



Board of Adjustment Case Report

City of Raleigh
Department of City Planning
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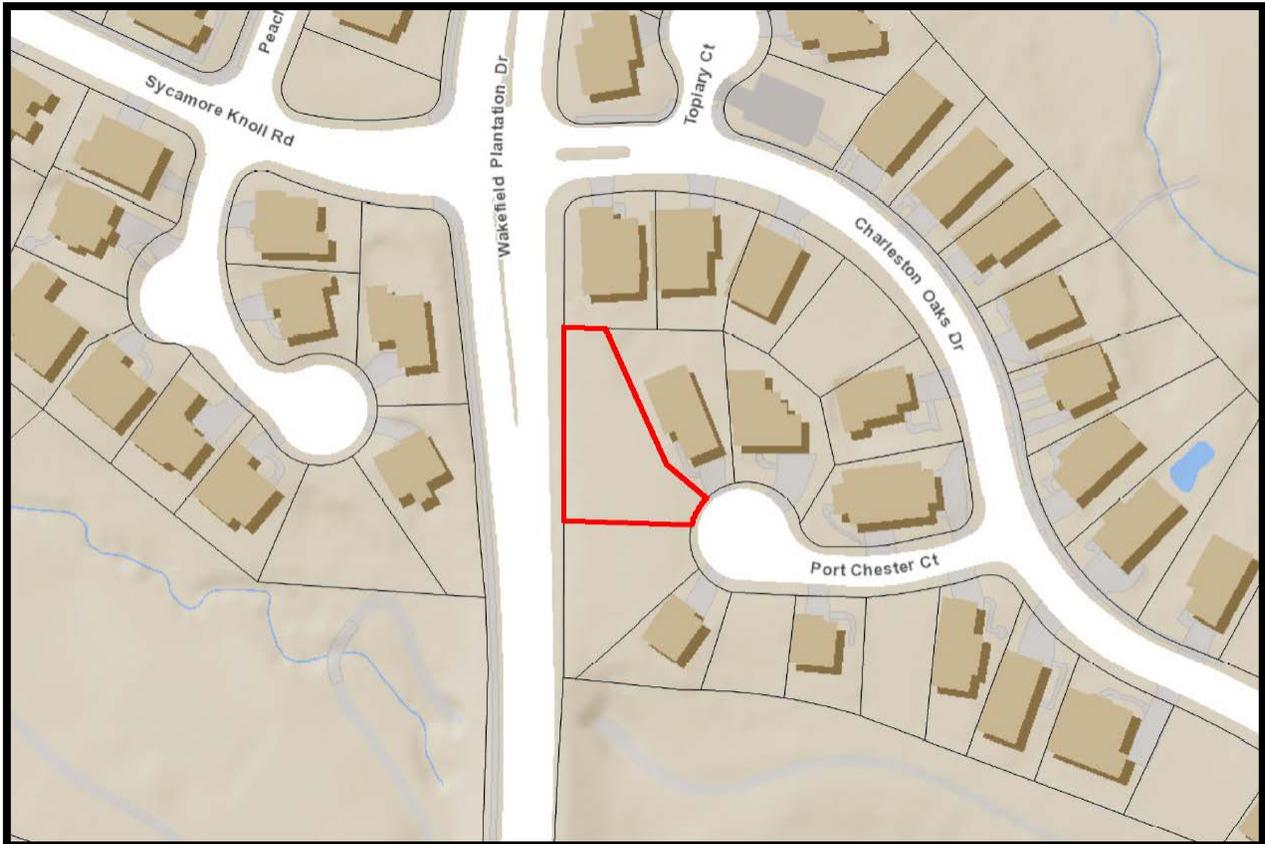
Case File: A-76-16

Property Address: 12601 Port Chester Court

Property Owner: Robert Kosco

Project Contact: Robert Kosco

Nature of Case: A request for a variance from all of the wooded area requirements set forth in Section 9.1.9.A. of the Unified Development Ordinance to allow for the construction of a detached house on a .25 acre property zoned Residential-6 Conditional Use District and Urban Watershed Protection Overlay District.



12601 Port Chester Court – Location Map

To BOA: 7-11-16

Staff Coordinator: Eric S. Hodge, AICP

ZONING DISTRICTS: Residential-6 and Urban Watershed Protection Overlay District



12601 Port Chester Court – Zoning Map

VARIANCE STANDARDS: In accordance with UDO §10.2.10 Variance, before a variance request is granted, the Board of Adjustment shall show all of the following:

To Legalize the Existing Structure:

1. Unnecessary hardship would result from the strict application of the ordinance. It shall not be necessary to demonstrate that, in the absence of the variance, no reasonable use can be made of the property.

2. **The hardship results from conditions that are peculiar to the property, such as location, size or topography. Hardships resulting from personal circumstances, as well as hardships resulting from conditions that are common to the neighborhood or the general public, may not be the basis for granting a variance.**
3. **The hardship did not result from actions taken by the applicant or the property owner. The act of purchasing property with knowledge that circumstances exist that may justify the granting of a variance shall not be regarded as a self-created hardship.**
4. **The requested variance is consistent with the spirit, purpose and intent of the ordinance, such that public safety is secured and substantial justice is achieved.**

Sec. 9.1.9 Watershed Protection Overlay Districts

A. Except as otherwise provided below, every lot located within a -UWPOD, -FWPOD or -SWPOD must provide and maintain an area set aside for trees equal to at least 40% of the lot area. Within this area, trees must either be preserved or planted in accordance with the following:

1. Tree areas may be 1 contiguous area or scattered areas throughout the lot, but no required tree area may be less than 1/5 of the total gross land area required to be set aside for trees;
 2. All areas required to be set aside for trees shall be maintained as wooded areas;
 3. Wooded areas may consist of either areas where active tree preservation is observed or tree planting areas;
 4. Each active tree preservation area must contain a minimum of 2 inches of tree caliper per every 100 square feet and within such areas, active tree preservation shall be followed;
 5. Areas that are set aside for trees that do not meet the standards for active tree protection areas must be planted with shade trees; and
 6. The minimum size and planting rate of new tree plantings used to fulfill this requirement shall be either 1 bare-root seedling at least 14 inches tall planted per 100 square feet (10 feet by 10 feet centers) or one 2-inch caliper tree planted per 200 square feet.
- B. After wooded areas have been determined and prior to or concurrent to any subdividing of the property or issuance of building permit, the landowner shall record with the local County Register of Deeds a plat with metes and bounds descriptions of all wooded areas.

C. For lots located within areas designated "New Urban" by the Swift Creek Land Management Plan, the regulations of Sec. 9.1.9.A. above apply with the exception that only 25% of each lot must contain an area set aside for trees.

D. For lots located within a conservation development, areas set aside for trees may in lieu of being situated on the individual dwelling lots may instead be located within the required open space, provided that the overall acreage set aside for trees is not diminished.

E. The requirements of this section do not apply to lots devoted exclusively to stormwater control measures or to those lots located in those areas of the Comprehensive Plan designated for impervious surfaces in excess of 30%.