#### April 19, 2024

Anne Arundel County Office of Planning & Zoning 2664 Riva Road Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Attention: Ms. Sterling Seay

Re: VARIANCE REQUEST RATTNER PROPERTY 424 FORELANDS ROAD ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401

#### Dear Ms. Seay:

On behalf of the applicants, we respectfully request a variance to Article 17-8-201(a) which states in part that 15% slopes or greater in the LDA shall not be disturbed. A variance is also requested to Article 18-12-104(b)(1) which states there is an expanded buffer to the top of steep slopes in a non buffer modified area. The lot is developed with dwelling and associated improvements. This lot meets the definition of a buildable lot, subject to the approvals of the County. The property is 118,761 square feet in area. The site is served by well and septic. It is served by private rights of way from Forelands Road, a variable width private right of way. The site drains to the tidal waters of Broad Creek. The site is waterfront. The site is located in the LDA (Limited Development Area) of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. A small portion of RCA (Resource Conservation Area) is located in the northwest corner of the lot, however it appears that erosion has eliminated this area so there is no RCA on the site. The site is not located in a Buffer Modification area and is subject to a 50' expanded buffer due to the presence of steep slopes. The site is zoned R2 with a small portion of OS that is by the water and will not be impacted by this proposal.

The applicant wishes to remove an existing elevated deck that partially surrounds the existing pool, and replace with a new deck in a smaller footprint. They also wish to replace the 162 square foot gazebo which is on top of the deck with a different shaped gazebo that is approximately 168 square feet in size. The deck is in need of replacement due to age. To perform this work, there will be steep slope disturbance for slopes under and near the existing deck, and the deck is located in the expanded buffer. Construction access to the deck is also located in the expanded buffer. This disturbance is for access only and will provide no grading, cutting or filling in the expanded buffer. The new deck will match the footprint of the existing deck, however it will be reduced in size by 250 square feet. The deck is 1,179 square feet in size, and is considered lot coverage as it is not connected to the principal dwelling. The new deck will be 929 square feet in size. The southerly side of the deck, the owner is reducing the width by 4' along the entire length, for a reduction of 224 square feet. The deck on the northwest side will be reduced 1.46' to allow the owners better access to an existing path to the water. The site currently meets the underlying lot coverage requirements for a lot of this size in the LDA. Existing lot coverage is 17,658 square feet, and the allowable lot coverage is 17,814 square feet. As such, no reduction in lot coverage is required for this project. The disturbance required for replacement of the deck is under 5,000 square feet, and a Standard Grading Plan should suffice for the proposed work, should the variance be granted.

In regards to the Agency responses to the prefile, dated February 2024, the following is offered. Zoning noted that it was questionable that replacing an 'oversized' deck generally in kind is the minimum relief necessary. Replacing a failing deck, while does require variances, is really a safety and maintenance issue. However, the owners agreed to reduce the size of the deck by 250 square feet. The Critical Area Team noted that they had no objection to the replacement of the deck,

provided there was no expansion of the footprint. Initially the owners wished to square off the south west corner of the deck. This expansion has been removed from the proposal. It should be noted that under current code, as the deck is not attached to the principal dwelling it is considered lot coverage. It will be a drip through deck upon completion of the project, but is still lot coverage. There is a gazebo currently in place on the deck. The owners wish to replace this with what is essentially a roof on posts to give cover from the sun while enjoying this outdoor amenity. The current gazebo is 162 square feet in size, and the replacement structure would be 168 square feet in size. By Code, there is no increase in lot coverage, the overall reduction of 250 square feet of deck more than offsets a 6 square foot covered replacement structure.

The clients have been good stewards of the environment on their property, and only wish to replace the features noted above as they are failing. The owners in 2022 did some slope remediation procedures, and planted 1,000 square feet of mitigation planting to help stabilize and vegetatively improve the slope near the proposed work. This work helped stabilize the slope and add vegetation to the expanded buffer. The proposed work is part of keeping their property functioning in a positive manner.

#### This plan meets the intent of 18-16-305(a):

1. The subject property is 118,761 square feet in size, and it is zoned R2 and is encumbered by steep slopes over much of the waterfront portion of the site. The property has steep slopes from roughly the rear of the existing dwelling down to the community property. The site is subject to an expanded buffer. As such, there is no reasonable possibility of developing this property without relief to the Code.

2. The exceptional circumstances and practical difficulties in redeveloping the deck have been noted in #1 above to a large degree. The deck is old, potentially unsafe and in need of repair. Replacing it is the most ideal remediation due to the age and condition of the deck.

This plan also meets the intent of 18-16-305(b) for critical area variances.

1. What is peculiar about and inherent to this lot is that it is subject to an expanded buffer and is located almost entirely in steep slopes and their expanded buffer from the house to the water. Denial of a variance would be a hardship for the owners, as the deck has met its life expectancy and cannot be enjoyed by the owners in its current state. The work proposed creates a replacement for the existing deck with the minimal amount of disturbance.

2. A literal interpretation of COMAR would deny the owners use of the property enjoyed by others as the site has steep slopes and is subject to the expanded buffer, and there is no way to do the proposed work without disturbing the expanded buffer or steep slopes. As this deck is existing, for the owners to not be allowed to proceed would be a denial of rights commonly enjoyed by others. This proposal also will reduce lot coverage in the expanded buffer.

The site is not in a bog area.

3. This project will not confer special privileges to the owner, as the deck is old, and in need of replacement.

4. The request is not a result of actions of the owner. The steep slopes were there, the expanded buffer encumbers the portion of the site in which the deck is located, and the owners have not started work prior to the issuance of any permits.

5. This project will not result in a denigration of forest or water quality. The deck is considered lot coverage, but will be replaced in the same general footprint, and reduce lot coverage in the slopes and expanded buffer. as stormwater management will be provided as required by the Code, most likely by planting for stormwater mitigation, and any clearing must be mitigated for as per the Code. The amount of new lot coverage is -250 square feet.

6. This site is not in the bog buffer.

7. This plan meets the presumption, as the denial of this variance would deny the owners rights of other owners in the County. The development is not detrimental to the environment as there is no increase in lot coverage, and modern construction will make the project a benefit not a detriment to the area.

8. The applicant has tried alternative design. However, as this is replacement of a failing existing feature, the design alternatives are limited.

This plan meets the requirements of 18-16-305(c), as the proposal is the minimum relief necessary. The development will not impair the use of adjoining properties, nor reduce forest cover in the LDA or RCA. The work performed will not be contrary to clearing and replacement practices, and will not alter the character of the neighborhood or be detrimental to the public welfare.

1. The variance request is the minimum to afford relief. The request is the minimum to allow for construction of a replacement deck, with a reduction in lot coverage proposed.

2. i. This variance will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. The new deck is in the same general footprint as the existing deck and will be located in the same general footprint.

ii. This variance will not impair the use of adjoining properties. The proposal will not impact neighbors. The new deck will be in the same location as the current deck.

iii. No tree clearing is proposed and any mitigation necessary during the permit process will not decrease tree cover in the LDA or RCA.

iv. No work will be performed contrary to approved clearing practices, as a permit will be required, and this permit must meet those requirements.

v. The project will not be detrimental to the public welfare, as it is located on private property.

This plan proposes the minimum relief necessary. The development will not impair the use of adjoining properties, nor reduce forest cover in the LDA or RCA. The work performed will not be contrary to clearing and replacement practices and will not alter the character of the neighborhood or be detrimental to the public welfare.

As this proposal is for construction in the same footprint, and disturbance has been minimized. A grading permit should not be required. It\_appears that this request is consistent with other development in this area. Denial of this request would not allow the owner to enjoy property rights common to other properties in this area.

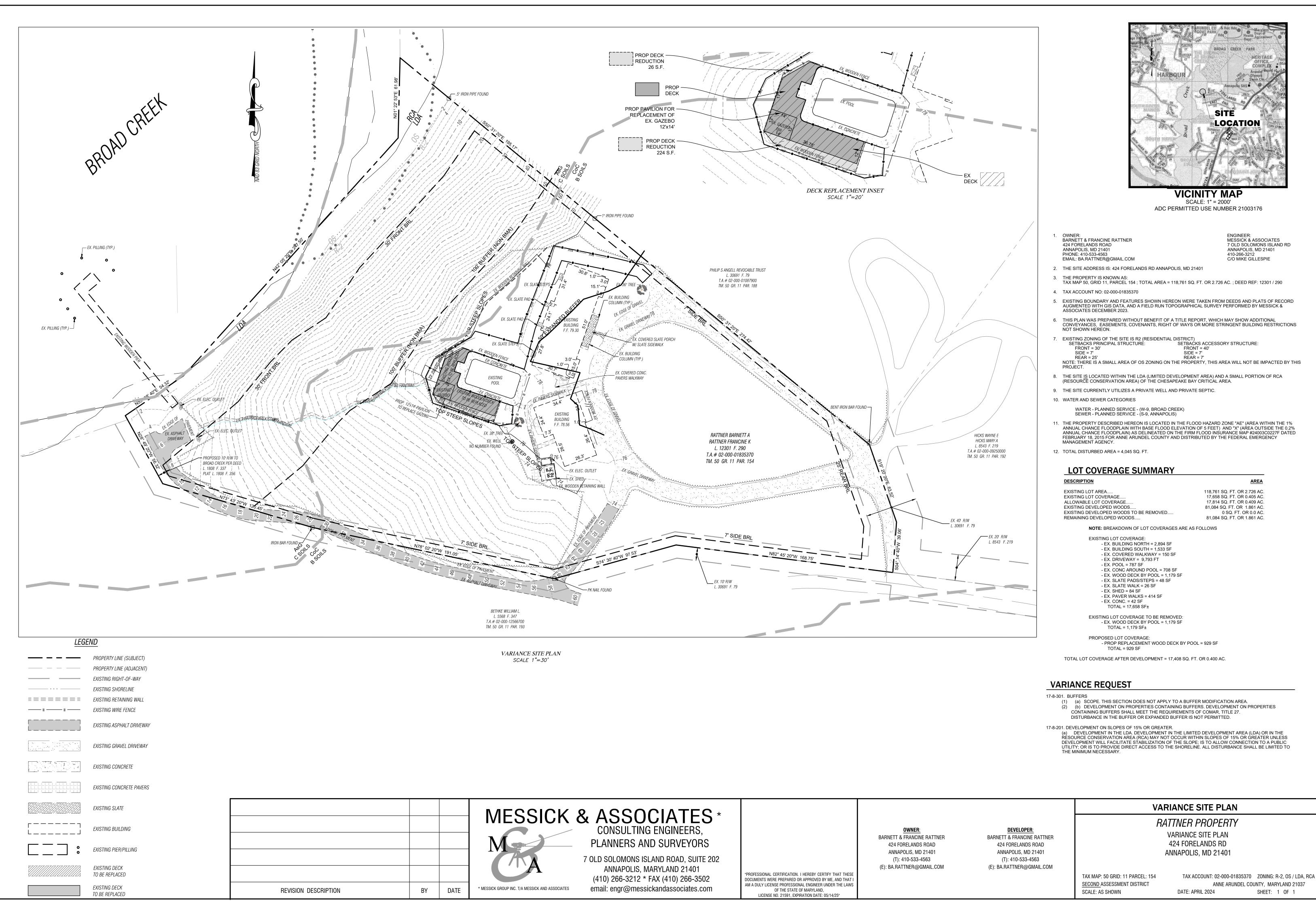
The enclosed plan represents the location of the proposed work to the deck. In closing, the variances requested are the minimum necessary to afford relief, and is not based on conditions or circumstances that are a result of actions by the applicant. We thank for in advance for your consideration to this request.

If you have any questions, or if you require additional information, please feel free to contact me at 410-266-3212.

Sincerely, Messick and Associates

Mike Gillespie

Mike Gillespie Project Manager



### CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS 1804 WEST STREET, SUITE 100 ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401

### PROJECT NOTIFICATION APPLICATION

### GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Jurisdiction: Anne Arundel County	Date: 4-19-24
Tax Map #         Parcel #         Block #         Lot #           SD         1/1         154         -	Section       FOR RESUBMITTAL ONLY         Section       Corrections         Redesign       Image         No Change       Image         Non-Critical Area       Image
Tax ID: 02-000-01835370	*Complete Only Page 1 General Project Information
Project Name (site name, subdivision name, or other Project location/Address 424 Fore land	
City Annapolis	Zip 21401
Local case number	
Applicant: Last name ReHner	First name Barne Ha Francino
Company	
Application Type (check all that apply):	
Building PermitBuffer Management PlanConditional UseConsistency ReportDisturbance > 5,000 sq ftGrading Permit	Variance    Rezoning    Site Plan    Special Exception    Subdivision    Other
Local Jurisdiction Contact Information:	
Last name AACo Zoning Administration Section	First name
Phone # 410-222-7437 Respo	onse from Commission Required By
Fax #	Hearing date TBD

Revised 12/14/2006

### SPECIFIC PROJECT INFORMATION

Describe Proposed use	of project site:		
Replace failing (	ECK net attached to the dwe	11mg witha new	
Jungler dece			
Intra-Family Transfer Grandfathered Lot	Yes V	Growth Allocation Buffer Exemption Area	
Project Type (check al	l that apply)		
Commercial Consistency Report Industrial Institutional Mixed Use Other		Recreational Redevelopment Residential Shore Erosion Control Water-Dependent Facility	

### SITE INVENTORY (Enter acres or square feet)

	Acres	Sq Ft
IDA Area		
LDA Area	27210	118,761
RCA Area		
Total Area	2:726	118,76/

Total Disturbed Area

Acres Sq Ft 0,093 4045

# of Lots Created  $\mathcal{S}$ 

	Acres	Sq Ft		Acres	Sq Ft
Existing Forest/Woodland/Trees	1.861	81,084	Existing Lot Coverage	1.405	17658
Created Forest/Woodland/Trees	TOD	TJD	New Lot Coverage	0.021	929
Removed Forest/Woodland/Trees	P	D	Removed Lot Coverage	0,027	1.179
			Total Lot Coverage	17,408	0,400

## VARIANCE INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

	Acres Sq Ft	Acres	Sq Ft
Buffer Disturbance	6,093 4,045 Buffer Forest Clearing	0	0
Non-Buffer Disturbance	D D Mitigation	TRD	TOD
Variance Type	Structure		
Buffer	Acc. Structure Addition		
Forest Clearing	Barn		
HPA Impact	Deck Replacement		
Lot Coverage	Dwelling		
Expanded Buffer	Dwelling Addition		
Nontidal Wetlands	Garage		
Setback	Gazebo		
Steep Slopes	Patio		
Other 🗍	Pool		
	Shed		
	Other		

## CRITICAL AREA REPORT

## 424 FORELANDS ROAD ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401

April 2024

Prepared for: Barnett & Francine Rattner

Prepared by: Messick and Associates 7 Old Solomons Island Road Suite 202 Annapolis, MD 21401

### **INTRODUCTION**

This site is a 118,761 square foot property that is located on the north and west of Forelands Road in Annapolis, MD. The proposal is to replace a failing wood deck on the property. The site is served by septic and well. The property is completely inside the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Boundary and is designated as Limited Development Area (LDA) predominantly with a portion of RCA (Resource Conservation Area) that appears to have eroded away. The property is zoned residential, R-2 with a tiny portion of OS down near the shoreline.

### **EXISTING USE**

The property consists of 118,761 square foot property. The site is currently developed. The property is currently a residential lot developed with a house, driveway, deck, pool and associated improvements. The property is a corner lot located off a private right of way to Forelands Road.

### SURROUNDING LAND USE

The properties that abut the site are relatively large, developed as single-family lots. The general area is developed as single-family lots. The site is bounded by a developed property to the north, south and east with tidal waters of Broad Creek to the west.

### PROPOSED WORK

The owners wish to replace an existing failing wood deck on the property. The deck is not attached to the dwelling, and as such is lot coverage. The work to replace the deck and to access it for construction will require disturbance to a small area of steep slopes. All work is taking place in the expanded buffer. The owners have reduced the size of the deck from what currently exists.

### SOILS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Survey, defines the property to have a soil type of AsG – Annapolis Fine Sandy Loam, 40 TO 80% Slopes (C Soils) and CoC – Collington-Wist complex 5-10% slopes.

#### FLOODPLAIN

The property described hereon is located in the flood hazard zones "X" - (area of minimal flood hazard) and zone AE El=5' as delineated on the firm flood insurance map #24003C0227F dated February 18, 2015 for said county and distributed by the Federal Emergency Management facility.

#### NON-TIDAL WETLANDS

There appear to be no Non Tidal Wetlands on the site.

### TIDAL WETLANDS

There appear to be no Tidal Wetlands on this site.

#### BODIES OF WATER

The site drains into Broad Creek.

### **STEEP SLOPES**

A large portion of the site, predominantly between the dwelling and the shoreline is steep slopes.

### RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

A review of Federal and/or State listed species of rare, threatened or endangered species of plants or animals has been requested via the enclosed letter to Lori Byrne of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fish, Heritage and Wildlife Administration.

### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater management will be provided as required during the permit process.

#### FOREST COVER

The existing forest cover is limited to a few overstory trees. The understory is mostly lawn. The following are typical trees of areas such as this site:

Common Name	Scientific Name
Black Locust	Robinia pseudoacaia
Eastern Sycamore	Platanus occidentalis
American Holly	Ilex opaca
Beech	Fagus grandifolia
White Poplar	Populus alba
Mountain Laurel	Kalmia latifolia

#### WILDLIFE TYPICAL OF THIS AREA

Common Name

Scientific Name

Eastern Gray Squirrel Blue Jay	Sciurus Carolinensis Cyanocitta Cristata
Common Crow	Corvus Brachythynchos
Northern Cardinal	Richmondena Cardinalis

1

#### SITE CALCULATIONS

- 1. Total Site area......118,761 sq. ft.
- 2. Site area in Critical area.....118,761 sq. ft
- 3. Existing lot coverage .....17,658 sq. ft.
- 4. Lot coverage to be removed.....1,179 sq. ft.
- 4. Proposed lot coverage .....929 sq. ft.
- 5. Total Lot Coverage after Construction...17,408 sq. ft.
- 6. Proposed Disturbed Area.....4,045 sq. ft.

#### Real Property Data Search () Search Result for ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

View Map	View Ground	dRent Redempt	ion	View GroundR	ent Registra	ation
Special Tax Recap	iture: None					
Account Identifier	Dis	trict - 02 Subdiv	Islan - 000	Account Number - 01	835370	
		Owner I	RANCINE K Principal Residence: YES			
Owner Name:		ITNER BARNET				IAI.
Mailing Address:		FORELANDS R		Deed Reference:	/12301/ 002	290
	Loc	ation & Stru	icture In	formation		
Premises Address	ANN	FORELANDS R APOLIS 21401- erfront		Legal Description:	2.83 ACRE 424 FOREL RIVA	-
Map: Grid: Parcel:	Neighborhood:	Subdivision:	Section:	Block: Lot: Assessm	ent Year:	Plat No:
0050 0011 0154	2070050.02	000		2024		Plat Ref:

Town: None

Primary Structure Built Above Grade Living Area Finished Basement Area Property Land Area County Use 1967 3,293 SF 2.8300 AC

 StorlesBasementType
 ExteriorQualityFull/Half BathGarageLast Notice of Major Improvements

 1
 NO
 STANDARD UNITBRICK/ 4
 3 full/ 1 half

#### Value Information

	Base Value	Value	Phase-in Asses	sments
		As of 01/01/2024	As of 07/01/2023	As of 07/01/2024
Land:	728,400	728,400		
Improvements	261,800	363,200		
Tolal:	990,200	1,091,600	990,200	1,024,000
Preferential Land:	0	0		

#### **Transfer Information**

Туре:	Deed1:	Deed2:
Seller:	Date:	Price:
Type: ARMS LENGTH IMPROVED	Deed1: /08260/ 00290	Deed2:
Seller: GILBERT, ELZIE	Date: 01/26/1998	Price: \$449,850
Type: ARMS LENGTH IMPROVED	Deed1: /12301/ 00290	Deed2:
Seller: CURIMBABA, LUIS R	Date: 12/19/2002	Price: \$879,993

#### Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments:	Class	07/01/2023	07/01/2024
County:	000	0.00	
State:	000	0.00	
Municipal:	000	0.0010.00	0.0010.00
Special Tax Recepture: None			

#### **Homestead Application Information**

Homestead Application Status: Approved 01/13/2009

#### Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Information

Homeowners' Tax Credit Application Status: No Application Date:



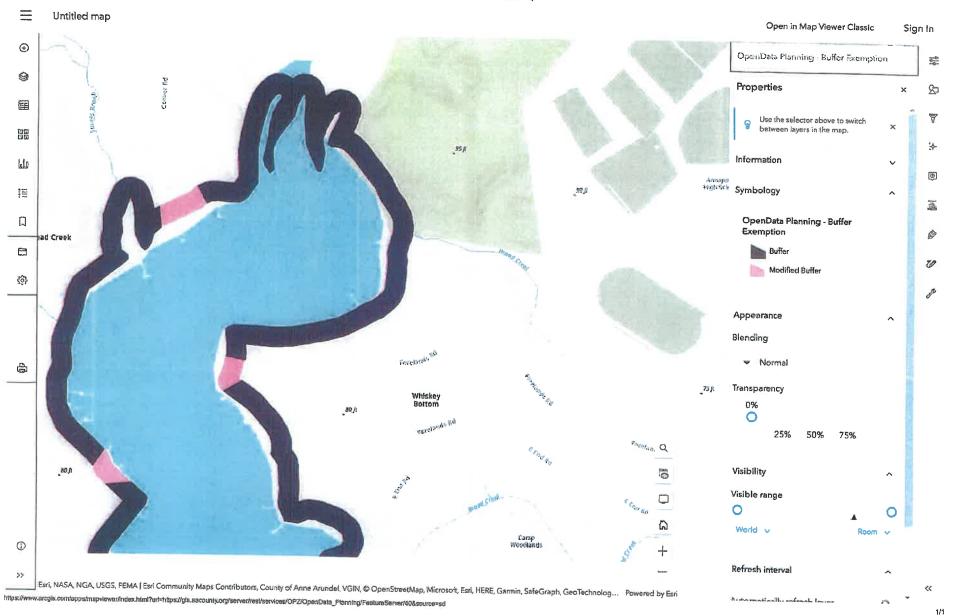








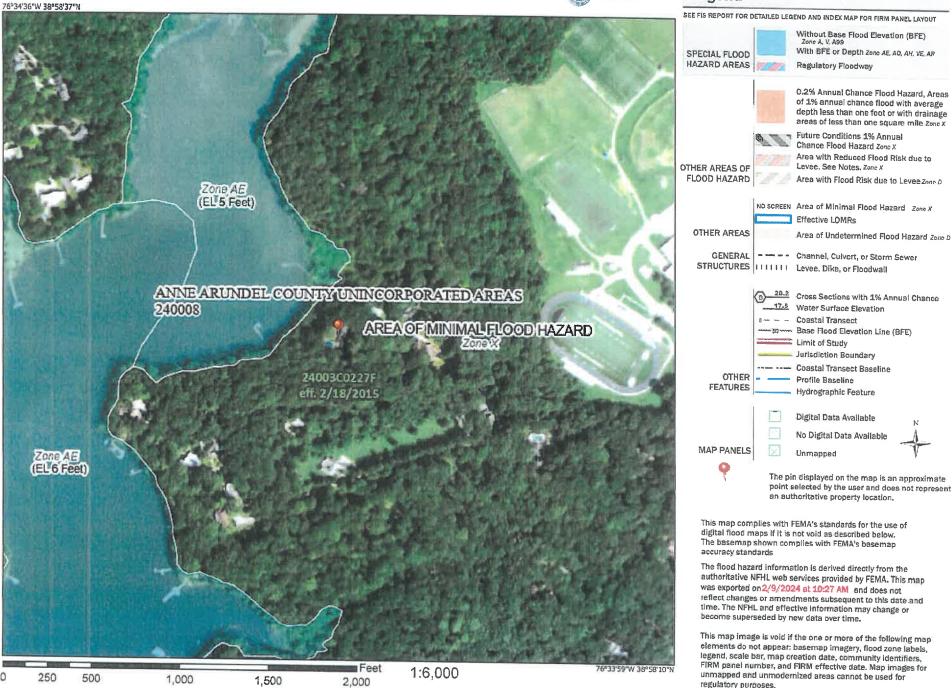
Unifiled map



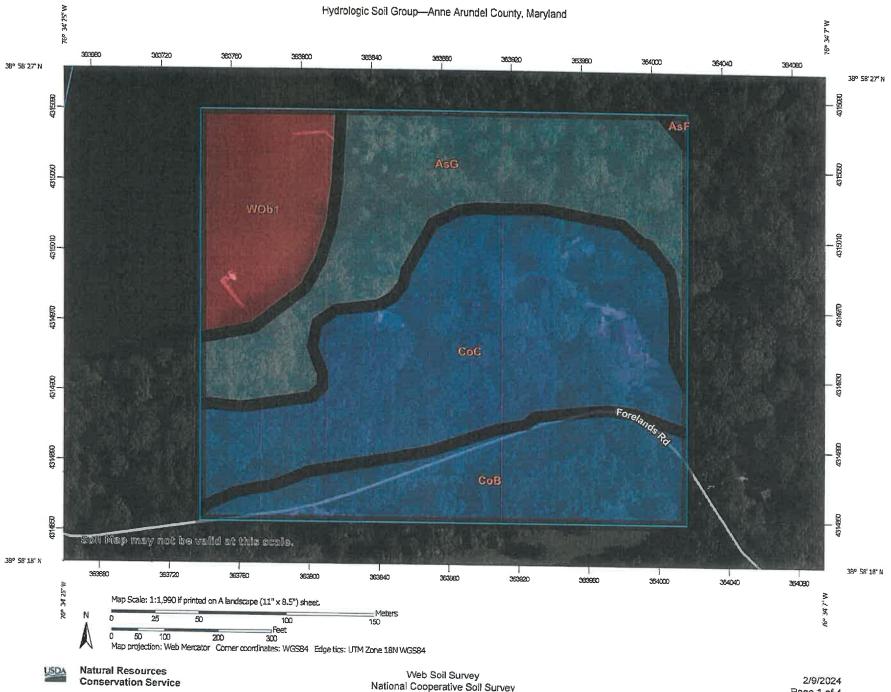
# National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



### Legend



Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023



Page 1 of 4

MAPLEGE
Area of Interest (AOI)   Area of Interest (AOI)   Soils   Soil Rating Polygons   A   A/D   B   B/D   B/D   C   C/D   D   O   Not reted or not available   Soil Rating Lines   A/D   B   A/D   C   D   C   D   C   D   C   D   D   C/D   D   C/D   D   Not rated or not available   SOIR Rating Points   A   A/D



Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
AsF	Annapolis fine sandy loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	С	0.0	0.2%
AsG	Annapolis fine sandy loam, 40 to 80 percent slopes	С	4.7	28.8%
CoB	Collington-Wist complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	В	2.9	18.1%
CoC	Collington-Wist complex, 5 to 10 percent slopes	В	6.4	39.5%
WOb1	Overboard loam, 0 to 1 meter water depth	D	2.2	13.3%
Totals for Area of Interest			16.2	100.0%

## Hydrologic Soil Group



### Description

Hydrologic soil groups are based on estimates of runoff potential. Soils are assigned to one of four groups according to the rate of water infiltration when the soils are not protected by vegetation, are thoroughly wet, and receive precipitation from long-duration storms.

The soils in the United States are assigned to four groups (A, B, C, and D) and three dual classes (A/D, B/D, and C/D). The groups are defined as follows:

Group A. Soils having a high infiltration rate (low runoff potential) when thoroughly wet. These consist mainly of deep, well drained to excessively drained sands or gravelly sands. These soils have a high rate of water transmission.

Group B. Soils having a moderate infiltration rate when thoroughly wet. These consist chiefly of moderately deep or deep, moderately well drained or well drained soils that have moderately fine texture to moderately coarse texture. These soils have a moderate rate of water transmission.

Group C. Soils having a slow infiltration rate when thoroughly wet. These consist chiefly of soils having a layer that impedes the downward movement of water or soils of moderately fine texture or fine texture. These soils have a slow rate of water transmission.

Group D. Soils having a very slow infiltration rate (high runoff potential) when thoroughly wet. These consist chiefly of clays that have a high shrink-swell potential, soils that have a high water table, soils that have a claypan or clay layer at or near the surface, and soils that are shallow over nearly impervious material. These soils have a very slow rate of water transmission.

If a soil is assigned to a dual hydrologic group (A/D, B/D, or C/D), the first letter is for drained areas and the second is for undrained areas. Only the soils that in their natural condition are in group D are assigned to dual classes.

### **Rating Options**

Aggregation Method: Dominant Condition Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified Tie-break Rule: Higher

JSDA



## **OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING**

#### **CONFIRMATION OF PRE-FILE MEETING**

DATE OF MEETING \_\_\_\_ Februrary 2024\_\_\_

P&Z STAFF Rob Konowal, Kelly Krinetz

APPLICANT/REPRESENTATIVE_Messick & Associates	(Mike Gillespie)	EMAIL <u>en</u>	gr@messickand	associates.c	om	
SITE LOCATION 424 Forelands Rd (2024-0021-P)		LOT SIZE	118,761 sf	ZONING	R2/OS	

CA DESIGNATION LDA/RCA BMA or BUFFER X APPLICATION TYPE CA Variance

Variances to allow the replacement of a detached deck with less setbacks and buffer and disturbance to slopes of 15% or greater.

Rear lot line setback variance 20 feet provided 25 feet required

#### COMMENTS

**Zoning** – Questionable that variance is the minimum necessary, a greater effort needs to be shown in reducing size of oversized deck. Replacement of improvements in the expanded buffer must be justified and be the minimum necessary.

**Critical Area Team** - No objection to the replacement of the existing deck and gazebo provided there is no expansion of the footprint or square footage. Squaring off the corner, although minor, results in additional encroachment into the slopes and buffer and expansion of the gazebo adds lot to an area that is protected by the current regulations.

#### **INFORMATION FOR THE APPLICANT**

Section 18-16-201 (b) Pre-filing meeting required. Before filing an application for a variance, special exception, or to change a zoning district, to change or remove a critical area classification, or for a variance in the critical area or bog protection area, an applicant shall meet with the Office of Planning and Zoning to review a pre-file concept plan or an administrative site plan. For single lot properties, the owner shall prepare a simple site plan as a basis for determining what can be done under the provisions of this Code to avoid the need for a variance.

\*\*\* A preliminary plan checklist is required for development impacting environmentally sensitive areas and for all new single-family dwellings. A stormwater management plan that satisfies the requirements of the County Procedures Manual is required for development impacting environmentally sensitive areas OR disturbing 5,000 square feet or more. State mandates require a developer of land provide SWM to control new development runoff from the start of the development process.

Section 18-16-301 (c) Burden of Proof. The applicant has the burden of proof, including the burden of going forward with the production of evidence and the burden of persuasion, on all questions of fact. The burden of persuasion is by a preponderance of the evidence.

A variance to the requirements of the County's Critical Area Program may only be granted if the Administrative Hearing Officer makes affirmative findings that the applicant has addressed all the requirements outlined in Article 18-16-305. Comments made on this form are intended to provide guidance and are not intended to represent support or approval of the variance request.