

ROCKY RIVER BOARD OF ZONING & BUILDING APPEALS

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

MEETINGS: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers of Rocky River City Hall.

DUE DATE FOR SUBMITTALS: 2 weeks (14 days) prior to the scheduled BZA meeting. Late or incomplete submittals will not be forwarded to the Board for inclusion on the upcoming agenda.

WHO MUST ATTEND: A representative, including the property owner, must be present at the BZA meeting for all variance requests.

APPLICATION FEE: Residential Variance - \$100.00 first variance + \$35.00 each additional variance
Commercial Variance - \$150.00 first variance + \$35.00 each additional variance request.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS: Please provide 11 stapled sets of the following:

- 1) **Appropriate Building Permit Application** for your project. (i.e., Building Permit Application, Fence Permit Application, Accessory Permit Application, etc.); **Check representing Application Fee.**
- 2) **Fully completed Variance Application.** Begin with a written narrative describing exactly what project you would like to do and why it is necessary to do so. Please refer to the Typical Variance Sheet for guidance on which standard (Practical Difficulty **OR** Unnecessary Hardship) applies to your request – only complete questions under the appropriate heading.
- 3) **Detailed site drawing** – see attached example, showing all existing structures on the subject property, as well as structures on properties directly adjacent to the location of the subject of your variance request (i.e., line of neighbor's house, driveway and garage closest to the addition you are proposing). Proposed structures must also be shown on the site drawing, with dimensions and distances from property lines clearly labeled. **PLEASE STAKE THE PROPERTY TO SHOW FOOTPRINT OF ADDITIONS, SHEDS OR LOCATIONS OF A/C CONDENSERS, etc.** Site plan should show lot coverage by building calculation (existing and proposed).
- 4) **Elevation drawings** (for pergola, garage, addition or any exterior alteration). Show what all sides of the finished project will look like. Submit a photo example of proposed fences and sheds. Show height of structure on the elevations. Additions will require existing and proposed interior floor plans for the floors that are affected.
- 5) **Photographs** of your property and adjacent properties. Label each photo for clarity.
- 6) **Support letters** from surrounding property owners, if available.
- 7) **Any other information as may be requested** by the Building Department or Board Members.

All documentation or other information shall be delivered to:

Rocky River Board of Zoning & Building Appeals, City of Rocky River Building Department, 21012 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio 44116. Call 440-331-0600 ext. 2037 with questions.

(Applicants may not communicate with or present information relating to their variance request to any Board member directly. Communications must be submitted to the Building Department for delivery to the Board.)

I, (the owner/applicant) understand that upon the granting of my variance request from the BZA, a separate Permit Application fee will be due prior to the issuance of the Building Permit. I will not begin construction until the Building Permit has been issued.

Property Owner

Date


Applicant/Representative

11/24/25
Date

TYPICAL VARIANCE SHEET

Please check appropriate box and answer questions as directed.

	Check as Applicable	VARIANCE STANDARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any functional, land or building USE not specifically permitted in either a particular zoning district, or otherwise not permitted by the Development Code 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Use) Unnecessary Hardship
ADDITIONS & BUILDINGS: <i>(Complete Building Permit Application)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rear, side & front setbacks 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage (>28%) 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
DRIVEWAYS: <i>(Complete Building Permit Application)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Width 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance from property line 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circular if lot width is <90' 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
SIGNS: <i>(Complete Sign Permit Application)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area allowed (maximum sq. ft.) 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Height 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Front setback 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lot width <100' 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of items of information 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On side of building 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
FENCES: <i>(Complete Fence Permit Application)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Height or Openness 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Front Yard (in setback) 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
ACCESSORY BUILDINGS (Play Structures, Storage Sheds: <i>(Complete Accessory Structure Permit Application)</i> ; Detached Garages: <i>(Complete Building Permit Application)</i>		
<u>Note:</u> Total square footage of all accessory buildings, including detached garages, is not to exceed 600 square feet.)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Height 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setback from property line 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Square footage 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
Air Conditioners and Generators: <i>(Complete HVAC Permit for A/C or Electrical Permit for Generators)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In side or rear yard <10' from property line or in front yard 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
Parking: <i>(Complete Building Permit Application)</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < the number of spaces required 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setback from property line 	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Area) Practical Difficulties

BZA Application Fee: _____

Date Paid: _____

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER
21012 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio 44116
Telephone (440) 331-0600 — Fax (440) 895-2628

APPLICATION FOR BOARD OF ZONING & BUILDING APPEALS
(Please Print or Type)

Application Filing Date: 11/24/25 Hearing Date: 12/11/25
Zoning of Property R1 - SINGLE FAMILY Permanent Parcel No. 30107081

**NOTICE OF REQUEST OF A HEARING BEFORE THE
BOARD OF ZONING & BUILDING APPEALS**

Address of property seeking variance: 19545 BATTERSEA BLVD.

DAVID T. JONKE
Name of Property Owner

DANIEL MARGULIES (DANIEL MARGULIES CO., INC.)
Name of Applicant / Representative

19545 BATTERSEA BLVD, RR, OH.
Address 44116

1210 CHASE AVE., LKWD. OH., 44107
Address

216.543.6145
Telephone No.

Cell Phone No.

Telephone No.

216.978.9237
Cell Phone No.

E-MAIL: Jonkedds@cox.net

E-MAIL: danieledmc.ohiocoxmail.com

Description of what is intended to be done:

FIRST FLOOR ADDITION FOR BEDROOM, BATH, MUDROOM AND ENLARGED
FAMILY ROOM. SECOND FLOOR EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

Sections of the Code from which variance is being requested:

1153.05: LOT COVERAGE

List variances requested:

LOT COVERAGE VARIANCE OF 35.7% VERSUS 28% ALLOWED

Property Owner's Signature

Applicant/Representative's Signature

★ Please note that the Board members visit the subject property prior to each BZA meeting.
Please indicate whether or not you have a dog(s) that may be outside at the time of their visits.

Yes ☐

No ☒

PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES

ALL QUESTIONS REQUIRE A COMPLETE RESPONSE

R.R.C.O. 1133.17(c)(1). In order to grant an area variance, the following factors shall be considered and weighted by the Board of Appeals to determine practical difficulty:

- A.) Describe what special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the land or structure involved and which are not applicable generally to other land or structures in the same zoning district (i.e., exceptional irregularity, narrowness, shallowness or steepness of the lot; or proximity to non-conforming and inharmonious uses, structures or conditions).

WE FEEL THAT THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ARE FAIRLY COMMON TO CERTAIN NEIGHBORHOODS IN ROCKY RIVER. THE LOT IS 5200^{sq} ft. IT IS NARROW AND SHALLOW AND EXTREMELY RESTRICTIVE IN OUR DESIGN PROCESS

- B.) Explain whether the property in question will yield a reasonable return or whether there can be any beneficial use of the property without the variance (discuss use limitations without the variance).

DR. JONKE WISHES TO REMAIN IN THIS PROPERTY FOR THE REMAINDER OF HIS LIFE AND THE ADDITION OF FIRST FLOOR BEDROOM AND BATH WILL ENABLE HIM TO DO THAT. THE PROPERTY, AS IS, WILL YIELD A REASONABLE RETURN, BUT WITH OUR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS, WILL YIELD A MUCH GREATER RETURN AND ENJOYMENT FOR THE REMAINDER OF DR. JONKE'S LIFE

- C.) Explain whether the variance is substantial and is the minimum necessary to make possible the reasonable use of the land or structures (demonstrate how much the variance request deviates from Code requirements, i.e., coverage is 1 or 2% above Code, or setback is 1 or 2 feet less than Code requirement).

AT FACE VALUE A 7.7% VARIANCE SEEMS SUBSTANTIAL, BUT IN SQUARE FOOTAGE NUMBERS, IT IS NOT. THE TWO PROPERTIES TO THE EAST HAVE GREATER COVERAGE PERCENTAGE ON THE SAME SIZE LOTS.

- D.) Explain whether the essential character of the neighborhood would be substantially altered and whether adjoining properties would suffer substantial detriment as a result of the variance (discuss the increase of value, use, and aesthetic appeal for both your property and adjoining properties, together with any negative impact to adjoining properties).

OUR PROPOSAL IS A FAIRLY MAJOR ADDITION AND RENOVATION TO THE EXISTING HOME AND WE DO NOT FEEL THERE WILL BE ANY NEGATIVE IMPACT TO ADJOINING PROPERTIES. THE ESSENTIAL CHARACTER OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD WILL NOT BE ALTERED AND OUR PROJECT WILL SERVE TO ONLY HELP INCREASE VALUES

E.) Explain whether the variance would adversely affect the delivery of governmental services, such as water, sewer, or trash pickup.

THE VARIANCE REQUESTED WILL IN NO WAY ADVERSELY AFFECT THE DELIVERY OF ANY GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES

F.) Explain whether the property owner purchased the property with knowledge of the zoning restrictions.

THE OWNER PURCHASED THE PROPERTY IN 1977 WITH NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE ZONING RESTRICTIONS

G.) Explain whether special conditions or circumstances exist as a result of actions of the owner.

THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES DO NOT EXIST AS A RESULT OF ANY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE OWNER.

H.) Explain whether the property owner's predicament feasibly can be obviated through some method other than a variance (why other means and methods of property improvements or enhancements would not suffice).

BESIDES THE REQUESTED VARIANCE, WE SEE NO OTHER METHOD TO ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

I.) Explain whether the spirit and intent behind the zoning requirement would be observed and substantial justice done by granting a variance (discuss the positive impact of your improvement on your property and on the surrounding neighborhood).

OUR PROPOSED PROJECT WILL BE AN AESTHETIC AND FINANCIAL IMPROVEMENT TO THE PROPERTY AND THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE ZONING CODES WOULD BE OBSERVED AS THESE TYPES OF VARIANCES ARE FAIRLY COMMON IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

J.) Explain whether the granting of the variance requested will confer on the applicant any special privilege that is denied by this regulation to other lands, structures, or buildings in the same district.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT WHEN THE HOUSE WAS BUILT VS. WHEN THE CURRENT CODES WERE ENACTED, WE FEEL THAT THESE TYPES OF VARIANCES ARE FAIRLY COMMON IN THIS DISTRICT.

K.) Explain whether a literal interpretation of the provisions of this Code would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same district under the terms of this Code.

AS STATED PREVIOUSLY, WE FEEL THAT OUR VARIANCE REQUEST IS FAIRLY MINOR AND A LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE WOULD DEPRIVE US OF RIGHTS ENJOYED BY OTHER PROPERTIES IN THE SAME DISTRICT.

PLEASE NOTE: A separate Permit Application and fee will be due prior to issuance of the Building Permit. NO CONSTRUCTION IS TO BEGIN until the Building Permit has been issued.