

N/A

## TESTS FOR GRANTING AREA VARIANCES

### BE VERY SPECIFIC WHEN ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS

"Area variance" shall mean the authorization by the Zoning Board of Appeals for the use of land in a manner which is not allowed by the dimensional or physical requirements of the applicable zoning regulations.

(Town Law Section 267, subsection 1.(b)).

In deciding whether to grant an area variance, the Zoning Board of Appeals takes into consideration the benefit to the applicant if the variance is granted, as weighed against the detriment to the health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood or community. (Town Law Section 267-b, subsection 3.(b)).

To enable the Zoning Board of Appeals to grant an area variance, the applicant must present substantial evidence concerning the following topics by providing supporting evidence for each. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

- (1) Whether an undesirable change will be produced in the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties will be created by the granting of the area variance.

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- (2) Whether the benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method, feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance.

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- (3) Whether the requested area variance is substantial.

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- (4) Whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district.

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- (5) Whether the alleged difficulty was self-created, which consideration shall be relevant to the decision of the ZBA, but shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance.

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