

Planning & Sustainability Department 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801 (603) 610-7216

#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

October 25, 2024

Timothy Huntley 124 Raleigh Way Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

# RE: Board of Adjustment request for property located at 124 Raleigh Way, Portsmouth, NH (LU-24-140)

Dear Mr. Huntley:

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **Tuesday**, **October 22,2024**, considered your application for after the fact keeping of chickens which requires the following: 1) Variance from Section 10.440 Use #17.20 to allow the keeping of farm animals where it is not allowed. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 212 Lot 49-1 and lies within the General Residence B (GRB) District. As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to grant the request with the following conditions:

- 1. That there be no more than 6 chickens, and no roosters.
- 2. That the coop(s) be re-located to meet the setback requirements in Section 10.573.10 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Any action taken by the applicant pursuant to the Board's decision during this appeal period shall be at the applicant's risk. Please contact the Planning & SustainabilityDepartment for more details about the appeals process.

Approvals may also be required from other City Commissions or Boards. Once all required approvals have been received, applicant is responsible for applying for and securing a building permit from the Inspection Department prior to starting any project work.

This approval shall expire unless a building permit is issued within a period of two (2) years from the date granted unless an extension is granted in accordance with Section 10.236 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Findings of Fact associated with this decision are available: attached here <u>or</u> as an attachment in the Viewpoint project record associated with this application <u>and</u> on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting website:

https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/planportsmouth/zoning-board-adjustment/zoning-board-adjustment-archived-meetings-and-material

The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning & Sustainability Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

cc: Shanti Wolph, Chief Building Inspector

Rosann Maurice-Lentz, City Assessor

Date: <u>10-22-2024</u>

Property Address: 124 Raleigh Way

Application #: LU-24-140

Decision: Grant

#### Findings of Fact:

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, It now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. **The decision shall include specific** written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

Section 10.233 Variance Evaluation	Finding	Relevant Facts
Criteria	(Meets	
	Criteria)	
10.233.21 Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest. The coop would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood because it would not be seen from the street due to the fence being as tall as the coop at six feet.</li> </ul>
10.233.22 Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance.	YES	• The spirit of the ordinance is to not co-mingle agricultural enterprise with residential areas, and the coop is far from an agricultural enterprise, so it does not violate the spirit of the ordinance to allow the chickens to continue their habitation of the property.

10.233.23 Granting the variance would do substantial justice.	YES	• There would be no benefit to the public by asking the applicant to remove his chickens that would outweigh the hardship or cost to the applicant in removing the chickens.
10.233.24 Granting the variance would not diminish the values of surrounding properties.	YES	The chickens are quiet and do not create a nuisance in the area. The coop would not be very visible from surrounding properties, so there would be no conceivable impact on the values of surrounding properties.
<ul> <li>10.233.25 Literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.</li> <li>(a) The property has special Conditions that distinguish it from other properties in the area. AND</li> <li>(b) Owing to these special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship does not exist between the general public purposes of the Ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property; and the proposed use is a reasonable one. OR</li> <li>Owing to these special conditions, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the Ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.</li> </ul>	YES	The property is bordered by another property owned by the applicant, so there is no violation of the spirit of the ordinance or change in the character of the neighborhood by allowing the chickens and the coop to continue to exist.



Planning & Sustainability Department 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801 (603) 610-7216

#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

October 25, 2024

Eric Benvin & James Christopher Dozier 49 Cass Street Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

# RE: Board of Adjustment request for property located at 49 Cass Street, Portsmouth, NH (LU-24-145)

Dear Property Owners:

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **Tuesday**, **October 22**, **2024**, considered your application for constructing a two-story addition to the rear of the home which requires the following: 1) Variance from Section 10.521 to a) allow a 3 foot side setback where 10 feet is required; b) allow a 13.5 foot rear setback where 20 feet is required; and 2) Variance from Section 10.321 to allow a nonconforming building or structure to be extended, reconstructed or enlarged without conforming to the requirements of the Ordinance. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 156 Lot 10 and lies within the General Residence C (GRC) District. As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to grant the request as presented and advertised.

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Any action taken by the applicant pursuant to the Board's decision during this appeal period shall be at the applicant's risk. Please contact the Planning & SustainabilityDepartment for more details about the appeals process.

Approvals may also be required from other City Commissions or Boards. Once all required approvals have been received, applicant is responsible for applying for and securing a building permit from the Inspection Department prior to starting any project work.

This approval shall expire unless a building permit is issued within a period of two (2) years from the date granted unless an extension is granted in accordance with Section 10.236 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Findings of Fact associated with this decision are available: attached here <u>or</u> as an attachment in the Viewpoint project record associated with this application <u>and</u> on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting website:

https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/planportsmouth/zoning-board-adjustment/zoning-board-adjustment-archived-meetings-and-material

The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning & Sustainability Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

cc: Shanti Wolph, Chief Building Inspector

Rosann Maurice-Lentz, City Assessor Melanie Bisson, Generation Homes

Date: <u>10-22-2024</u>

Property Address: 49 Cass St

Application #: LU-24-145

Decision: Grant

#### Findings of Fact:

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, It now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. **The decision shall include specific** written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

Section 10.233 Variance Evaluation Criteria	<b>Finding</b> (Meets Criteria)	Relevant Facts
10.233.21 Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest. For the side yard setback, it was a continuation of existing nonconformity and would not impact the lot immediately next to it. As for the rear yard setback, it did take the building out of conformity but only by 6.5 feet. The light, air, and space aspects would not be implicated negatively by granting the variance.</li> </ul>
10.233.22 Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance.	YES	• The spirit of the ordinance would be observed as there would be no threat to the public's health, safety or welfare or alteration of the essential character of the neighborhood.

10.233.23 Granting the variance would do substantial justice.	YES	• Granting the variances would do substantial justice because the public would not be harmed by the benefit to the applicant.
10.233.24 Granting the variance would not diminish the values of surrounding properties.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variances would not diminish the values of surrounding properties because the addition would be an improvement to the existing property and would only enhance the values of surrounding properties.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>10.233.25 Literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.</li> <li>(a)The property has special Conditions that distinguish it from other properties in the area. AND</li> <li>(b)Owing to these special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship does not exist between the general public purposes of the Ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property; and the proposed use is a reasonable one. OR</li> <li>Owing to these special conditions, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the Ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.</li> </ul>	YES	• Literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship. The property had special conditions that distinguished it from others in the area, and owing to those special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship did not exist between the general public purposes of the ordinance's provision and the specific application of that provision. The existing bulkhead built right in to the land was a special condition that made expansion off the right side where there is more room impractical. The proposed use is a reasonable one, an extension of a living area for a house in the GRC District.



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#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

October 25, 2024

Aranosian Oil Company INC 557 N State Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

#### RE: Board of Adjustment Request for Property at 1166 Greenland Road, NH (LU-24-171)

Dear :

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **October 22, 2024**, considered your application for the installation of a canopy sign and lightbars which require the following: 1) Variance from Section 10.1251.20 to allow a 44 square foot canopy sign where 20 square feet is allowed; and 2) Variance from Section 10.1252.40 to allow illumination of two existing gas pump canopies. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 279 Lot 2 and lies within the Industrial (I) District. As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to **grant** the request as presented and advertised

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Any action taken by the applicant pursuant to the Board's decision during this appeal period shall be at the applicant's risk. Please contact the Planning & SustainabilityDepartment for more details about the appeals process.

Approvals may also be required from other City Commissions or Boards. Once all required approvals have been received, applicant is responsible for applying for and securing a building permit from the Inspection Department prior to starting any project work.

This approval shall expire unless a building permit is issued within a period of two (2) years from the date granted unless an extension is granted in accordance with Section 10.236 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Findings of Fact associated with this decision are available: attached here <u>or</u> as an attachment in the Viewpoint project record associated with this application <u>and</u> on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting website:

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The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning & Sustainability Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

cc: Shanti Wolph, Chief Building Inspector

Rosann Maurice-Lentz, City Assessor Maura Sullivan, NH Signs

Date: <u>10-22-2024</u>

Property Address: 1166 Greenland Rd

Application #: LU-24-171

Decision: Grant

#### Findings of Fact:

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, It now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. **The decision shall include specific** written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

Section 10.233 Variance Evaluation Criteria	<b>Finding</b> (Meets Criteria)	Relevant Facts
10.233.21 Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest, because of its location, it would not change the character of the area at all.</li> </ul>
10.233.22 Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance.	YES	The spirit of the ordinance would be observed because the purpose and intent of the sign ordinance is trying to avoid distraction to people driving around the roadway. There was a benefit to the public because it would be easier to identify the gas station as one came off Route 95 and drove up Greenland Road.

10.233.23 Granting the variance would do substantial justice.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variances would do substantial justice because the public would not suffer a loss by allowing the change of signage.</li> </ul>
10.233.24 Granting the variance would not diminish the values of surrounding properties.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variances would not diminish the values of surrounding properties because it is in a heavily industrialized and commercial area and there would be no conceivable impact on the values of surrounding properties.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>10.233.25 Literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.</li> <li>(a)The property has special Conditions that distinguish it from other properties in the area. AND</li> <li>(b)Owing to these special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship does not exist between the general public purposes of the Ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property; and the proposed use is a reasonable one. OR</li> <li>Owing to these special conditions, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the Ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.</li> </ul>	YES	<ul> <li>Literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship. The property has special conditions that distinguish it from others in the area. The nature of its location and the proposed signage compared to other gas and refueling signs and it would fit in very well with the location. The special condition of the property is that it is surrounded by commercial enterprises and there is no purpose in restricting the sign with regard to maintaining the character of the neighborhood. The 17-acre property is big and does not have any surroundings that the lighting would be a nuisance to, and the canopy is already there, so not much would be changing.</li> </ul>



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#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

October 25, 2024

Andrew Powell & Nicole Ruane 339 Miller Road Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

# RE: Board of Adjustment Request for Property Located at 339 Miller Avenue, Portsmouth, NH (LU-24-175)

Dear Property Owners:

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **Tuesday**, **October 22**, **2024**, considered your application for demolishing the existing sunroom and constructing a two-story addition to the rear of the home which requires the following: 1) Variance from Section 10.521 to allow a building coverage of 28.5% where 25% is allowed. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 131 Lot 31 and lies within the General Residence A (GRA) District. As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to grant the request as presented and advertised.

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Any action taken by the applicant pursuant to the Board's decision during this appeal period shall be at the applicant's risk. Please contact the Planning & SustainabilityDepartment for more details about the appeals process.

Approvals may also be required from other City Commissions or Boards. Once all required approvals have been received, applicant is responsible for applying for and securing a building permit from the Inspection Department prior to starting any project work.

This approval shall expire unless a building permit is issued within a period of two (2) years from the date granted unless an extension is granted in accordance with Section 10.236 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Findings of Fact associated with this decision are available: attached here <u>or</u> as an attachment in the Viewpoint project record associated with this application <u>and</u> on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting website:

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The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning & Sustainability Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

cc: Shanti Wolph, Chief Building Inspector

Rosann Maurice-Lentz, City Assessor Emma Weir, McHenry Architecture

Date: <u>10-22-2024</u>

Property Address: 339 Miller Ave

Application #: LU-24-175

Decision: Grant

#### Findings of Fact:

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, It now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. **The decision shall include specific** written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

Section 10.233 Variance Evaluation Criteria	<b>Finding</b> (Meets Criteria)	Relevant Facts     Granting the variance would not
10.233.21 Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest.</li> </ul>
10.233.22 Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance.	YES	• The spirit of the ordinance would be observed because with regard to the building lot coverage it is to ensure that houses and construction do not result in overcrowding and over massing within neighborhoods. It is a de minimus request in terms of a change from a decimal point that pushed it from 27.4 to 28.2.
10.233.23 Granting the variance would do substantial justice.	YES	Granting the variances would do substantial justice because there would be no loss to the public. The addition would not be visible from the street and therefore would have no impact on the public at all.

10.233.24 Granting the variance would not diminish the values of surrounding properties.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variances would not diminish the values of surrounding properties because the addition would be in keeping with the abutting properties and would fit into the neighborhood.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>10.233.25 Literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.</li> <li>(a)The property has special Conditions that distinguish it from other properties in the area. AND</li> <li>(b)Owing to these special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship does not exist between the general public purposes of the Ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property; and the proposed use is a reasonable one. OR</li> <li>Owing to these special conditions, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the Ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.</li> </ul>	YES	• Literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship. There would be no impact on the character or alteration of the character in the neighborhood because it would continue to be a single residence property, which was what the area was about.



Planning & Sustainability Department 1 Junkins Avenue Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801 (603) 610-7216

#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

October 25, 2024

Port Harbor Land LLC Ryan Plummer 1000 Market Street Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

# RE: Board of Adjustment Request for property located at 0 Deer Street , Portsmouth, NH (LU-24-176)

Dear Property Owner:

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at its regularly scheduled meeting of **Tuesday**, **October 22**, **2024**, considered your application for constructing a parking garage associated with a previously approved mixed-use development which requires the following: 1) Variance from Section 10.1114.20 to a) allow a 75 degree angle of parking on the lower level where the parking design standards do not allow it; b) allow a 17.5' one-way drive aisle on the lower level where the parking design standards do not allow it; c) allow a parallel parking space on the upper level with a length of 19 feet where 20 feet is required; and d) allow a 10' one-way drive aisle on the upper level where 14' is required. Said property is shown on Assessor Map 118 Lot 28 and lies within the Character District 5 (CD5), Historic and Downtown Overlay Districts. As a result of said consideration, the Board voted to grant the request with the following condition:

1) The Internal parking design shall be updated to the satisfaction of DPW.

The Board's decision may be appealed up to thirty (30) days after the vote. Any action taken by the applicant pursuant to the Board's decision during this appeal period shall be at the applicant's risk. Please contact the Planning & SustainabilityDepartment for more details about the appeals process.

Approvals may also be required from other City Commissions or Boards. Once all required approvals have been received, applicant is responsible for applying for and securing a building permit from the Inspection Department prior to starting any project work.

This approval shall expire unless a building permit is issued within a period of two (2) years from the date granted unless an extension is granted in accordance with Section 10.236 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Findings of Fact associated with this decision are available: attached here <u>or</u> as an attachment in the Viewpoint project record associated with this application <u>and</u> on the Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting website:

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The minutes and audio recording of this meeting are available by contacting the Planning & Sustainability Department.

Very truly yours,

Phyllis Eldridge

Phyllis Eldridge, Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment

cc: Shanti Wolph, Chief Building Inspector

Rosann Maurice-Lentz, City Assessor John E. Lyons, Lyons Law Offices PA

Date: <u>10-22-2024</u>

Property Address: <u>0 Deer St</u>

Application #: LU-24-176

Decision: Grant

#### Findings of Fact:

Effective August 23, 2022, amended RSA 676:3, It now reads as follows: The local land use board shall issue a final written decision which either approves or disapproves an application for a local permit and make a copy of the decision available to the applicant. The decision shall include specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact that support the decision. Failure of the board to make specific written findings of fact supporting a disapproval shall be grounds for automatic reversal and remand by the superior court upon appeal, in accordance with the time periods set forth in RSA 677:5 or RSA 677:15, unless the court determines that there are other factors warranting the disapproval. If the application is not approved, the board shall provide the applicant with written reasons for the disapproval. If the application is approved with conditions, the board shall include in the written decision a detailed description of all conditions necessary to obtain final approval.

Section 10.233 Variance Evaluation	Finding	Relevant Facts
Criteria	(Meets	
	Criteria)	
10.233.21 Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest.	YES	Granting the variance would not be contrary to the public interest, because the purpose of the ordinance was to have properly created parking spaces and travel lanes, and this will be achieved.
10.233.22 Granting the variance would observe the spirit of the Ordinance.	YES	• The spirit of the ordinance would be observed because the change to the internal parking of the approved parking would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood and would pose no harm to the public's health, safety and welfare.
10.233.23 Granting the variance would do substantial justice.	YES	<ul> <li>Granting the variances would do substantial justice because the benefit to the applicant should not be outweighed by any harm to the general public or other individuals. It is a win-win situation by going</li> </ul>

			from surface parking to covered parking.
10.233.24 Granting the variance would not diminish the values of surrounding properties.	YES		Granting the variances would not diminish the values of surrounding properties because there is no reason to think that going from a surface parking lot to a building structure that fit the irregularly shaped and located lot would diminish property values, and it would most likely increase them.
<ul> <li>10.233.25 Literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship.</li> <li>(a) The property has special Conditions that distinguish it from other properties in the area. AND</li> <li>(b) Owing to these special conditions, a fair and substantial relationship does not exist between the general public purposes of the Ordinance provision and the specific application of that provision to the property; and the proposed use is a reasonable one. OR</li> <li>Owing to these special conditions, the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the Ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.</li> </ul>	YES	•	Literal enforcement of the provisions of the ordinance would result in an unnecessary hardship. The property has special conditions that distinguish it from others in the area. The special conditions of the property are that it is irregularly shaped, abuts the railroad tracks, and the approved building is shaped uniquely to accommodate the shape of the parcel itself, which results in the unusual parking spots that were deemed adequate. There is no fair and substantial relationship between the general purpose of the ordinance and its provision to the specific application for customized parking. The proposed use is a reasonable one because it would result in more parking spots that would benefit everyone.