CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT



Memorandum – DRAFT

To: City Plan Commission

From: Gregory S. Guertin, MA; Senior Planner

Date: December 5, 2023

RE: 800 Wellington Ave. – Assessors Plat 5, Lot 2434 Application for Dimensional Variance

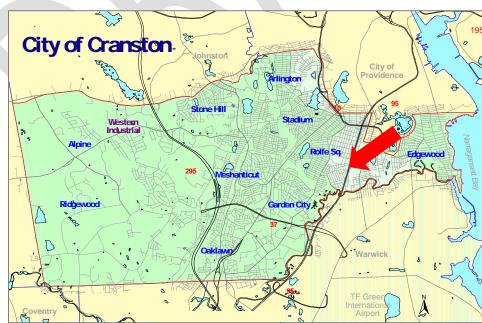
Owner	Halmi Briggs Properties
Applicant:	Mandeville Sign Co
Location:	5 Aborn Street
Zoning:	M2 – General Industry
FLUM Designation:	Special Redevelopment Area

Subject Property:

The subject property is located at 800 Wellington Ave, identified as Plat 5, Lot 2434, and has a total combined land area of $3.98\pm$ acres, (173440 \pm sq. ft.,). The property is currently used for manufacturing.

Dimensional Variance Request:

• To allow for the installation of a freestanding sign which would need relief from both total area and height requirements per the zoning ordinance (17.72.010(7) – Signs).



LOCATION MAP

AERIAL PHOTO



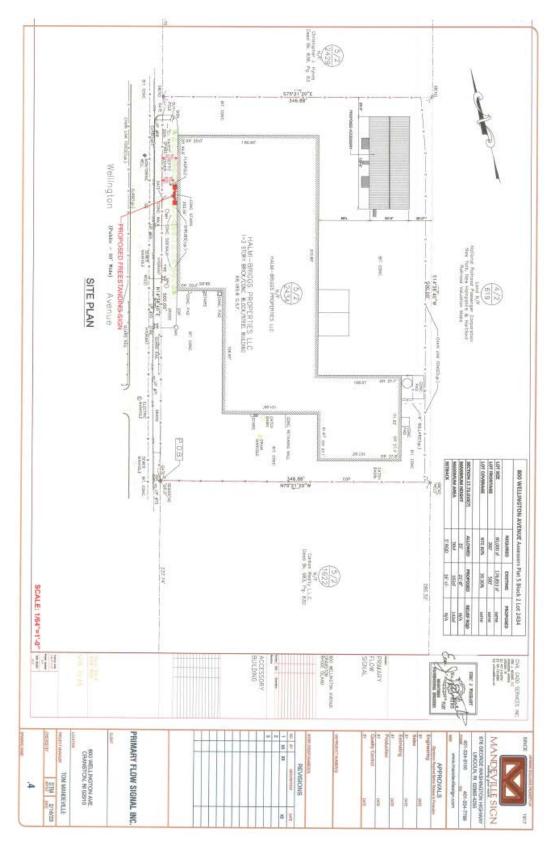
STREET VIEW



PROPOSED RENDERING



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PROPOSED SITE PLAN

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Findings of Fact:

- The Applicant has requested specific relief in their Application, namely:
 - o 17.92.010 Variances (Dimensional)
 - 17.72.010(7) (SIGNS Allowed signage specifications in M1 M2 zones)
- The current zoning is M-2 (General Industry) and the Future Land Use Map identifies the area as "Special Redevelopment Zone."
- The total area allowed for a freestanding sign in an M-2 zone is 50 sq. ft, whereas the applicant is seeking to install a 192 sq. ft. freestanding sign.
- The total height allowed for a freestanding sign in an M-2 zone is 15 ft tall, whereas the applicant is seeking to install a 21' 8" tall sign.
- The Comprehensive Plan's Land Use Principle 4 advises to "Protect the natural, historic and visual resources that define the neighborhoods." It is unclear whether granting this relief would positively or negatively affect the visual resources of the surrounding area.
- The area surrounding the subject parcel is entirely industrial.
- The subject parcel and Wellington Ave overlook US-95 North

Planning Analysis

- Staff finds that the hardship from which the applicant seeks relief is not due to the unique characteristics of the subject land nor to the general characteristics of the surrounding area.
- Staff finds the request to be reasonable based on the existing conditions and the industrial character of Wellington Ave
- Staff finds this application to be neither consistent nor inconsistent with the goals and purposes of the Comprehensive Plan.

Recommendation:

In accordance with RIGL §45-24-41(b), Staff finds this Application to be neither consistent nor inconsistent with the goals and purposes of the Comprehensive Plan and is seemingly compatible with the general character of the surrounding neighborhood. Staff therefore recommends that the City Plan Commission adopt the Findings of Fact documented above and forward a **NEUTRAL RECOMMENDATION** on the Application to the Zoning Board of Review.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory S. Guertin, MA Senior Planner

Cc: City Planning Director Applicant Representative File