

ORD# 1863-2025; CV24-153; Page 1 of 10

Final Buildng Elevations Received 6/23/2025; Sheet Р 0 fi



CITY COUNCIL – ZONING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT COUNCIL VARIANCE

APPLICATION: Location:	CV24-153 3700 LIFESTYLE BLVD. (43212), being 2.43± acres located on the north side of Lifestyle Boulevard, 300± feet west of Stelzer Road (010-247977; Northeast Area Commission).
Requested Zoning:	AR-O, Apartment Office District.
Proposed Use:	Mixed-use development.
Applicant(s):	Somerset Place Apts, LLC, c/o Daniel Mayer, Agent; 1250 Chambers Road, Suite 250; Columbus, OH 43212.
Property Owner(s):	Somerset Place Apts, LLC; 6 Pine Drive South; Roslyn, NY 11576.
Planner:	Phil Ashear; 614-645-1719; <u>PJAshear@columbus.gov</u>

BACKGROUND:

- The 2.43± acre site is pending zoning to the AR-O, Apartment Office District. The requested Council variance will allow the site to be split into two parcels. Tract one (east side of the site) would include new 64-unit apartment building. Tract 2 (west side of the site) would retain the existing mixed-use building containing a daycare center and 32 apartment units.
- The requested Council variance will allow no parking lot screening between Tracts 1 and 2, a reduced parking setback from 25 feet to 10 feet along Lifestyle Boulevard for Tract 1, reduced required parking from 96 spaces to 59 spaces in Tract 1, and reduced rear yards from 25 percent to 11.7± percent for Tract 1, and to 17.6± percent for Tract 2.
- North and west of the site are multi-unit residential uses in the L-AR-12, Limited Apartment Residential District. South and east of the site are mixed commercial uses in the CPD, Commercial Planned Development District and L-C-4, Limited Commercial District.
- The site is within the boundaries of the *Northeast Area Plan* (2007), which recommends "High Density Residential" land uses at this location.
- The site is located within the boundaries of the Northeast Area Commission, whose recommendation is for approval.
- Staff recognizes that there are practical difficulties with the variances included in the request.

CITY DEPARTMENTS' RECOMMENDATION: Approval

The requested variances will allow the site to be split into two parcels, with a new 64-unit apartment building in Tract 1. Staff supports the request as the proposed site plan and building elevations are consistent with the *Northeast Area Plan*'s (2007) design guidelines. The proposal is also consistent with the City's objective of creating more housing in all areas of the city.



Council Variance Application 2025; CV24-153; Page 4 of 10

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND ZONING SERVICES 111 N Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-645-4522 • ZoningInfo@columbus.gov • www.columbus.gov/bzs

STATEMENT OF HARDSHIP

Columbus City Code Section 3307.10 - Variances by City Council.

City council may grant the following zoning variances:

- **A.** Permit a variation in the yard, height or parking requirements of any district only in conjunction with a change in zoning or a use variance and only where there are unusual and practical difficulties in the carrying out of the zoning district provisions due to an irregular shape of lot, topography, or other conditions, providing such variance will not seriously affect any adjoining property or the general welfare.
- **B.** Permit a use of the property not permitted by the zoning district established on the property if such use will not adversely affect the surrounding property or surrounding neighborhood and if council is satisfied that the granting of such variance will alleviate some hardship or difficulty which warrants a variance from the comprehensive plan.

Before authorizing any variance from the Zoning Code in a specific case, city council shall first determine that such variance will not impair an adequate supply of light and air to the adjacent property, unreasonably increase the congestion of public streets, increase the danger of fires, endanger the public safety, unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, or in any other respect impair the public health, safety, comfort, morals or welfare of the inhabitants of the city.

In granting a variance pursuant to this section, council may impose such requirements and conditions regarding the location, character, duration, and other features of the variance proposal as council deems necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Zoning Code and to otherwise safeguard the public safety and welfare.

The following factors shall be used in determining whether the applicant has encountered practical difficulties in the use of the property. Respond to the following statements:

1. Whether the property in question will yield a reasonable return or whether there can be any beneficial use of the property without a variance.

Yes **V**No

With the demand for housing in Columbus,	being able to maximize the unit count on the site through
these variances makes the project viable.	

2. Whether the variance is substantial.

Yes No

Variances requested reflect minor deviations from height, yard, and landscaping requirements. Parking that requires a variance due to setback is existing. Parking provided will be adequate for resident demand.

3. Whether the essential character of the neighborhood would be substantially altered or whether adjoining properties would suffer a substantial detriment as a result of the variance.

Yes No

The addition of multi-family in the neighborhood is complementary to the surrounding mix of single-family and multi-family structures. The existing parking lot adds no value and this building would replace that and add character.



Council Variance Application 2025; CV24-153; Page 5 of 10

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND ZONING SERVICES 111 N Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-645-4522 • ZoningInfo@columbus.gov • www.columbus.gov/bzs

4. Whether the variance would adversely affect the delivery of governmental services (e.g., water, sewer, refuse service). □ Yes No

Current services are provided for similar uses and do not expect this change to adversely affect those services.

5. Whether the property owner purchased the property with knowledge of the zoning restriction. □ Yes ✔ No

The purchase was made with the existing multi-family on site. The Owner upon purchase did not originally intend to add an additional multi-family building, but based on the Columbus housing needs, they feel it is within reason to request the variance to add the housing units.

6. Whether the property owner's predicament feasibly can be obviated through some method other than a variance. ☐ Yes ✔No

<u>The variance allows effective use of the site and other approved uses per zoning do not directly benefit</u> <u>the adjacent communities or the existing apartment building.</u>

7. Whether the spirit and intent behind the zoning requirement would be observed and substantial justice done by granting the variance.

Yes 🗌 No

The client is aware of the Columbus housing need and believes that providing an improved site with a <u>complimentary building use and removal of an under-utilized parking lot would be of benefit to the</u> <u>community and neighborhood.</u>

List all sections of Code to be varied and explain your reasoning as to why this request should be granted.

NOTE: It is the applicant's responsibility to identify all variances required for the project. If any necessary variances are not included, a new application (and applicable fees) will be required.

I have read the foregoing and believe my application for relief from the requirements of the Zoning Code contains the necessary hardship, will not adversely affect surrounding property owners, and will comply with the variance(s) requested as detailed below (use separate page if needed or desired):

A change to AR-O requires variances to the following sections for the eastern lot (Tract 1): 3312.49 -Reduce the number of parking spaces from 96 to 59. 3312.21(D) - Remove the screening requirement between parcels. 3312.27 - Allow eight existing parking spaces within the 25-ft front setback existing condition. 3333.24 - Reduce the rear yard size from 25% of lot to 11.7% Two variances required for the western lot (Tract 2): 3312.21(D) - Remove the screening requirement between parcels. 3333.24 -Reduce the rear yard size from 25% of lot to 17.6% of lot, an existing condition.

```
Signature of Applicant
```

Daniel Maver

Date 6/18/2025





CV24-153 3700 Lifestyle Blvd. Approximately 2.43 acres



CV24-153 3700 Lifestyle Blvd. Approximately 2.43 acres



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND ZONING SERVICES

Standardized Recommendation Form

111 N Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-645-4522 • ZoningInfo@columbus.gov • www.columbus.gov/bzs

FOR USE BY: AREA COMMISSION / NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP (PLEASE PRINT)

Case Number	Z24-066 & CV24-153		
Address	3700 Lifestyle Blvd		
Group Name	Northeast Area Commission		
Meeting Date	Thursday, May 8, 2025		
Specify Case Type	 □ BZA Variance / Special Permit ✓ Council Variance ✓ Rezoning 		
1-	Graphics Variance / Plan / Special Permit		
Recommendation (Check only one)	✓ Approval□ Disapproval		

LIST BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. This multiunit building is consistent with the Northeast Area Plan.
- 2. Requested Material updgrades and material list were satisfied and in accordance with C2P2 guidelines
- 3. Inconsistencies with building elevations were satisfied with updated drawings

The Northeast Area Commission requests notification of any changes that are made after this recommendation.

Vote	(7 yes) (0 no)	
Signature of Authorized Representative	Commissioner E.	
Recommending Group Title	Northeast Area Commission	

Daytime Phone Number

Please **e-mail** this form to **the assigned planner within 48 hours of meeting day**; OR **MAIL** to: Zoning, City of Columbus, Department of Building & Zoning Services, 111 N Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

614-519-2195

00



Council Variance Application

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND ZONING SERVICES 111 N Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-645-4522 • ZoningInfo@columbus.gov • www.columbus.gov/bzs

PROJECT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

	CV24-153
APPLICATION	#:

Parties having a 5% or more interest in the project that is the subject of this application.

THIS PAGE MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY AND NOTARIZED. Do not indicate 'NONE' in the space provided.

STATE OF OHIO COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

Being first duly cautioned and sworn (NAME) Daniel Mayer

of (COMPLETE ADDRESS) 1200 Chambers Road, Suite 110, Columbus, Ohio 43212

deposes and states that they are the APPLICANT, AGENT, OR DULY AUTHORIZED ATTORNEY FOR SAME and the following is a list of all persons, other partnerships, corporations or entities having a 5% or more interest in the project which is the subject of this application in the following format:

For Example:

Name of Business or individual Contact name and number Business or individual's address; City, State, Zip Code Number of Columbus-based employees

 Doron Rice 76 Cedar Ct, Closter, New Jersey 07624 0 Employee; Individual Owner 	 2. Mike Konstantas 6 Pine Drive South, Roslyn, New York 11576 0 Employees; Individual Owner
 3. Christopher Wiser 79 S. Hawthorne Hollow Cir., The Woodlands, Texas 77384 0 Employees; Individual Owner 	 4. Gwyneth Smith 63 Fleets Cove Rd, Huntington, New York 11743 0 Employees; Individual Owner

Check here if listing additional parties on a separate page.

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT		
Sworn to before me and signed in my presence this 9th	day of JUNL , in the year	2025
Allimonll	12/19/2029	Notary Seal Here
SIGNATURE OF NOTARY PUBLIC	My Commission Expires	
	* Notary P	an Schmall ublic, State of Ohio ion Expires 12-19-2029

This Project Disclosure Statement expires six (6) months after date of notarization.