Board of Zoning Adjustment

Staff Report

August 19, 2019



Case No:19-VARIANCE-0006Project Name:Dupont Circle VarianceLocation:4000 Dupont Circle

Owner(s): BEC SD, LLC

Applicant: Mark Kidwell – Commonwealth Sign Co.

Jurisdiction: City of St. Matthews
Council District: 26 – Brent Ackerson
Case Manager: Zach Schwager, Planner I

REQUEST

• <u>Variance</u> from City of St. Matthews Development Code section 11.D.2.c to allow an attached sign in the C-1 zoning district to exceed a height of 25 feet above the ground.

Location	Requirement	Request	Variance
Sign Height	25 ft.	40 ft.	15 ft.

CASE SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

The subject property is located in the City of St. Matthews on the south side of Dupont Circle. The applicant is proposing an attached sign on the northern façade that is 40 ft. above the ground. This proposal requires a variance for the sign height.

STAFF FINDING

Staff finds that the requested variance to exceed the maximum height is adequately justified and meets the standard of review. Based upon the information in the staff report, and the testimony and evidence provided at the public hearing, the Board of Zoning Adjustment must determine if the proposal meets the standards for granting a variance established in the City of St. Matthews Development Code from section 11.D.2.c to allow a sign to exceed a height of 25 feet above the ground.

TECHNICAL REVIEW

No technical review was undertaken.

INTERESTED PARTY COMMENTS

No interested party comments were received.

STANDARD OF REVIEW AND STAFF ANALYSIS FOR VARIANCE FROM SECTION 11.D.2.c

(a) The requested variance will not adversely affect the public health, safety or welfare.

STAFF: The requested variance to exceed the maximum height will not adversely affect the public health, safety, or welfare as the sign is attached to the building and will not have any changing image components.

(b) The requested variance will not alter the essential character of the general vicinity.

STAFF: The requested variance to exceed the maximum area will not alter the essential character of the general vicinity as there are a number of other similarly attached signs in the area.

(c) The requested variance will not cause a hazard or nuisance to the public.

STAFF: The requested variance to exceed the maximum height will not cause a hazard or nuisance to the public as the sign will not obstruct views for drivers or pedestrians.

(d) The requested variance will not allow an unreasonable circumvention of the zoning regulations.

STAFF: The requested variance will not allow an unreasonable circumvention of the zoning regulations as the proposed sign would be installed at the top of the façade of the existing building.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

1. The requested variance does not arise from special circumstances which do generally apply to land in the general vicinity or the same zone.

STAFF: The requested variance does not arise from special circumstances which do apply to land in the general vicinity or the same zone because the subject property is similar in size and use to other surrounding properties.

2. The strict application of the provisions of the regulation would not deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of the land or create an unnecessary hardship on the applicant.

STAFF: The strict application of the provisions of the regulation would not deprive the applicant of the reasonable use of the land or create an unnecessary hardship on the applicant because the applicant could reduce the height of the sign to meet the requirements established in the City of St. Matthews Development Code.

3. The circumstances are not the result of actions of the applicant taken subsequent to the adoption of the zoning regulation from which relief is sought.

STAFF: The circumstances are not the result of actions of the applicant taken subsequent to the adoption of the zoning regulation from which relief is sought as the applicant is requesting the variance and has not begun construction.

NOTIFICATION

Date	Purpose of Notice	Recipients
07/17/2019		1 st tier adjoining property owners Registered Neighborhood Groups in Council District 26
08/02/2019		Notice posted on property

ATTACHMENTS

- 1.
- Zoning Map Aerial Photograph 2.
- Elevation 3.
- Rendering 4.
- Site Photos 5.

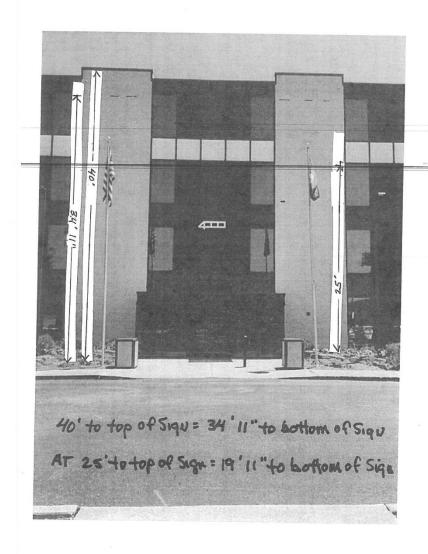
1. Zoning Map



2. <u>Aerial Photograph</u>

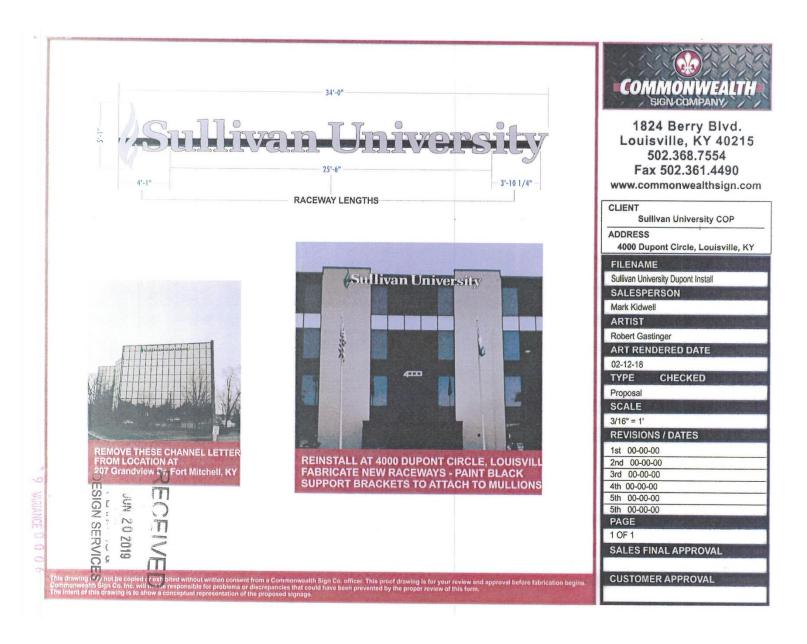


3. <u>Elevation</u>



JUN 20 2019
DESIGN SERVICES

4. Rendering



5. <u>Site Photos</u>



Front of the subject property and proposed sign location.



Property to the left.



Property to the right.



Property across Dupont Circle.



Existing freestanding sign.