




May 20, 2019

TO: Mayor Jerry Demings
AND
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Commissioner Betsy VanderLey, District 1 

SUBJECT: Commissioner's Report – Variance Application
Fee Waiver

On June 4, 2019, I would like to discuss a request from one of my constituents, Rick Keppler, to waive an application fee for a Variance request. Mr. Keppler purchased his home in 2001 with a pre-existing fence. The fence is 6 ft. and is out of compliance as it exceeds the maximum 4ft. height in the required 25 ft. front yard.

After a complaint was submitted by a neighbor, Mr. Keppler was cited by Code Enforcement in February of this year for a fence erected without a permit and not meeting development standards. He submitted a fence permit application after receiving the citation, but was denied because the fence was out of compliance. He would be required to obtain a Variance in order to keep his fence.

Even though the fence pre-dates Mr. Keppler's 2001 purchase of his home, he is willing to go through the Variance process. However, the Kepplers are experiencing severe financial hardship due the medical expenses for his wife's on-going cancer treatments. In light of the fiscal and emotional burden they are bearing in their battle against cancer, I believe this situation warrants consideration of Orange County waiving the fees associated with the Variance request process. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Cc: Byron Brooks, County Administrator
Jennifer Moreau, Assistant Zoning Division Manager

COMMISSIONER BETSY VANDERLEY, DISTRICT 1

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