounding lands;

The subject property is located within a Limited Development Area (LDA) and is subject to Critical Area requirements. The applicant is proposing to permit a replacement dwelling with side-yard setbacks of 11 feet in lieu of the required 50 feet on each side. The lot is waterfront and is within a Modified Buffer Area (MBA). Any proposed development must meet all LDA and MBA requirements, including lot coverage limits, MBA mitigation, and afforestation requirements. Lot coverage is limited to a maximum of 31.25% (5,824 square feet), with mitigation required for any new lot coverage between 25% and 31.25%. Lot coverage information was not provided. 15% afforestation (6 trees) is required. Mitigation for any new impacts to the MBA will be required. The proposed dwelling is partially within the MBA, but the amount of proposed new impact has not been provided. Additionally, it appears that the new dwelling may need to be shifted landward, as a replacement dwelling in the MBA may be no closer to the water than the adjacent neighbor furthest from mean high water. If the lot

coverage, afforestation, and MBA mitigation requirements are met, then the relief requested by the applicant will result in minimal adverse impacts to water quality.

2. Conserve fish, plant, and wildlife habitat;

This property is waterfront and is within a Modified Buffer Area (MBA). The property must meet all lot coverage, afforestation requirements, and any MBA mitigation requirements. If lot coverage, afforestation, and MBA mitigation requirements are met, this request will help conserve fish, plant, and wildlife habitat in the Chesapeake Bay.

3. Be consistent with established land use policies for development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, which accommodate growth and also address the fact that, even if pollution is controlled, the number, movement and activities of persons in that area can create adverse environmental impacts;

This is a grandfathered lot. Provided that the applicants meet their lot coverage, afforestation, and MBA mitigation requirements, then the relief requested will be consistent with the established land-use policies.

Additional Comments:

Reviewer: Libby Errickson 2/27/24

PETITION FOR ZONING HEARING(S)

To be filed with the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

To the Office of Administrative Hearings for Baltimore County for the property located at:

#3818 CHESTNUT ROAD		Currently Zoned	RC 5
Address	10 Digit Tax Account #	1508302490	
DOSEDTO MENOV IO	To pigit Tax Account#		
DANIer (a) I Hitten Hame(a)			TITION DECUEST)
(SELECT THE HEARING(S) BY MARKING \underline{X} AT THE			
The undersigned, who own and occupy the property situate in Bal nereof, hereby petition for an:	timore County and which is des	cribed in the plan/plat atta	ched hereto and made a part
a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the	e Zoning Regulations of E	Baltimore County, to o	letermine whether
or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve			
2 a Special Exception under the Zoning Regu	lations of Baltimore Coun	ty to use the herein o	lescribed property for
3. X a Variance from Section(s)			
1A04.3.B.2.b. → To permit a replaceme	nt dwelling with side set	backs of 11 feet on	each side in lieu of
the required 50 feet on each side.			
of the zoning regulations of Baltimore County, to the	e zoning law of Baltimore	County, for the follow	wing reasons: (Indicate
below your hardship or practical difficulty <u>or</u> in		PRESENTED AT H	EARING". If you need
additional space, you may add an attachment to	this petition)		
TO BE PRESENTED	AT HEARING		
Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoni I/ we agree to pay expenses of above petition(s), advertising, pos Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimor Legal Owner(s) Affirmation: I / we do so solemnly declare and a which is the subject of this / these Petition(s). Contract Purchaser/Lessee:	iting, etc. and further agree to be re County.	rjury, that I / We are the le	
Name - Type or Print	Name #1 – Type or Print		ne #2 – Type or Print
Signature	Signature #1 3818 CHESTNUT RO	DAD BALTIN	Signature # 2 MORE MD
Mailing Address City State	Mailing Address 21220 / 443-	.571-9332 ,	City State rdhenry@comcast.ne
Zip Code Telephone # Email Address	Zip Code Telephone	#'s (Cell and Home)	Email Address
Attorney for Petitioner:	Representative to be J SCOTT DALLAS (J		
Name - Type or Print	Name Type or Print	10-	
Signature	Signature	DAI DIAMA	MD
01.	P O BOX 26	BALDWIN	MD City State
Mailing Address City State	Mailing Address 21013 , 410-8	17-4600	jšdinc@āol.com
Zip Code Telephone # Email Address		elephone# Em	ail Address
2000 / AU / A	2.0	•	Reviewer JS
Case Number 2034 - 0040 - A Filing Date 2	1 4 1 0 7 Do Not S	Schedule Dates	Reviewer

J.S. DALLAS, INC.

Surveying & Engineering P.O. Box 26 Baldwin, MD 21013 (410)817-4600 FAX (410)817-4602

ZONING DESCRIPTION OF #3818 CHESTNUT ROAD

BEGINNING for the same at the north side of Chestnut Road, 30 feet wide, distant 88 feet+southwesterly from the center of Seneca Road paving extended.

BEING lot number 115 as shown on the Plat of "Bowleys Quarter Plat No.2" as recorded in Baltimore County Plat Book Number 7 folio 13

CONTAINING 18,637 square feet or 0.428 acre of land, more or less (computed to bulkhead)

LOCATED in the 15th Election District, 5th Councilmanic District.



Note: Description above complied from deeds, plats, and plans by others And not the result of a Maryland Boundary Survey.

2024-0040-A

	OFFICI	E OF BU	DGET AN	MARYLAN D FINANC I RECEIPT Sub Unit	E Rev Source/			2294 2 6 BS Acct	124	Amount		
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P.O. BC BALDW	DALLA DX 26 IIN, MD 210	13-0026	PLEA	ASE PRES		- CUSTOME	:R	GOLD - AC	elline all	2-1-3	74	13047 60-1809/433 02791 6 CHECK ARMOR
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#*Ola047# #*O43318092# 5700001973#

First National Bank 3818

DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS ZONING REVIEW OFFICE

ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (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 legal owner/petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least twenty (20) days before the hearing.*

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the legal owner/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:
Case Number:
Property Address: 3818 Chestnut Rd.
Legal Owners (Petitioners): Robert D. Henry Jr.
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: Company/Firm (if applicable): J. Scott Dallas J. S. Dallas Inc.
Address:
Baldwin MD 21013
Telephone Number: 4108174600

^{*}Failure to advertise and/or post a sign on the property within the designated time will result in the Hearing request being delayed. The delayed Hearing Case will be cycled to the end of pending case files and rescheduled in the order that it is received. Also, a \$250.00 rescheduling fee may be required after two failed advertisings and/or postings.

Real Property Data Search () Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

View Map	View GroundRent Redemption	View GroundRent Registration				
and Tou Booking	a. None					

Special Tax Recapture: None

Account Identifier:

District - 15 Account Number - 1508302490

Owner Information

Owner Name:

HENRY ROBERT D JR

RESIDENTIAL

Principal Residence: YES

Mailing Address:

3818 CHESTNUT ROAD BALTIMORE MD 21220Deed Reference: /47121/ 00153

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address:

3818 CHESTNUT RD BALTIMORE 21220Legal Description:

3818 CHESTNUT RD

Waterfront

BOWLEYS QUARTERS

Map: Grid: Parcel: Neighborhood: Subdivision: Section: Block: Lot: Assessment Year: Plat No: 2

115 2024

Plat Ref: 0007/ 0013

0091 0022 0150 15030020.04 0000

Town: None

Primary Structure Built Above Grade Living Area Finished Basement Area Property Land Area County Use

19,300 SF

StoriesBasementType

ExteriorQualityFull/Half BathGarageLast Notice of Major Improvements

NO STANDARD UNITFRAME/3 0 full

Value Information

	Base Value	Value	Phase-in Assessments		
		As of 01/01/2024	As of 07/01/2023	As of 07/01/2024	
Land:	185,800	342,300			
Improvements	41,800	63,600			
Total:	227,600	405,900	227,600	287,033	
Preferential Land:	0	0			

Transfer Information

Seller: HENRY ROBERT D JR	Date: 06/30/2022	Price: \$0
Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER	Deed1: /47121/ 00153	Deed2:
Seller: HENRY ROBERT D,SR	Date: 04/19/2004	Price: \$0
Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER	Deed1: /19912/ 00159	Deed2:
Seller: HENRY ROBERT D,SR	Date: 12/11/1978	Price: \$0
Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER	Deed1: /05968/ 00460	Deed2:

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments:	Class	07/01/2023	07/01/2024	
County:	000	0.00		
State:	000	0.00		
Municipal:	000	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	

Special Tax Recapture: None

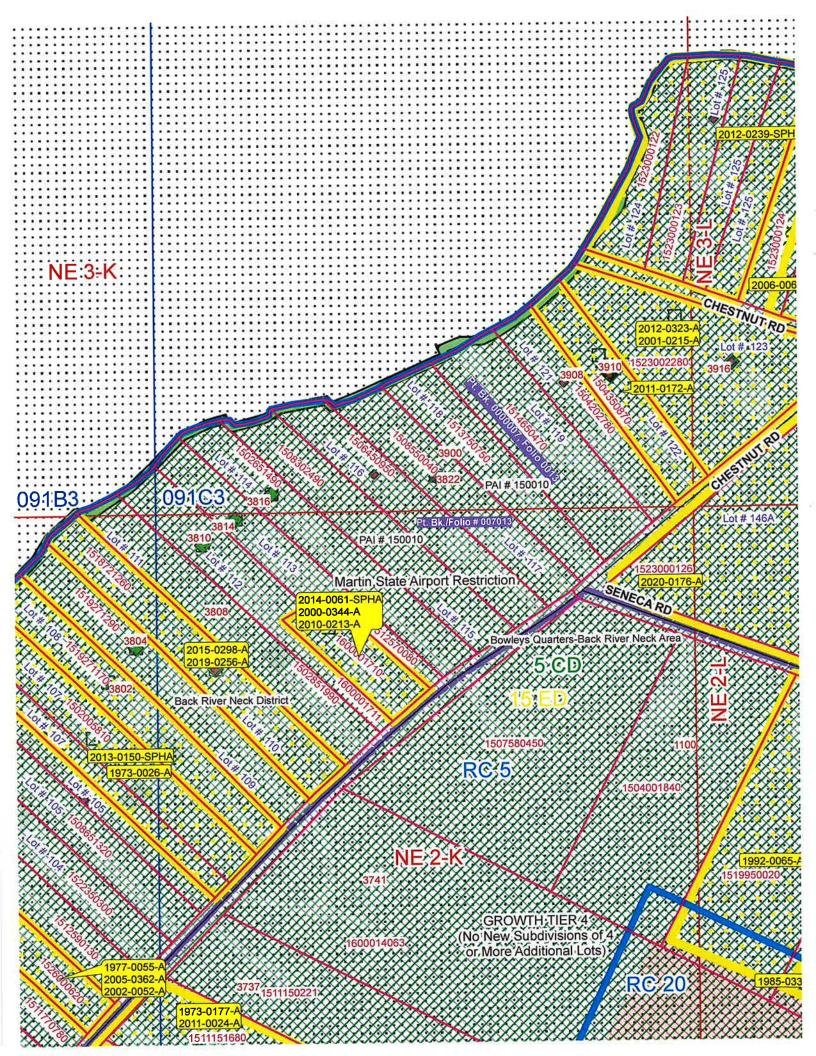
Homestead Application Information

Homestead Application Status: Application received 03/21/2023

Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Information

Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Status: No Application Date:





PETITION FOR ZONING HEARING(S)

To be filed with the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

To the Office of Administrative Hearings for Baltimore County for the property located at:

#3818 CHESTN	NUT ROAD		Commonths 7	RC 5	
Address		40 D1 11 T A	Currently Z		
Deed Reference 47121	/ 153 ROBERT D. HENRY, JR.	10 Digit Tax Accour			
Owner(s) Printed Name(s)					
(SELECT THE HEA	RING(S) BY MARKING \underline{X} AT THE A	APPROPRIATE SELEC	CTION(S) AND ADDING	THE PETITION REQU	JEST)
The undersigned, who own and nereof, hereby petition for an:	d occupy the property situate in Balti	imore County and whic	h is described in the pla	n/plat attached hereto a	and made a part
ı. a Special Hearir	ng under Section 500.7 of the	Zoning Regulation	ns of Baltimore Cou	unty, to determine v	whether
	missioner should approve				
2. a Special Excep	tion under the Zoning Regula	ations of Baltimore	County to use the	herein described p	ropertyfor
3. X a Variance from	Section(s)				
1A04.3.B.2.b	. → To permit a replacemen	nt dwelling with si	de setbacks of 11	feet on each side	in lieu of
	50 feet on each side.	J			
of the zoning regulations	s of Baltimore County, to the	zoning law of Bal	timore County, for	the following reasc	ns: (Indicate
below your hardship	or practical difficulty <u>or</u> in	dicate below "To	BE PRESENTE	AT HEARING".	If you need
additional space, you r	may add an attachment to t	his petition)			
	TO BE PRESENTED	AT HEARING			
I/ we agree to pay expenses o		ing, etc. and further ago a County.	es of perjury, that I / We		
		ROBERT D. H			
Name - Type or Print		Name #1 – Type or F	D Henry Dr	Name #2 – Type	or Print
Signature		Signature #1 3818 CHESTN	UT ROAD	Signature # BALTIMORE	
Mailing Address	City State	Mailing Address 21220	443-571-9332	City rdhenry(State @comcast.net
Zip Code Telephone	# Email Address	Zip Code Te	lephone #'s (Cell and Ho	ome) Email	Address
Attorney for Petitioner	:	•	to be contacted: AS (J S DALLAS, I	NC)	
Name - Type or Print		Name Type or Pri			
Signature		Signature P O BOX 26	DAL DV	\/INI	MD
Mailing Address	City State	Mailing Address	BALDV	City	State
Waling Address	Jily Oldio	21013 ,	410-817-4600	•	jāol.com
Zip Code Telephone	# Email Address	Zip Code	Telephone #	Email Address	
Case Number 2034 -00	40-4 Filing Date 2	16 124 0	o Not Schedule Dates		Reviewer
2420 Hallinoi					

J.S. DALLAS, INC.

Surveying & Engineering P.O. Box 26 Baldwin, MD 21013 (410)817-4600 FAX (410)817-4602

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2024-0040-A

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

ATTENTION: KRISTEN LEWIS

DATE: 3/14/2024

Case Number: 2024-0040-A

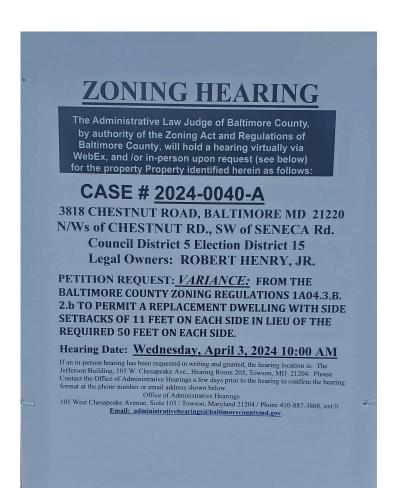
Petitioner / Developer: J. SCOTT DALLAS ~ ROBERT, HENRY, JR.

Date of Hearing: APRIL 3, 2024

This is to certify under the penalties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were posted conspicuously on the property located at:

3818 CHESTNUT ROAD

The sign(s) were posted on: MARCH 14, 2024



(Signature of Sign Poster)

Linda O'Keefe

(Printed Name of Sign Poster)

523 Penny Lane

(Street Address of Sign Poster)

Hunt Valley, MD 21030

(City, State, Zip of Sign Poster)

410-666-5366

(Telephone Number of Sign Poster)



Photo Front Side of 1st Sign $\sim 3/14/2024$



Photo Back Side of 1st Sign ~ 3/14/202 Posted @ 3818 Chestnut Road CASE # 2024-0040-A

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence



TO: Hon. Maureen E. Murphy; Chief Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM: Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE: February 27, 2024

SUBJECT: DEPS Comment for Zoning Item # 2024-0040-A

Address: 3818 CHESTNUT RD Legal Owner: Robert Henry, Jr.

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of February 23, 2024.

The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability has reviewed the subject zoning petition for compliance with the goals of the State-mandated Critical Area Law listed in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, Section 500.14. Based upon this review, we offer the following comments:

1. Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that result from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have run off from surrounding lands;

The subject property is located within a Limited Development Area (LDA) and is subject to Critical Area requirements. The applicant is proposing to permit a replacement dwelling with side-yard setbacks of 11 feet in lieu of the required 50 feet on each side. The lot is waterfront and is within a Modified Buffer Area (MBA). Any proposed development must meet all LDA and MBA requirements, including lot coverage limits, MBA mitigation, and afforestation requirements. Lot coverage is limited to a maximum of 31.25% (5,824 square feet), with mitigation required for any new lot coverage between 25% and 31.25%. Lot coverage information was not provided. 15% afforestation (6 trees) is required. Mitigation for any new impacts to the MBA will be required. The proposed dwelling is partially within the MBA, but the amount of proposed new impact has not been provided. Additionally, it appears that the new dwelling may need to be shifted landward, as a replacement dwelling in the MBA may be no closer to the water than the adjacent neighbor furthest from mean high water. If the lot

coverage, afforestation, and MBA mitigation requirements are met, then the relief requested by the applicant will result in minimal adverse impacts to water quality.

2. Conserve fish, plant, and wildlife habitat;

This property is waterfront and is within a Modified Buffer Area (MBA). The property must meet all lot coverage, afforestation requirements, and any MBA mitigation requirements. If lot coverage, afforestation, and MBA mitigation requirements are met, this request will help conserve fish, plant, and wildlife habitat in the Chesapeake Bay.

3. Be consistent with established land use policies for development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, which accommodate growth and also address the fact that, even if pollution is controlled, the number, movement and activities of persons in that area can create adverse environmental impacts;

This is a grandfathered lot. Provided that the applicants meet their lot coverage, afforestation, and MBA mitigation requirements, then the relief requested will be consistent with the established land-use policies.

Additional Comments:

Reviewer: Libby Errickson 2/27/24

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Peter Gutwald, Director DATE: February 21, 2024

Department of Permits, Approvals

FROM: Vishnu Desai, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

Case 2024-0040-A

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items and we have the following comments.

DPR: In a 100-year FEMA floodplain AE Zone BFE 7 NAVD88, BC AE Zone BF 7 NAVD88

DPW-T: The property is within the Tidal Special Flood Hazard Area Zone AE (BFE=8.5) per panel FIRM 2400100435F dated 9/26/08. Must comply with Flood Plain Ordinance, See County Bill 40-15 (the latest edition of the Baltimore County Code) and Bill 42-15, and Section 32-4-414 of Article 32, Title 4 of the Baltimore County Code, 2003, as amended. The LiMWA is not on the property.

Landscaping: No comment.

Recreations & Parks: No Greenways affected.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: C. Pete Gutwald DATE: 2/27/2024

Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

FROM: Steve Lafferty

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 2024-0040-A

INFORMATION:

Property Address: 3818 Chestnut Road **Petitioner:** Robert D. Henry, Jr.

Zoning: RC 5 **Requested Action:** Variance

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for the following:

Variance -

1. To permit a replacement dwelling with side setback of 11 feet on each side in lieu of the required 50 feet on each side.

The subject property is located along Chestnut Road at the intersection with Seneca Road in the Middle River area of Baltimore County. The property consists of an approximately 19,300 SF parcel zoned RC-5 with an existing detached dwelling which the applicant proposes to raze. Similar style residential dwellings surround the property as well as forest conservation, farm land and Seneca Creek.

The R.C.5 zoning classification was established in response to concerns over wasteful and disorderly rural-residential development and inadequate lot sizes for on-lot sewer and water systems. These issues could result in undue financial hardships and negatively affect the safety and welfare of citizens. In identifying specific areas suitable for rural-residential development, the aim is to direct future growth towards these areas and prevent disorderly development patterns. The R.C.5 zoning classification serves to provide suitable areas for rural-residential development, minimize encroachments on natural resource areas, and provide a minimum lot size for proper on-lot sewer and water system functioning.

Observing from the submitted plan, the narrow nature of the parcel does not leave much room to attain the required side yard setback. Also, many other properties have similar designs making the proposed consistent with the character of the area. Therefore, the proposed development does not alter the character of the RC5 zone.

The Department of planning does not object to the proposed development however, advises that the RC 5 performance standards as listed in Section 1A04.4 BCZR are taken into consideration.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Henry Ayakwah at 410-887-3482.

Prepared by:

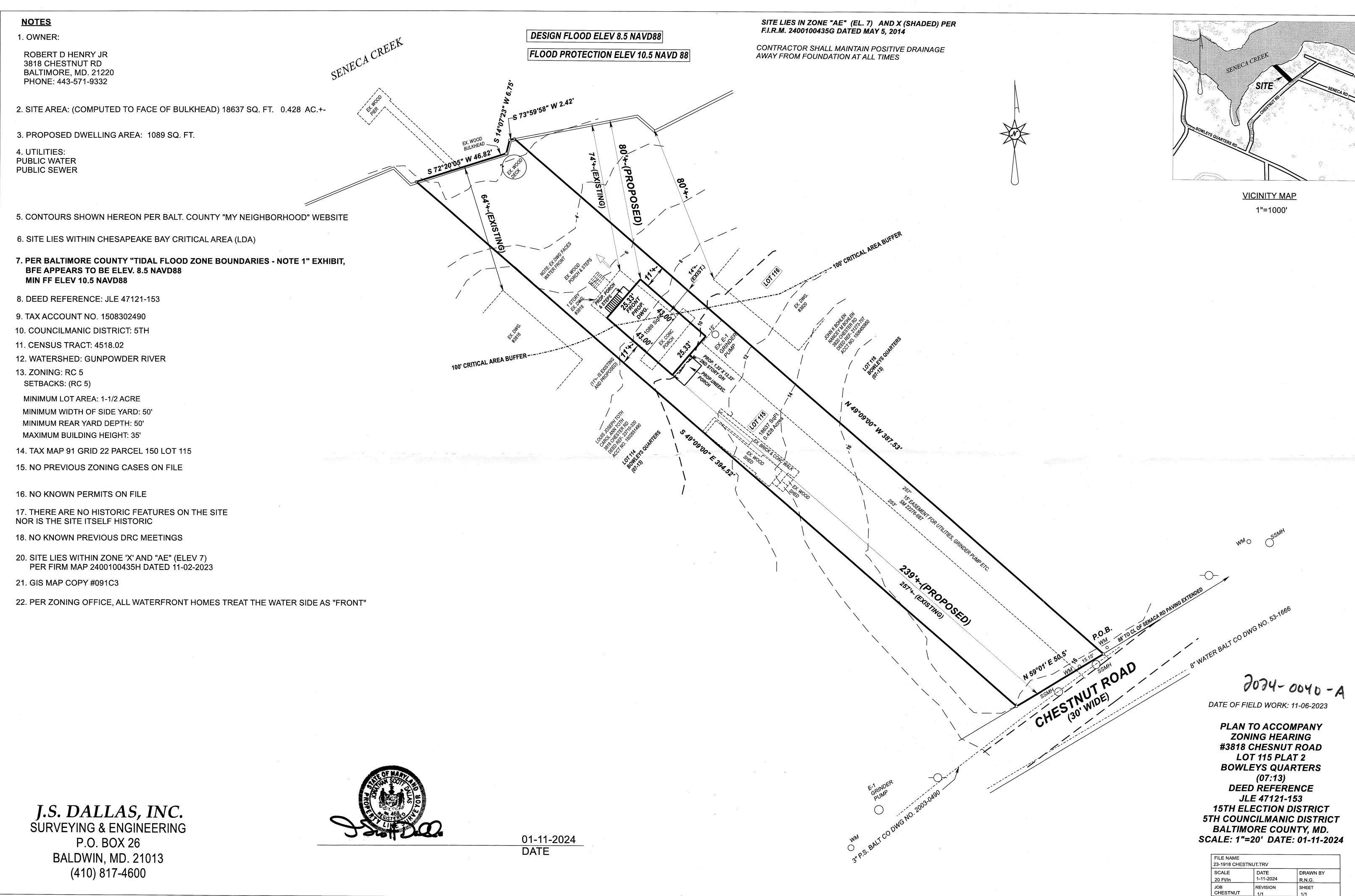
Krystle Patchak

SL/JGN/KP

c: J. Scott Dallas (JS Dallas, Inc)
Ainsley Pressl, Community Planner
Jeff Perlow, Zoning Review
Kristen Lewis, Zoning Review
Office of Administrative Hearings
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Division Chief:

enifer G. Nugent



Traverse PO