

DeKalb County Government Planning & Sustainability Department

Government Services Center 178 Sams Street Decatur, Georgia 30030



Minutes

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 1:00 pm, via Zoom

Zoning Board of Appeals

Seth Burrow	District 1
Mark Goldman, Vice Chair	District 2
Muhammad Jihad	District 3
Nadine Rivers-Johnson, Chair	District 4
Eric Hubbard	District 5
Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby	District 6
John Tolbert	



Lorraine Cochran-Johnson

Chief Executive Officer

Planning & Sustainability Department

178 Sams Street Decatur, GA 30030

Current Planning Zoning Division

DeKalb County Zoning Board of Appeals

Juliana A. Njoku Director

September 10, 2025 @ 1:00 PM

This meeting will be held via Zoom

ZBA BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	DEKALB STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
Seth Burrow, District 1	Rachel Bragg, Zoning Administrator
Mark Goldman, District 2	Lucas Carter, Planner
Nadine Rivers-Johnson, Chair, District 4	Kyle McLean, Planner
Eric Hubbard, District 5	Debora Wells, Administrative Specialist
Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby, District 6	Adam Chappell, Senior Planner
John Tolbert, Super District 7	Robert Satterwhite, Senior Planner
Valerie Ross, ZBA Staff Counsel	
ZBA BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	
Muhammad Jihad, District 3	

Approval of Minutes: Mark Goldman moved, Eric Hubbard seconded to approve August 13, 2025 Minutes. Motion carried 6-0-0.

MINUTES

DEFERRED CASES:

D1. A-25-1247394 (deferred from July 9th Hearing) 15 019 05 015 1679 KOPPERS COURT, CONLEY, GA 30288

Commission District 04 Super District 07

Application by RLF III East, LLC to request variance from Section 27-3.39.6 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce sidewalk requirements and for request to amend resolution for application waiting period (Section 27-7.5) to facilitate expansion of light industrial facility in M (Light Industrial) zoning district.

MOTION: Mark Goldman moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for 60-day deferral to the November 12, 2025 ZBA meeting. Motion carried 6-0-1. Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby abstained.

D2. A-25-1247485 (deferred from July 9th Hearing) 18 061 10 007 2424 NANCY LANE, ATLANTA, GA 30345 Commission District 01 Super District 07

Application by Davis Engineering & Surveying to request a variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce the front yard setback in R-100 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

1st Motion: Mark Goldman moved, Eric Hubbard seconded to move case to end of agenda. Motion carried 6-0-0.

2nd Motion: Mark Goldman moved, Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby second to un-table item. Motion carried 6-0-0.

FINAL MOTION: John Tolbert, Jr. moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for a 60-day deferral to the November 12, 2025 ZBA meeting. Motion carried 6-0-0.

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hears variances, special exceptions, and appeals of administrative decisions. They are an independent body, appointed by the Board of Commissioners (BOC). The BOC hears Rezoning, Special Land Use Permits (SLUPs), Major Modifications, Land Use Plan Amendments, and Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment applications.

D3. A-25-1247573 (deferred from July 9th Hearing) 15 136 08 020 3075 TONEY DRIVE, DECATUR, GA 30032

Commission District 03 Super District 07

Application by Dana Gibson c/o Battle Law, PC to request variance from Section 27-8.1.4-B of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to increase height of retaining wall and allow parking pad in the R-75 (Residential Medium Lot-75) zoning district.

1st MOTION: Seth Burrow moved to deny. The motion failed, due to lack of a second.

FINAL MOTION: John Tolbert moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for withdrawal without prejudice of the parking pad variance request and approval of the retaining wall height from 4 feet to 7 feet. Motion carried 5-1-0. Seth Burrow voted against the motion.

D4. A-25-1247583 (deferred from July 9th Hearing) 18 145 02 082 1156 SPRINDDALE ROAD. NE. DECATUR. GA 30033

wall height in the R-75 (Residential Medium Lot-75) zoning district.

Commission District 02 Super District 07

Application by Scott Young to request variance from Section 27-5.4.7 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to increase retaining

1st Motion: M. Goldman moved, Dr. J.L. Rigsby seconded to move case to end of agenda. Motion carried 6-0-0.

2nd Motion: Mark Goldman moved, Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby second to un-table case.

FINAL MOTION: Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby moved, Mark Goldman seconded for a 60-day deferral to the November 12, 2025 ZBA meeting. Motion carried 6-0-0.

NEW CASES:

N1. A-25-1247717 18 193 06 015 Commission District 02 Super District 07

Application by Frederick Andrien to request variance from Section 27-2.2-1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce rear yard setback and increase lot coverage to facilitate second-story addition in R-100 (Residential Medium Lot-100) zoning district.

MOTION: Mark Goldman moved, John Tolbert, Jr. seconded for a 30-day deferral to the October 8, 2025 ZBA meeting. Motion carried 6-0-0.

N2. A-25-1247649 18 108 02 028 1368 WOODLAND HILLS DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30324

2478 GREENGLADE ROAD, ATLANTA, GA 30345

Commission District 02 Super District 06

Application by Raymond Warren to request variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to increase lot coverage to facilitate rebuilding of deck in R-85 (Residential Medium Lot-85) zoning district.

NO MOTION

N3. A-25-1247653 15 216 17 020 2711 MIDWAY ROAD, DECATUR, GA 30030

Commission District 04 Super District 06

Application by Wilfredo Fernandez to request variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce side yard setback to facilitate second story addition in R-75 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Mark Goldman moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for approval with the following conditions: (1) variance on site; (2) applicant maintains 6 feet and (3) variance applies to footprint. Motion carried 6-0-0.

N4. A-25-1247703

Commission District 02 Super District 06

18 206 01 034 2522 ECHO DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30345

Application by Todd Shoemaker to request variance from Section 27 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce setback for retaining wall in R-100 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Eric Hubbard moved, Mark Goldman seconded for 60-day deferral to the November 12, 2025 ZBA meeting. Motion carried 6-0-0.

N5. A-25-1247704

Commission District 02 Super District 06

18 052 14 010

1806 DURAND MILL DRIVE, ATLANTA GA 30307

Application by Oscar Alvarez to request variance from Section 27-2.1.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to increase lot coverage to facilitate covered porch construction in R-75 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Eric Hubbard moved, Mark Goldman seconded for approval with standard conditions. Motion carried 6-0-0.

N6. A-25-1247705

Commission District 01 Super District 07

18 247 04 014

2630 CALADIUM DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30345

Application by Todd Hudson to request variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce side yard setback to facilitate construction of carport in R-75 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Mark Goldman moved, John Tolbert seconded for approval with conditions (1) to reduce setback from 10 to 6 feet and (2) standard conditions. Motion carried 6-0-0.

N7. A-25-1247706

Commission District 02 Super District 06

18 004 18 014

1796 RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30307

Application by Big Blue Sky Landscaping to request variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to increase lot coverage to facilitate construction of retaining wall and fence in R-75 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Mark Goldman moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for approval with conditions. Motion carried 6-0-0.

Commission District 02 Super District 06

N9. A-25-1247702 18 107 07 013 1085 RALPH ROAD, ATLANTA, GA 30324

Application by Rachelle Jimenez to request variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce side yard setbacks to allow connecting decks in R-75 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for approval with conditions with the following conditions: (1) standard condition (2) property owner at 1085 Ralph Road is responsible to dismantle the bridge upon transfer of ownership and (3) reduction in setback only applies to the bridge structure. Motion carried 6-0-0.

N10. A-25-1247718 18 107 07 013 1081 RALPH ROAD, ATLANTA, GA 30324 **Commission District 02 Super District 06**

Application by Rachelle Jimenez to request variance from Section 27-2.2.1 of the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to reduce side yard setbacks to allow connecting decks in R-75 (Residential Medium Lot) zoning district.

MOTION: Dr. Juaney Lynn-Rigsby moved, Eric Hubbard seconded for approval with conditions with the following conditions: (1) standard condition (2) property owner at 1085 Ralph Road is responsible to dismantle the bridge upon transfer of ownership and (3) reduction in setback only applies to the bridge structure. Motion carried 6-0-0.

Eric Hubbard moved, John Tolbert, Jr. seconded to adjourn meeting. Motion carried 6-0-0.