

# VARIANCE

## WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING AN APPLICATION

A Variance is a deviation from specific regulations that would not be contrary to the public interest when, due to special conditions or circumstances, the literal enforcement of specific regulations results in an unnecessary hardship. A Variance may be granted only when each of the following five conditions has been met:

- a. The variance requested arises from condition which is unique to the property in question and which is not ordinarily found in the same zone or district; and is not created by an action of the property owner or the applicant.
- b. The granting of the permit for the variance will not adversely affect the rights of adjacent property owners or residents.
- c. The strict application of the provisions of the applicable Code from which a variance is requested will constitute an unnecessary hardship upon the property owner represented in the application.
- d. The variance desired will not adversely affect the public health, safety morals, order, convenience, prosperity, general welfare, or the harmonious development of the community.
- e. Granting the variance desired will not be opposed to the general spirit and intent of the applicable Code.

A Variance cannot be granted if even one of the above conditions is not met. Variances are not for correcting mistakes that cause a property to come into non-compliance with a particular Code requirement. Variances are not for situations where complying with a particular Code requirement is inconvenient or more expensive.

1. All applicants desiring to submit a Variance application should consult with the Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD) prior to submitting a formal application. The purpose of the consultation is to advise the applicant of the rights and responsibilities in submitting such an application.
2. A Variance application is referred to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) for a public hearing. The BZA may approve, approve with conditions or modifications, or deny a Variance request. The BZA typically meets every other Thursday of each month in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room at The Ronald Reagan Building, 271 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Refer to the BZA calendar for the exact schedule of hearing dates and to determine the application deadline by which a Variance application must be submitted to be heard on a specific date.
3. As soon as possible following the close of the public hearing, but in no event later than 40 days from the hearing date (unless the applicant consents to a longer time period), the BZA will make a decision on the Variance request. The BZA decision is the final local action on the Variance request. Any person, official, or governmental agency dissatisfied with the BZA decision may bring an action within 30 days in the District Court of Sedgwick County to determine the reasonableness of the BZA decision.
4. Variances may only be granted upon an affirmative vote of at least eight of the fourteen Members of the BZA, even if fewer than fourteen attend the public hearing. Applicants are advised that failure to receive eight affirmative votes will result in the denial of the Variance request.
5. Applicants are advised not to engage in *ex parte* communication with the Members of the BZA. All materials and communication prior to the public hearing shall be directed to the MAPD, who shall cause such to be entered into the official record on the Variance request.
6. The applicant shall submit a completed application form for a Variance request. The application form must be signed by all property owners and by the authorized agent(s) of such owner(s).



## SITE PLAN GUIDELINES FOR VARIANCE APPLICATION

### WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

A site plan is required as part of every Variance application submitted to the Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD). This document will be used in public hearings regarding your request and should be neat, legible, well- labeled, and drawn to scale. The site plan must contain the following elements:

1. Sheet Size: The site plan should be no longer than 11” by 17” and no smaller than 8½ by 11”. Site plans for larger projects (greater than 6 acres), may be larger, with the approval of the MAPD.
2. Title: A brief description of the Variance.
3. Applicant Name: Name of the applicant and the agent who prepared the drawing, if applicable.
4. North Arrow: Indicate the north direction with respect to the project, Lot, or structure.
5. Scale: The scale should be adequate to portray the project, Lot, or structure on the sheet size required. For example, a lot that is 70 feet by 100 feet can adequately be portrayed at a scale of 1” = 20’ (1 inch equals 20 feet) on an 11” by 17” sheet of paper. The scale should not be smaller than 1” = 60’ for larger properties.
6. Dimensions: In addition to adequate scale representation, all key features (lots, buildings, driveways, etc.) on the site plan shall have dimensions in feet noted for all sides.
7. Legal Description: Legal description of Lot(s) or parcels requiring a Variance. This description can be in the form of Lots and Blocks or Metes and Bounds.

Existing Conditions: Indicate **all** structures and features as they exist on the property. These should be drawn to scale, as described above, and shall include, but not be limited to:

- All structures and buildings
- Parking spaces
- Fences
- Significant trees or stands of trees
- Other landscaping

Floodplains  
Water areas or features  
Significant topographical features  
Utilities, above or below ground  
Drainage patterns

8. All required zoning setbacks and easements: Using a dashed line, indicate all required zoning setbacks and utility, drainage, or other easements relative to the project, Lot(s), or structure.
9. All roads/streets adjacent to the property and access points off of those roads: Indicate all roads/streets, including the rights-of-way that surround or intersect the property, including alleys. Indicate all points of access (driveways) from the streets to the project, Lot(s), or structure. Indicate how each road/street is developed, e.g. paved, dirt, undeveloped.
10. Surrounding structures and uses if appropriate: Indicate surrounding uses and zoning as they apply to the Variance request.
11. Modifications by the Variance: Indicate any modifications to the existing structures or features that will result if the Variance request is approved. If these modifications or additions are extensive, a second site drawing might be necessary so as not to be confused with the existing conditions. These modifications or new features may include, but are not limited to:

Buildings Structures  
Parking areas  
Vehicular drives  
Pedestrian walks  
Location and height of light fixtures  
Location of trash receptacles and loading areas  
Landscaped areas

## **VARIANCE**

### **CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS**

- Application form
- Statement regarding five conditions required for granting a variance
- Site plan
- Certified ownership list (original document and electronic copy)
- Filing fee

Note: When applying, please have yourself or your representative present during the processing of the application in case planners have questions or to correct possible errors on the application.



# APPLICATION

This form MUST be completed and filed at the Planning Department located on the 2nd floor of The Ronald Reagan Building, 271 W. 3rd Street, Wichita, KS, 67202 in accordance with directions on the accompanying instruction sheet. AN INCOMPLETE APPLICATION CANNOT BE ACCEPTED. Check the appropriate box for type of application being submitted. A separate application form and filing fee is required for each application. A pre-application conference with the planning staff is recommended before filing this application.

## SECTION I

This property is located within:  Wichita  Sedgwick County (unincorporated)

### Metropolitan Area Planning Commission:

- Zone Change: From zoning district: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- Planned Unit Development:  Approval  Amendment to PUD \_\_\_\_\_  Adjustment to PUD \_\_\_\_\_
- Community Unit Plan:  Approval  Amendment to CUP \_\_\_\_\_  Adjustment to CUP \_\_\_\_\_
- Protective Overlay:  Approval  Amendment to PO \_\_\_\_\_  Adjustment to PO \_\_\_\_\_
- Conditional Use: To allow: \_\_\_\_\_ zone district: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adjustment to CU/CON#: \_\_\_\_\_
- Vacation of: \_\_\_\_\_ zone district: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Use a separate sheet for legal description, if necessary)*
- Administrative Permit: To allow: \_\_\_\_\_-foot high wireless communication facility. zone district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Off-Site Billboard Sign within \_\_\_\_\_ feet of a residential lot/structure. zone district: \_\_\_\_\_

### Board of Zoning Appeals:

- Variance: To allow: \_\_\_\_\_ zone district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Appeal of: \_\_\_\_\_ zone district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Zoning Adjustment: To allow: \_\_\_\_\_ zone district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Sign Code Adjustment: To allow: \_\_\_\_\_ zone district: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION II

1. The application area is legally described as Lot(s) \_\_\_\_\_; Block(s) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Addition, (Wichita) Sedgwick County, KS. If appropriate, a metes and bounds description may be attached.
2. The application area contains \_\_\_\_\_ acres.
3. This property is located at (address) \_\_\_\_\_ which is generally located at (relation to nearest streets) \_\_\_\_\_
4. We are filing this request for the following reasons: \_\_\_\_\_
5. County control number: \_\_\_\_\_

6. The names of the owners of all property included in this application MUST be listed as applicants. Contract purchasers, lessees or others directly associated with the property may also be listed if they desire to be advised of the proceedings. (Use a separate sheet for additional applicants if needed.)

A. Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

B. Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

C. Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

7. We acknowledge receipt of the instruction sheet explaining the method of submitting this application. We realize that this application cannot be processed unless it is completely filled in; is accompanied by a current abstractor's certificate as required in the instruction sheet; and is accompanied by the appropriate fee. We further certify that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of our knowledge. We authorize unannounced inspections of the subject property by City and/or County staff for the purpose of collecting information to review and analyze this request. We acknowledge that the MAPC, Governing Body, or Board of Zoning Appeals shall have authority to impose such conditions as it deems necessary in order to serve the public interest and welfare.

\_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant's signature Authorized Agent (if any)

\_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant's signature Authorized Agent (if any)

\_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant's signature Authorized Agent (if any)

The Petition must bear the signature(s) of the property owner(s). If an authorized agent signs on the owner's behalf, the agent shall sign his own name and attach the owner's written notarized authorization to this application.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Map \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning (N) \_\_\_\_\_ (S) \_\_\_\_\_ (E) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ MAPC/BZA \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_  
 Council/Commission District \_\_\_\_\_ DAB \_\_\_\_\_ Sm. City PC \_\_\_\_\_  
 NA/HOA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_ Received By \_\_\_\_\_

Required Documents:

- Ownership List  BZA Justification  Legal Description  Vacation Petition  Site Plan  Signs



**WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY  
METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COMMISSION  
and BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS  
2022 CALENDAR**

**The Ronald Reagan Building, 271 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Second Floor, Ste. 203, Wichita, Kansas**

<b>CLOSING DATE (By 4:00 p.m.)</b>	<b>NOTICE TO OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER (By 9:00 a.m.)</b>	<b>ADVERTISING DATE (No Later Than Thursday)</b>	<b>SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE HEARING DATE (Thursday at 9:30 a.m.)</b>	<b>MAPC/BZA HEARING DATE (Thursday at 1:30 p.m.)</b>
November 29, 2021	December 13, 2021	December 16, 2021	December 22, 2021	January 6, 2022
December 13, 2021	December 27, 2021	December 30, 2021	January 13, 2022	January 20, 2022
December 27, 2021	January 10, 2022	January 13, 2022	January 27, 2022	February 3, 2022
January 10, 2022	January 24, 2022	January 27, 2022	February 10, 2022	February 17, 2022
January 24, 2022	February 7, 2022	February 10, 2022	February 24, 2022	March 3, 2022
February 7, 2022	February 21, 2022	February 24, 2022	March 10, 2022	March 17, 2022
February 28, 2022	March 14, 2022	March 17, 2022	March 24, 2022	April 7, 2022
March 14, 2022	March 28, 2022	March 31, 2022	April 14, 2022	April 21, 2022
March 28, 2022	April 11, 2022	April 14, 2022	April 28, 2022	May 5, 2022
April 11, 2022	April 25, 2022	April 28, 2022	May 12, 2022	May 19, 2022
April 25, 2021	May 9, 2022	May 12, 2022	May 26, 2022	June 2, 2022
May 9, 2022	May 23, 2022	May 26, 2022	June 09, 2022	June 16, 2022
May 23, 2022	June 13, 2022	June 16, 2022	June 23, 2022	July 7, 2022
June 13, 2022	June 27, 2022	June 30, 2022	July 14, 2022	July 21, 2022
June 27, 2022	July 11, 2022	July 14, 2022	July 28, 2022	August 4, 2022
July 11, 2022	July 25, 2022	July 28, 2022	August 11, 2022	August 18, 2022
July 25, 2022	August 8, 2022	August 11, 2022	August 25, 2022	September 1, 2022
August 8, 2022	August 22, 2022	August 25, 2022	September 8, 2022	September 15, 2022
August 29, 2022	September 12, 2022	September 15, 2022	September 22, 2022	October 6, 2022
September 12, 2022	September 26, 2022	September 29, 2022	October 13, 2022	October 20, 2022
September 26, 2022	October 10, 2022	October 13, 2022	October 27, 2022	November 3, 2022
October 10, 2022	October 24, 2022	October 27, 2022	November 10, 2022	November 17, 2022
October 24, 2022	November 7, 2022	November 10, 2022	November 23, 2022	December 1, 2022
November 7, 2022	November 18, 2022	November 23, 2022	December 8, 2022	December 15, 2022
November 28, 2022	December 12, 2022	December 15, 2022	December 21, 2022	January 5, 2023
December 19, 2022	December 30, 2022	January 5, 2023	January 12, 2023	January 19, 2023
December 30, 2022	January 13, 2023	January 19, 2023	January 26, 2023	February 9, 2023
January 13, 2023	January 30, 2023	February 2, 2023	February 16, 2023	February 23, 2023
January 30, 2023	February 13, 2023	February 16, 2023	March 2, 2023	March 9, 2023
February 13, 2023	February 24, 2023	March 2, 2023	March 16, 2023	March 23, 2023

The MAPC and the BZA meet at 1:30 p.m. on the dates indicated above. If you have questions contact the Metropolitan Area Planning Department at (316) 268-4421.

Red = date adjustment due to holiday