Town of Skaneateles Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) INSERT: AREA Variance

(Pursuant to §148-10-10.E)

Contact Town Staff if you need assistance.

	operty Tax Map# 033 02 - 04.0				
The	applicant understands that: (please mark or check to acknowledge that you have read each)				
<u> </u>	The area variances, if granted shall be the <u>minimum variance necessary and adequate</u> , while preserving and protecting the character of the neighborhood and the health, safety and welfare of the community.				
<u> </u>	The ZBA shall consider the <u>benefit to the applicant</u> If the variance is granted, as <u>weighed against</u> the detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood or community. It shall consider that Skaneateles Lake is a public water supply and shall not grant any variance that, individually or in combination with other variances, may result in pollution of the lake from more intensive use of property, encroachment into required lake yards, additional surface water runoff or subsurface leaching of septic waste or any other factors.				
The	applicant shall respond in writing to the following required criteria. (use additional sheets if needed)				
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. Applicant response:				
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. Applicant response:				
3.	Whether the requested area variance is substantial. Applicant response:				
4.	Whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district. Applicant response:				
5.	Whether the alleged difficulty was self-created, which shall be relevant to the decision of the Board, but which shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance. Applicant response:				
	1 Please see attached typed responses				

TURN OVER - for REQUIRED SUBMISSIONS

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SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

FILING FEE					
\$200.00	Amendment:	\$100			
ONE (1) original:					
2. ZBA AF 3. Narrativ 4. SEQR 5. Photoc 6. Letter c 7. Photoc 8. If withir applica	on Application Form – completed REA Variance insert – completed we responses to review criteria of Short form – completed (Board may be appleted) of CEO Denial of Permit of authorization - if agent of propage opp of permits or correspondent LWOD - Written statement or pation has been submitted to the (correspondent).	d or additional supporting of nay require completed Long For nerty owner or applicant. the from other agencies (a photocopy of transmittal	orm or more information) see Referral Section below) letter that a copy of this		
 9.Current survey (per §148.10-1.D.1), with location map, stamped and signed by licensed land surveyor 10.Site plan showing all existing and proposed conditions, signed and stamped by licensed design professional. 					
PLEASE NOTE : You may simultaneously apply for a Use or Area Variance in anticipation that your requested interpretation is denied. If so – include the Interpretation Insert with this submission.					
The following agencies applications before the	CONTACTS WITH OTHE may have separate permit authorown. You may be required be	ority or be required to proy the Town to contact	these agencies directly.		
	have contacted any of these a ter, permit issued, N/A - Not A		ontact and the type of		
Highway Access: Water Supply: Sanitary Waste: Natural Resources:	Town Highway Dept. Onondaga County DOT NYS DOT Town Water Dept. Onondaga Co Health Dept. City of Syracuse Water Dept. NYS DEC US Army Corp of Engineers	Contact Date	Response		
PROCEDURE SUM	MARY				
 Pre-application meeting/CEO Denial of Permit Submittal Deadline (Two [2] weeks prior to ZBA meeting date) Preliminary Zoning Board of Appeals review of application Determine completeness Request additional information or submissions Schedule Site visit and formal review meeting date Refer application to other agencies Formal Zoning Board of Appeals Review Public hearing 					

b. Receipt of referral recommendationsc. Final action and adoption of resolution

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 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.

We are fortunate to have large trees to the north and south of our property that provide privacy to the area of our proposed project, thus the view from our neighbors will not change. The area of the proposed project is not visible from the road and subsequently will not change the character of the neighborhood as perceived from the road.

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.

The main reason we are hoping to install a patio versus simply replacing our deck is to provide a place to sit and watch our children while they are in and around the pool, without being separated from them by a fence (as would be the setup if we were not able to install a patio, and had to keep just the deck). Installing a permeable patio would alleviate the need for a variance, however the loose stone and larger areas between the pavers not only have the potential to damage our pool filtration system (as the loose stone will inevitably end up in the pool), but pose a trip hazard for our young children as they play around the pool.

Removing some of the already existing impermeable surfaces on our property such as part of our driveway, or the paved area in the back of our property would also eliminate the need for a variance. However, the environmental implications of hiring diesel equipment to cut up our driveway, excavate the area and haul away the mess would likely be greater than increasing our impermeable area 1.2%. Additionally, removal of the paved area in the back of our property would leave our children without a safe paved area to play, as the slope of our driveway leading into the road doesn't allow for this.

3.) Whether the requested area variance is substantial.

The requested area variance is not substantial as we are requesting to increase the impermeable space on our property from 16.4% to 17.6%. A 1.2% increase, putting us just 2.6% over the allotted 15% for our lot.

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

We acknowledge the concern that increasing the amount of impermeable space may slightly increase the amount of water runoff from our property. In an attempt to offset this potential drawback, we are committed to installing a flowering native meadow in the front of our property. By replacing the grass in the front of our property with native flowering plants, we will increase the permeability of that area, increasing the amount of water runoff absorbed into the ground. We have attached a "Meadow Implementation Plan" obtained from the organic land care professionals at Ecoscape Design that provides an in depth description of what this will entail and the benefits it will have on the surrounding ecosystems.

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

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Our lot was nonconforming to allotted impermeable space when we purchased it in 2017. However, we are electing to further increase the impermeable space on the lot by 1.2%. Rationale for this can be found in the attached letter.

