

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 16, 2024

Arturo Alfaro – <u>geparamountcorp@yahoo.com</u> 15910 Emory Lane Rockville, MD 20853

RE:

Petition for Variance

Case No. 2024-0044-A

Property: 1911 Synder Avenue

Dear Petitioner:

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,

MAUREEN E. MURPHY
Chief Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

MEM:dlm Enclosure

c: Gina Campbell – gina@nw2engine.com

Tierney Andrew - tierney@nw2engineers.com

IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE
(1911 Snyder Avenue)
12th Election District

7<sup>th</sup> Council District Arturo Alfaro *Legal Owner*  \* BEFORE THE

\* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

\* HEARINGS OF

\* BALTIMORE COUNTY

Petitioner \* CASE NO. 2024-0044-A

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### **OPINION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") as a Petition for Variance filed by the legal owners, Arturo Alfaro, ("Petitioner") for property located at 1911 Snyder Avenue, Dundalk (the "Property"). The Petitioner is requesting Variance relief from the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"), §1B02.3.B to approve an existing dwelling with a 5 ft. setback in side (*sic* rear) yard in lieu of the required 10 ft side setback and to approve a 7 ft. setback in the rear yard in lieu of the 30 ft required.

A public WebEx hearing was conducted virtually in lieu of an in-person hearing. The Petition was properly advertised and posted. The Petitioner appeared *pro se* along with Tierney Andrew, architectural designer with NW2 Engineers, the civil engineering firm who prepared and sealed a site plan (the 'Site Plan"). (Pet. Ex. 1). There were no interested parties or Protestants at the hearing.

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

The Property was created as Lots 27, 28 and 29 on the Plat of Fairlawn as recorded in the Land Records of Baltimore County (Plat Book 00006, 0100). The Property measures 0.215 acres

(9,375 sf) and is rectangularly shaped. It was previously improved with a single-family dwelling constructed in 1921. The dwelling had been vacant for some time and was recently removed by the Petitioner, with the original foundation including the basement remaining. Street view photographs of the home and Property were provided. (Pet. Ex. 2). Unlike adjoining homes along Snyder Ave, this home was constructed toward the rear of the Property. The Property is zoned Density Residential (DR 5.5). A detached garage, which sits 2-3 ft., off the side Property line and is less than 15 ft. in height, will remain.

Petitioner proposes to use the existing foundation and basement and construct a 2-story replacement dwelling. Because the foundation was constructed prior to the enactment of the BCZR, it does not meet the side or rear yard setbacks. In order to meet the bulk regulations for DR zoned Property, a new basement/foundation would need to be dug out and the replacement home moved toward the front yard. The Site Plan shows an alley adjoining the rear yard. However, it is a paper alley which is not paved or drivable, and used as a utility easement. Proposed architectural elevations were provided. (Pet. Ex. 4).

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).

The Property is unique in that, unlike the other homes in the neighborhood, the 1921 home was placed off-center and to the rear of the Property, as there were no bulk regulations in effect at the time of construction. Due to the unique positioning of the original home and Petitioner's request to use the original foundation, if the side and rear yard setbacks were not granted, Petitioner

would suffer practical difficulty and hardship because a new foundation/basement would have to

be dug out when the original one is still usable. I further find that the Variance relief here is within

the spirit and intent of the zoning regulations and that they will not harm the public health, safety

or welfare, particularly in light of the lack of opposition.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this 16th day of April, 2024, by the Administrative Law

Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance from BCZR, §1B02.3.B to approve an

existing dwelling with a 5 ft. setback in side (sic rear) yard in lieu of the required 10 ft. side setback,

and to approve a 7 ft. setback in the rear yard in lieu of the 30 ft. required, be, they are each 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

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. The Site Plan, (Pet. Ex. 1) a copy of which is attached hereto, is incorporated

herein.

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

Order.

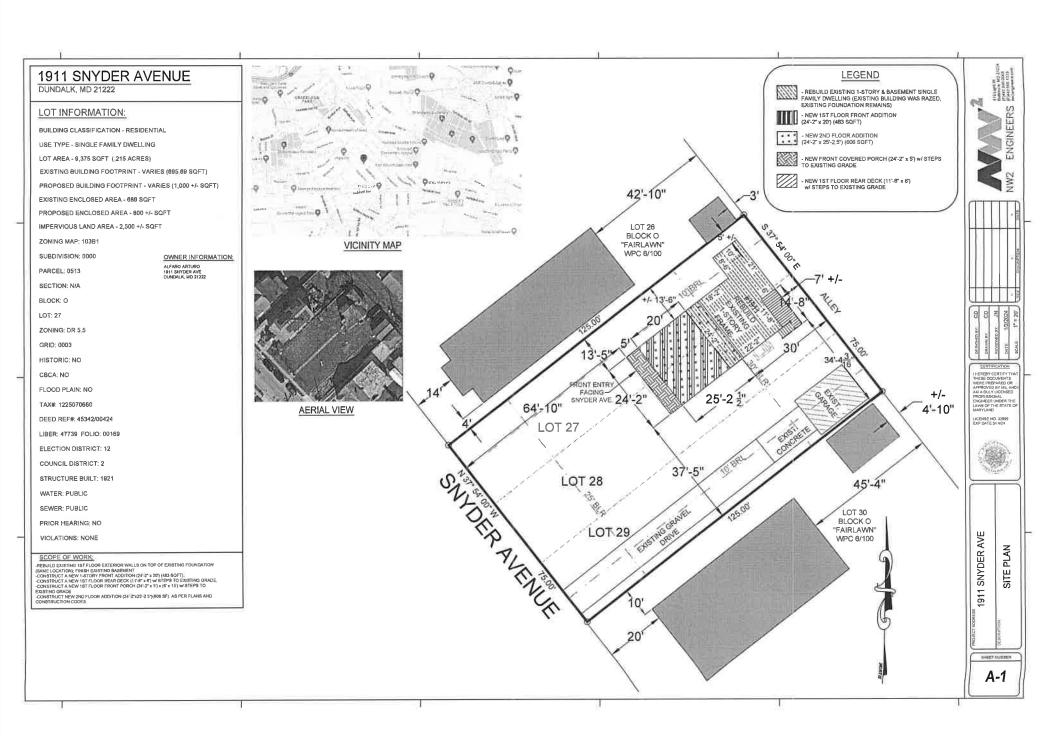
MAUREEN E. MURPHY

Chief Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

MEM/dlm

3



## 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: Currently Zoned 10 Digit Tax Account # Owner(s) Printed Name(s) (SELECT THE HEARING(S) BY MARKING  $\underline{\mathrm{X}}$  AT THE APPROPRIATE SELECTION(S) AND ADDING THE PETITION REQUEST) The undersigned, who own and occupy the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the plan/plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for an: a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve a Special Exception under the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County to use the herein described property for a Variance from Section(s) 1A02.3.B to approve an existing dwelling with a 5' setback in the rear yard in lieu of the required 10.0' side setback. 1A02.3.B to approve an existing dwelling with a 7' setback in the rear yard in lieu of the required 30' ns: (Indicate additional space, you may add an attachment to this petition) If you need Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations. I/ we agree to pay expenses of above petition(s), advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County. Legal Owner(s) Affirmation: I / we do so solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I / We are the legal owner(s) of the property Contract Purchaser/Lessee: Legal Owners (Petitioners): Name - Type or Print Type or Prin Name #2 - Type or Print Signature Signature #1 Signature # 2 Mailing Address City State Mailing Address Zip Code Telephone # Daramountcorp Email Address Zip Code Telephone #'s (Cell and Home) Email Address VAh Attorney for Petitioner: Representative to be contacted: Name - Type or Print Signature ignature Mailing Address City State Mailing Address Zip Code Telephone # Email Address Zip Code Telephone # Case Number Do Not Schedule Dates

Revised 8/2022

## **Property Descriptions**

#### Part A

Beginning on the Northeast side of Snyder Ave which is 28 feet wide at a distance of 225 feet Southeast of the centerline of the nearest improved intersecting street Brentwood Ave which is 28 feet wide.

#### Part B

Being lots # 27, 28, 29, and block 0 in the subdivision of Fairlawn as recorded in Baltimore County plat book #6, Folio# 100, containing 9,375 square feet. Located in the 12<sup>th</sup> election district, and the 7<sup>th</sup> council district.

# 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.\*

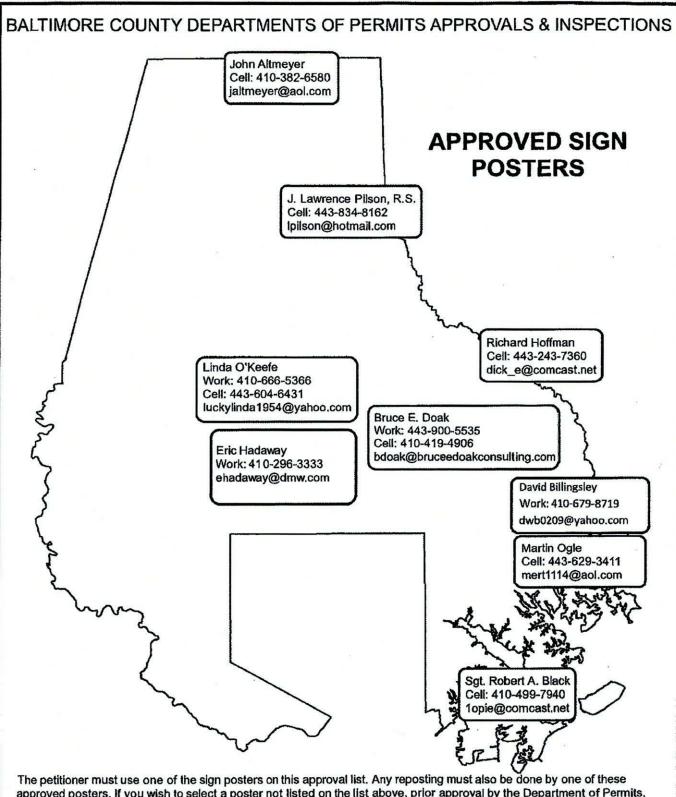
Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the legal owner/petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should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

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

For Newspaper Advertising:	
Case Number: 2024-0044-A	
Property Address: 90 Snyter AVE	
Legal Owners (Petitioners): A FTOTO /+ 1 Fgro	*
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:	
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:	
Name: Company/Firm (if applicable):	
Address:	
Telephone Number:	77 - 37

\*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.

2024-0044A



approved posters. If you wish to select a poster not listed on the list above, prior approval by the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections/Zoning is required.

This department is not associated with any of the above posters, nor do we recommend any specific one. We do suggest that you contact a number of them to compare prices, since their charges may vary.

Rev 9/22/2022

# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS ZONING REVIEW OFFICE

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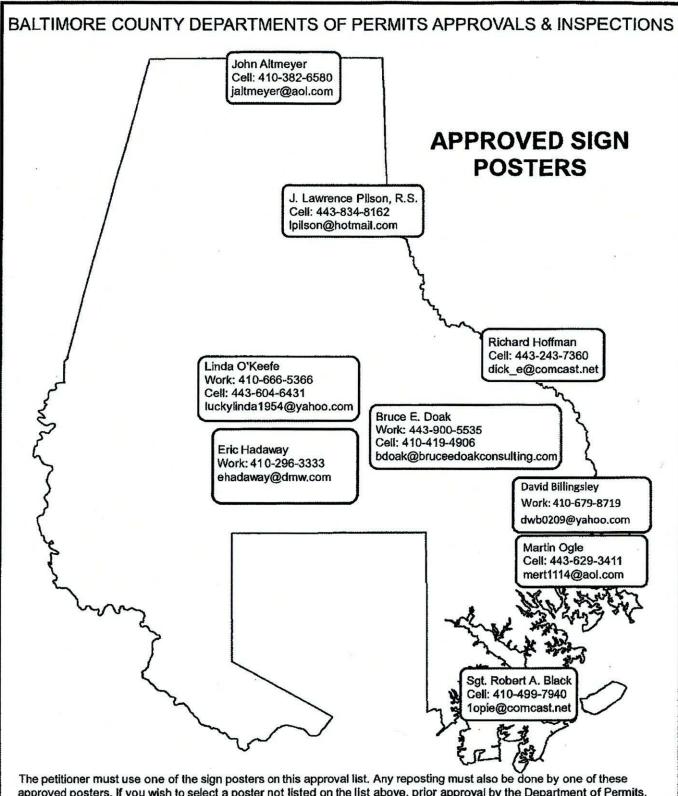
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#### OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID

For Newspaper Advertising:
Case Number: 2024-0044-A
Property Address: 1911 Soyfer AVE
Legal Owners (Petitioners): A C+CO /+ 1 Fgro
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: Company/Firm (if applicable):
Address:
Telephone Number:

\*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.

2024-0044A



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This department is not associated with any of the above posters, nor do we recommend any specific one. We do suggest that you contact a number of them to compare prices, since their charges may vary.

Rev 9/22/2022

## **Certification of Posting**

Case Number: <u>2024-0044-A</u>

Sign Posting Date: 3/26/24



1911 Snyder Avenue-NWS of property looking SE (1 of 4)

Richard E. Hoffman (signed) 3/26/24

Richard E. Hoffman

904 Dellwood Drive

Fallston, Md. 21047

443-243-7360

# Real Property Data Search () Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

٧	View Map View GroundRent Reden			mption		View GroundRent Registration			tion			
Speci	al Tax	Recap	ture: N	one								
Acco	unt Id	entifier:			District - 12	Account N	Number	122	5070660			
					Ow	ner Info	rmatio	on				
Owner Name:			ALFARO ARTURO		Use: Principal Residence:		RESIDENTIAL NO					
Mailin	g Add	dress:	s: 15910 EMORY LN Deed Reference: ROCKVILLE MD 20853-			ence:	/47739/ 00169					
					Location 8	Struct	ure Inf	orm	ation			
Premises Address:		1911 SNYDER AVE DUNDALK 21222-1713			Legal Description:		LT 27,28,	29				
											FAIRLAW	/N
		Parcel: 0513		hborhood: 0013.04	Subdivision: 0000	Section:	Block:	Lot: 27	Assess 2024	ment Year:	Plat No: Plat Ref:	0006/ 0100
Town:	: None	Э										
Prima 1921	ry Str	ucture l	Built	Above Gra	ade Living Area	Finish	ed Base	ment	Area	Property La 9,375 SF	and Area	County Use 04
Storie	sBas	ementT	уре	Ex	terior	Quality	Full/Halt	Bath	Garage	Last Notic	e of Major	Improvemen
1	NO	S	TANDA	RD UNITAS	BESTOS SHING	LE/3	1 full		1 Detacl	ned		

#### Value Information

	Base Value	Value	Phase-in Assessments		
		As of 01/01/2024	As of 07/01/2023	As of 07/01/2024	
Land:	54,800	74,600			
Improvements	6,300	8,500			
Total:	61,100	83,100	107,900	68,433	
Preferential Land:	0	0			

#### **Transfer Information**

Seller: GONZALEZ CASIMIRO PEREZ	Date: 01/27/2023	Price: \$90,000
Type: ARMS LENGTH IMPROVED	Deed1: /47739/ 00169	Deed2:
Seller: MSM INVESTMENTS LLC	Date: 08/17/2021	Price: \$90,000
Type: ARMS LENGTH IMPROVED	Deed1: /45342/ 00424	Deed2:
Seller: HILL SHARON KAY	Date: 06/27/2019	Price: \$41,000
Type: NON-ARMS LENGTH OTHER	Deed1: /41603/ 00328	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: No Application

#### Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Information

Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Status: No Application Date:

2024-0044-1

### **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 23, 2024

SUBJECT: DEPS Comment for Zoning Item # 2024-0044-A

Address: 1911 SNYDER AVE

Legal Owner: Arturo Alfaro

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of February 23, 2024.

X The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability has no comment on the above-referenced zoning item.

#### **Additional Comments:**

Reviewer: Earl D Wrenn

#### **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 2024-0044-A

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

**DPR:** No comment.

**DPW-T:** A non-tidal flood plain may be on the property flowing overland and through a storm drain system. An ultimate land use conditions riverine flood study meeting the Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPWT) Design Manual and the Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections (PAI) Bureau of Development Plans Review Policy Manual is required and must be submitted to PAI to be "Accepted for Filing". The flood study must include the analysis of the existing storm drain system and what happens if the storm drain system surcharges because the storm drain system is designed for less than a 1% annual chance storm event (100-year). The applicant may be required to apply for a Zoning Hearing with the Administrative Law Judge to obtain a waiver to Baltimore County Code 32-4-414 and 32-8. The proposed structure must also meet DPWT Design Manual Plate DF-1.

Landscaping: No comment.

Recreations & Parks: No Greenways affected.

# **CERTIFICATION OF POSTING**

	RE: Case No.	2024-0044-A
	Petitioner <u>:</u>	Arturo Alfaro
	Hearing Date: _	4/16/24
Baltimore County Department of		
Permits, Approvals and Inspection	ıs	
Room 111, County Office Building		
111 W. Chesapeake Ave.		
Towson, Md. 21204		
This letter is to confirm, under per	nalties of perjury, t	hat the necessary sign(s)
were posted conspicuously on the	property located a	nt
1911 Snyder AveNWS of prop	erty-looking NW (1	. of 4)
1911 Snyder AveNWS of prop	erty-looking SE (2	of 4)
1911 Snyder AveSES of prope	rty-looking NW (3 o	of 5)
1911 Snyder Ave,-SES of prope	rty-looking SE (4 o	f 5)
on <u>3/26/24</u>		
Sin	cerely,	
Ric	hard E. Hoffman (s	signed) 3/26/24
	904 Dellwood D	rive
	Fallston, Md. 21	L047
	(443) 243-736	60

# BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: C. Pete Gutwald DATE: 2/23/2024

Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

**FROM:** Steve Lafferty

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 2024-0044-A

**INFORMATION:** 

**Property Address:** 1911 Snyder Avenue

**Petitioner:** Arturo Alfaro

**Zoning:** DR 5.5 **Requested Action:** Variance

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

Variance(s) -

- 1. From Section 1B02.3.B of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) to approve an existing dwelling with a 5' setback in the side yard in lieu of the required 10';
- 2. From Section 1B02.3.B of the BCZR to approve an existing dwelling with a 7' setback in the rear yard in lieu of the required 30'.

The subject site is an approximately 9,375 square foot parcel in the Dundalk area. It was previously improved with a single family detached dwelling; however, the dwelling was razed following the issuance of Razing Permit R23-02115 in September 2023. Per both the razing permit and the site plan submitted with the Zoning Petition, the foundation of the previously existing dwelling remains on the property. A garage and a gravel/concrete driveway also currently exist on the site.

The subject site is surrounded with single family detached dwellings, almost all of which are on approximately 50-foot-wide lots. The dwellings appear to range from one- to two-stories in height.

Per the Petition and site plan, the Petitioner wishes to construct a new, replacement dwelling on the property. The replacement dwelling will utilize the existing foundation and be expanded towards the front of the lot. The construction of the dwelling is the subject of Building Permit R23-08222, which is on hold following a resubmittal request from Zoning Review due to rear and side yard setbacks not being met. The elevations submitted with the Building Permit appear consistent with the surrounding dwellings in the neighborhood.

The subject site is within the boundary of the Greater Dundalk-Edgemere Community Conservation Plan, adopted March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000. The plan encourages increasing homeownership rates, promoting healthy neighborhoods, and strengthening Code Enforcement. The plan also promotes healthy neighborhoods as a means to promote homeownership throughout the Greater Dundalk-Edgemere area (page 35).

The replacement dwelling will utilize the existing foundation, and the rear of the dwelling will be approximately aligned with the rear of the existing garage. As such, the Department of Planning has no objections to the requested relief.

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

Prepared by:

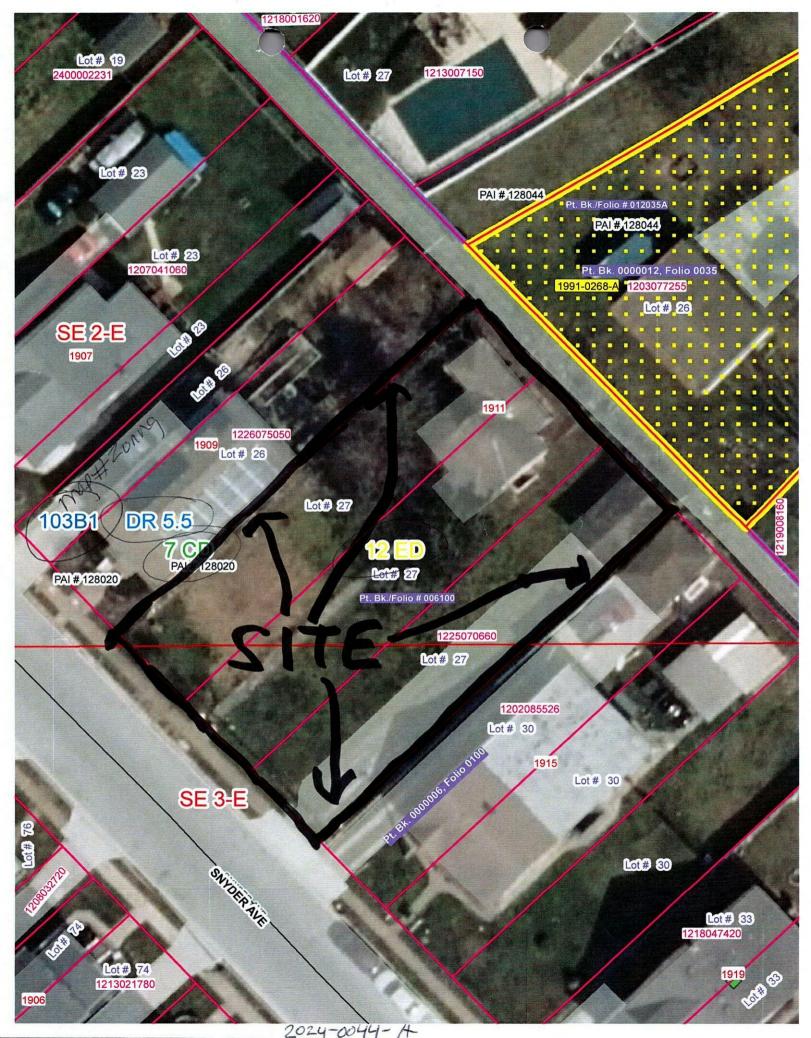
Krystle Patchak

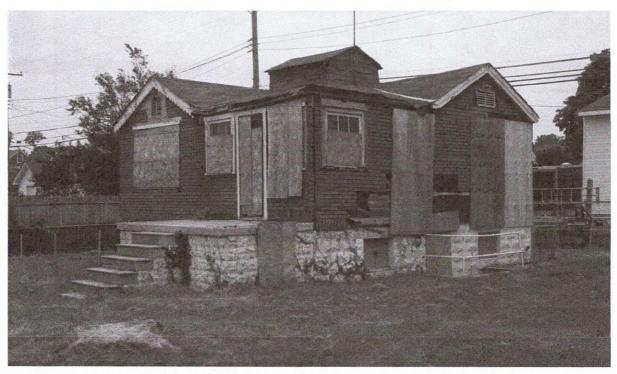
**Division Chief:** 

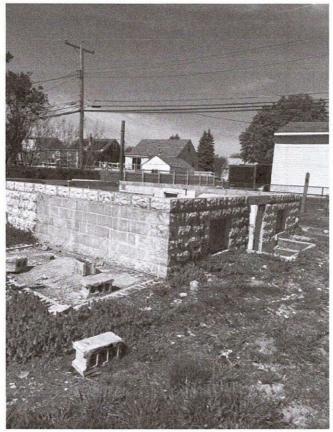
enifer G. Nugent

SL/JGN/KP

c: Gina Campbell
Maria Mougridis, Community Planner
Jeff Perlow, Zoning Review
Kristen Lewis, Zoning Review
Office of Administrative Hearings
People's Counsel for Baltimore County



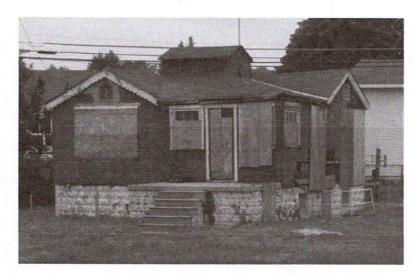




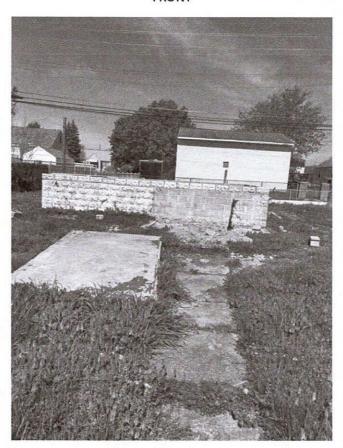
SIDE ELEVATION

2024-0044-4

# 1911 SNYDER AVE DUNDALK, MD



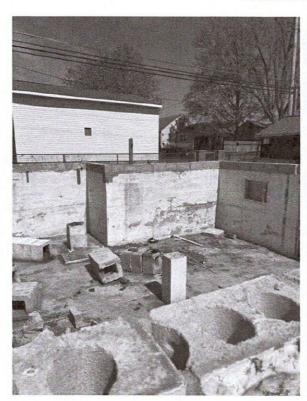
FRONT



FRONT

2024-0044-A

## ADDITIONAL PHOTOS





2024-0044-A

# 1911 SNYDER AVENUE

DUNDALK, MD 21222

#### LOT INFORMATION:

BUILDING CLASSIFICATION - RESIDENTIAL

USE TYPE - SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

LOT AREA - 9,375 SQFT (.215 ACRES)

EXISTING BUILDING FOOTPRINT - VARIES (695.69 SQFT)

PROPOSED BUILDING FOOTPRINT - VARIES (1,000 +/- SQFT)

EXISTING ENCLOSED AREA - 686 SQFT

PROPOSED ENCLOSED AREA - 800 +/- SQFT

IMPERVIOUS LAND AREA - 2,500 +/- SQFT

ZONING MAP: 103B1

SUBDIVISION: 0000

OWNER INFORMATION:

ALFARO ARTURO 1911 SNYDER AVE.

PARCEL: 0513 SECTION: N/A

BLOCK: O

LOT: 27
ZONING: DR 5.5

GRID: 0003 HISTORIC: NO

CBCA: NO

FLOOD PLAIN: NO

TAX#: 1225070660

DEED REF#: 45342/00424

LIBER: 47739 FOLIO: 00169

**ELECTION DISTRICT: 12** 

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 2

STRUCTURE BUILT: 1921

WATER: PUBLIC

SEWER: PUBLIC

PRIOR HEARING: NO

VIOLATIONS: NONE

#### SCOPE OF WORK:

REBUILD EXISTING 1ST FLOOR EXTERIOR WALLS ON TOP OF EXISTING FOUNDATION (SAME LOCATION); FINISH EXISTING BASEMENT

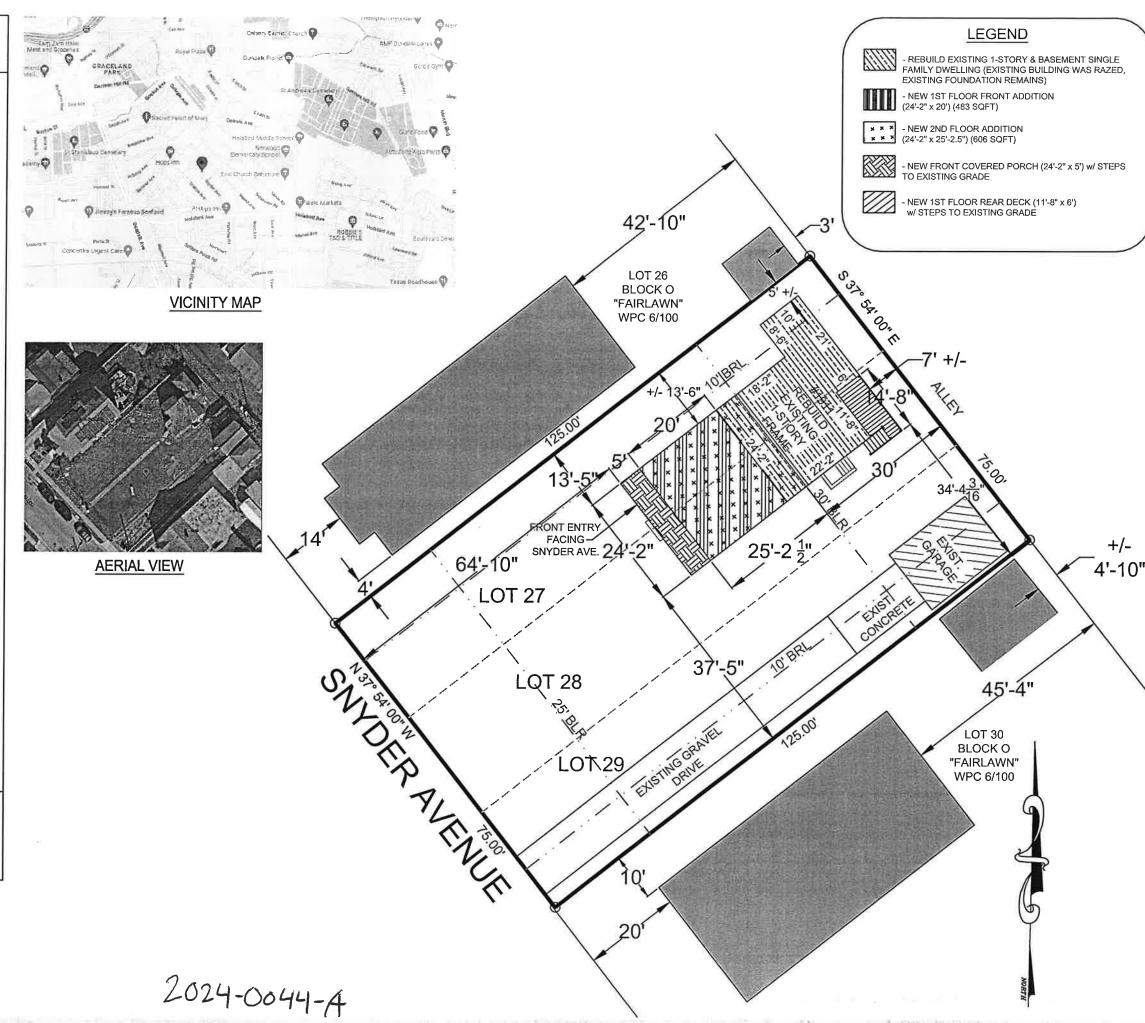
-CONSTRUCT A NEW 1-STORY PRONT ADDITION (24\*-2\* x 20\*) (483 SQFT),

-CONSTRUCT A NEW 1ST FLOOR REAR DECK (11\*-8\* x 6") w STEPS TO EXISTING GRADE,

-CONSTRUCT A NEW 1ST FLOOR FRONT PORCH (24\*-2\* x 5") x (6" x 15") w STEPS TO EXISTING GRADE.

-CONSTRUCT NEW 2ND FLOOR ADDITION (24'-2"x25'-2.5")(606 SF). AS PER PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION CODES.





819 Light St Baltimore, MD 21224 (P) M43 990 0008 (F) M43 566 1333 M-Ponglierers com

W2 ENGINEERS



DESIGNED BY: CD
DESIGNED BY: CD
DESIGNED BY: UN
REVIEWED BY: JN
SCALE: 11=20'
REF

THESE DOCUMENTS WERE PREPARED OR APPROVED BY ME, AND AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND LICENSE NO: 32899

LICENSE NO: 32899 EXP DATE:5/14/24



1911 SNYDER AVE SITE PLAN

DESCRIPTION:

SHEET NUMBER

A-1