**IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE** \* BEFORE THE

(10 Ensign Court)

15<sup>th</sup> Election District \* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

6<sup>th</sup> Council District

Margaret M. Streckfus \* HEARINGS FOR

Petitioner

\* BALTIMORE COUNTY

\* CASE NO. 2014-0266-A

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

## **OPINION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for Baltimore County for consideration of a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owner of the property, Margaret M. Streckfus. The Petitioner is requesting Variance relief pursuant to Section 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R), to permit a proposed covered deck with steps to grade in the front yard with a setback of zero ft. in lieu of the required 10 ft. The subject property and requested relief is more fully depicted on the site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. There were no adverse ZAC comments received from any of the County reviewing agencies. However, it is to be noted that letters of support were received from adjacent neighbors Drew Brady (18 Ensign Court) and Edgar D. Russell (12 Ensign Court).

The Petitioner having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on June 22, 2014, and there being no request for a public hearing, a decision shall be rendered based upon the documentation presented.

The Petitioner has filed the supporting affidavits as required by Section 32-3-303 of the Baltimore County Code (B.C.C.). Based upon the information available, there is no evidence in the file to indicate that the requested variance would adversely affect the health, safety or general

welfare of the public and should therefore be granted. In the opinion of the Administrative Law

Judge, the information, photographs, and affidavits submitted provide sufficient facts that

comply with the requirements of Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R. Furthermore, strict compliance

with the B.C.Z.R. would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the

Petitioner.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the Baltimore County

Code and the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, and for the reasons given above, the

requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this 8th day of July, 2014 by the Administrative Law

Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section

1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R), to permit a proposed

covered deck with steps to grade in the front yard with a setback of zero ft. in lieu of the required

10 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

 Petitioner may apply for any appropriate permits and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at her own risk until such time as the 30-day

appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, Petitioner would be required to return, and be

responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

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

Order.

Signed

JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN

Administrative Law Judge for

**Baltimore County** 

JEB:dlw

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