# ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS <br> CITY OF NOVI <br> Community Development Department (248) 347-0415 

## Case No. PZ14-0016 Glens of Northville

## Location: 20969 Woodland Glen Drive

## Zoning District: RM-1, Multifamily Residential District

The applicant is requesting a variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-5(2)d. 1 and $28-5(2)$ d. 2 to allow an oversize (replace)entrance monument sign of 36 square feet and a variance to allow the maximum height of 6.25 feet. The property is located on the north side of 8 Mile Road and west of Meadowbrook Road.

## Ordinance Sections:

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Sign Ordinance Section 28-5(2)d.1 permits a 24 square foot sign for a entranceway signs and section 28-5(2)d. 2 which allows signage to a maximum height of 5 feet.

## City of Novi Staff Comments:

The applicant is proposing to replace entranceway sign for an existing multifamily community. As proposed, entrance sign 36 square feet of area and a height of 6.25 feet. Staff supports the request provided the requested variance is found to not cause an adverse impact on surrounding property, property values or the use and enjoyment of the property in the neighborhood or zoning district.

## Standards for Granting a Slan Variance

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 28-16 addresses Sign Variance Appeals:

- The request is based upon circumstances or features that are exceptional and unique to the property and do not result from conditions that exist generally in the City or that are self-created, specifically
- The failure to grant relief will unreasonably prevent or limit the use of the property and will result in substantially more than mere inconvenience or inability to attain a higher economic or financial return because
- The grant of relief will not result in a use of structure that is incompatible with or unreasonably interferes with adjacent or surrounding properties, will result in substantial justice being done to both the applicant and adjacent or surrounding properties, and is not inconsistent with the spirit of the ordinance because $\qquad$ _.

cityofnovi.org zBA Case No.


## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPLICATION

CITY OF NOV
Community Development Department
(248) 347-0415

For Official Use Only


ZBA meeting date

Check\# $\qquad$ Include poyment with cash or check written to "City of Novi"

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT - PLEASE PRINT
***Please submit one original full set of all documentailon relevant to the appeal plus 14 additional complete sets.


Request is for:
$\Gamma$ Residential

Address of subject ZBA case
Cross roads of property
Sidwell number
50-22- 35-400-035 $\qquad$ May be obtained from Assessing Department (248) 347-0485

Is the property within a Homeowner's Assaciation jurisdiction?

|  | $\Gamma_{\mathrm{MH}}$ | $\Gamma_{\mathrm{R}-\mathrm{A}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\Gamma_{\mathrm{l}}-2$ |  |  |

$\Gamma R C$ GN Apartments LLC
Property owner name (if other than applicant)

II
Commercial
[x Signage

20969 Woodland Glen Drive
Zip code
48167
Eight Mile Road between Meadowbrook Road and Novi Road

Zoning (Please circle one)

ed?
$\square$
Yes
$\bar{x} \quad \mathrm{Na}$
Indicate Ordinance sections) and variances requested:

| 1. | Section | $28-5(2) \mathrm{d} .1$ | Variance requested |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. | Section | $28-5(2) \mathrm{d} .2$ | Variance requested |$\quad$| Area $-36 \mathrm{sq} ft.$. |
| :--- |
| 3. |

Please submit an occurate, scaled drawing af the property showing:
a. All property lines and dimensions correlated with line legal description.
b. The location and dimensions of ell existing and proposed structures and uses on property.
c. Any roads, easements, drains, or waterways which traverse or abut the properly and the lot area and setback.
d. Dimensions necessary to show compliance with the regulations af this Ordinance.

Stale the practical difficulties which prevent conformance with the Zoning Ordinance requirements (attach separate sheet if necessary):
[SEE ATTACHED]

Describe any unique circumstances regarding the properly (ie., shape, topography, etc.) which are not common to other properties in the area and which prevent strict compliance with the Zoning Ordinance:
[SEE ATTACHED]

There is a five (5) day hold period before work/action can be taken on variance approvals.

## SIGN CASES ONLY:

Your signature on this opplicotion indicates that you agree to install a Mock-Up Sign ten (10) days before the scheduled ZBA meeting. Failure ia install a mack-up sign may result in your case nat being heard by the Board, postponed to the next scheduled ZBA meeting, or cancelled. A mock-up sign is NOT to be the actual sign. Upon approval, the mack-up sign must be removed within five (5) days of the meeting. If the case is denied, the applicant is respansible for all casts involved in the removal of the mock-up or actual sign (if erected under violation) within five (5) days of the meeting.

## City of Novi Ordinance, Section 3107. - Miscellaneous

No order ot the board permiling the erection of a bulling shall be void tor a periodionger than one (1) year, unless a bulling permit tor such erection or olteration is obtained within such period and such erection or alteration is started and praceeds to completion in accordance wilt the terms of such permit.
na order at me sora permiring a use or a duilaing or premises snail de voila id a period monger man one-nunarea ana eighty (ioU) days unless such use is established within such a period; provided, however, where such use permitted is dependent upon the erection or olterotion of a building such order shall continue in force and effect if a building permit for such erection or alteration is obtained within one (1) year and such erection or alteration is started and proceeds to completion in accordance with the terms of such permit.

## PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

The undersigned hereby appeals the determination of the Building Official / Inspector or Ordinance made

Addition to existing home/building

X] Signage $\square$ Other
$\square$ Construct new hame/building Accessory building Use

Properly Owners Signature


DECISION ON APPEAL
$\qquad$
Granted

$\qquad$ Denied

The Building Inspector is hereby directed to issue a permit io the Applicant upon the following items and conditions:

## GN APARTMENTS LLC

## ATTACHMENT TO CITY OF NOVI

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPLICATION

## Response to Difficulties and Unique Circumstances

The visibility of the Glens of Northville Apartments community (previously Woodland Glen Apartments) from Eight Mile Road is restricted due to the topography and extensive foliage along the road. Eight Mile Road has been expanded to five lanes with a 45 miles per hour speed limit. Because of these factors, customers and guests to the community are frequently unable to see the entrance and signage with sufficient time to turn into the community in a safe manner. Many of the individuals involved in the recent acquisition of the property have reported that they both missed the entrance and didn't see the signage on a timely basis, forcing them to make a U-turn and proceed back towards the property. This was true regardless of whether they were approaching the property from either the east or the west.

In order to help mitigate this visibility issue, we are in the process of re-landscaping the entrance area to increase the visibility of the apartment community. However, because of the setback and location of the apartment buildings along Eight Mile Road, it is not possible to make the buildings easily visible from Eight Mile Road. It is also not possible to fully achieve the goal of giving drivers a clear view that they are approaching the community (and need to be alert to looking for the entrance) without increasing the prominence of the immediate entrance area and signage.

While it is not practicable to request a waiver of the signage setback restrictions, we are requesting that variances be granted to permit a larger sign with a greater elevation to create sufficient visibility for the community and provide adequate identification for the Glens of Northville Apartments. Specifically, we are requesting that the size of the sign be allowed to be 36 square feet rather than the prescribed 24 square feet. Similarly, we are requesting that the permitted height of the sign, including the supporting structure, be 6 foot three inches over the existing boulevard entrance grade.

We would like to note that the total signage area for the entrance signage is consistent with the total signage area of other apartment communities and businesses located along Eight Mile Road from Haggerty Road to Novi Road.

We are requesting these variances because we feel that the specific topography and visibility to the community are unique and are not self-created. We further feel that the requested variances are necessary to reduce the limitations on the use of the property because of its specific physical limitations.

Finally, as noted above, the requested entrance area and signage design is compatible with surrounding properties and is consistent with the spirit and intent of the sign ordinance.




Main ID Sign
Black Scheme


