### CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT AGENDA

January 19, 2023 6:00 P.M.

- (1) Roll Call
- (2) Approval of Minutes: December 15, 2022
- (3) BZA-22-27 Drew and Sara Gunnells are requesting a Lot Area Variance, Lot Width Variance, Front Setback Variance, & a Side Setback Variance for the property located at 2104 Chestnut Road. The purpose of this request is to reduce the lot area and lot width of to allow for a resurvey of the lot. Also, to reduce the front setback to 45' in lieu of the required 50' & to reduce the side setback to 11' in lieu of the required 15'. The property is owned by the Drew and Sara Gunnells and is zoned Vestavia Hills R-3.
- (4) BZA-22-28 Nancy Zito is requesting a Variance for Location of Fence in the Front Setback for the property located at 1401 Holly Oak Drive. The purpose of this request is to build a privacy fence in the front setback. The property is owned by Nancy Zito and is zoned Vestavia Hills R-2.
- (5) Time of Adjournment

### CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS

### **BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT**

### **MINUTES**

### **December 15, 2022**

The Board of Zoning Adjustment of the City of Vestavia Hills met in regular session on this date at 6:00 PM. The roll was called with the following:

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rick Rice, Chairman Michael Fliegel, Alt Stephen Greer Loring Jones, III Thomas Parchman Ryan Rummage, Alt

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** 

Tony Renta

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Jack Wakefield, Planner/GIS

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of November 17, 2022 were presented for approval.

### MOTION

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of November 17, 2022 was made by Mr. Jones and 2<sup>nd</sup> was by Mr. Rummage. Motion as carried on a voice vote as follows:

Mr. Fliegel – yes Mr. Greer - yes Mr. Jones – yes Mr. Rummage – yes Chairman Rice – yes

Motion carried.

### FRONT SETBACK VARIANCE

**BZA-22-26** Sheilah Nelson is requesting a Front Setback Variance for the property located at 3941 Knollwood Trace. The purpose of this request is to reduce the front setback to 8' in lieu of the required 12', to cover existing patio. The property is owned by Sheilah Nelson and is zoned Vestavia Hills R-6.

Mr. Wakefield explained that the request was to build a covered structure over the existing patio, and the corner lot caused a hardship.

Sheilah Nelson, 3941 Knollwood Trace, was present for the case and stated that the corner lot caused her a hardship. She also stated that this was previously approved, but issues getting her builder to complete the work caused the variance to lapse.

Chairman Rice opened the floor for a public hearing.

A neighbor in support of the variance was present in the room, but didn't speak before the Board.

There being no one else present in regard to the request, Mr. Rice closed the public hearing and opened the floor for a motion.

**MOTION** Motion to APPROVE a 4' front setback variance to reduce the setback to 8' in lieu of the required 12', for the property located at 3941 Knollwood Trace was made by Mr. Jones and 2nd was by Mr. Parchman. Motion was carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Fliegel – yes
Mr. Greer - yes
Mr. Jones – yes
Mr. Rummage – yes
Chairman Rice – yes
Motion carried.

At 6:30 PM, Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Jack Wakefield, Planner/GIS

### CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS

### SYNOPSIS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING APPLICATION BEFORE THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

Date: **January 19, 2023** 

• <u>CASE</u>: BZA-22-27

- **REQUESTED ACTION:** 3,675 sq. ft. Lot Area Variance to reduce the Lot Area to 11,325 sq. ft. in lieu of the required 15,000 sq. ft., & a 25' Lot Width Variance to reduce the Lot Width to 75' in lieu of the required 100', & a 4' Side Setback Variance to reduce the setback to 11' in lieu of the required 15'. 5' Front Setback Variance to Reduce the setback to 45' in Lieu of the Required 50'.
- ADDRESS/LOCATION: 2104 Chestnut Road
- APPLICANT/OWNER: Drew and Sara Gunnells
- **REPRESENTING AGENT:** Twin Construction
- **GENERAL DISCUSSION:** The applicants are seeking multiple variances to resurvey lot and build a rear addition. The rear addition is not a part of the request, as it is within the setbacks. The rear addition will be flush with the current side of the house and will not jut out any further. The current house sits on 2 lots, so a resurvey is needed to make the property a legal lot of record. That was approved by P&Z last week and is in the process of recordation. The lot area and width variances are needed as the newly combined lot is undersized per the zoning. The current house is also out of compliance in the front and side. The applicant's property is zoned Vestavia Hills R-3.

### • STAFF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION:

1. Zoning Review: See attached.

2. City Engineer Review: See attached.

3. City Fire Marshal Review: No problems noted.

4. **Building Safety Review:** No problems noted.



### Variance and Special Exception Application

Status: Active Date Created: Dec 19, 2022

### **Applicant**

Twin Construction summer@twincompanies.com 2907 Central Avenue Suite 105 Birmingham, AL 35209 205-802-3920

### **Primary Location**

2104 CHESTNUT RD VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35216

### **Owner:**

Drew and Sara Gunnells 2104 Chestnut Road Vestavia, AL 35216

### **Agenda Information**

### **Agenda Scheduling**

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### **Comments/Delay/Explanation**

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### **Applicant Information**

### I am filling this out as the

Representative Agent

### Billing/Responsible Party

### Name

Twin Construction, Inc.

### **Address**

2907 Central Avenue, Ste 105

### Phone #

2058023920

### City/State/Zip

Birmingham, AL 35209

**Email** 

**Width Required** 

100

### Representing Attorney/Other Agent Name Phone # 2058023920 Twin Construction **Address** City/State/Zip 2907 Central Ave, Ste 105 Birmingham, AL 35209 **Email** summer@twincompanies.com **Subject Property Information Subject Property Address** 2104 Chestnut Road **Legal Description of Subject Property** The West 1/2 of Lot 15 and Lot 16, Block 8, of Biltmore Estates **REASONS FOR REQUEST Front Setback Variance Setback Required** $\mathbf{V}$ 50' **Setback Requested Rear Setback Variance** 45' (existing frontage) **Side Setback Variance Setback Required** V 15' **Setback Requested Other Setback Variance** 11' (existing house setback) **Lot Area Variance Area Required** $\mathbf{V}$ 15000 **Lot Width Variance Area Requested** 11325 $\mathbf{V}$

**Width Requested** 

75

Variance for location of a fence. □	Sign Code Variance  □
A decision of the Zoning Official which the applicant I Zoning Ordinance.	believes to be contrary to the meaning of the
Other	
ZONING	
Vestavia Hills Zoning for the subject property is R-3	
PROJECT	
<b>Describe the scope of the project and/or the reason f</b> Rear screened porch addition to existing home. The as soon as possible.	

### **HARDSHIP**

Please answer the following questions regarding hardship and briefly summarize and describe those things which you feel justify the action requested in the box below. An Undue Hardship is required in order to seek a variance. List, when necessary, the specific sections of the City Code(s) which have a bearing on your request. (Use additional space on separate page if necessary).

The property at 2104 Chestnut Road is situated on a lot and a half. The owners are in the process of resurveying the property to combine the lot and a half. However, even after the resurvey the lot width will be 75' and the lot area will be 11,325 square feet. The minimum with required is 100' and the minimum area required is 15,000 square feet. We are seeking a variance to bring the existing property into compliance with the R-3 requirements.

Before any variance is granted, the BZA must find that ALL of the following conditions exist. Please describe each of the following details in order for the BZA to determine if these warrants the described hardship.

1. There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions, which are peculiar to the piece of property in question because of its size, shape or topography, that are not applicable to the other lands or structures in the same district. Please explain:

This is an already undersized parcel spanning two lots. Variance is needed to bring lot into compliance.

2. Granting the variance requested will not confer upon the applicant any special privileges that are denied to other owners of property in the District in which the property is located. Please explain:

This replatting and subsequent variance is necessary to use the property within the bounds of the Zoning Code.

3. All literal interpretations of the provisions of this Ordinance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by others of property int he distrcit in which the property is located. Please explain:

True

4. The requested variance will be in harmony with the purpose and intent of this Ordinance and will not be injurious to the neighborhood or to the general welfare. Please explain:

This action will make the lot situation better (2 small lots to one larger lot)

5. The special circumstances are not the intended result of the actions of the applicant (i.e., self-imposed hardship). Please explain:

This action only brings the existing lot and house into compliance.

6. The variance requested is the minimum variance that will make possible the legal use of the land, building or structure. Please explain:

Property cannot be used with it spanning 2 separate lots.

- 7. The no non-conforming use of neighboring lands, structures, or buildings in the same district, and no permitted or non-conforming use of lands, structures, or building in other districts shall be considered grounds for the issuance of a variance.
- 8. That a variance will not allow the permanent establishment of a use not permissible under the terms of this Ordinance in the district involved, or any use expressly or by implication prohibited by the terms of this Ordinance in said district.

It will not

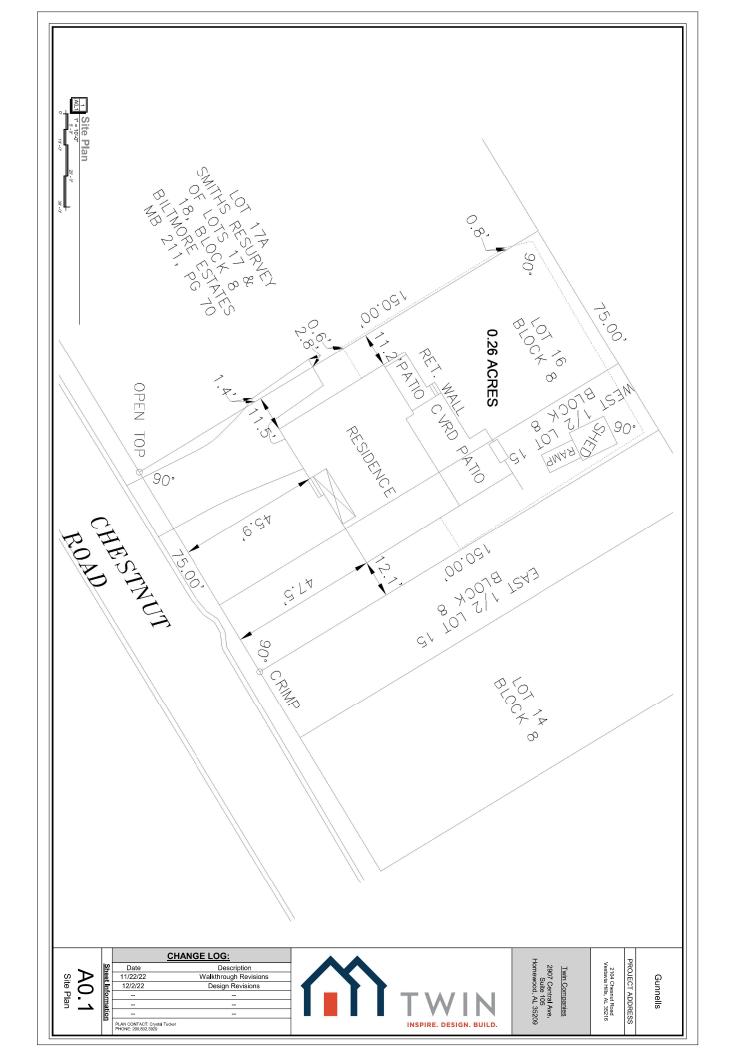
NOTE: In proving that an unnecessary hardship has been imposed on the property as a result of the strict interpretation of this Ordinance, the following conditions cannot be considered pertinent to the determination of whether or not an unnecessary hardship exists: (1) proof that a variance would increase the financial return from land; or (2) personal or economic hardship; or (3) self-imposed hardship. In other words, hardship alone is not sufficient to permit a variance. It must be an "unnecessary hardship." Mere financial loss of a kind, which might be common to all of the property owners in a district, is not an "unnecessary hardship."

### **OWNER AFFIDAVIT**

I do hereby declare the above statements are true and that I, the owner, and/or my duly appointed representative will be at the scheduled hearing. Simultaneously with the submittal of this application, I am hereby submitting a notarized affidavit signed by the owner of the property in the attachments section of this application. NOTE: Applications cannot be processed without the notarized owners affidavit. Owners authorization may be found on our main page.

### **Representing Agent Signature**

David Siegel 12/19/2022



## **General Construction Notes**

- All framing dimensions are to outside face of stud on exterior walls & center line of interior walls, windows, & doors, unless noted otherwise. All slab dimensions are to outside edge of slab (not brick pocket) or to centerline of footing, plumbing or electrical, unless noted otherwise. Stair riser heights shall not exceed 7-3/."
- Return air and attic access locations to be verified in field. Double up floor joists under walls that run parallel floor joists. All wood framing in contact with concrete or masonry shall be
- install insulation baffles at eave vents between rafters. All shingled roofs with a pitch of less than 4:12 shall be installed with pressure treated

8 7

- 1 1 1 1 1 1 ice & water barrier.

  Exterior sill plates to be anchored to foundation @ 6' o.c. And within 1-0" of ends and corners.
- Provide floored pathway in attic to HVAC unit & Water Heater. See builder for any deck stair location & design if applicable. Slope shower floor \( \frac{1}{2} \) per foot.

  Verify final location of mechanical equipment.

  Dimensions shall take precedent over scale drawings.

Common Abbreviations

concrete masonry unit dishwasher

double

centerline

above finished floor bottom of...

### Wall Material Key

12" Block	8" Block
6" Stud Wall	4" Stud Wall

A3.1 Exterior Elevations A2.1 1st Floor Plan

PROJECT ADDRESS

Gunnells

2104 Chesnut Road Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

8

Title Sheet

Sheet Index

























12" Formed Concrete

# GUNNELLS

Title Sheet

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WHY TOO SEE AFF

microwave oven

maximum minimum

knee space keypad equal flex conduit hose bibb

telephone jack pressure treated return air

not applicable not to scale on center

refrigerator required smoke detector

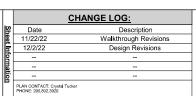
tounge and groove top of...

square feet

similar

cable television typical

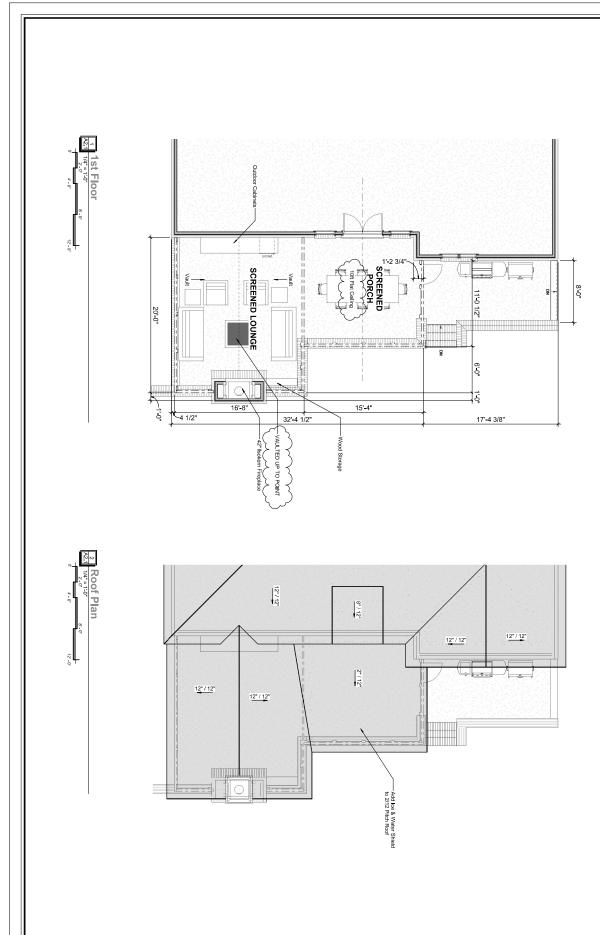
wine cooler water heater waterproof







2907 Central Ave. Suite 105 Homewood, AL 35209



18		9	CHANGE LOG:
	Sheet	Date	Description
<b># &gt;</b>	eet	11/22/22	Walkthrough Revisions
A2 1st Floor	15	12/2/22	Design Revisions
٩١٠	lg		<u>-</u>
2.1 loor Plan			
	-	PLAN CONTACT: Crystal Tuc	ker

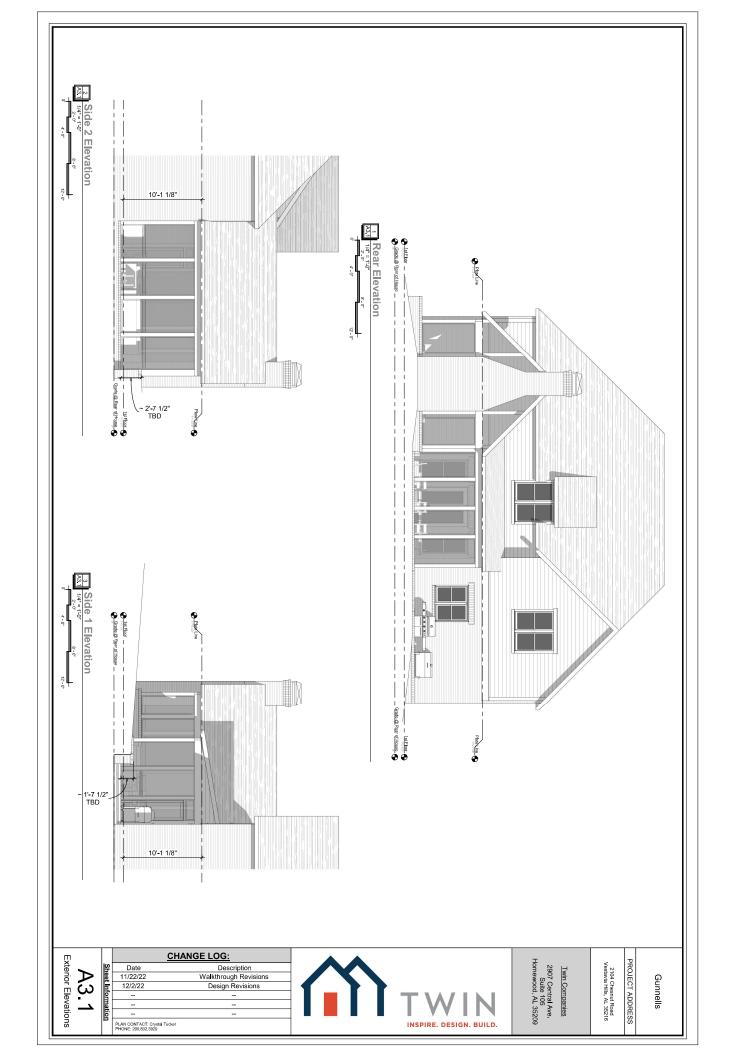


Twin Companies 2907 Central Ave. Suite 105 Homewood, AL 35209

PROJECT ADDRESS

2104 Chesnut Road Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

Gunnells





### **Zoning Official Review**

Variance and Special Exception Application

Status: Complete Became Active: 12/27/2022

**Assignee:** Rebecca Leavings **Completed:** 12/27/2022

### **Applicant**

Twin Construction summer@twincompanies.com 2907 Central Avenue Suite 105 Birmingham, AL 35209 205-802-3920

### **Primary Location**

2104 CHESTNUT RD VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35216

### **Owner:**

Drew and Sara Gunnells 2104 Chestnut Road Vestavia. AL 35216

### Comments

### Rebecca Leavings, Dec 27, 2022 at 11:04am

Resurvey has been applied for. Variance approval should be conditioned upon approval and recordation of final plat. Variances should be noted on the plat.



### **Engineering Review**

Variance and Special Exception Application

Status: Complete Became Active: 12/27/2022

**Assignee:** Christopher Brady **Completed:** 01/03/2023

### **Applicant**

Twin Construction summer@twincompanies.com 2907 Central Avenue Suite 105 Birmingham, AL 35209 205-802-3920

### **Primary Location**

2104 CHESTNUT RD VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35216

### **Owner:**

Drew and Sara Gunnells 2104 Chestnut Road Vestavia, AL 35216

### Comments

### Christopher Brady, Jan 3, 2023 at 2:00pm

Final permit request is subject to engineering review of impervious area. Total lot coverage cannot exceed 30%. Existing impervious area may need to be removed or modified to offset new addition. Please discuss with engineering prior to submitting for building permit.

### Twin Construction, Jan 9, 2023 at 12:09pm

Hi Christopher, does Vestavia have a list of approved permeable materials if we would like to modify areas of the exterior addition?

IV. ZONING

Vestavia Hills Zoning for the subject property is R-3

### V. HARDSHIP

Describe those things which you feel justify the action requested. An Undue Hardship is required in order to seek a variance. List, when necessary, the specific sections of the City Code(s) which have a bearing on your request. (Use additional space on separate page if necessary).

The property at 2104 Chastnut Rd is situated on a lot and a harf. The owners are in the property at 2104 Chastnut Rd is situated on a lot and a harf. The owners are in the property to combine the lot and a harf. The owners are even after the resurrey the lot width will be 75' and the lot area will be 11,325 square feet. The minimum width required is 100' and minimum arrangements is 15,000. We are seeking a variance to bring the existing a requirements.

Describe the scope of the project and/or the reason for requesting this variance.

Adding screened purch to existing home

### VII. OWNER AFFIDAVIT:

My commission expires day of September

I do hereby declare the above statements are true and that I, the owner, and/or my duly appointed representative will be at the scheduled hearing. I, also, understand that I am asking for a variance based on the Zoning Code only and not on any or all covenants that are on the subject property. \*Note, this application must be signed by the owner of the property before a notary. The original application shall be submitted, no copies shall be accepted\*

12/19/2022   9:56 AM CST	David Siegel 12/19/2022   11:18 AM CST
Owner Signature/Date	Representing Agent (if any)/date
Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of December, 2022.	
Notary Public 12 M	SUMMER E YOUNG Notary Public, Alabama State At Large My Commission Expires Sep. 11, 2024

### CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS

### SYNOPSIS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING APPLICATION BEFORE THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

Date: **January 19, 2023** 

• <u>CASE</u>: BZA-22-28

• **REQUESTED ACTION:** Variance for Location of Fence in the Front Setback.

• ADDRESS/LOCATION: 1401 Holly Oak Drive

• APPLICANT/OWNER: Nancy Zito

• **REPRESENTING AGENT:** Danielle Zito

• **GENERAL DISCUSSION:** The applicant is seeking a variance for the location of a fence in the front setback. The property sits on a corner lot and the fence would go on the side of the house, but in that second frontage. The new fence is just a replacement of an existing, and will stay at the same location. The applicant's property is zoned Vestavia Hills R-2.

### • <u>STAFF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION</u>:

1. City Planner Review: No problems noted.

2. City Engineer Review: See attached.

3. City Fire Marshal Review: No problems noted.

4. **Building Safety Review:** No problems noted.



### Variance and Special Exception Application

Status: Active Date Created: Dec 19, 2022

### **Applicant**

Danielle Zito danielle.mmbuilders@gmail.com 1401 Holly Oak Drive Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35226 2057461024

### **Primary Location**

1401 HOLLY OAK DR VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35226

### **Owner:**

Nancy T. Zito 1401 Holly Oak Drive Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35226

### **Agenda Information**

### **Agenda Scheduling**

January 2023

### **Comments/Delay/Explanation**

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### **Applicant Information**

### I am filling this out as the

Representative Agent

### Billing/Responsible Party

Name

Nancy T. Zito

**Address** 

1401 Holly Oak Drive

Phone #

205-613-1531

City/State/Zip

Vestavia Hills, AL 35226

Email	
Representing Attorney/Other Agent	
Name	Phone #
Tommy Zito	205-229-7813
Address	City/State/Zip
1401 Holly Oak Drive	Vestavia Hills AL 35226
Email	
Tommyzito44@gmail.com	
Subject Property Information	
Subject Property Address	
1401 Holly Oak Drive	
Legal Description of Subject Property	
Lot 5 Block 8 Map Volume 54 page 73	
REASONS FOR REQUEST	
Front Setback Variance	Rear Setback Variance
Side Setback Variance  □	Other Setback Variance
Lot Area Variance	Lot Width Variance
Variance for location of a fence.  ✓	
<b>Details</b> Corner Lot- requesting for fence in "Front Yard"	
Sign Code Variance	

A decision of the Zoning Official which the applicant believes to be contrary to the meaning of the Zoning Ordinance.

Other					
ZONING					
Vestavia Hills Zoning for the subject property is					
PROJECT					
Describe the scope of the project and/or the reason for requesting this variance.  Replacing old fence with new fence in corner lot					

### **HARDSHIP**

Please answer the following questions regarding hardship and briefly summarize and describe those things which you feel justify the action requested in the box below. An Undue Hardship is required in order to seek a variance. List, when necessary, the specific sections of the City Code(s) which have a bearing on your request. (Use additional space on separate page if necessary).

Two front yards

Before any variance is granted, the BZA must find that ALL of the following conditions exist. Please describe each of the following details in order for the BZA to determine if these warrants the described hardship.

1. There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions, which are peculiar to the piece of property in question because of its size, shape or topography, that are not applicable to the other lands or structures in the same district. Please explain:

Shape: this property is a corner lot with 2 front yards, most residental properties have only 1 front yard

2. Granting the variance requested will not confer upon the applicant any special privileges that are denied to other owners of property in the District in which the property is located. Please explain:

This is not requesting any special privileges, there are other corner lots with fences in both front yards

3. All literal interpretations of the provisions of this Ordinance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by others of property int he distrcit in which the property is located. Please explain:

Would not be able to have a privacy fence that most other neighbors have

4. The requested variance will be in harmony with the purpose and intent of this Ordinance and will not be injurious to the neighborhood or to the general welfare. Please explain:

True, the fence would not hender the sight or safety of the public

5. The special circumstances are not the intended result of the actions of the applicant (i.e., self-imposed hardship). Please explain:

True, this is not a self-imposed hardship

6. The variance requested is the minimum variance that will make possible the legal use of the land, building or structure. Please explain:

True, we are not requesting to expand the fence, only to replace a dilapidated fence.

- 7. The no non-conforming use of neighboring lands, structures, or buildings in the same district, and no permitted or non-conforming use of lands, structures, or building in other districts shall be considered grounds for the issuance of a variance.
- 8. That a variance will not allow the permanent establishment of a use not permissible under the terms of this Ordinance in the district involved, or any use expressly or by implication prohibited by the terms of this Ordinance in said district.

True

NOTE: In proving that an unnecessary hardship has been imposed on the property as a result of the strict interpretation of this Ordinance, the following conditions cannot be considered pertinent to the determination of whether or not an unnecessary hardship exists: (1) proof that a variance would increase the financial return from land; or (2) personal or economic hardship; or (3) self-imposed hardship. In other words, hardship alone is not sufficient to permit a variance. It must be an "unnecessary hardship." Mere financial loss of a kind, which might be common to all of the property owners in a district, is not an "unnecessary hardship."

### **OWNER AFFIDAVIT**

I do hereby declare the above statements are true and that I, the owner, and/or my duly appointed representative will be at the scheduled hearing. Simultaneously with the **Representing Agent Signature** 

Tommy Vincent Zito 12/19/2022

submittal of this application, I am hereby submitting a notarized affidavit signed by the owner of the property in the attachments section of this application. NOTE: Applications cannot be processed without the notarized owners affidavit. Owners authorization may be found on our main page.



### **Engineering Review**

Variance and Special Exception Application

Status: Complete

**Assignee:** Christopher Brady

**Became Active:** 12/20/2022

**Completed:** 01/03/2023

### **Applicant**

Danielle Zito danielle.mmbuilders@gmail.com 1401 Holly Oak Drive Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35226 2057461024

### **Primary Location**

1401 HOLLY OAK DR VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35226

### **Owner:**

Nancy T. Zito 1401 Holly Oak Drive Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35226

### Comments

### Christopher Brady, Jan 3, 2023 at 1:57pm

As long as new fence is no closer to the roadway than existing fence, I am ok.



### City of Vestavia Hills Office of the City Clerk

### OWNER AFFIDAVIT (This form must be notarized):

I do hereby declare that the following statements are correct concerning the subject located at: 1401 Holly Oak Drive Vest Alabama and that statements submitted in my application are true and that I am: (pleaself that apply).	avia Hills.
the Property Owner and representing myself in said request.  the Property Owner, but I am authorizing a Representing Agent by the name of:  to represent following request:	me in the
And am requesting: (please check)	
Rezoning Request Preliminary Plat Approval Final Plat Approval Conditional Use Approval  X Request for Variance Special Exception Design Review Approval	
Signed: Janey V. Sito 12/19/2022 Owner/Signature/Date	
STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF	
Given under my hand and seal this 19 day of December, 2000.  Notary Public	
My commission expires 4 day of May, 2025.	