

May 7, 2024

Anne Arundel County, Office of Planning and Zoning 2664 Riva Road, 3rd Floor Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SHERWOOD FOREST ~ LOT 835

835 Robin Hood Hill Annapolis MD, 21405 Variance Application

Sir/Madam:

Attached is a variance request application and associated submittal documents for the above referenced property. To allow for a modest replacement home and associated improvements to the subject property, variances to the Anne Arundel County Code are required. The requested variance to the Code relates to Article 17, Section 8-201(a) for redevelopment on slopes 15% or greater in the LDA and to Article 18, Section 2-301(b) and Section 4-601 to setback requirements.

The subject property is a legal non-conforming building lot located in the community of Sherwood Forest, Maryland. The property is currently improved with a single-family dwelling and associated improvements. The lot is zoned R-2 and is served by community water and a private septic system. The property is located entirely within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area with an LDA land use designation. The existing dwelling is surrounded by steep slopes, which encumber more than half of the property area (+/-56%), severely limiting and restricting the spaces that allow redevelopment. Primary vegetation consists of hardwood and evergreen trees, and creeping ground cover common to wooded areas and the community.

The applicants propose to raze and remove the existing dwelling and construct a new dwelling in the same location as the existing dwelling. According to tax records, the existing dwelling was constructed in the 40s. It was originally built as a summer cottage and no longer meets the standards for a dwelling to accommodate today's families. The new house is modest in size and is generally in the same footprint as the existing structures. It was designed to take advantage of every square foot to accommodate the owner's family while maintaining the character of the existing dwelling. Plans for the development have been approved by the neighboring properties and have been submitted to the Sherwood Forest community.

Due to the unique physical conditions inherent to the property, the following variance to the Anne Arundel County Code are being requested: Article 17, Section 8-201(a) of approximately

1,377-sf of disturbance on slopes 15% or greater in the LDA, to **Article 18, Section 2-301(b)** of 12-ft to the requirement of architectural features extending no more than 3-ft into a required setback, and to **Article 18, Section 4-601** of 26-ft to the required 30-ft front yard setback and 3-ft to the required 25-ft rear yard setback.

The need for the requested variance arises from the unique physical conditions of the site, specifically the size of the lot, the location of the existing structure, and the presence of steep slopes. The subject property is 37% of the required lot size by zoning and more than half of that area is encumbered with steep slopes. The entire community of Sherwood Forest is encumbered with substandard lot sizes, steep slopes, and other environmental challenges.

The new dwelling is proposed in the only viable location on the property and is within the limits of existing improvements. It does not require any more disturbance than if the existing improvements were to be removed or maintained. Denial of the requested variance would constitute an unwarranted hardship and deny the applicant's rights commonly enjoyed by other property owners. The variance request is not based on actions by the applicant and would not confer upon the applicant any special privilege that would typically be denied by COMAR or the local Critical Area Program. With the implementation of stormwater management and the nitrogen reducing septic system, the development will not have an adverse effect on water quality or negatively impact fish, wildlife, or plant habitat, and is in conformance with the general purpose and intent of the Critical Area Program. The variance is the minimum necessary to afford relief from the Critical Area legislation. The granting of the variance will not alter the character of the neighborhood, impair the use and development of adjacent properties, reduce forest cover in the LDA, nor be detrimental to the public welfare.

We believe that these requests meet all the requirements for variance, per Article 18-16-305:

Requirements for Critical Area Variances.

- Unique physical conditions Specifically topography, the irregularly shaped lot, the size of the lot, as well as the location of the existing dwelling in relation to the property lines and slopes. Denial of the requested variance would constitute an unwarranted hardship on the applicant and deprive them of the right to redevelop and deny reasonable and significant use of the entire property.
- 2. <u>Rights commonly enjoyed</u> The proposed improvements are similar and in character to those of surrounding properties. To deny the requested variance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the area.
- 3. <u>Will not confer special privilege</u> Granting this variance would not confer a special privilege to the applicant. Nearby properties maintain improvements comparable to what is proposed for this project. The applicants have made extensive efforts to

- design this proposed project in a manner that considers the placement of the existing dwelling and location of surrounding environmental features.
- 4. Not based on conditions or circumstances that are the result of actions by the applicant Conditions and circumstances are based on the small and irregular shape of the site, the presence of steep slopes, and the location of the existing improvements, and are not because of actions by the applicant.
- 5. Will not adversely affect water quality or adversely impact fish, wildlife, or plant habitat within the County's critical area The proposed development will not cause adverse impacts to fish, wildlife, or water quality in the Critical Area. Disturbance is minimized only to what is necessary to complete the project. Mitigation will occur in accordance with county regulations and will be addressed during the permitting process. Sediment and erosion controls will be utilized to ensure that construction and grading will not adversely affect the surrounding environmental features located within the Critical Area. The addition of stormwater management and a nitrogen reducing septic system will also enhance the environmental quality of the development. These precautions will ensure that water quality, fish, wildlife, and plant habitat will not be adversely affected.

Requirements for all variances.

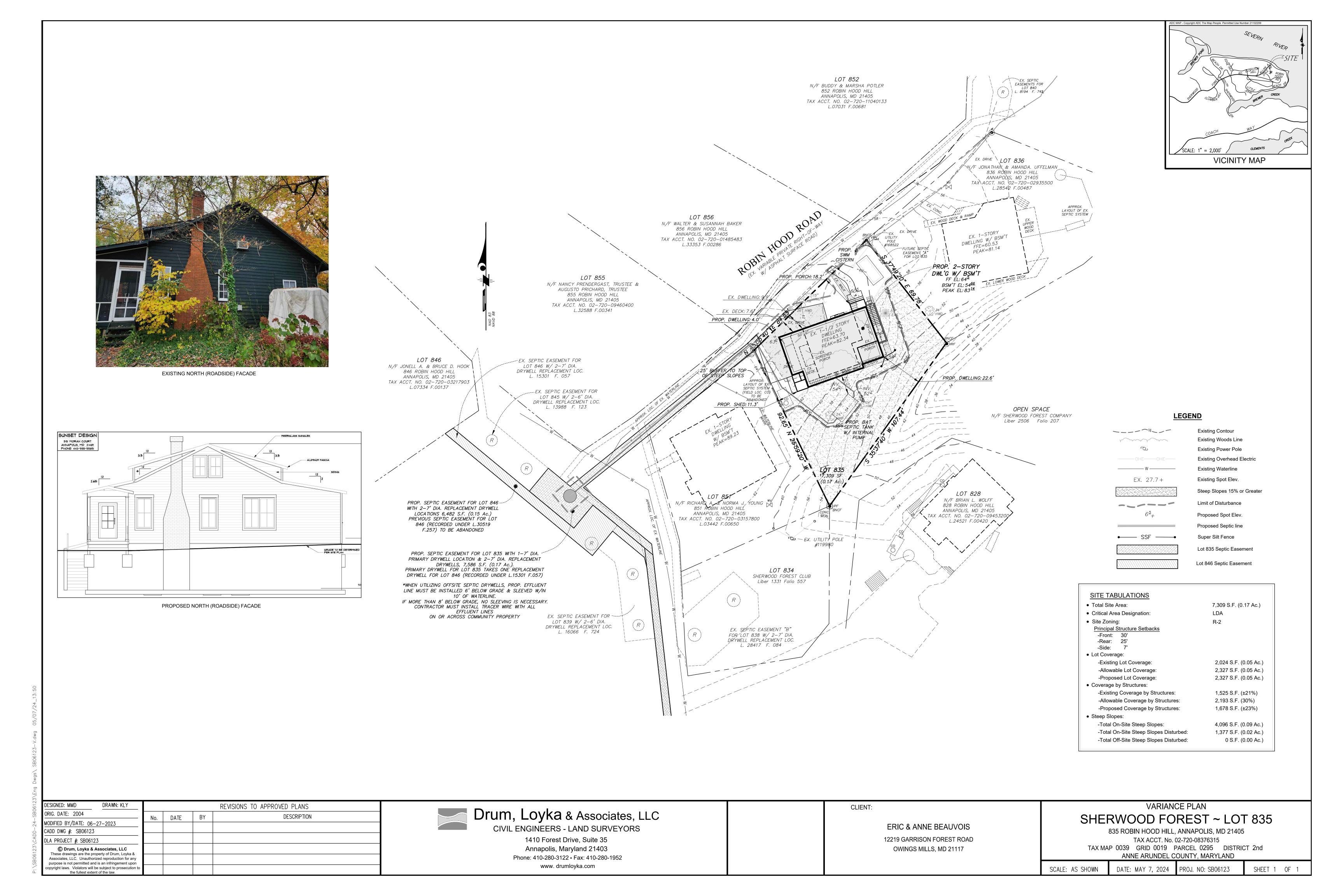
- 1. <u>Minimum necessary</u> The improvements are minimal and are sited to utilize the footprint of the existing improvements to minimize disturbance.
- 2. The granting of the variance will not:
 - alter the essential character of the neighborhood, and all proposed development will be harmonious with other properties of the surrounding area.
 - ii. substantially impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent properties.
 - iii. reduce forest cover in the LDA as appropriate mitigation will be required as part of the permit process.
 - iv. be contrary to acceptable clearing or replanting practices required for development of the Critical Area or Bog Protection Area.
 - v. be detrimental to the public welfare.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact us if we may be of further service during your review of this variance request.

Sincerely,

DRUM, LOYKA & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Katle Yetman



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

PROJECT NOTIFICATION APPLICATION

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

urisdiction:					Date	
Tow Mon #	Parcel #	Block #	Lot#	Section	ı [FOR RESUBMITTAL ONLY
Tax Map #	0295	0019	835	Section	+	Corrections
0039	0293	0019	833		1	Redesign No Change
					1	No Change Non-Critical Area
					-1:	Tron Chillon 7 Hou
Tax ID 0	2-720-08376	5315				* Complete only Page 1
Tun ID	2 /20 005/	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			L	General Project Information
Project Nam	ne (site name	, subdivision	name, or othe	er) Sherwoo	od Forest ~ Lot	835
Project locat	tion/Address	835 Robin	Hood Hill		Us distribution	
					7: 0140	
City	Annapoli	s Maryland		21 1211-2 (11)	Zip 2140:	
Local case n	umber			535370		
Applicant:	Last name	Beauvois			First name	Eric
търнови.	LIGHT HOLL	200000				
Company						
Application '	Type (check	all that appl	y):			
Building Perr	nit		Vari	ance	X	
Buffer Manag			Rezo	oning		
Conditional U	Jse		Site	Plan		
Consistency I				cial Exception		
Disturbance >	> 5,000 sq ft			division		
Grading Perm	nit		Othe	er		
ocal Jurisd	iction Conta	act Informati	on:			
ast name:			_ First name			
Phone #			Response	from Commiss	sion Required	Ву
Fax #			_ Hearing da	ate.		

SPECIFIC PROJECT INFORMATION

Describe Proposed use of project site:

Course and poster that t			
D	in - aim -la famaile devalling	and construct new single-family	dwelling
Raze and remove exist	ing single-family dwelling	and constituct new single-lamin	dweiling
I forme mire restro . a arrivo.	0 0	2	

With associated improvements

Yes Yes

Intra-Family Transfer Growth Allocation
Grandfathered Lot X Buffer Exemption Area

Project Type (check all that apply)

Commercial Recreational
Consistency Report Redevelopment
Industrial Residential X
Institutional Shore Erosion Control
Mixed Use Water-Dependent Facility
Other

SITE INVENTORY (Enter acres or square feet)

				Acres Sq Ft
	Acres	Sq Ft	Total Disturbed Area	0.11
IDA Area				
LDA Area	0.17		# of Lots Created	0
RCA Area		M. Samuel		
Total Area	0.17	Tell de la lib		

	Acres	Sq Ft		Acres	Sq Ft
Existing Forest/Woodland/Trees	0.15		Existing Impervious Surface	0.05	
Created Forest/Woodland/Trees	0.00		New Impervious Surface	0.05	
Removed Forest/Woodland/Trees	0.07		Removed Impervious Surface	0.05	
			Total Impervious Surface	0.05	

VARIANCE INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

	Acres	Sq Ft		Acres	Sq Ft
Buffer Disturbance			Buffer Forest Clearing		
Non-Buffer Disturbance	0.11		Mitigation		

Variance Type		Structure		
Buffer		Acc. Structure Addition		
Forest Clearing		Barn		
HPA Impact		Deck		
Impervious Surface		Dwelling	X	
Expanded Buffer		Dwelling Addition		
Nontidal Wetlands		Garage		
Steep Slopes	X	Gazebo		
Setback	X	Patio		
Other		Pool		
	-	Shed		
		Other		

Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Report Sherwood Forest ~ Lot 835

Tax Map 39, Grid 19, Parcel 295 Tax Account No. 02-720-08376315

Property Address: 835 Robin Hood Hill May 7, 2024

Annapolis, Maryland 21405

Property Owners & Variance Applicant: Eric and Anne Beauvois

Critical Area Designation: LDA Zoning: R-2 Lot Area: 0.17 Ac.

Site Description

The subject property is a legal building lot located off of Nottingham Hill in the community of Sherwood Forest. The site is currently improved with a single-family dwelling and associated improvements, which are surrounded by steep slopes. The lot is zoned R-2 and is completely within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, with an LDA land use designation. Private septic and Sherwood Forest public water service the property.

Description and Purpose of Variance Request

The applicant proposes to raze and remove the existing single-family dwelling and construct a new single-family dwelling with associated improvements. Due to the unique physical conditions inherent to the property, the following variances to the Anne Arundel County Code are being requested: **Article 17**, **Section 8-201(a)** of approximately 1,377-sf of disturbance on slopes 15% or greater in the LDA, to **Article 18**, **Section 2-301(b)** of 12-ft to the requirement of architectural features extending no more than 3-ft into a required setback, and to **Article 18**, **Section 4-601** of 26-ft to the required 30-ft front yard setback and 3-ft to the required 25-ft rear yard setback.

The applicants propose to raze and remove the existing dwelling and construct a new dwelling in the same location as the existing dwelling. According to tax records, the existing dwelling was constructed in the 40s. It was originally built as a summer cottage and no longer meets the standards for a dwelling to accommodate today's families. The new house is modest in size and is generally in the same footprint as the existing structures. It was designed to take advantage of every square foot to accommodate the owner's family while maintaining the character of the existing dwelling. Plans for the development have been approved by the neighboring properties and have been submitted to the Sherwood Forest community.

Vegetative Coverage and Clearing

The property's primary vegetation is woodland and creeping ivy that is common to wooded areas in the community. The existing wooded area totals roughly 6,700-sf. The proposed clearing is approximately 3,000-sf., the majority of which is necessary for access. Reforestation and afforestation requirements for this property will be addressed during the permit phase of this project.

Impervious Lot Coverage

The site currently has 2,024-sf of lot coverage. The proposed impervious lot coverage for this property is 2,327-sf, which is the allowable. The site currently has 1,525-sf of coverage by structures. The proposed coverage by structures is 1,678-sf, which is within the allowable amount.

Steep Slopes (slopes > 15%)

The subject property contains approximately 4,096-sf of steep slopes, or 56% of the site area, all of which are concentrated around the existing improvements. Approximately, 1,377-sf of slopes will be disturbed as part of the proposed construction. Most of this disturbance is necessary for access and removal of the existing improvements, as well as to install the new nitrogen reducing BAT septic tank.

Predominant Soils

The predominant soil types are Annapolis Fine Sandy Loam, 40 to 80 percent slopes (AsG) and Collington and Annapolis soils, 10 to 15 percent slopes (CRD). These soils have type "C" and "B" hydrologic classifications and AsG is considered a hydric soil.

Drainage and Rainwater Control

There appear to be no visible stormwater management devices on site. Stormwater management and sediment and erosion control will be provided for the proposed improvements and the specific design computations will be addressed during the permit phase of the project in accordance with Anne Arundel County design criteria.

Conclusions – Variance Standards

The need for the requested variances arises from the unique physical conditions of the site, specifically the diminutive size of the lot and the presence of steep slopes. The proposed dwelling is proposed in the same location as the existing improvements. It does not require any more disturbance than if the existing improvements were to be removed or maintained. The entire community of Sherwood Forest is inhabited with steep slopes and most of the lots in Sherwood are well under the required 20,000-sf minimum for lots served by a private septic system. Denial of the requested variance would constitute an unwarranted hardship and deny the applicant's rights commonly enjoyed by other property owners. The variance request is not based on actions by the applicant and will not confer upon the applicant any special privilege that would typically be denied by COMAR or the local Critical Area Program. With the implementation of stormwater management and the nitrogen reducing septic system, the development will not have an adverse effect on water quality or negatively impact fish, wildlife, or plant habitat, and is in conformance with the general purpose and intent of the Critical Area Program. The variance is the minimum necessary to afford relief from the Critical Area legislation. The granting of the variance will not alter the character of the neighborhood, impair the use and development of adjacent properties, reduce forest cover in the LDA, nor be detrimental to the public welfare. Stormwater Management and reforestation requirements will be addressed during the permit phase of the project. Reforestation will be provided on-site to the extent practicable.

Reference:

ADC: The Map People, 2002 Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Street Map Book

Anne Arundel County Office of Planning & Zoning, 2007 Critical Area Map

Anne Arundel County Office of Planning & Zoning, 2007 Buffer Exemption Map

Anne Arundel County, Maryland; Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Mapping Program, 2007, Critical Area Map

Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2015. Flood Insurance Rate Map

First American Real Estate Solutions, 2002, Realty Atlas: Anne Arundel County Maryland

Drum, Loyka and Associates LLC, 2024 Variance Plan

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service –2003 Soil Survey of Anne Arundel County Maryland.

State Highway Administration of Maryland, 1989. Generalized Comprehensive Zoning Map: Third Assessment District



J. Howard Beard Health Services Building 3 Harry S. Truman Parkway Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Phone: 410-222-7193 Fax: 410-222-7479

Maryland Relay (TTY): 711

www.aahealth.org

Tonii Gedin, RN, DNP Health Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sadé Medina, Zoning Applications

Planning and Zoning Department, MS-6301

FROM: Brian Chew, Program Manager

Sanitary Engineering Program

DATE: April 29, 2024

CASE

NUMBER: 2024-0078-V

William E. Bentley 230 Kirkley Road Annapolis, MD 21401

SUBJECT: Variance/Special Exception/Rezoning

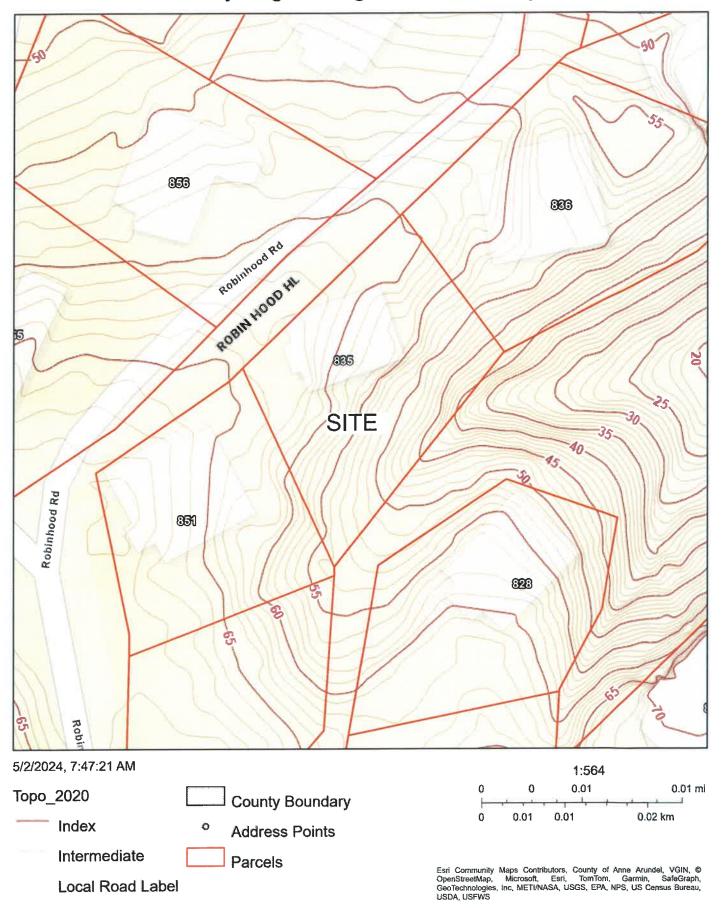
The Health Department has reviewed the above referenced variance to allow a walkway and stairs with disturbance to slopes of 15% or greater. The Health Department offers the following comments:

The Health Department does not have an approved plan for this project. The Health Department has no objection to the above referenced variance request as long as a plan is submitted and approved by the Health Department.

If you have further questions or comments, please contact Brian Chew at 410-222-7024.

cc: Sterling Seay

Anne Arundel County Engineering Record Drawing and Monuments





OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

CONFIRMATION OF PRE-FILE

PRE-FILE #: 2024-0038-P DATE: 04/29/2024

STAFF: Joan A. Jenkins (OPZ)

Kelly Krinetz (OPZ) Habtamu Zeleke (I&P)

APPLICANT/REPRESENTATIVE: Katie Yetman/Drum Loyka

EMAIL: kyetman@drumloyka.com

SITE LOCATION: 835 Robin Hood HIII LOT SIZE: 7,260

ZONING: R2 CA DESIGNATION: LDA BMA: No or BUFFER: No APPLICATION TYPE: Variance

DESCRIPTION:

The applicant proposes to raze the existing house and construct a new single family dwelling. The proposed structure will impact steep slopes. Variance required for steep slopes and setbacks.

COMMENTS

I & P Engineering:

- 1. Ensure the proposed improvement including runoff, seepage, and slope saturation does not adversely impact the integration of the slope and cause slope failure.
- 2. This reviewer is unclear what type of SWM practice (s) are proposed. Per 6.1.4 (G) of the County Stormwater Practices and Procedures manual, SWM facilities shall not be located in areas that are off-limits to development, e.g., natural resources including steep slopes and buffers.
- 3. Please review existing vegetation (or lack thereof) within the steep slopes; opportunities to supplement vegetation or replanting buffers with native vegetation should be reviewed and provided to enhance water quality.
- 4. A soil boring is required per practice. The suitability, and siting of proposed SWM practices should be reviewed. Soil boring information including verification of the suitability of in-situ soils for infiltration shall be submitted. Describe the site's hydrologic, and topographic characteristics and provide a recommendation on the feasibility of various BMPs.
- 5. Based on the plan provided, it appears that the property will be served by a private septic and public water. The county mapping inventory does not show the existing water, please clarify.
- 6. The stormwater management, utility/Engineering design review approval for the site shall occur at the grading permit stage.
- 7. The above is provided as a courtesy review as information for review and consideration comments at the pre-file.

Critical Area Team: No objection since the rebuild is generally within the existing footprint. The variance plan should include the disturbance required for the proposed septic.

Cultural Resources: The subject property is located within Sherwood Forest (AA-941) which is listed on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP). Proposed demolitions must comply with Section 105.8 of the Construction and Property Maintenance Codes Supplement, which says that a permit to demolish or remove a historic structure may not be issued, unless the applicant demonstrates compliance with Article 17-6-501 of the County Code. As Sherwood Forest is on the MIHP, all demolitions must be reviewed as per 17-6-501 of the Code. Until the project has

2023-0038-P page 2

been reviewed for compliance with Article 17-6-501, our office is not able to recommend approval of a variance at this time. Additional documentation, including a demolition worksheet, shall be required for review. Please contact the historic sites planner, Darian Beverungen, pzbeve19@aacounty.org, with any questions and to receive a demolition worksheet to include for the review.

Zoning Administration Section:

The site plan must show the height in feet in the area of the house and dimensions of the proposed structure.

Include tabulations for steep slope disturbance.

The applicants are reminded that, in order for the Administrative Hearing Officer to grant approval of the variances, the proposal must meet ALL of the variance standards provided under Section 18-16-305 of the Zoning Code, which includes the requirement that the variance must be the minimum necessary to afford relief.

The Letter of Explanation for your variance submission should demonstrate that you meet all of those standards.

INFORMATION FOR THE APPLICANT

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.