## CITY OF KNOXVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS APPLICATION

| APPLICANT INFORMATION | APPLICANT IS: | THIS PROPOSAL PERTAINS TO: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name (Individual not company) Robert Sweet, McBride Dale Clarion | Owner $\square$ <br> Contractor  <br> Tenant $\square$ <br> Other $\square$ | New Structure $\square$ |
| Street Address 5721 Dragon Way, Suite 300 |  | Modification of Existing Structure |
| City, State, Zip Cincinnati, OH 45227 |  | Off Street Parking |
| Phone Number 513-441-7747 |  | Signage |
| Applicant Email rsweet@mcbridedale.com |  | Other |
| THIS IS A REQUEST FOR: |  |  |
| V Zoning Variance (Building Permit Denied) Appeal of Administrative Official's Decision | Extension of Non-Conforming Use/or Structure Map Interpretation |  |
| PROPERTY INFORMATION |  |  |
| Street Address 1415 Third Creek Road |  | City, State, Zip Knoxville, TN 37921 |
| See KGIS.org for Parcel \# 093OA021 City Council | District \# 2 | and Zoning District "IG" |
| VARIANCE REQUIREMENTS |  |  |

City of Knoxville Zoning Ordinance Article 16, Section 16.3
The City of Knoxville Board of Zoning Appeals shall have the power and authority to grant variances from terms of this ordinance according to the procedure and under the restrictions set out in this section.
The purpose of the variance is to modify the strict application of the specific requirements of this ordinance in the case of exceptionally irregular, narrow, shallow or steep lots, or other exceptional physical conditions, whereby such strict application would result in practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship which would deprive an owner of the reasonable use of his land. The variance shall be used only where necessary to overcome some obstacle which is preventing an owner from using his property as the zoning ordinance intended.

## DESCRIPTION OF APPEAL

Describe your project and why you need variances.
Casey's has a contract to lease 2.0 acres of property at 1415 Third Creek Road. Casey's is requesting the following variances from Section 13.9F of the City of Knoxville Zoning Ordinance:

- Article 13.9.F. 3 / Table 13-2 - To allow an increase in height of the primary detached sign from 10' to $25^{\prime}$.
- Article 13.9.F.2.c - To allow an increase in height of the secondary detached sign from $8^{\prime}$ to $25^{\prime}$.
- Article 13.6.F.G. 1 - To reduce the minimum width requirement of a parcel to allow Changeable Price Signs from 250 ' to 217'.
- Article 13.9.F. 3 / Table 13-3 - To allow an increase in the area of the primary detached sign from 100 square feet to 114 square feet.
- Article 13.9.F.2.c - To allow an increase in the area of the secondary detached sign from 32 square feet to 114 square feet.

Please see the attached project description and justification statement for additional information.

Describe hardship conditions that apply to this variance.
The variances are requested due to the unique frontage arrangement of Middlebrook Pike and proposed topography changes to final grading of the site.

Please see the attached project description and justification statement for additional information.

Site plans and any other relevant information associated with the hardship must accompany this application.

## APPLICANT AUTHORIZATION

I hereby certify that I am the authorized applicant, representing ALL property owners involved in this request and that all


1. Increase the height of the primary detached sign from 10 feet to 25 feet. Per Article 13.9.F.3;

Table 13-2.
2. Increase the height of the secondary detached sign from 8 feet to 25 feet. Per Article 13.9.F.2.c
3. Reduce the minimum width requirement of a parcel to allow Changeable Price Signs from 250 feet to 217 feet. Per Article 13.6.G. 1
4. Increase the size of the primary detached sign from 100 square feet to 114 Square feet. Per Article 13.9.F.3; Table 13-3.
5. Increase the size of the secondary detached sign from 32 square feet to 114 Square feet. Per Article 13.9.F.2.c

| Date Filed $5-26-23$ | Fee Amount $\$ 250.00$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Council District 2 | BZA Meeting Date $7 / 18 / 23$ |
| PLANS REVIEWER $\quad$ Mike Robinson | DATE 6/6/23 |





## 1415 THIRD CREEK RD

7-C-23-VA
ROBERT SWEET

## Knoxville - Knox County - KUB Geographic Information System



## 1415 THIRD CREEK RD

7-C-23-VA
ROBERT SWEET
Printed: 5/31/2023 at 10:25:15 AM

June 28, 2023
Board of Zoning Appeals
City of Knoxville
Building Inspections Department
400 Main Street, Ste. 475
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

## Via Email / Digital Submittal

## RE: Casey's - 1415 Third Creek Road - Sign Variances

Dear Knoxville Board of Zoning Appeals Members:
On behalf of Casey's General Stores, I am transmitting this letter and enclosed materials requesting signage variances associated with a proposed Casey's convenience store and fuel sales facility located at 1415 Third Creek Road, Knoxville, Tennessee. Casey's has contract to lease 2-acres of property from the owners of the parent parcel ( 4810 North Middlebrook Pike), for the development of a $4,750+/$ - square foot convenience store and a $3,100+/$ - square foot automobile fueling canopy over five (5) double-sided dispensers.

The subject property is zoned "IG" General Industrial District. Casey's is requesting approval of the following variances related to signage:

- Variance from Article "13.9.F. 3 / Table 13-2" - To allow an increase in the height of the primary freestanding sign from 10 ' to $25^{\prime}$.
- Variance from Article "13.9.F.2.c" - To allow an increase in the height of the secondary freestanding sign from 8' to 25 '.
- Variance from Article "13.6.G.1" - To reduce the minimum width requirement of a parcel to allow Changeable Price Signs from 250' to 217'.
- Variance from Article "13.9.F. 3 / Table 13-3" - To allow an increase in area of the preliminary detached sign from 100 square feet to 114 square feet.
- Variance from Article "13.9.F.2.c" - To allow an increase in area of the secondary detached sign from 32 square feet to 114 square feet.

To initiate the request, I am transmitting the following materials:

- A completed and signed Board of Zoning Appeals Application;
- A Project Description and Variance Justification Statement;
- A Site Plan; and
- Freestanding Sign Detail.

Please review the enclosed materials and contact me immediately if additional information is needed. Per correspondence with Mike Robinson on Friday, June 16, 2023, we updated our application and materials with additional information related to our request.

It is our understanding that upon receipt and review of the submittal materials, the fee for the requests will be determined. Once available, please send the invoice for fee payment to my attention.

Our team looks forward to presenting our request to the Board of Zoning Appeals on July 18, 2023.
Sincerely,


Robert C. Sweet
CC: File
MDC \#4814

# Casey's \#4318 <br> Project Description \& Signage Variance Justification Statement 1415 Third Creek Road, Knoxville, Tennessee 

## Introduction

Casey's has a contract to lease 2.0+/- acres of property at 1415 Third Creek Road, Knoxville, Tennessee. The property is zoned "IG" General Industrial Zoning District within the City of Knoxville zoning jurisdiction. Casey's proposes to develop the subject property with a convenience store and fuel sales facility. As part of the project, Casey's is requesting variances related to the proposed driveway location, number of required parking spaces, and proposed freestanding signage.

## Project Description

Casey's proposes to develop a $4,750+/$ - square foot convenience store and $3,100+/$ - square foot fueling canopy over five (5) double-sided dispensers. A total of sixteen (16) parking spaces are proposed. Driveway access to the property consists of a $35^{\prime}$ left-in/right-out driveway along South Middlebrook Pike and two (2) - 35 ' wide full access driveways along $3^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road. The driveways proposed along $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road are designed to align with the access points provided for the existing Weigel's on the east side of $3^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road. The development has a retaining wall along the North Middlebrook Pike property line, and along a portion of the western property line.

The proposed convenience store is a flat roofed structure, approximately 22 feet tall, and constructed of Redstone antique brick. Stone columns are provided on the four corners of the building and the two corners of the building's primary entry. The entry feature projects roughly 4 feet from the plane of the front façade. An ACM panel system and glazing providing views into the store is proposed along the primary elevation. The main entrance to the convenience store is on the eastern elevation facing $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road. Service entrances are proposed on the northern and southern elevations of the building. Enhancement of the primary elevation is completed with the use of decorative lighting fixtures on the building walls and lighting fixtures flush mounted into the soffit of the convenience store. Mechanical units for the convenience store are installed on the roof. A flat roofed metal canopy is proposed. A dumpster enclosure is proposed on the northern side of the building and utilizes design elements from the proposed convenience store.

The property is landscaped with a variety of trees, shrubs, and ground covers to meet code and enhance the development. A total of 25 trees and 104 shrubs are provided throughout the site. Within areas that are not paved or built on, sod and ground cover are provided. Areas behind the store and within the detention basin are seeded.

## Variance Requests

Casey's is requesting the following variances from the City of Knoxville Zoning Code to allow the development to be constructed as proposed:

- Variance from Article "13.9.F.3 / Table 13-2" - To allow an increase in the height of the primary freestanding sign from 10 ' to $25^{\prime}$.
- Variance from Article "13.9.F.2.c" - To allow an increase in the height of the secondary freestanding sign from 8' to 25 '.
- Variance from Article "13.6.G.1" - To reduce the minimum width requirement of a parcel to allow Changeable Price Signs from 250' to 217’.
- Variance from Article "13.9.F.3 / Table 13-3" - To allow an increase in area of the preliminary detached sign from 100 square feet to 114 square feet.
- Variance from Article "13.9.F.2.c" - To allow an increase in area of the secondary detached sign from 32 square feet to 114 square feet.

Casey's is requesting variances to allow two full size freestanding signs for the proposed facility. One sign is located near the corner of $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road and North Middlebrook Pike and the other sign is located near the corner of $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road and South Middlebrook Pike. Both freestanding signs are 25 ' tall and $114+/$ - square feet in area. The proposed signs have three digital price panels, nonilluminated product tag, and the traditional Casey's logo with a weathervane.

The zoning code restricts digital changeable price panels to properties which have at least 250 ' of street frontage on the street where the property is addressed. The proposed site has about $217^{\prime}$ of frontage along Third Creek Road, measured in a straight line. Both signs have a digital price panel on them for the advertisement of fuel sales. The proposed use is unique since they are in the business of selling fueling products. Clear advertisement of fuel prices are needed to ensure customers can see the fuel price an adequate distance from the site. The better site distance a customer has to see the fuel prices the more time the customer has to a make a decision on utilizing the facility.

Due to the uniqueness of the divided highway location with traffic moving in one direction on each side of the site, two signs (one advertising in either direction) are needed to provide adequate visibility to potential customers in the corridor. The use of $25^{\prime}$ sign and larger sign area is necessary to provide customers with a clear line of vision to the fuel price panels provided on the sign near the intersection of ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Creek Road and South Middlebrook Pike. Existing vegetation and projection of the roadway along South Middlebrook Pike impacts the customers visibility of the sign. The additional height and area allows customers traveling along South Middlebrook to differentiate in fuel service offerings in the area, as neighboring Weigel's appears to have a sign of similar size and height. Motor fuel is unique in that the public expects to be able to see the price of the product before entering the property. Lack of sufficient signage can lead to safety issues with vehicles slowing to read small signage or making sudden traffic movements onto the property.

A similar situation occurs on the north side of the site along North Middlebrook Road. Due to grading of the site, the sign must be placed at a lower elevation than the rest of the site. Due to the elevation of where the proposed sign will be placed, visibility heading westbound along North Middlebrook Pike is severely restricted. The additional sign height and area provides adequate visibility to potential customers and provides a competitive balance for the neighboring facilities. Motor fuel is unique in that the public expects to be able to see the price of the product before entering the property. Lack of sufficient signage can lead to safety issues with vehicles slowing to read small signage or making sudden movements onto the property.

The requested sign variances for the proposed Casey's will not be detrimental to the surrounding area as it is surrounded by similar or more intense uses. The uniqueness of the roadway design, the type of use proposed, and existing and final grading creates a unique condition. Granting the requested variances will provide the minimum relief necessary to allow the development to be successful. We believe the requested variances result in a safe site for potential customers to utilize when traveling along Middlebrook Pike. The proposed development will have a positive impact on the area and provides another fueling option and employee support business in the corridor.

We look forward to discussing the project with the Board of Zoning Appeals and respectfully request approval of the preceding Variances.




