



**Filing Fee: \$150.00**

**APPLICATION MUST BE FILED BY THE 5<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH**

**TOWN OF LOCKPORT**

**6200 ROBINSON RD  
LOCKPORT NY 14094**

**BUILDING DEPT. - 439-9526**

**BOARD OF APPEALS REQUEST**

- 1. PREVIEW ( )
- 2. SPECIAL PERMIT ( )
- 3. VARIANCE:
  - AREA ( )
  - USE ( )

(PLEASE PRINT)  
PROPERTY LOCATION:

\_\_\_\_\_

STREET #: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)  
PROPERTY OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Located on the N-S-E-W side Between \_\_\_\_\_ Road/Drive and \_\_\_\_\_ Road/Drive.

Property is located in an area zoned \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)  
APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SBL #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION WAS DENIED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

**APPLICANT SHALL PROVIDE TEN (10) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY PLOT PLANS,  
DRAWINGS, ELEVATIONS AND DATA REQUIRED TO THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**APPLICANT IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO ANY HEARING, TO NOTIFY ANY AND ALL  
ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE INTENTION OF THIS PROPOSAL**

(Signature of Applicant)

I HEREBY DEPOSE AND SWEAR THAT ALL OF THE STATEMENTS ABOVE ARE TRUE.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

# Short Environmental Assessment Form

## Part 1 - Project Information

### Instructions for Completing

**Part 1 - Project Information.** The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

<b>Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information</b>				
Name of Action or Project:				
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map):				
Brief Description of Proposed Action:				
Name of Applicant or Sponsor:		Telephone:		
		E-Mail:		
Address:				
City/PO:		State:	Zip Code:	
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?		_____	acres	
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?		_____	acres	
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?		_____	acres	
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Parkland				

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Are public transportation service(s) available at or near the site of the proposed action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near site of the proposed action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply?  If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities?  If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. a. Does the site contain a structure that is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic Places?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban			
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100 year flood plain?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES  b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)? If Yes, briefly describe: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<p>18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?          If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____          _____          _____</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility?          If Yes, describe: _____          _____          _____</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste?          If Yes, describe: _____          _____          _____</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</b></p> <p>Applicant/sponsor name: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p>		

Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Short Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 2 - Impact Assessment**

**Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.**

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. public / private water supplies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project:	
Date:	

**Short Environmental Assessment Form  
Part 3 Determination of Significance**

For every question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
<hr/>	
Name of Lead Agency	Date
<hr/>	
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
<hr/>	
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

**PRINT FORM**

What is the basis for the ZBA's decision on an interpretation?

If requesting a reversal on an interpretative basis, the applicant must prove that the enforcement officer's decision was incorrect, according to a proper reading of the municipality's zoning regulations. If the ZBA has heard a case in the past which involved an interpretation of the same provision, the ZBA's decision will be consistent with its prior ruling. If the ZBA has never interpreted the particular provision at issue, it will use its best judgment as to the municipal governing board's original intent in enacting the provision. Secondly, the ZBA will try to arrive at the best practical solution for future application by the enforcement officer.

Careful and thorough reference will be given to all definitions and other provisions of the regulations. If necessary, the ZBA will refer to authoritative publications on planning and zoning law. The applicant may, of course, use those resources in presenting his own case as well.

What must be proven in order to be granted a use variance?

If requesting a use variance, that is, permission to establish a use of property not otherwise permitted in the zoning district, the applicant must prove "unnecessary hardship." To prove this, State law requires the applicant to show *all* of the following:

- (1) that the property is incapable of earning a reasonable return on initial investment if used for any of the allowed uses in the district (actual "dollars and cents" proof must be submitted);
- (2) that the property is being affected by unique, or at least highly uncommon circumstances;
- (3) that the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood; and
- (4) that the hardship is not self-created.

If *any one or more* of the above factors is not proven, State law requires that the ZBA must deny the variance.

What must be proven in order to be granted an area variance?

If requesting an area variance, that is, permission to build in an otherwise restricted portion of the property (such as in the required front, side or rear yards, or above the required building height, or in excess of the lot coverage regulations), then State law requires the applicant to show that the benefit the applicant stands to receive from the variance will outweigh any burden to health, safety and welfare that may be suffered by the community. State law requires the ZBA to take the following factors into consideration in making its determination:

- (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;

- (2) whether the benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method which will be feasible for the applicant to pursue but would not require a variance;
- (3) whether the requested area variance is substantial;
- (4) whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district; and
- (5) whether an alleged difficulty is self-created.

Unlike the use variance test, the ZBA need not find in favor of the applicant on every one of the above questions. Rather, the ZBA must merely take each one of the factors into account. The ZBA may also decide that a lesser variance than the one requested would be appropriate, or may decide that there are alternatives available to the applicant which would not require a variance.

Must the variance, if granted, be exactly what was applied for by the applicant?

Whether the ZBA decides to grant a use or area variance, State law requires the ZBA to grant the minimum variance necessary to provide relief, while at the same time taking care to protect the character of the neighborhood and the health, safety and welfare of the community. For these same reasons, the ZBA may also impose reasonable conditions on the grant of any variance.

If there is no opposition to my variance request, must the ZBA grant the request?

The above rules and standards have been set forth in law and by the courts of the State, and cannot be modified by the Zoning Board of Appeals. If they are not followed, the municipality would be subject to costly lawsuits. The public is entitled to speak in favor of, or against, a proposed project, but opinions in and of themselves are not enough.

Applicants and their representatives should be guided in advance by the appropriate legal standards in deciding whether an appeal would be appropriate. If an appeal is taken, the applicant should present clear, definite facts showing that the standards have been met. The ZBA cannot grant relief where proper legal proof is not adequately presented.

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Andrew M. Cuomo,  
Governor

Cesar A. Perales,  
Secretary of State

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