Docket Item # 2 BZA Case #2017-002 Board of Zoning Appeals February 9, 2017

# ADDRESS:2910 EDGEHILL DRIVEZONE:R-8/SINGLE- FAMILY ZONEAPPLICANT:REBECCA AND CHRISTIAN BURCH

**ISSUE:** Special exception for a front porch in the required front yard.

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE	SUBJECT	CODE REQMT	APPLICANT PROPOSES	REQUESTED EXCEPTION
7-2503(A)	Front Yard	33.20 feet*	22 feet	11.20 feet

\*Based on the average prevailing setback as submitted utilizing designated houses on the western side of the block of Edgehill Drive between Crestwood Drive to the south and Allison Street to the north.

The staff **recommends approval** of the requested special exception because the request meets the criteria for a special exception.

If the Board decides to grant the requested special exception with the following condition it must comply with the code requirements under the department comments and the applicant must submit the following prior to the release of a Certificate of Occupancy: (1) a survey plat prepared by a licensed surveyor confirming building footprint and setbacks. The special exception must also be recorded with the deed of the property in the City's Land Records Office prior to the release of the building permit.





## BZA Case #2017-002 2910 Edgehill Drive



#### I. <u>Issue</u>

The applicants are proposing to construct an open front porch that requires a special exception along with a permitted second story addition and rear covered walkway at 2910 Edgehill Drive. The open front porch would be located in the required front yards.

#### II. Background

The subject property, an interior lot, is one lot of record with 62.00 feet of frontage facing Edgehill Drive. The southern side lot line is 134.79 feet deep and northern side lot line is 131 feet deep. The rear lot line at the western property edge is 154.71 feet wide.

The property is currently development with a single-family detached dwelling unit that is set back 30.2 feet from the frontage along Edgehill Drive. The dwelling unit is setback 7.7 from the southern side lot line and 8.4 feet from the northern side lot line. The closest setback at the rear of the property is approximately 43 feet. According to Real Estate Assessment records, the property was constructed in 1953.

R-8 Zone	Requirement	Existing	Proposed	
Lot Area	8,000 Sq. Ft.	7,761 Sq. Ft	7,761 Sq. Ft.	
Lot Width	65.00 Ft.	60 Ft.	60 Ft.	
Lot Frontage	40.00 Ft	62 Ft.	62 Ft.	
Front Yard	33.2 Ft.*	30.2 Ft.	22 Ft.	
Side Yard (South)	8.00 Ft.	7.7 Ft.	7.7 Ft.	
Side Yard (North)	8.00 Ft	8.4 Ft	8.4 Ft.	
Rear Yard	1:1 minimum 8.00	43.00 Ft.	43.00 Ft.	
Net FAR	Max: 2,736 Sq. Ft. (.35)	1,696 Sq. Ft	2,329 Sq. Ft.	
*Based on the average prevailing setback as submitted utilizing designated houses on the western side of the block of Edgehill Drive between Crestwood Drive to the south and Allison				

western side of the block of Edgehill Drive bet Street to the north.

#### III. <u>Description</u>

The applicants propose to construct an open front porch in the required front yard. The porch would measure 7 feet in depth and extend 22 feet along the front of the house for a total square footage of 154 feet. The proposed front porch would be located 23.2 feet front the front property line, 10 feet from the northern side property line, and 28 feet to the southern side property line. The proposed porch requires a special exception to be located in the required front yard.

The applicant also proposes to add a second floor addition and covered walkway to the rear of the existing first floor of the dwelling. Because the proposed second floor addition is setback an additional 8.5 feet from the southern side property line and setback an additional 1.5 feet from the



rear property line, the proposed addition is in compliance with zoning requirements.

The proposed front porch meets the criteria of section 7-2504 of the Zoning Ordinance and is an allowable exclusion from the floor area ratio requirements. Upon completion of the work, the proposed renovations will continue to comply with the floor area requirements (refer to floor area calculations.) There have been no variances or special exceptions previously granted for the subject property.

#### IV. Master Plan/Zoning

The subject property is zoned R-8 and has been so zoned since adoption of the Third Revised Zoning Map in 1951, and is identified in the North Ridge / Rosemont Area Plan for residential land use.

#### V. <u>Requested Special Exception:</u>

7-2503(A) Front Yard Setback

This section of the ordinance requires that the front yard setback for dwelling units within the R-8 zoning district be determined by the average front setback along a street blockface. The average prevailing setback is determined utilizing designated houses on the western side of the block of Edgehill Drive between Crestwood Drive to the south and Allison Street to the north. The average front setback was determined for this property to be 33.2 feet from the front property line. Because the existing front wall of the dwelling unit encroaches 3.2 feet into the front yard setback requirement and the applicant proposes to add a 7-foot deep porch, the applicant requests a special exception of 11.2 feet from the required 33.2 front setback requirement.

#### VI. <u>Noncomplying Structure and Substandard Lot</u>

2910 Edgehill Drive is a noncomplying structure and a substandard lot with respect to the following:

Regulation Lot Area	<u>Required</u> 8,000 Sq. Ft.	<u>Existing</u> 7,761 Sq. Ft.	Noncompliance/Substandard 239 Sq. Ft.
Front Yard	33.2 Feet	30.2 Feet	3 Feet
Side Yard (south)	8.00 Feet	7.7 Feet	0.70 Feet
Lot Width	65.00 Feet	62.00 Feet	3.00 Feet

#### VII. <u>Special Exceptions Standards</u>

To grant a special exception, the Board of Zoning Appeals must find that the strict application of the zoning ordinance creates an unreasonable burden on the use and enjoyment of the property. Section 11-1304 of the zoning ordinance lists standards that an applicant must address and that the Board believes exists and thus warrants granting a special exception of the zoning regulations.

1) Whether approval of the special exception will be detrimental to the public welfare, to the neighborhood or to the adjacent properties.

The front porch would not be detrimental to the public welfare. The Infill Task Force Recommendations that created current single-family zoning regulations in 2008 state that "open front porches can be a neighborhood-friendly design asset that enhances the value of a homeowner's property and the neighborhood as a whole."

The proposed new front porch would enhance the appearance of the house and neighborhood. It would also be located at least 10.00 feet from the closest property line, and given that distance, it is highly unlikely that this porch would impact any neighboring property.

2) Whether approval of the special exception will impair an adequate supply of light and air to the adjacent property, or cause or substantially increase traffic congestion or increase the danger of fire or the spread of fire, or endanger the public safety.

The proposed front porch will not impair supply of light and air to the

adjacent properties, as the adjacent dwelling units on properties to the north and south are situated approximately 20 feet and 33 feet (respectively) from exterior walls of the dwelling unit on the property in question, allowing for an ample supply of light and air. An open porch for a single-family home will not cause any measurable increase in traffic congestion.

3) Whether approval of the special exception will alter the essential character of the area or zone.

The proposed open porch would not alter the essential character of the area or the zone. This block of Edgehill Drive (bounded by Crestwood Drive to the south and Allison Street to the north) is composed a one and two story dwelling units, many with a mixture of open porches and porticos.

4) Whether the proposal will be compatible with the development in the surrounding neighborhood.

This neighborhood is composed of dwelling units with a mixture of open porches and porticos. The proposed porch at this size will be compatible with many of the porches within the neighborhood.

5) Whether the proposed development represents the only reasonable means and location on the lot to accommodate the proposed structure given the natural constraints of the lot or the existing development of the lot.

## The front of the dwelling unit is the only reasonable location to construct a front porch.

#### VIII. <u>Staff Conclusion</u>

Staff finds that the request for a special exception to allow a porch to encroach into the front yard setback meets the requirements for a Special Exception. The applicant is proposing to construct an open front porch that is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

#### Neighborhood Impact

Staff believes that the proposed front porch is in proportion with other porches within the neighborhood and is architecturally compatible with renovations to the existing home. The proposed open porch would complement the view of the home from the street, enhance the neighborhood, and not be detrimental to neighboring properties.

#### Light and Air

The porch meets the criteria for eligibility to request a porch special exception. The ground level, single story, covered, open front porch would be placed at the main architectural entrance to the dwelling and would face the front yard. At 7 feet in depth,

the porch is within the allowed projection from the front building wall. The porch does not extend beyond the width of the front building wall into any required side yard setbacks. It is unlikely that the open porch would reduce light or air to any adjacent property.

#### Lot Constraints

The lot is an existing substandard with respect to lot size and lot width. The existing house currently sits within the required southern side yard and front yard setbacks. The current dwelling unit was constructed in 1957 with a front setback of 30 feet. This setback was in compliance with the zone until the adoption of the infill residential regulations (Section 7-2500) in 2009. Now a dwelling unit constructed or added to on this property must adhere to the average prevailing setback on a street block face. Therefore, because the dwelling sits forward of the front yard setback line, the request for a special exception is the only reasonable way to construct a front porch.

#### Staff Conclusion

The staff **recommends approval** of the requested special exception because the request meets the criteria for a special exception

#### **DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS**

Legend: C - code requirement R - recommendation S - suggestion F - finding

\* The applicant is advised that if the variance is approved the following additional comments apply.

Transportation and Environmental Services:

- R1. The building permit must be approved and issued prior to the issuance of any permit for demolition. (T&ES)
- R2. Applicant shall be responsible for repairs to the adjacent city right-of-way if damaged during construction activity. (T&ES)
- R3. No permanent structure may be constructed over any existing private and/or public utility easements. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify any and all existing easements on the plan. (T&ES)
- F1. After review of the information provided, an approved grading plan is not required at this time. Please note that if any changes are made to the plan it is suggested that T&ES be included in the review. (T&ES)
- C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99). (T&ES)
- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line. (T&ES)
- C-3 Roof, surface and sub-surface drains be connected to the public storm sewer system, if available, by continuous underground pipe. Where storm sewer is not available applicant must provide a design to mitigate impact of stormwater drainage onto adjacent properties and to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. (Sec.5-6-224) (T&ES)
- C-4 All secondary utilities serving this site shall be placed underground. (Sec. 5-3-3) (T&ES)
- C-5 Any work within the right-of-way requires a separate permit from T&ES. (Sec. 5-2) (T&ES)

C-6 All improvements to the city right-of-way such as curbing, sidewalk, driveway aprons, etc. must be city standard design. (Sec. 5-2-1) (T&ES)

Code Administration:

No comments received

Historic Alexandria (Archaeology):

**R-3:** There is low potential for significant archaeological resources to be disturbed by this project. No archaeological action is required.

#### **Images**



BZA Case #2017.002



### APPLICATION BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

### **SPECIAL EXCEPTION FOR PORCHES**

Section of zoning ordinance from which request for special exception is made:

request a	SPECIAL OXCEPTION TO ALLOW A NEW FRO	NT
PERCHT TO	D SIT IN THE FRONT YARD SET BACK.	
SECTION		

1.	Applicant: 🕂 Owner 📋 Contract Purchaser 🛱 Agent	
	Name REBECCA & CHRISTIAN BURCH	
	Address 2910 Edgehill JARNE	
	ALEXANDEN, VIRGINIA. 22302	
	Daytime Phone 850 - 348 - 6630	
	Email Address Rebecco, BURCH GET.COM	
2.	Property Location 2910 Edgehill Drive Alex. 14.	
3.	Assessment Map # 023.02 Block 04 Lot 15 Zone R8	
4.	Legal Property Owner Name CHRISTIAN BURCH OR. Rebecca OATE	SBRCH
	Address 2910 Edgehill Deive	
	AUXANDRIA, VA. 22302	

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5. Describe request briefly :

WE REQUEST A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO Allow A NEW FRONT POPUL TO SIT IN the FRONT YARD SETBACK.

6. If property owner or applicant is being represented by an authorized agent, such as an attorney, realtor or other person for which there is a form of compensation, does this agent or the business in which they are employed have a business license to operate in the City of Alexandria, Virginia?

Yes — Provide proof of current City business license.

 $\square$  No — Said agent shall be required to obtain a business prior to filing  $\cdot$  application.

**The undersigned hereby attests** that all of the information herein provided including the site plan, building elevations, prospective drawings of the projects, etc., are true, correct and accurate. The undersigned further understands that, should such information be found incorrect, any action taken by the Board based on such information may be invalidated. The undersigned also hereby grants the City of Alexandria permission to post placard notice as required by Article XI, Division A, Section 11-301(B) of the 1992 Alexandria City Zoning Ordinance, on the property which is the subject of this application. The applicant, if other than the property owner, also attests that he/she has obtained permission from the property owner to make this application.

Applicant or Authorized Agent:

**Print Name** 

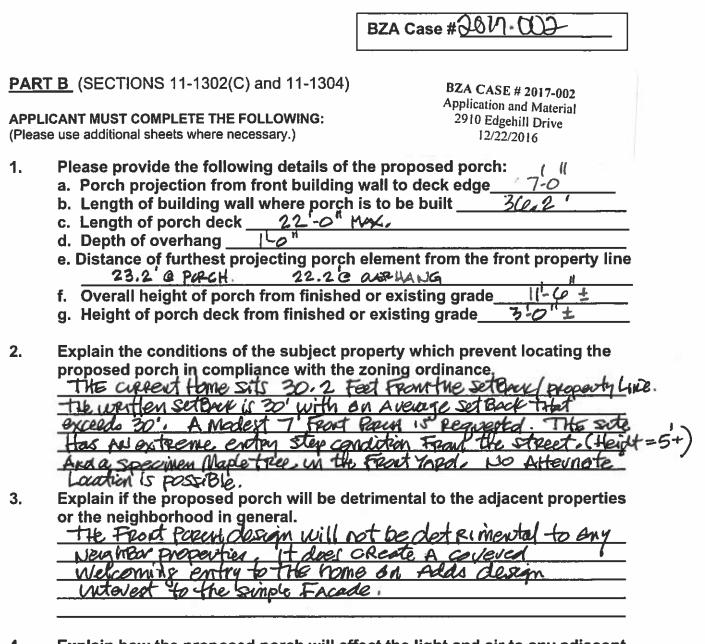
Signature

#### Telephone

Date

Pursuant to Section 13-3-2 of the City Code, the use of a document containing false information may constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor and may result in a punishment of a year in jail or \$2,500 or both. It may also constitute grounds to revoke the permit applied for with such information.

Note to Applicant: Only one special exception per dwelling shall be approved under the provisions of Section 11-1302(B)(4).



4. Explain how the proposed porch will affect the light and air to any adjacent property. The Front Pazze will Not offect any light or air conductions

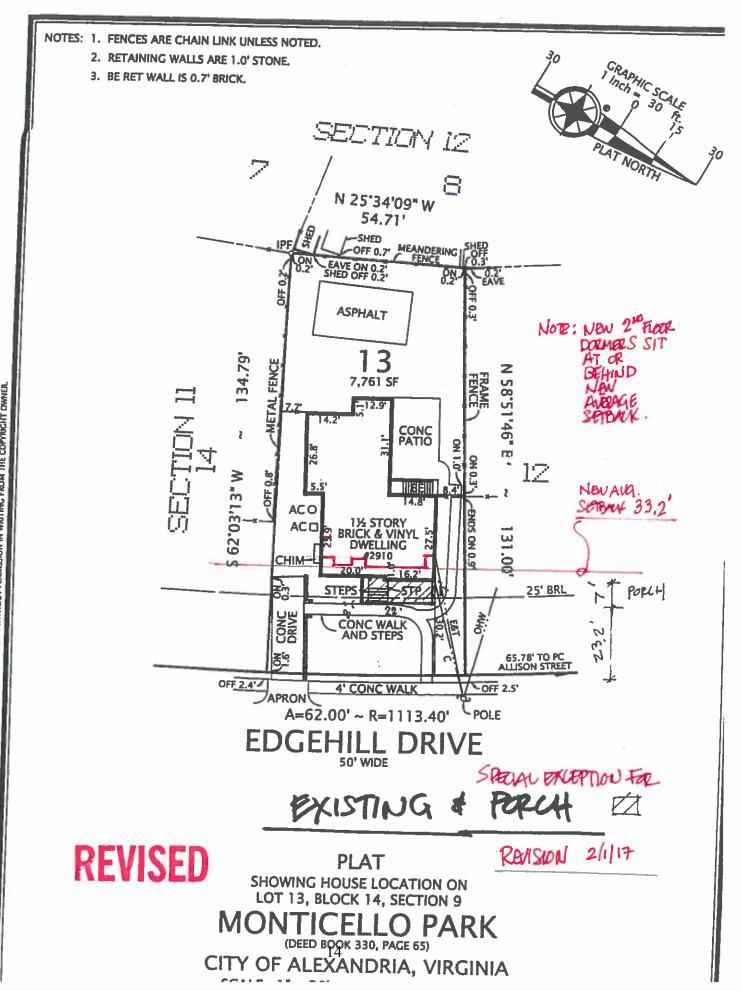
eigh Boos.

5. Has the applicant shown the plans to the most affected property owners? Have any neighbors objected to the proposed special exception, or have any neighbors written letters of support? If so, please attach the letter. Yes the immediate neighbors have seen the plane and desiam.

- 6. The applicant shall demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the proposed porch is compatible with the existing building architecture, neighboring properties and neighborhood character. Provide information such as style and number of similar porches in the immediate neighborhood (provide dimensions and roof height as well as distance from curbline). Photographs should be included as part of the evidence supporting this request.
  - 1. The home is a Brick 2 Story home with Boditions that ARE somewhat Noncompatible by 14 by 2 previous homeowner.
  - 2. at design seeks to update the home and mitigate the priv additions negative design issues.
  - 3. ap New Paper with Bed poor dop mens at the sustring Sound Floor or pand the home with minimum import to Neighbors. Additionally the small design improvements will oreate a character Based Home that also Helps from Sizes by the way flow.

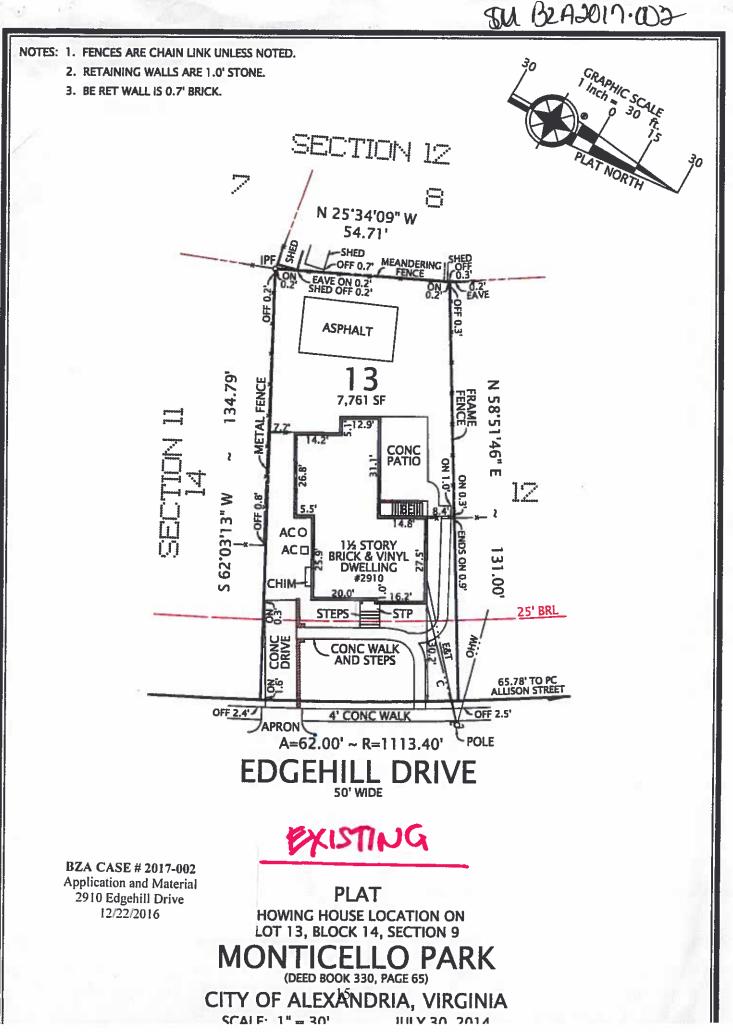
A. Mong neatry homes Now hove parches.

9 B - 9 H 2

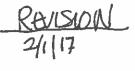


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### DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING FLOOR AREA RATIO AND OPEN SPACE CALCULATIONS FOR SINGLE AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL OUTSIDE HISTORIC DISTRICTS

A. Propert A1. Street	y Information Address	2910	Edgehill Avenus	Zone <u>P-9</u>	
A2	7761		x35	= 2716 B	
Total L	ot Area		Floor Area Ratio Allowed by Zone	Maximum Allowable Floor Area	

#### **B. Existing Gross Floor Area**

Existing Gross Area*		Allowable Exclusions	
Basement	522	Basement**	522
First Floor	1225	Stairways** 35 19t	75
Second Floor	814	Mechanical**	
Third Floor	0	Porch/Garage**	
Porches/Other	0	Attic less than 5***	268
Total Gross*	2561	Total Exclusions	865

B1, Existing Gross Floor Area \* 25(4) Sq. Ft. B2. Allowable Floor Exclusions\*\* B3, Existing Floor Area minus Exclusions (09(6) Sq. Ft. (subtract B2 from B1)

#### C. Proposed Gross Floor Area (does not include existing area)

Proposed Gross Area*		Allowable Exclusions	
Basement	0	Basement**	0
First Floor Covered	44	Stairways**	Ð
Second Floor	635	Mechanical**	0
Third Floor	0	Porch/Garage**	164
Porches/Other	164	Attic less than 5***	6
Total Gross*	863	Total Exclusions	164

NEW.

## REVISED

C1. Proposed Gross Floor Area \* C2. Allowable Floor Exclusions\*\* C3. Proposed Floor Area minus Exclusions (099) Sq. Ft. (subtract C2 from C1)

#### D. Existing + Proposed Floor Area

D1. Total Floor Area (add B3 and C3) 273 Sq. Ft. D2. Total Floor Area Allowed by Zone (A2) 37 (@ Sq. Ft. \*Gross floor area for residential single and twofamily dwellings in the R-20, R-12, R-8, R-5, R-2-5, RB and RA zones (not including properties located within a Historic District) is the sum of <u>all</u> <u>areas under roof of a lot</u>, measured from exterior walls.

\*\* Refer to the zoning ordinance (Section2-145(A)) and consult with zoning staff for information regarding allowable exclusions.

If taking exclusions other than basements, floor plans with excluded areas illustrated must be submitted for review. Sections may also be required for some exclusions.

E. Open Space Calculations Required in RA & RB zones

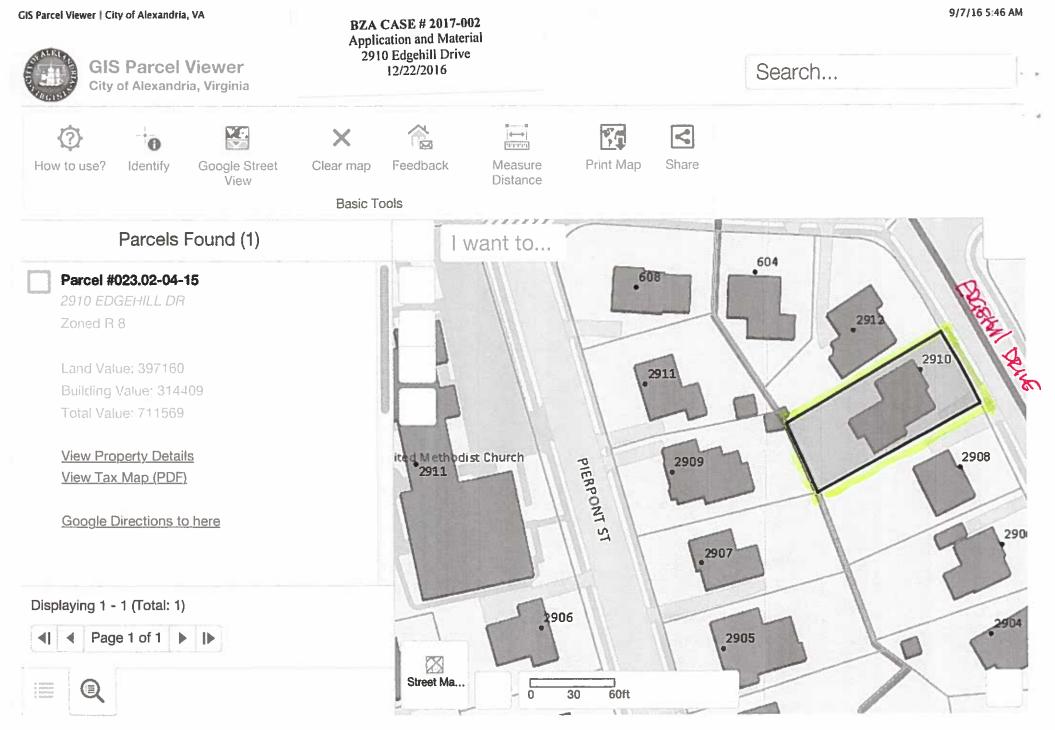
Existing Open Space	
Required Open Space	171
Proposed Open Space	

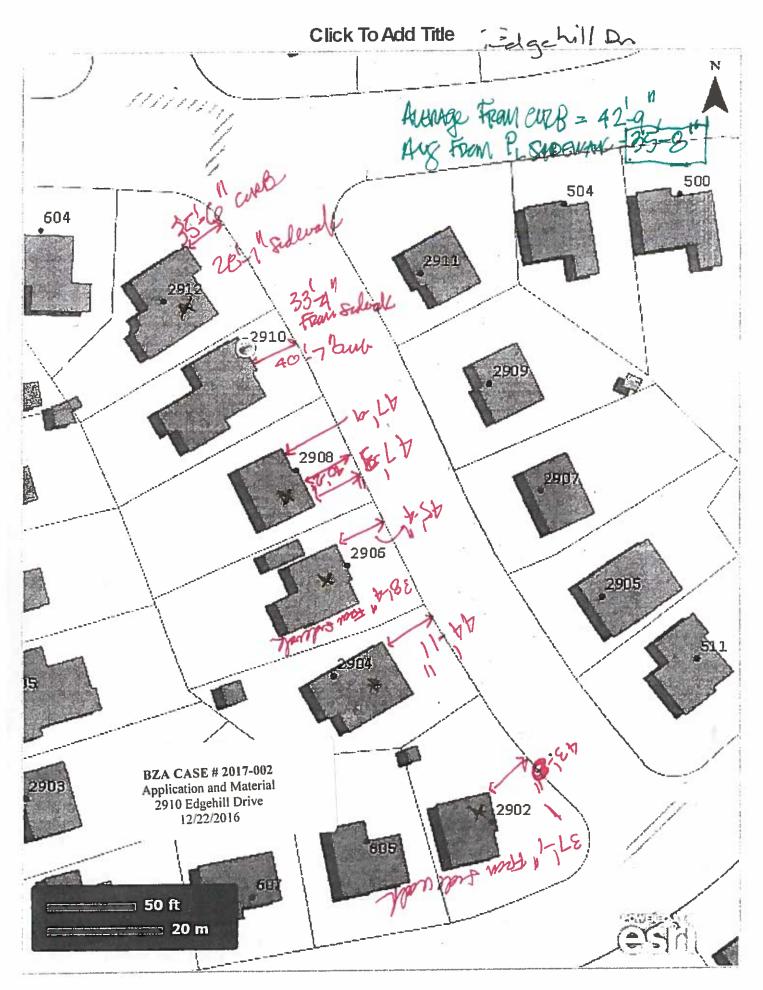
The undersigned hereby certifies and attests that, to the best of his/her knowledge, the above computations are true and correct.

Signature:

Ann Muhob Arother Date: 12

12/2/16 201





BZA Case #2017-0002: Special Exception for 2910 Edgehill Drive			
	Setback from Curb (feet)	rom Curb (feet) Setback from Property line (PL) (fee	
2912 Edgehill Dr	In solution of the second s	35.5	25.5
2910 Edgehill Dr		43	33
2908 Edgehill Dr	4	7.25	37.25
2906 Edgehill Dr	4	5.33	35.33
2904 Edgehill Dr	4	4.92	34.92
2902 Edgehill Dr		43	33
AVG:		43.2	33.2
PL - Curb width (feet)		10	

#### OWNERSHIP AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Use additional sheets if necessary

<u>1. Applicant.</u> State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. Gaver Nichols	P.O. Box 2921 Herander y	W/A
2.		
3.		

2. Property. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the property located at \_\_\_\_\_\_ (address), unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term extremely interest chall include any local or equitable interest held at the time of the

percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. Rebecca Oake Burch	2910 Edychill DR	502
2. Christian Mark Burt	2910 Ekschill DR	558
-3.		

3. <u>Business or Financial Relationships.</u> Each person or entity indicated above in sections 1 and 2, with an ownership interest in the applicant or in the subject property are require to disclose **any** business or financial relationship, as defined by <u>Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance</u>, existing at the time of this application, or within the12-month period prior to the submission of this application with any member of the Alexandria City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals or either Boards of Architectural Review. All fields must be filled out completely. Do not leave blank. (If there are no relationships please indicated each person or entity and "None" in the corresponding fields).

For a list of current council, commission and board members, as well as the definition of business and financial relationship, <u>click here.</u>

Name of person or entity	Relationship as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance	Member of the Approving Body (i.e. City Council, Planning Commission, etc.)
1 Gaver Michols Architest	W14	
2. Christian Burk	WA	
3. Rebecca Buch	NA	

NOTE: Business or financial relationships of the type described in Sec. 11-350 that arise after the filing of this application and before each public hearing must be disclosed prior to the public hearings.

As the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent, I hereby attest to the best of my ability that the information provided above is true and correct.

Date

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NA





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Google Maps 2981 Edgehill Dr



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Alexandria, Virginia

Street View - Jul 2012

https://www.google.com/maps/@38.8320482,-77.0730607,3a,75y,213.93h,74.03t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1so6l6qlHWjZXIFIVBkGjRkQ!2e0!7i13312!8l6656!6m1!1e1

