

## Council Variance Application

ANOREW $\perp$ GINTHER, MAYOR
111 North Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINE
Phone: 614-645-4522 " www.columbus.gov/bzs - zoninginfo@columbus.gov

## STATEMENT OF HARDSHIP

Chapter 3307 of the Columbus Zoning Code

## Section 3307.10 Variances by City Council

A. Permit a variance in the yard, height, or parking requirements of any district only in conjuction with a change in zoning or a use variance and only where there are unusual and practical difficulties or unusual hardships 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 the public health, safety, comfort, morals, or welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Columbus.

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

List all sections of Code to be varied and explain your reasoning as to why this request should be granted.
PLEASE NOTE: It is the applicant's responsibility to identify all variances required for the project. If any necessary variances are discovered after your application is approved, a new application 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):

## See attached.



## 2685 Livingston Ave. - Council Variance Application Attachment

Sub-Area A Proposed Variances (Parcels 010-087745; 010-087746; 010-087747)

1. 3312.49-MINIMUM NUMBERS OF PARKING SPACES REQUIRED: REQUEST TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED PARKING SPACES FROM 9 SPACES TO 6 SPACES.
2. 3333.18 - BUILDING LINES: BUILDING SET BACK - REQUEST FOR FRONT BUILDING SETBACK AT LIVINGSTON TO BE REDUCED FROM 35' TO 15’ BASED ON THOUROUGHFARE PLAN INCREASING LIVINGSTON RIGHT OF WAY FROM 80’ TO 120’.

Sub-Area B Proposed Variances (Parcels 010087759; 010092531; 010092757)

1. 3312.27 - PARKING SETBACK LINE: REQUEST TO REDUCE THE PARKING SETBACK ALONG BROOKWOOD TO 5’.
2. 3312.49 - MINIMUM NUMBERS OF PARKING SPACES REQUIRED: REQUEST TO REDUCE THE REQUIRED PARKING SPACES FROM 150 SPACES TO 110 SPACES.
3. 3333.18 - BUILDING LINES: BUILDING SET BACK - REQUEST FOR FRONT BUILDING SETBACK AT LIVINGSTON TO BE REDUCED FROM 35’ TO 15’ BASED ON THOUROUGHFARE PLAN INCREASING LIVINGSTON RIGHT OF WAY FROM 80' TO 120’.

## Statement of Hardship

Central Ohio is one of many communities with a growing need for senior housing. Applicant seeks to satisfy that need through the development of a new construction 106-unit senior age-restricted housing development in the Berwick community. As the nation’s largest not-for-profit owner and operator of senior housing, National Church Residences has a mission to provide high quality care, services and residential communities for all seniors. Since the start of our mission in 1961, we have committed to providing seniors a quality place to live while offering the services they need to remain home for life.

The development will consist of up to 110 total units, serving fully independent seniors on two adjacent sites in the Berwick neighborhood of Columbus. The sites are as follows:

- Sub-Area A: Three single-family lots totaling just over .5 acres will be combined to include 6 units of cottage style living targeting younger, more active seniors;
- Sub-Area B: The existing church building site will provide up to 104 units of congregate style senior living on approximately 4.5 acres.

The existing site contains a large church building - the Brookwood Presbyterian Church. The building has been vacant since October of 2019, when Brookwood Presbyterian Church merged with two other local Presbyterian churches to form Unity Presbyterian Church. At present, the continued ownership of the church presents a hardship for the congregation, as it
remains responsible for the costs of ownership of a deteriorating, obsolete building while not being able to make beneficial use of the same. To address this hardship, the church has sought mission-aligned users to whom to sell the property and allow for the beneficial use of the site and development of a community asset on the same.

The variances sought by the Applicant are necessary to make beneficial use of the property. Applicant's proposed development and the variances necessary to enable it will allow for the current owner, Unity Presbyterian Church, to transfer stewardship of the property to a new owner with the resources needed to ensure the property continues to meet the needs of the surrounding community for decades to come. The development site presents some significant challenges, namely the existence of a large underwater storm sewer bisecting the site and the expansion of a stream corridor protection zone that will potentially encroach on the developable portion of the site. These issues could preclude other alternative developments, limiting the potential beneficial uses of the property. Applicant has developed a site plan that will take into account these issues while still allowing re-use of the site. Applicant's proposed use will enable the church to realize a return on its property and will enable the beneficial use of the site by delivering an asset to the community - much needed senior housing.

Applicant's proposed development fits within the character of the neighborhood. As aforementioned, the site presently contains a large church building within the R3 zoning district. This combination of uses - a larger structure within a residential district - is preserved by Applicant's development. Applicant is seeking to continue a residential use of the property through senior housing and to deliver that housing through buildings that fit within the scale and overall context of the neighborhood.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the variances stated herein.


CV20-058
2685 E. Livingston Ave.
Approximately 4.94 acres



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FOR USE BY: AREA COMMISSION / COMMUNITY GROUP / HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW (PLEASE PRINT)

Case Number:
Address:

Group Name:
Meeting Date:
Specify Case Type:

Recommendation:
(Check only one and list basis for recommendation below)

CV20-058
2685 East Livingston Avenue

| Mideast Area Commission (MAC) |
| :--- |
| October 20,2020 |

BZA Variance / Special Permit Council Variance
Rezoning
Graphics Variance / Plan / Special Permit

## NOTES:

Vote:
Signature of Authorized Representative:


Please e-mail this form to the assigned planner within 48 hours of your meeting day; or MAIL to: Assigned Planner, City of MAIL to: Columbus, Department of Building \& Zoning Services, 111 N. Front St, Columbus, OH 43215.

ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR
Council Variance Application
111 North Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING
AND ZONING SERVICES

## PROJECT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

All parties having a $5 \%$ or more interest in the project that is the subject of this application should be listed.
THIS PAGE MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY AND NOTARIZED. Do not indicate 'NONE' in the space provided.

## APPLICATION \#:

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## STATE OF OHIO <br> COUNTY OF FRANKLIN

Being first duly cautioned and sworn (NAME) Matthew P.E. Bierlein of (COMPLETE ADDRESS) 2335 N. Bank Dr., Columbus, OH 43220
deposes and states that (he/she) is 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:

Name of business or individual (include contact name and number) Business or individual's address; City, State Zip Code Number of Columbus based employees
(Limited to 3 lines per box)

| 1. | 2. |
| :--- | :--- |
| National Church Residences (Applicant) |  |
| 2335 North Bank Dr. |  |
| Columbus, OH 43220 <br> Approximately 225 Columbus based employees (including affiliates) |  |
|  | 4. |
|  |  |

## Check here if listing additional parties on a separate page.

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT


My Commission Expires:
This Project Disclosure Statement expires six months after date of notarization.

