

609.3 Variances

The Zoning Hearing Board shall have the right to authorize such variances from this Ordinance as are permitted under Section 910.2 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The Board may grant a variance provided the following findings are made where relevant in a given case:

- A. That there are unique physical circumstances or conditions, including irregularity, narrowness, or shallowness of lot size or shape, or exceptional topographical or other physical conditions peculiar to the particular property, and that the unnecessary hardship is due to such conditions, and not the circumstances or conditions generally created by the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance in the neighborhood or district in which the property is located;
- B. That because of such physical circumstances or conditions, there is no possibility that the property can be developed in strict conformity with the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance and that the authorization of a variance is therefore necessary to enable the reasonable use of the property.
- C. That such unnecessary hardship has not been created by the applicant.
- D. That the variance, if authorized, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located, not substantially or permanently impair the appropriate use or development of adjacent property, not to be detrimental to the public welfare; and
- E. That the variance, if authorized, will represent the minimum variance that would, in fact, afford relief and will represent the least modification possible of the regulation in issue.

In granting any variance, the Board may attach such reasonable conditions and safeguards as it may deem necessary to implement the purposes of Article VI and the Zoning Ordinance. This authority shall not include the right to grant a use variance that would, in fact, alter the Zoning Map and thus constitute a rezoning.