DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



Planning Division

m e m o r a n d u m

TO: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin and City Council Members

FROM: Lorrie Pearson, AICP, Community Development Services Director

Katherine Trotter, Planner I

DATE: November 6, 2020

SUBJECT: An Ordinance Approving a Major Variance (106 East Pennsylvania Avenue / ZBA-2020-

MAJ-05)

Introduction & Background

Jane and Steve Amundsen request a Major Variance to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue in the R-2 Single-Family Residential Zoning District. Table VI-3 of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance requires a lot in the R-2 District to have a minimum side yard of five feet. Section VI-5 of the Zoning Ordinance prohibits air conditioning units and other mechanical equipment from being located in required yards. The applicants would like to put the air conditioning unit in the required side yard on the east side of their home, less than five feet from the property line.

The requested variance is necessary because of the configuration of the lot. The house was built in 1956, less than five feet from the side property line on the east side of the property. The house was also built without central air conditioning. The property and the surrounding neighborhood were developed before our current zoning regulations were enacted, so many surrounding properties have existing non-conforming setbacks as well. Granting the variance would allow the proposed air conditioner to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard on the east side of the property. Staff support the request.

At its October 21, 2020, meeting, the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) held a public hearing on this case. No members of the public spoke regarding the case. Staff received three communications in favor of the variance prior to the public hearing. The ZBA voted unanimously, with six ayes and zero nays, to recommend that City Council approve the variance, with the condition that the placement of the air conditioning unit generally conforms to the site plan.

Description of Site and Area

The property at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue is approximately 0.30 acres, and is located on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue between Broadway Street and Vine Street. Nearby are the Urbana Middle School, Urbana High School, Blair Park, and mostly single-family residences. All adjacent and nearby properties are also zoned R-2, Single-Family Residential, with the exception of Blair Park to the south, which is zoned CRE, Conservation-Recreation-Education.

The following table identifies the current zoning and existing land uses of the subject property and surrounding properties (see Exhibits A and B).

Table 1. Zoning and Land Use

Location	Zoning	Existing Land Use
Subject Property	R-2, Single-Family Residential	Single-Family Home
North	R-2, Single-Family Residential	Single-Family Home
South	CRE, Conservation-Recreation- Education	Blair Park
East	R-2, Single-Family Residential	Single-Family Home
West	R-2, Single-Family Residential	Single-Family Home

Discussion

Site History

The configuration of the lot at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue hinders the number of possible locations for a new air conditioner. The house was built in 1956 without central air conditioning. The applicants have window air conditioning units, but would like to install a whole-house system to better cool their home, which requires an air conditioner somewhere on the exterior of the house. The proposed air conditioner will be 29 inches by 29 inches and would be located on the east side of the house, across from the neighbor's air conditioner at 108 East Pennsylvania Avenue. The proposed air conditioner will be a newer model, and according to the applicants and their supplier, would generate less noise than their neighbor's existing unit. This should limit any potential nuisance to the neighbors.

The east side yard is the most practical and cost-effective location for the new air conditioner. There is a driveway and garage on the west side of the property, which would make it difficult to put the unit there. There is a deck in the rear yard, attached to the house, which makes it an impractical location for the air conditioner. According to the applicants, an air conditioner could fit in the set-in area next to the back porch, however, that area is under a downspout, which is not a good location for any mechanical equipment.

All of the existing electrical connections for the home are on the east side of the house. The applicants would like to put the unit on the east side to use these existing electrical connections. Putting the air conditioner on any other side of the house would require drilling holes through the finished basement ceiling to run wiring to the unit. The most practical and cost effective location for the proposed air conditioner is in the east side yard.

Approving the variance would allow the applicants to install an air conditioner in the required side yard on the east side of their property, two feet from the property line. Without the variance, the applicants would not reasonably be able to install an air conditioner.

Major Variance Criteria

Section XI-3 of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance requires the Zoning Board of Appeals to make findings based on variance criteria.

1. Are there special circumstances or practical difficulties with reference to the parcel concerned, in carrying out the strict application of the ordinance?

The existing house encroaches into the required five-foot side yard on the east side of the property. The property and the surrounding neighborhood were developed before our current zoning regulations were enacted, so the side yard is narrower than what would be required today. Allowing the air conditioner to be installed in the east side yard is the most practical and cost effective solution, and regardless of where the unit is placed in the east side yard, it would be less than five feet from the property line.

2. The proposed variance will not serve as a special privilege because the variance requested is necessary due to special circumstances relating to the land or structure involved or to be used for occupancy thereof, which is not generally applicable to other lands or structures in the same district.

The proposed variance will not serve as a special privilege because the house was built less than five feet from the property line on the east side of the lot. The existing driveway and garage in the west side yard and deck in the rear yard make the east side yard the most practical location for a new air conditioner. These are special circumstances that do not generally apply to other properties in the district.

3. The variance request is not the result of a situation or condition having been knowingly or deliberately created by the Petitioner.

The applicants did not deliberately create this situation. The house was built in 1956, with no central air conditioning. The applicants have relied on window air conditioning units up to this point, and they would like to replace the window units with a central cooling system. The applicants were unaware of the side yard requirement prior to deciding to put in an air conditioner, before contacting the City.

4. The variance will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

The proposed air conditioner will be placed as close to the house as possible. Air conditioning units are allowed in residential zoning districts, and it is common to see them next to houses. The variance would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood, as many other homes in the area have air conditioners.

5. The variance will not cause a nuisance to the adjacent property.

The variance would allow the proposed air conditioner to be located two feet from the east property line, entirely on the applicants' property. The proposed unit will be directly across from the neighbor's air conditioner at 108 East Pennsylvania Avenue. The neighbors to the north and to the east have each submitted letters of support for the requested variance. The proposed air conditioner will also be the newest available model. The air conditioner will be required to comply with the City's Noise Ordinance¹, which will limit any nuisance to the neighbors.

6. The variance generally represents the minimum deviation from requirements of the Zoning Ordinance necessary to accommodate the request.

¹ Code of Ordinances City of Urbana, Illinois, Chapter 16 Noise and Vibrations

The proposed air conditioner would encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard. The unit would be located as close to the applicants' home as possible. The proposed location is the most reasonable and cost-effective placement for the unit.

Zoning Board of Appeals

On October 21, 2020, the ZBA discussed the variance request. After hearing three letters in favor of, and no public input against the case, the ZBA voted unanimously, with six ayes and zero nays, to forward this case to the Urbana City Council with recommendation to APPROVE the request, with the condition that the placement of the air conditioning unit generally conforms to the submitted site plan.

Case Summary

- 1. The property is zoned R-2, Single-Family Residential Zoning District.
- 2. Jane and Steve Amundsen request a Major Variance to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue.
- 3. The variance does not serve as a special privilege to the property owner, as the house was built less than five feet from the east property line, and the east side yard is the most practical location for a new air conditioner.
- 4. The property owner did not deliberately create this situation, as the house was built in 1956, less than five feet from the eastern property line, and with no central air conditioning.
- 5. The variance will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood, as air conditioning units are allowed in residential zoning districts, and the proposed air conditioner will be placed as close to the house as possible.
- 6. The variance will not create a nuisance, as the proposed air conditioner will be directly across from the neighbor's air conditioner, and will comply with City noise regulations.
- 7. The variance represents the minimum deviation necessary from the Zoning Ordinance, as the variance would allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard.

Options

The Urbana City Council has the following options:

- 1. Approve the Ordinance; or
- 2. Approve the Ordinance with certain terms and conditions; or
- 3. Deny the Ordinance.

Recommendation

At the October 21, 2020 meeting, the ZBA voted with six ayes and zero nays to forward this case to the Urbana City Council with a recommendation to APPROVE the request, with the following condition:

That the placement of the air conditioning unit generally conforms to the site plan in Ordinance Attachment A.

Staff concurs.

Exhibits: A: Location Map

B: Zoning MapC: Site PlanD: Site PhotosE: Public Input

F: Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes 10/21/2020 (DRAFT)

G: Application for a Major Variance

cc: Jane and Steve Amundsen, Owner/Applicant

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-11-062

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A MAJOR VARIANCE

(106 E. Pennsylvania Ave. / ZBA Case No. 2020-MAJ-05)

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana ("City") is a home rule unit of local government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6, of the Illinois Constitution, 1970, and may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs, and the passage of this Ordinance constitutes an exercise of the City's home rule powers and functions as granted in the Illinois Constitution, 1970; and

WHEREAS, the Urbana Zoning Ordinance provides for a major variance procedure to permit the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Corporate Authorities to consider applications for a major variance where there is a special circumstance or condition with a parcel of land or a structure; and

WHEREAS, Jane and Steve Amundsen have submitted a petition for a major variance to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing on such petition at 7:00 p.m. on October 21, 2020, in ZBA Case No. 2020-MAJ-05; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Urbana Zoning Ordinance Section XI-10, due and proper notice of such public hearing was given by publication in *The News-Gazette*, a newspaper having a general circulation within the City, on a date at least 15 days but no more than 30 days before the time of the public hearing, and by posting a sign containing such notice on the real property identified herein; and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays to forward the case to the Urbana City Council with a recommendation to approve the requested variance with

one condition; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the requested variance conforms with the major variance procedures in Article XI, Section XI-3(C)(2)(d), of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the variance criteria established in the Urbana Zoning Ordinance and has made the following findings of fact:

- 1. The property is zoned R-2, Single-Family Residential Zoning District.
- 2. Jane and Steve Amundsen request a Major Variance to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue.
- 3. The variance does not serve as a special privilege to the property owner, as the house was built less than five feet from the east property line, and the east side yard is the most practical location for a new air conditioner.
- 4. The property owner did not deliberately create this situation, as the house was built in 1956, less than five feet from the eastern property line, and with no central air conditioning.
- 5. The variance will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood, as air conditioning units are allowed in residential zoning districts, and the proposed air conditioner will be placed as close to the house as possible.
- 6. The variance will not create a nuisance, as the proposed air conditioner will be directly across from the neighbor's air conditioner, and will comply with City noise regulations.
- 7. The variance represents the minimum deviation necessary from the Zoning Ordinance, as the variance would allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1.

In ZBA Case No. 2020-MAJ-05, the major variance requested by Jane and Steve Amundsen, to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue, is hereby approved in the manner proposed in the application with the following conditions: that the placement of the air conditioning unit generally conforms to the site plan in Attachment A. Such attachments are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. The major variance described above shall only apply to the property located at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue, more particularly described as follows:

Lot 11 in DeYoungs Third Subdivision to the City of Urbana, as per Plat recorded in Plat Book "F" at Page 315, situated in Champaign County, Illinois.

Commonly known as 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801 P.I.N.: 93-21-17-455-011

Section 2.

The City Clerk is directed to publish this Ordinance in pamphlet form by authority of the corporate authorities, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in accordance with Section 1-2-4 of the Illinois Municipal Code. Upon approval of this Ordinance, the City Clerk is directed to record a certified copy with the Champaign County Office of the Recorder of Deeds and transmit one copy of the recorded Ordinance to the petitioner.

This Ordinance is hereby passed by the affirmative vote, the "ayes" and "nays" being called of a majority of the members of the Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, at a meeting of said Council.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this day of, 2020.	
AYES:	
NAYS:	
ABSTENTIONS:	
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk	
APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this day of, 2020.	
Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor	

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM

I, Phyllis D. Clark, certify that I am the duly appointed and acting Municipal Clerk of the	City of Urbana,		
Champaign County, Illinois. I certify that on the day of	, 2020, the corporate		
authorities of the City of Urbana passed and approved Ordinance No,	entitled "An Ordinance		
Approving a Major Variance (A/C Unit at 106 E. Pennsylvania Ave. / ZBA-2020-MAJ-0.	5)" which provided by its		
terms that it should be published in pamphlet form. The pamphlet form of Ordinance N	0		
was prepared, and a copy of such Ordinance was posted in the Urbana City Building com	mencing on the		
day of, 2020, and continuing for at least ten (10) days thereafter	er. Copies of such		
Ordinance were also available for public inspection upon request at the Office of the City Clerk.			
DATED at Urbana, Illinois, this day of, 2020.			

ATTACHMENT A

Site Plan

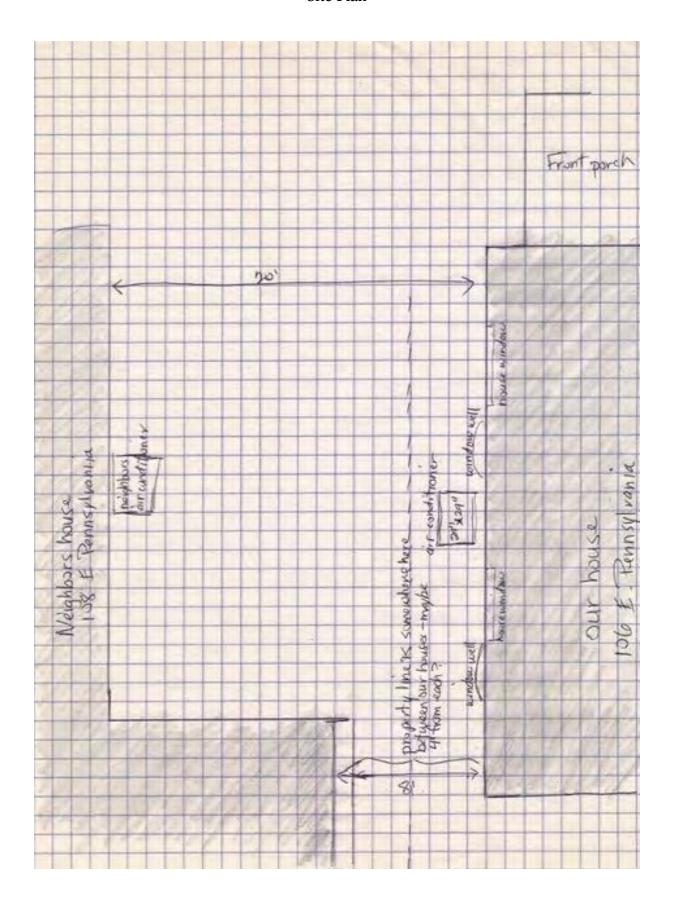


Exhibit A - Location Map





Case No. Subject Address Petitioner ZBA-2020-MAJ-05 Air Condition Unit Major Variance 106 E Pennsylvania Ave Jane and Steve Amundsen

0 150 300 450 ft

Legend

Subject Property

Exhibit B - Zoning Map R-5 Fairlawn Dy B-1 S Vine St **CRE** B-1 B-1 Hollywood Aly RE5 **CRE** R-5 S Vine St R-3 R-5 R-3 R-3 E Michigan Ave W Michigan Ave E Michigan Ave R-2 S Broadway Ave **R**-3 R-3 R-3 R-3 S Vine St R-2 R-3 R-2 R-3 R-3 R-3 R-3 R-2 E Pennsylvania Ave E Pennsylvania Ave W Pennsylvania Ave S Broadway Ave R-3 R-2 R-2R-2R-2R-2R-2R-2 R-3 R-3 R-3 Hillcrest St R-2 R-2 R-2 R-2 R-2 R-2 R-2 R-3 R-3 R-2 W Vermont Ave R-3 R-3 S Vine S Broadway Ave R-3 **CRE** R-3 R-3 R-3 R-3 R-3 R-3 R-3 W Delaware Ave R-3 R-3 R-2 R-2 R-2 R-3 R-3 R-3 Legend Case No. ZBA-2020-MAJ-05 Subject Air Condition Unit Major Variance Subject Property R_{-2} Address 106 E Pennsylvania Ave $R_{-}3$ Petitioner Jane and Steve Amundsen Zoning $R_{-}5$ $B_{\!-}1$ CITY OF 150 300 450 ft **CRE URBANA** Community Development Services, Kat Trotter 9/11/2020











108 Penn major variance support

Jonah Weisskopf < jonahweisskopf@hotmail.com>

Mon 10/19/2020 3:58 PM

To: Trotter, Katherine < krtrotter@urbanaillinois.us >;

To whom it may concern,

I am the neighbor directly to the West of the Amundsen's at 104 East Pennsylvania. I am strongly in support of their request for a major variance to allow them to put their new air conditioner unit closer to the property line.

Thanks!

Jonah Weisskopf

Major variance for air conditioning unit at 106 E Pennsylvania

Bill Scheidemantel <bscheid307@yahoo.com>

Thu 10/8/2020 1:42 PM

To: Trotter, Katherine < krtrotter@urbanaillinois.us >;

Ms. Trotter:

We received a letter from the City regarding the upcoming ZBA hearing, to consider the request for a side yard setback variance for placement of an air conditioning unit at 106 E Pennsylvania.

For the record, even as adjacent property owners directly north of the subject property, we are unlikely to be affected by the granting of the variance, and we have no objection to the request. Furthermore, we think the variance should be allowed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Bill Scheidemantel 105 E Michigan Ave

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Public Input - 10/21

JoAnne Geigner <jgeigner@gmail.com>

Thu 10/15/2020 9:38 AM

To:!Planning <Planning@urbanaillinois.us>; Trotter, Katherine <krtrotter@urbanaillinois.us>;

Cc:Jane Amundsen < janeamundsen@comcast.net >;

Hello,

My name is JoAnne Geigner and I live with my family at 108 E. Pennsylvania Ave, Urbana. My family and I want to provide our support for the major variance requested by our neighbors Jane and Steve Amundsen at 106 E. Pennsylvania. We have spoken to Jane and understand where they need to locate the air conditioner unit and that it will encroach 3 feet into the required 5-foot side yard that is between our houses.

As direct next door neighbors, we support the Amundsen's request for a major variance.

Thank you, The Geigner Family

--

JoAnne Geigner jgeigner@gmail.com Pronouns: She/Her

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

DATE: October 21, 2020 DRAFT

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Zoom Webinar

MEMBERS ATTENDING Joanne Chester, Ashlee McLaughlin, Adam Rusch,

REMOTELY: Nancy Uchtmann, Charles Warmbrunn

MEMBER ATTENDING Harvey Welch AT CITY BUILDING:

MEMBERS ABSENT Matt Cho

STAFF PRESENT Marcus Ricci, Planner II; Katherine Trotter, Planner I; Lily

Wilcock, Planner I; Jason Liggett, UPTV Manager

OTHERS PRESENT Jane Amundsen, Kaelob Capel, Tracy Chong, Danger Zoning

Board of Appeals, Gokhul, Christopher Hansen, Bob

Kapolnek, Dave Line, Stephanie McNicholas

NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

ZBA-2020-MAJ-05 – A request by Jane and Steve Amundsen for a Major Variance to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard at 106 East Pennsylvania Avenue in the R-2, Single-Family Residential Zoning District.

Chair Welch opened the public hearing for this case. Kat Trotter, Planner I, gave the staff report for the case. She began by stating the purpose of the proposed Major Variance, which is to allow an air conditioning unit to encroach three feet into the required five-foot side yard. She noted a correction to the staff report with regards to the dimensions of the air conditioning unit, which measures 29 inches x 29 inches instead of 29 inches x 17-1/2 inches. She stated that City staff received three communications from the public that were included as attachments to the written staff report. She noted the location, zoning and future land use designation of the proposed site and the uses of nearby properties. She talked about the proposed new air conditioning unit and showed photos of the property and of the Site Plan. She reviewed the criteria for a Major Variance from Section XI-3 of the Zoning Ordinance. She read the options of the Zoning Board of Appeals and presented City staff's recommendation for approval with the following condition: *The air conditioning unit generally conform to the Site Plan, Exhibit C.*

Chair Welch asked if any members of the Zoning Board of Appeals had questions for City staff. There were none.

There being no questions for City staff, Chair Welch opened the hearing for public input. He invited the applicant to speak on behalf of his request.

Jane Amundsen, applicant, raised her hand to speak to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Chair Welch swore her in.

Ms. Amundsen stated that decided to install whole house air conditioning; however, they have had a difficult time deciding where to place the unit. It is impractical to place the unit on three sides of their property, and the east side does not meet the zoning requirements.

With there being no further input from the audience, Chair Welch closed the public input portion of the hearing and opened the hearing for discussion and/or motions by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Rusch moved that the Zoning Board of Appeals forward Case No. ZBA-2020-MAJ-05 to the Urbana City Council with a recommendation for approval with the following condition: *The air conditioning unit shall generally conform to the site plan in Exhibit C of the written staff report.* Ms. Uchtmann seconded the motion. Roll call on the motion was as follows:

Ms. Chester	-	Yes	Ms. McLaughlin	-	Yes
Mr. Rusch	-	Yes	Ms. Uchtmann	-	Yes
Mr. Warmbrunn	-	Yes	Mr. Welch	-	Yes

The motion passed by unanimous vote. Ms. Trotter noted that this recommendation would be forwarded to the City Council on Monday, November 9, 2020.



Application for Variance

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The application fee must accompany the application when submitted for processing. Please refer to the City's website at http://www.urbanaillinois.us/fees for the current fee associated with this application. The Applicant is also responsible for paying the cost of legal publication fees. Estimated costs for these fees usually run between \$75.00 and \$225.00. The applicant will be billed separately by the News-Gazette.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE - FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Da	ate Request Filed	08-28-2020	ZBA Case No
Fe	e Paid - Check No.	Amou	unt Date
	PLEASE I	PRINT OR TYPE	THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
Α	VARIATION is re	quested in conformity	with the powers vested in the Zoning Board of
Αŗ	ppeals to permit the	following variation (I	Describe the extent of the Variation Requested)
ins	stallation of air condition	ing unit close to property line	on the
pro	operty described be	elow, and in conformity	y with the plans described on this variance request.
_	A DDY TÂ A NAT CO		
1.		ONTACT INFORMA	
		t(S): Jane & Steve Amundsen	Phone: 217-714-6413
	Address (street/cit)	v/state/zip code): 106 E Pen	nnsylvania Ave, Urbana 61801
	Email Address: am	nundsen@illinois.edu	
	Property interest of	f Applicant(s) (Owner, Co	'ontract Buyer, etc.): owners
2.	OWNER INFOR	RMATION	•
	Name of Owner(s)	; same as above	Phone:
	Address (street/cit)	y/state/zip code):	
	Email Address:		
		vned by a Land Trust? ch a list of all individual	Yes No ls holding an interest in said Trust.
3.	PROPERTY IN	FORMATION	
	Location of Subjec	t Site: 106 E Pennsylvania Av	ve, Urbana 61801
	PIN # of Location:		
	Lot Size: Approx 6	68' x 193'	

Current Zoning Designation: residential

Current Land Use (vacant, residence, grocery, factory, etc: residence

Proposed Land Use: continued residence

Legal Description (If additional space is needed, please submit on separate sheet of paper):

Lot #11.011, DeYoungs 3rd Subdivision

4. CONSULTANT INFORMATION

Name of Architect(s):	Phone:
Address (street/city/state/zip code):	
Email Address:	
Name of Engineers(s):	Phone:
Address (street/city/state/zip code):	
Email Address:	
Name of Surveyor(s):	Phone:
Address (street/city/state/zip code):	
Email Address:	
Name of Professional Site Planner(s):	Phone:
Address (street/city/state/zip code):	
Email Address:	
Name of Attorney(s):	Phone:
Address (street/city/state/zip code):	
Email Address:	

5. REASONS FOR VARIATION

Identify and explain any special circumstances or practical difficulties in carrying out the strict application of the Zoning Ordinance with respect to the subject parcel.

We would like to add whole house air conditioning to our 1956 house which currently has hot water heat and window air conditioners. The most practical, most aesthetically pleasing, and least expensive location for the outside air conditioner condenser is on the east side of our house. The driveway butts up to the west side of the house, a deck extends along almost the entire back north side, and all the electrical connections, both inside and outside are on the east end, across from our neighbors' own air conditioning unit.

Explain how the variance is necessary due to special conditions relating to the land or structure involved which are not generally applicable to other property in the same district. Our lot is somewhat narrow with a driveway abutting one side and only a few feet of property on the east side. We do not know exactly where the property line lies between our properties on the east, but it is doubtful that there would be a full 5 feet of clearance past an installed air conditioning unit. A unit could fit in a set-in area next to the back porch, however, it is under a downspout, at the opposite end of the house from all electrical, with no basement under the porch, and wires would have to be run through the finished basement ceiling at much additional expense and disruption.

Explain how the variance is <u>not</u> the result of a situation or condition that was knowingly or deliberately created by you (the Petitioner).

At the time the house was built whole house air conditioning was not an option so no allowance was made for installing it.

Explain why the variance will <u>not</u> alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

The east side of our house would be an unobtrusive location for the air conditioner condenser. In addition we would not have to cut additional holes through the stone exterior of the house for wires to run into the attic because the unfinished east end of the basement would allow access for them.

Explain why the variance will <u>not</u> cause a nuisance to adjacent property.

The air conditioner would essentially be across from our neighbors air conditioning unit at 108 E Pennsylvania Ave. We have been assured that our new unit would be much quieter than our neighbors unit and unlikely that they could hear it over the noise of theirs. These direct next door neighbors who are the only folks who could potentially be affected have no objection whatsoever to installing the condenser across from theirs.

Does the variance represent the minimum deviation necessary from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance? Explain.

Yes. The air conditioning unit would be entirely on our property, however, clearance from the air conditioner to the property line would be less than specified by probably a few feet.

NOTE: If additional space is needed to accurately answer any question, please attach extra pages to the application.

By submitting this application, you are granting permission for City staff to post on the property a temporary yard sign announcing the public hearing to be held for your request.

CERTIFICATION BY THE APPLICANT

I certify all the information contained in this application form or any attachment(s), document(s) or plan(s) submitted herewith are true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am either the property owner or authorized to make this application on the owner's behalf.

Applicant's Signature

8/24/2020 Date 4/24/2026

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM ONCE COMPLETED TO:

City of Urbana Community Development Department Services **Planning Division** 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

Phone: (217) 384-2440 Fax: (217) 384-2367