

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Board of Zoning Adjustment



Application No. 18653 of Foundation Sweet Success, Inc., pursuant to 11 DCMR §§ 3104.1 and 3103.2, for a variance from the floor area ratio requirements under § 931.2, and a special exception from the Miscellaneous Uses in the W-1 zone requirements under § 915, to allow restaurant, retail bakery and other related office uses in the entire building in the W-1 District at premises 3206 Grace Street, N.W. (Square 1188, Lot 121).¹

HEARING DATE: November 5, 2013
DECISION DATE: November 5, 2013 (Bench Decision)

SUMMARY ORDER

SELF CERTIFIED

The zoning relief requested in this case was self-certified, pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3113.2. (Exhibit 5.)

The Board of Zoning Adjustment ("Board" or "BZA") provided proper and timely notice of the public hearing on this application by publication in the *D.C. Register* and by mail to Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC") 2E and to owners of property within 200 feet of the site. The site of this application is located within the jurisdiction of ANC 2E, which is automatically a party to this application. ANC 2E submitted a report dated October 6, 2013, in support of the application, which indicated that at a duly noticed, regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the ANC on September 30, 2013, at which a quorum was present, the ANC voted to support the application by a unanimous vote (6:0). The ANC's resolution referenced "an understanding" with the Applicant by which the Applicant shall enter into a covenant that will ensure the residential use or no use of the second floor if the Applicant vacates the property.² (Exhibit 24.) The Office of Planning ("OP") submitted a timely report in support of the application. (Exhibit 27.)

¹ The Applicant amended the application to add special exception relief from § 915. The caption has been altered accordingly.

² The Applicant testified at the public hearing about the understanding with the ANC referenced in the ANC report that the Applicant shall enter into a covenant with the property owner to ensure that the residential use or no use of the second floor if the Applicant vacates the property. Also, the Applicant testified that it was their understanding that the covenant would be outside of the BZA order and not a condition.

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Variance Relief

As directed by 11 DCMR § 3119.2, the Board has required the applicant to satisfy the burden of proving the elements that are necessary to establish the case, pursuant to § 3103.2, for a variance from § 931.2. No parties appeared at the public hearing in opposition to the application. Accordingly, a decision by the Board to grant this application would not be adverse to any party.

Based upon the record before the Board and having given great weight to the OP and ANC reports filed in this case, the Board concludes that in seeking a variance from § 931.2, the applicant has met its burden of proof under 11 DCMR § 3103.2, that there exists an exceptional or extraordinary situation or condition related to the property that creates a practical difficulty for the owner in complying with the Zoning Regulations, and that the relief requested can be granted without substantial detriment to the public good and without substantially impairing the intent, purpose and integrity of the zone plan as embodied in the Zoning Regulations and Map.

Special Exception Relief

As directed by 11 DCMR § 3119.2, the Board has required the Applicant to satisfy the burden of proving the elements that are necessary to establish the case pursuant to § 3104.1 for special exception relief under § 915. No parties appeared at the public hearing in opposition to this application. Accordingly a decision by the Board to grant this application would not be adverse to any party.

Based upon the record before the Board and having given great weight to the OP and ANC reports filed in this case, the Board concludes that the Applicant has met the burden of proof, pursuant to 11 DCMR §§ 915 and 3104.1, that the requested relief can be granted as being in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations and Map. The Board further concludes that granting the requested relief will not tend to affect adversely the use of neighboring property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations and Map.

Pursuant to 11 DCMR § 3100.5, the Board has determined to waive the requirement of 11 DCMR § 3125.3, that the order of the Board be accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law. The waiver will not prejudice the rights of any party and is appropriate in this case.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that the application is hereby **GRANTED, SUBJECT TO THE REVISED PLANS AT EXHIBIT 25.**

VOTE: 4-0-1 (Lloyd J. Jordan, S. Kathryn Allen, Jeffrey L. Hinkle, and Michael G. Turnbull to APPROVE; one Board seat vacant.)

BY ORDER OF THE D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

A majority of the Board members approved the issuance of this summary order.

ATTESTED BY:



SARA A. BARDIN
Director, Office of Zoning

FINAL DATE OF ORDER: November 12, 2013

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR § 3125.9, NO ORDER OF THE BOARD SHALL TAKE EFFECT UNTIL TEN (10) DAYS AFTER IT BECOMES FINAL PURSUANT TO § 3125.6.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR § 3130, THIS ORDER SHALL NOT BE VALID FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER IT BECOMES EFFECTIVE UNLESS, WITHIN SUCH TWO-YEAR PERIOD, THE APPLICANT FILES PLANS FOR THE PROPOSED STRUCTURE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING A BUILDING PERMIT, OR THE APPLICANT FILES A REQUEST FOR A TIME EXTENSION PURSUANT TO § 3130.6 PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND THE REQUEST IS GRANTED. PURSUANT TO § 3129.9, NO OTHER ACTION, INCLUDING THE FILING OR GRANTING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A MODIFICATION PURSUANT TO §§ 3129.2 OR 3129.7, SHALL TOLL OR EXTEND THE TIME PERIOD.

PURSUANT TO 11 DCMR § 3125, APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE APPROVAL OF THE PLANS SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE (OR ADDITION THERETO) OR THE RENOVATION OR ALTERATION OF AN EXISTING BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. AN APPLICANT SHALL CARRY OUT THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, OR ALTERATION ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS APPROVED BY THE BOARD AS THE SAME MAY BE AMENDED AND/OR MODIFIED FROM TIME TO TIME BY THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE D.C. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 1977, AS AMENDED, D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 2-1401.01 *ET SEQ.* (ACT), THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED: RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, PERSONAL APPEARANCE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, FAMILIAL STATUS, FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES, MATRICULATION, POLITICAL AFFILIATION, GENETIC INFORMATION, DISABILITY, SOURCE OF INCOME, OR PLACE OF RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS. SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS A FORM OF SEX DISCRIMINATION WHICH IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. IN ADDITION, HARASSMENT BASED ON ANY OF THE ABOVE PROTECTED CATEGORIES IS PROHIBITED BY THE ACT. DISCRIMINATION IN VIOLATION OF THE ACT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. VIOLATORS WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.