

## 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.

*See attached*

- (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.

*See attached*

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

*See attached*

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

*See attached*

- (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.

*See attached*

# *Town of Canandaigua*

5440 Routes 5 & 20 West

Canandaigua, NY 14424

Phone: (585) 394-1120 / Fax: (585) 394-9476

***Property Owner is responsible for any consultant fees  
(Town Engineer, Town Attorney, etc.) incurred during the application process.***

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Please note that the **Property Owner** is responsible for all consultant fees during the review of this application including legal, engineering, or other outside consultants. Applications submitted to the Town of Canandaigua Planning Board will normally receive chargeback fees of at least five hours to ten hours for planning services including intake, project review, resolution preparation, SEQR, and findings of fact. PLEASE NOTE that the number of hours will be SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED due to incomplete applications, plans lacking detail, or repeated continuations. Subdivision applications and larger commercial or industrial projects traditionally require more hours of engineering, legal, and other consultant review and preparation and will incur higher costs. Applications for new construction may be referred to the Town Engineer for engineering review which may include at least an additional eight to twelve hours of review time. The **Property Owner** will also be responsible for legal fees for applications submitted to the Town of Canandaigua Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, or the Town of Canandaigua Development Office. Fees for engineering and legal expenses traditionally range between one hundred and one hundred fifty dollars per hour. A copy of the Town's annual fee schedule is available upon request from the Development Office or the Town Clerk's Office. The **Property Owner's** signature below indicates that the **Property Owner** understands that the **Property Owner** will be responsible for all outside consultant fees incurred as a result of the submitted application, and consents to these charges. Additionally projects approved by the Town of Canandaigua Planning Board may be required to pay a parks and recreation fee as established by the Town Board (currently \$ 1,000 per unit) if required as part of the conditions of approval.

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