

Sign Application Worksheet



LA CROSSE COUNTY

OFFICE USE ONLY

Appeal No. _____

Fee _____

Meeting Date _____

Application Date _____

Applicant's Name/Acting
on Behalf of _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Parcel Number: _____ Zoning District _____ Township _____

Reason for Appeal _____

Notes: _____

Mailing List (OFFICE USE ONLY)

☐ Applicant _____

☐ Property owner _____

☐ Owners within 150 feet _____

☐ Board Members _____

☐ Town Board _____

☐ County Board Supervisor _____

☐ County Board Chair _____

☐ County Administrator _____

☐ County Surveyor _____

☐ Land Conservation _____

☐ Highway Department _____

Others: _____

☐ Dept. Natural Resources _____

☐ Corps of Engineers _____

☐ Dept. of Transportation _____

APPEAL STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

The following guidelines and standards shall apply in determining whether or not to grant a variance from the decision of the Zoning Administrator regarding enforcement of Chapter 33 "Regulation of Outdoor Advertising".

1. Applicant's Burden
 - A. The burden of proof is on the applicant.
 - B. The power to grant relief is an exceptional power and should be sparingly exercised.
 - C. The reasons for granting relief must be substantial.
2. Appeal Standard.
 - A. Unnecessary Hardship - Applicant must show that compliance with the strict letter of the ordinance would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or would render conformity with such restrictions unnecessarily burdensome.
 - B. Factors to be considered.
 1. Committee should focus on the purpose of the ordinance or statute in question and analyze the facts of a particular case in light of the purpose of the ordinance.
 2. The hardship to the applicant cannot be self-created or self-imposed. An example is one who builds a sign in violation of the ordinance and then requests relief.
 3. The relief cannot be contrary to the public interest. The Committee should consider the impact on neighbors and the public at large.
 4. Is there something unique about the property that prevents the applicant from compliance with the ordinance in a reasonable manner.
 - C. Conclusion - Committee will use discretion in appeals under s. 33.09, County Code of Ordinances, focusing on the purpose of the ordinance, looking at factors such as the uniqueness of the applicant's property and whether the hardship is self-created, and whether granting relief is in the public interest.
3. Procedure
 - A. Parties may be represented by an attorney.
 - B. The Committee Chair may administer oaths and compel the attendance of witnesses.
 - C. The proceeding shall be recorded, and minutes of the proceedings shall be taken, which minutes shall record the vote of each member. Exhibits shall be marked and preserved.
 - D. Notice shall be provided to the applicable Town, the County Supervisor for the district where the property is located and to neighboring owners of property within 300 ft. of the subject property.

Sign Appeal

Your answers will be provided to the Planning, Resources and Development Committee prior to the public hearing. Please answer the following question.

1. Unnecessary Hardship: Applicant must show that compliance with the strict letter of the ordinance would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose, or would render conforming to such requirement "unnecessarily burdensome." Explain how you find your appeal meets this test (use additional sheets if necessary):

Appellant: _____
(Signature)

Address: _____

