



**CITY OF LACKAWANNA  
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT**

714 Ridge Road – Room 309  
Lackawanna, NY 14218  
Tel: (716) 827-6474 Fax: (716) 827-1866



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**City of Lackawanna Criteria for an Area Variance**

**(All applicants must answer questions below when an Area Variance is sought)**

Before the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant an Area Variance the Applicant must provide proof of, and the ZBA must consider the following:

- (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 feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than an area 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 the alleged difficulty was self-created, which consideration shall be relevant to the decision of the board of appeals, but shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance.
- (c) The board of appeals, in the granting of area variances, shall grant the minimum variance that it shall deem necessary and adequate and at the same time preserve and protect the character of the neighborhood and the health, safety and welfare of the community.

In order to establish the above please complete the questions below (Please feel free to use additional pages if necessary):

Property Address \_\_\_\_\_

1. What facts support that the applicant cannot realize a reasonable return ?

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2. Why should the ZBA determine the alleged hardship relating to the property in question is unique, and does not apply to a substantial portion of the district or neighborhood?

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3. Will the use variance, if granted, alter the essential character of the neighborhood ?

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4. Will the proposed area variance have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district?

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5. Is the alleged hardship self-created?

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Sign Application and Print Name Below