VARIANCE(S):

V-2022-010

V-2022-011

CITY OF SUWANEE VARIANCE ANALYSIS

CASE NUMBER(S):

V-2022-010 AND V-2022-011

REQUEST(S):

A SWIMMING POOL LOCATED OUTSIDE OF

A REAR YARD (V-2022-010)

ACCESSORY STRUCTURE EXCEEDING 800 SOUARE FEET & ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

LOCATED OUTSIDE OF A REAR YARD

(V-2022-011)

APPLICABLE SECTION(S):

SECTION 501 & 604

LOCATION:

742 WHITE STREET

DISTRICT/LAND LOT:

7-210-012

ZONING:

R-100

DEVELOPMENT:

SINGLE FAMILY HOME, ACCESSORY

BUILDINGS, AND POOL

APPLICANT:

MERLY MEJIA

1375 WATER SHINE WAY SNELLVILLE, GA 30078

OWNER:

VICTOR & MERLY MEJIA

1375 WATER SHINE WAY SNELLVILLE, GA 30078

CONTACT:

MERLY MEJIA

CONTACT PHONE:

678-598-3043

RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS

ANALYSIS:

The applicant seeks a variance from <u>Section 501</u> and <u>Section 604</u> of the <u>City of Suwanee Zoning Ordinance</u> to allow for the construction of a swimming pool and two accessory structures located outside of a rear yard, including an accessory structure that exceeds 800 square feet. The 2.23-acre property is located at 742 White Street in Old Town.

The property contains approximately 2.23 acres and is a "thru lot" that has 2 road frontages, one on White Street and the other on Buford Highway. There are existing driveways providing access to the property from both roads. The result is that the lot does not have a rear yard. The property contains a one-story house that faces White Street. The applicant plans to demolish an existing home on the subject property and then construct a new approximately 3,700 square foot single family home facing White Street and three accessory structures that would be located between the new home and Buford Highway. The proposed accessory structures include a swimming pool, an approximately 1,200 square foot guest house, and an approximately 200 square foot greenhouse.

The subject property is unique in that it has road frontages on 2 public roads, Buford Highway and White Street. Additionally, the property has a stream that runs along the southern property line which it shares with White Street Park, and it has another stream that runs adjacent and parallel to Buford Highway.

The subject property is zoned R-100 (Single Family Residential District). A vacant church (zoned R-100) is located to the west across White Street and the Gwinnett County Schools Training Building (zoned O-I) is located to the east across Buford Highway. Harvest Farm, the City's community garden within White Street Park is adjacent to the property to the south. There are two parcels adjacent to the subject property to the north, one that fronts White Street and one that fronts Buford Highway. The property that fronts White Street is occupied by a single-family home that faces White Street and an accessory building located behind the home (Zoned R-100). The property that fronts Buford Highway is vacant (Zoned R-100). The remaining parcels to the north from the subject property to Davis Street along White Street are zoned R-100 and occupied by single family detached homes, and accessory structures.

<u>Section 501 and 604</u> of the <u>Zoning Ordinance</u> regulate the size and location of accessory structures in the R-100 (Residential Single Family District) zoning district. The regulations require that accessory structures be located in a rear yard and be no more than 800 square feet. The purpose of these regulations is to prevent swimming pools and accessory structures from being located in front yards throughout the City. Since the property has two road frontages and does not have a rear yard, a variance from this regulation is needed to build accessory structures. An additional variance is needed to allow the guest house to exceed 800 square feet.

White Street is lined with single family homes and would be the appropriate choice for a front for the subject property. The portion of the property directly adjacent to Buford Highway and White Street Park contain two stream buffers that are wooded, so the proposed accessory buildings would be somewhat screened and setback over 120 feet from Buford Highway and 150 feet from White Street Park.

Approval of the request to locate an accessory dwelling unit that exceeds 800 square feet in the proposed location is not likely to negatively impact nearby properties due to the vegetation and size of the property and the distance of the proposed building from the road and other nearby homes. Accessory buildings are permitted uses in all of the City's residential zoning districts. All of the residential zoning districts have the same standard for accessory buildings in terms of

maximum size and location allowed. However, a 2.23-acre lot is more capable of accommodating a larger accessory building without negative impacts on adjoining properties than a half-acre lot in a subdivision. Although the yard facing Buford Highway is technically a front yard, the proposed accessory structures would be significantly setback from Buford Highway and White Street Park and somewhat screened by mature trees. A larger accessory structure would be consistent with the area. There are 15 accessory structures on properties along White Street, and 3 of these are over 800 square feet. The proposed development would be compatible with the character of Old Town and the historic rural nature of White Street.

The City of Suwanee's Zoning Ordinance grants the Zoning Board of Appeals the authority to grant variances. According to Section 2006 of the Ordinance, the Board is authorized to grant variances when literal enforcement of the Ordinance will result in unnecessary hardship to a property owner. A variance may be granted if the conditions are unique to the property and/or are unlikely to cause substantial detriment to the public good, or if the variance will not undermine the intent of the zoning ordinance.

In conclusion, approval of these variances would not be a substantial detriment to the public good and would not undermine the intent of the zoning ordinance, which is to limit the size and location of accessory buildings on smaller lots in more densely populated neighborhoods. In this unique circumstance, the subject property fronts two public streets, White Street and Buford Highway. Buford Highway functions as a rear yard. As such, approval of these requests to locate a swimming pool, a guest house, and a greenhouse in a yard abutting a public street, Buford Highway, is not likely to negatively impact nearby properties. Furthermore, the stream buffers and large size of the property provide significant distance and screening of the larger guest house from surrounding properties. Additionally, there are several other examples of larger accessory structures, so the large guest house is consistent with the surrounding area. As such, staff recommends **APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS** of V-2022-010 and V-2022-011.

Recommended Conditions

V-2022-010

Staff recommends approval of a variance to allow for accessory structures outside of a rear yard subject to the following condition:

- 1. The property line along Buford Highway shall be treated as the rear property line.
- 2. Accessory structures shall be located approximately as shown on the site plan labeled "Exhibit A."

V-2022-011

Staff recommends approval of a variance to allow for an accessory structure exceeding 800 square feet subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Only one accessory structure may exceed 800 square feet. This structure shall not exceed 1,200 square feet.
- 2. The exterior material of any accessory structures exceeding 200 square feet shall match the exterior material of the primary dwelling and the architecture of the accessory dwelling unit shall compliment the architecture of the primary dwelling. The architecture of the accessory dwelling unit is subject to the review and approval of the Planning Department.
- 3. Accessory structures shall be located approximately as shown on the site plan labeled "Exhibit A."

Standards for Consideration

Pursuant to Section 1909A of the City of Suwanee Zoning Ordinance, the City finds the following standards are relevant in considering all applications for a Variance.

A. Will approval of the variance unreasonably increase the congestion in public streets?

Approval of these variances would not increase the congestion in public streets.

B. Will approval increase the danger of fire or endanger public safety?

Approval of these variances would not increase the danger of fire or endanger public safety.

C. Will approval unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area?

Approval of these variances, with the attached stipulations, would not unreasonably diminish or impair property values within the surrounding area.

D. Will approval in any other aspect impair the public health, safety, comfort, morals or welfare of the inhabitants of the City?

Approval of these variances would not impair the public health, safety, comfort, morals, or welfare of the inhabitants of the City.

APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE FROM THE CITY OF SUWANEE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Please complete this application and submit with all necessary attachments as stated on the Variance Information Form (please type or print)

APPLICANT INFORMATION	OWNER INFORMATION
Name: Merly Mejia	Name Victor : Merly Mejic
Address: 1375 Water Shine Way	Address 1375 Water Shine Way
City: Shell ville	City: Snellville
State: GA	State GA
Phone: 678. 598. 3043	Phone: 678-598-3043
E-mail address: Merly 425@ gmail. Co	om
CONTACT PERSON: Merly Mejia	PHONE: 678-598-3043
CONTACT PERSON: Merly Mejia ADDRESS OF PROPERTY 721 Hwy 2	3, Suwanee, 6A 3002
LAND DISTRICT 7th LAND LOT 210	PARCEL 012 LOT
SUBDIVISION OR PROJECT NAME (IF APPLICABI	LE)N/A-
zoning <i>R100</i>	
VARIANCE REQUESTED pool outside	of rear yard
NEED FOR VARIANCE We don't have	a rear yard

***The property owner, applicant and /or a representative thereof shall be present at all meetings of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission and/or Mayor and Council at which official action is requested on any variance or application for amendment. The failure of the property owner, applicant and/or a representative to attend such meetings shall result in the denial of said variance or application for amendment.

V-2022-010

^{*}A VARIANCE FROM A CONDITION OF ZONING CANNOT BE ACCEPTED. SECTION 2007, APPLICANT AND/OR A REPRESENTATIVE.

APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE FROM THE CITY OF SUWANEE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Please complete this application and submit with all necessary attachments as stated on the Variance Information Form (please type or print)

APPLICANT INFORMATION	OWNER INFORMATION
Name: Merly Mejia Address: 1375 Water Shine Way	Name Victor : Merly Mejia
Address: 1375 Water Shine Way	Address 1375 Water Strine Way
City: Smell ville	City: Snellville
State: 6A	State_GA
Phone: 678. 598. 3043	Phone: 678-598-3043
E-mail address: Merly 425 @ gmail.	com
CONTACT PERSON: Merly Mejia ADDRESS OF PROPERTY 721 HWY	23, Suwanee, GA 30024
LAND DISTRICT 7th LAND LOT 21	· ·
SUBDIVISION OR PROJECT NAME (IF APPLICA	ABLE)
variance requested Accessory arear yard that exceeds 800	
	•
need for variance We don't have a match proposed home to b house parents.	rear yard. Building to be boil. Structure is to

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Variance Application Page 2

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

The undersigned below is authorized to make this application and is aware that an application or reapplication for the same type of variance affecting the same land or any portion thereof shall not be

application for the same type of variance affecting the same land or any portion thereof shall not be acted upon within twelve (12) months from the date of last action by the Board of Appeals, unless waived by the Board of Appeals. An application or reapplication shall not be acted upon in less than (6) months from the date of the last action by the Board of Appeals.

NOTARI S. pt. 4, 2022 COUNTY, GEORGIA

Signature of Applicant

7/8/22

Da

Merly Mejia
Typedor Printed Name and Title

Signature of Notary Public

July 8 2022

Notary Seal

PROPERTY OWNER CERTIFICATION

The undersigned below, or as attached, is the record owner of the property considered in this application and is aware that an application or reapplication for the same type of Variance affecting the same land or any portion thereof shall not be acted upon within twelve (12) months from the date of last action by the Board of Appeals unless waived by the Board of Appeals. An application or reapplication shall not be acted upon increase than six (6) months from the date of the last action by the Board of Appeals.



Signature of Applicant

7/8/2 a

Typed Printed Name and Title

Signature of Notary Public

July 8 2022

Notary Seal

DEPARTMENT O	F PLANNING AND DEV	VELOPMENT USE ONLY
Case Number V- 2022-010 € 01 Date Rec'd 7/8/22 Amount Rec'd	Variance	AdministrativeHearing Date
ACTION TAKEN		
SIGNATURE		DATE:

Variance Application Page 2

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

The undersigned below is authorized to make this application and is aware that an application or reapplication for the same type of variance affecting the same land or any portion thereof shall not be acted upon within twelve (12) months from the date of last action by the Board of Appeals, unless waived by the Board of Appeals. An application or reapplication shall not be acted upon in less than (6) months

from the date of the last action by the Board of Appeals.



Signature of Applica

Notary Seal

PROPERTY OWNER CERTIFICATION

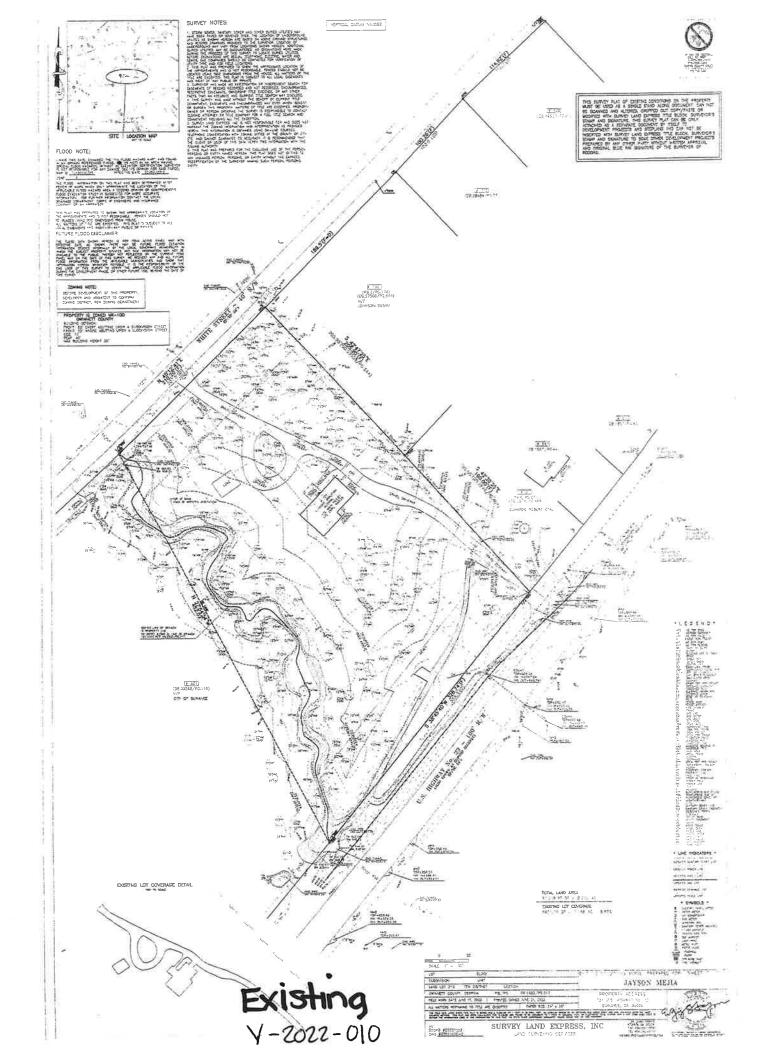
The undersigned below, or as attached, is the record owner of the property considered in this application and is aware that an application or reapplication for the same type of Variance affecting the same land or any portion thereof shall not be acted upon within twelve (12) months from the date of last action by the Board of Appeals unless waived by the Board of Appeals. An application or reapplication shall not be acted upon in less than six (6) months from the date of the last action by the Board of Appeals.

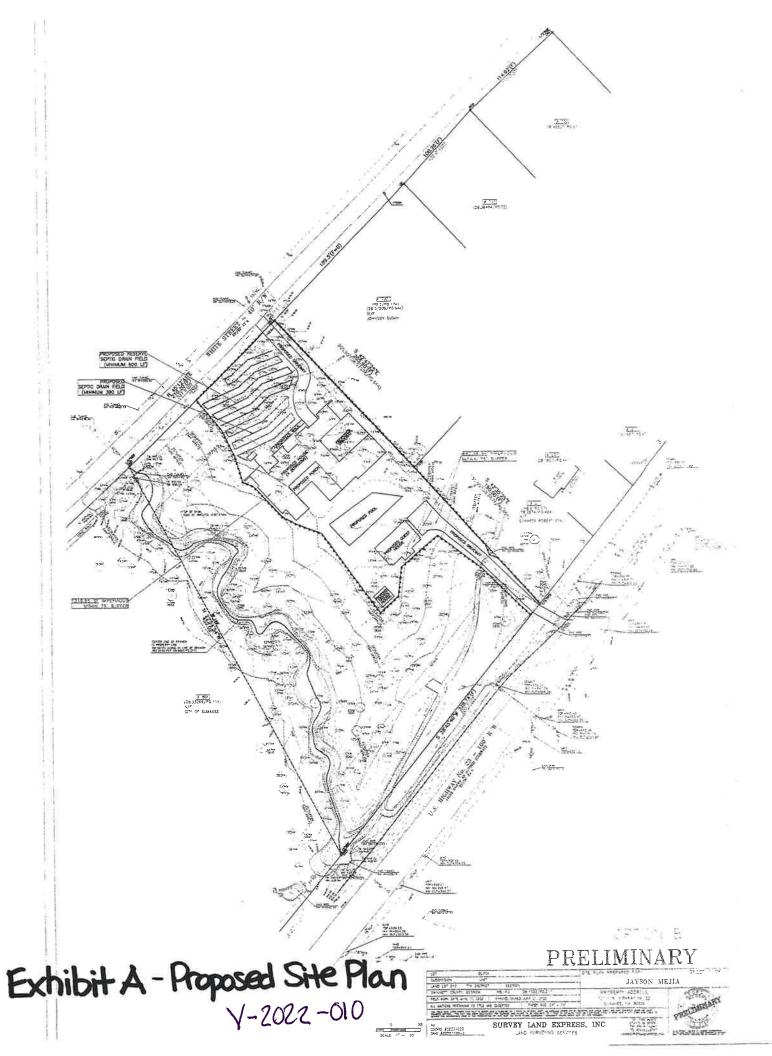


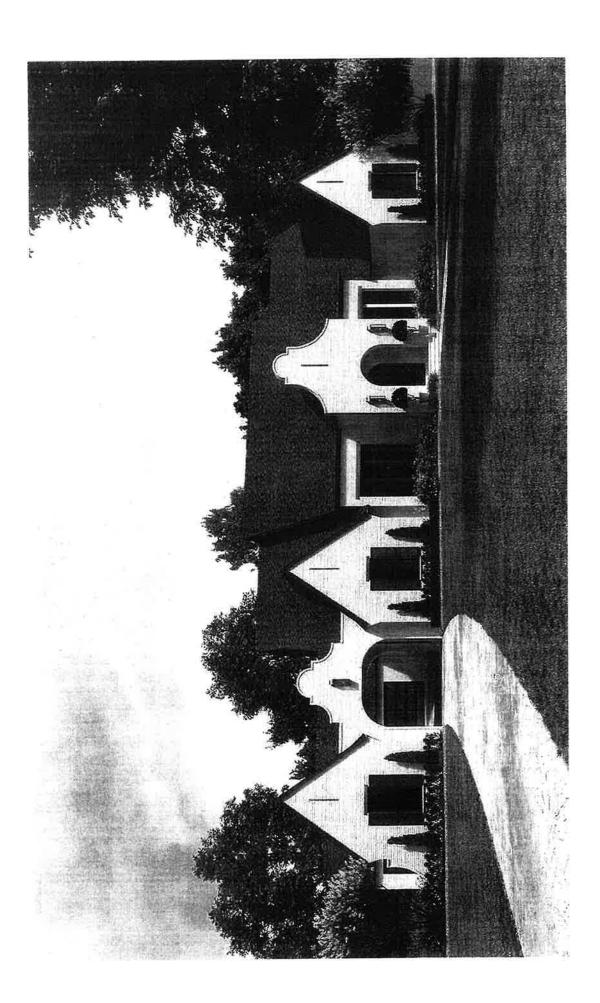
Signature of A pplicant Typed or Printed Name and Signature of Notary Public

Notary Seal

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT USE ONLY				
Case Number V - 2022 - 010 \$ 01 Date Rec'd 7/8/22 Amount Rec'd	Variance Rec'd By AD Receipt	AdministrativeHearing Date		
ACTION TAKEN				
SIGNATURE		DATE:		







Apposed main house

3690 Total Living Area

119'3 Wide x 77'9 Deep



350

175



Subject Property Stream **Legend**

