# CITY OF CAMMBRIDGE 

## BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL 831 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge M24 O2NY 29 PM 2:55 <br> 617-349-6100 CAMRER OF THE CITY CLERK

## BZA Application Form

BZA Number: 203395

## General Information

The undersigned hereby petitions the Board of Zoning Appeal for the following:
$\qquad$ Variance: $\qquad$ Appeal: $\qquad$

PETITIONER: Vikas Saini and Julia Ann Croston C/O James J. Rafferty.
PETITIONER'S ADDRESS: 907 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139
LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 63 Chilton St, Cambridge, MA
TYPE OF OCCUPANCY: Single Family w/ Accessory. ZONING DISTRICT: Residence B Zone Dwelling Unit

## REASON FOR PETITION:

/Additions/

## DESCRIPTION OF PETITIONER'S PROPOSAL:

Petitioner seeks to reinstate lapsed variance granted in BZA case no. 124207 to allow Petitioner to construct nonconforming addition to existing single-family structure. Special Permit component of decision has not lapsed.

## SECTIONS OF ZONING ORDINANCE CITED:

Article: 5.000
Article: 8.000
Article: 10.000

Section: 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements).
Section: 8.22.3 (Non-Conforming Structure).
Section: 10.30 (Variance).

Original Signature(s):

$\frac{\text { James J. Rafferty, Attorney for Petitioner }}{\text { (Print Name) }}$
Address: $\quad 907$ Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139
Tel. No. 617.492.4100
E-Mail Address: jrafferty@adamsrafferty.com
Date: 11/28/2022

To be completed by OWNER, signed and returned to Secretary of Board of Appeal

Address:c/0 James J. Rafferty, Esq. 907 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139

Location of Premises: 63 Chilton Street, Cambridge MA
the record title standing in the name of $\qquad$
whose address is $\qquad$ 63 Chilton Street, Cambridge MA 02138
(Street)
(City or Town)
(State \& Zip Code)
by a deed duly recorded in the Middlesex County Registry of Deeds in

Book 54898 Page 549 or $\qquad$
Registry

District of Land Court Certificate No. $\qquad$ Book $\qquad$ Page $\qquad$


On this $/ 8$ thay of November, 2021, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared $/ /$ " $\operatorname{tas}$ Sicini proyed to me through
 the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document, and acknowledged to me that inesisisisised it voluntarily for its stated purpose.

## BZA Application Form

## SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR A VARIANCE

EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR A VARIANCE MUST BE ESTABLISHED AND SET FORTH IN COMPLETE DETAIL BY THE APPLICANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH MGL 40A, SECTION 10.
A) A literal enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance would involve a substantial hardship, financial or otherwise, to the petitioner or appellant for the following reasons:

A literal enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance would prevent the Petitioner from making any modifications to this home.

The hardship is owing to the following circumstances relating to the soil conditions, shape or topography of such land or structures and especially affecting such land or structures but not affecting generally the zoning district in which it is located for the following reasons:

The Hardship is directly related to the shape and size of the lot and the age and layout of the building.
C) DESIRABLE RELIEF MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT EITHER:
1)

Desirable relief may be granted without substantial detriment to the public good for the following reasons:

The proposed modifications conform to the height, front setback, lot area per dwelling unit and open space requirements, and do not exceed the extent of the existing rear setback violations.
2) Desirable relief may be granted without nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent or purpose of this Ordinance for the following reasons:

The proposed structure is consistent with the size and use of surrounding structures in the neighborhood.

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## BZA Application Form

## DIMENSIONAL INFORMATION

| Applicant: | Vikas Saini and Julia Ann Croston | Present Use/Occupancy: | Single Family w/ Accessory. Dwelling Unit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Location: | 63 Chilton St, Cambridge, MA | Zone: | Residence B Zone |
| Phone: | 617.492.4100 | Requested Use/Occupancy: | Single Family w/ Accessory Dwelling Unit |



Describe where applicable, other occupancies on the same lot, the size of adjacent buildings on same lot, and type of construction proposed, e.g; wood frame, concrete, brick, steel, etc.:

N/A

1. SEE CAMBRIDGE ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 5.000, SECTION 5.30 (DISTRICT OF DIMENSIONAL REGULATIONS).
2. TOTAL GROSS FLOOR AREA (INCLUDING BASEMENT 7'-0" IN HEIGHT AND ATTIC AREAS GREATER THAN 5') DIVIDED BY LOT AREA.
3. OPEN SPACE SHALL NOT INCLUDE PARKING AREAS, WALKWAYS OR DRIVEWAYS AND SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM DIMENSION OF 15'.



Schematic Plans, not for construction

| $A=2$ | Basement \& First Floor | The Saini Croston Residence 63 Chilton St Cambridge, MA | Amacher and Associates Architects <br> 237 Mt Auburn St., Cambridge, MA 02138 www.amacher-associates.net Phone: 617 354-8707 | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SCALE: $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}=11^{\prime \prime}$ <br> DATE  <br> OF ISSUE: 7.24 .21. |  |  |  |












| $A=11$ | NE \& NW 3D | The Saini Croston Residence 63 Chilton St Cambridge, MA | Amacher and Associates Architects <br> 237 Mt Auburn St., Cambridge, MA 02138 www.amacher-associates.net Phone: 617 354-8707 | $\triangle$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{array}{lc} \text { SCALE: } & 1 / 8^{\prime \prime}=1^{1}-0^{\prime \prime} \\ \text { DATE } & 7.24 .21 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |






| $0-11$ | Exstg 1st Flr <br> \& Basment | The Saini Croston Residence 63 Chilton St Cambridge, MA | Amacher and Associates Architects <br> 237 Mt Auburn St., Cambridge, MA 02138 www.amacher-associates net <br> Phone: 617 354-8707 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{array}{lc} \text { SCALE: } & 1 / 8^{\prime \prime}=1^{1}-0 " \\ \text { DATE } \\ \text { OF ISSUE: } & 4.8 .21 \end{array}$ |  |  | , |








## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Massachusetts
BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL 831 Mass Avenue, Cambridge, MA.
617) 349-6100

Page: 1 of 4 10/05/2021 08:41 AM


CASE NO:
BZA-124207
LOCATION: $\quad \begin{aligned} & 63 \text { Chilon Street } \\ & \text { Cambridge, MA }\end{aligned}$

PETITIONER: pikas Saini \& Julia Ann Croston Coo James J. Rafferty, Esq

PETITION: $\quad$ Variance: To construct non-conforming addition to existing singlefamily structure.

Special Permit: To allow for the addition of an accessory dwelling unit and to allow for the continued use of a parking space that does not conform to the location requirements of Article 6.

VIOLATIONS: Art. 5.000, Sec. 5.31 (Table of Dimensional Requirements).
Art. 8.000, Sec. 8.22.3 (Non-Conforming Structure).
Art. 6.000, Sec. 6.41.C (Parking in Front Setbacks).
Art. 4.000 , Sec. 4.22 (Accessory Dwelling Unit).
Art. 10.000, Sec. 10.30 (Variance) \& Sec. 10.40 (Special Permit).

DATE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: July 15,2021 \& July 22, 2021
DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: July 29, 2021

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:
CONSTANTINE ALEXANDER - CHAIR BRENDAN SULLIVAN - VICE-CHAIR ANDREA A. HICKEY JIM MONTEVERDE LAURA WERNICK


ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:
SLATER W. ANDERSON
ALISON HAMMER
JASON MARSHALL
MATIN WILLIAMS
WENDY LEISERSON


Members of the Board of Zoning Appeal heard testimony and viewed materials submitted regarding the above request for relief from the requirements of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance. The Board is familiar with the location of the petitioner's property, the layout, and other characteristics as well as the surrounding district.

## Case No. BZA-124207

Location: 63 Chilton Street
Petitioner: Vikas Saini and Julia Ann Croston - c/o James J. Rafferty, Esq.

On July 29, 2021, Petitioners Vikas Saini and Julia Ann Croston appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeal with their attorney James Rafferty requesting a variance in order to construct a non-conforming addition to an existing single-family structure and a special permit in order to allow for the addition of an accessory dwelling unit and to allow for the continued use of a parking space that does not conform to the location requirements of Article 6. The Petitioner requested relief from Article 5, Section 5.31, Article 8, Section 8.22.3, Article 4, Section 4.22, Article 6, Section 6.41.C, and Article 10, Sections 10.30 and 10.40 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance ("Ordinance"). The Petitioner submitted materials in support of the application including information about the project, plans, and photographs.

Mr. Rafferty stated that the petitioners are seeking to provide additional living space for themselves, but also to create at the first floor, the ground floor, an in-law, or accessory apartment for Dr. Saini's mother. The amount of GFA being requested is 185 square feet to covert the garage to the accessory apartment. He stated that the proposal involved converting a garage and the area behind it into an accessory unit, a dwelling unit that is below 900 square feet, making some additions to the dwelling, and legalizing long standing front yard parking. He stated that the house is significantly below the allowed GFA now, and that 80 percent of what is being proposed from a GFA perspective is permissible. He stated that the massing is within the 35 -foot height limit. He stated that the proposed in-law apartment met all the requirements needed to seek the special permit. He stated that the additions would be the usual residential additions that would be compatible with the neighborhood. He stated that the request to formalize the long-standing front yard parking would not raise the usual concerns regarding streetscapes, because the property sat on a private way and the parking was not visible from the public way. He stated that in response to neighbors' concerns about short-term rentals, the Petitioner's agreed to limit rentals to no less than 30 days.

The Chair asked if any members of the public wished to be heard on the matter. Neighbors spoke and wrote in support of the proposal and addressed concerns regarding limitations on rentals.

After discussion, the Chair moved, with regard to the requested variance, that the Board make the following findings based upon the application materials submitted and all evidence before the Board and that based upon the findings the Board grant the requested relief as described in the Petitioner's submitted materials and the evidence before the Board: that the Board find that a literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would involve a substantial hardship; that the Board find that the hardship related to the need for additional living space; that the Board find that the need for more living space existed for the current occupants, as well as any future occupants; that the Board find that the hardship is owed to the shape and topography of the lot; that the Board find that relief could be granted without substantial detriment to the public good, or nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent or purpose of the Ordinance.

The Chair further moved that the Board specifically find that based upon all the information presented, there are circumstances involving a substantial hardship relating to this property
within the meaning of M.G.L. c. $40 \mathrm{~A} \S 10$ and that the Board grant the variance based on the further finding that a literal enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance would involve a substantial hardship to the Petitioner on the condition that the work proceed in accordance with plans prepared by Amacher and Associates Architects, dated July 24, 2021, as initialed by the Chair at the hearing of July 29, 2021.

The five-member Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the variance as conditioned (Alexander, Sullivan, Hickey, Williams, and Leiserson). Therefore, the variance is granted as conditioned.

After discussion, the Chair moved, with regard to the requested special permit, that the Board make the following findings based upon the application materials submitted and all evidence before the Board and that based upon the findings the Board grant the requested relief as described in the Petitioner's submitted materials and the evidence before the Board: that the Board find that the requirements of the Ordinance could not be met without the special permit; that the Board find that traffic generated or patterns of access or egress resulting from what was proposed would not cause congestion, hazard, or substantial change in established neighborhood character, depending on the imposition of the condition to come; that the Board find that the continued operation of or development of adjacent uses, as permitted in the Ordinance, would not be adversely affected by the nature of what was proposed; that the Board find that no nuisance or hazard would be created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupant of the proposed use, or the citizens of the City; that the Board find that, generally, what was proposed would not impair the integrity of the district or adjoining district, or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of the Ordinance.

The Chair further moved that based upon all the information presented the Board grant the requested relief as described in the Petitioner's submitted materials and the evidence before the Board on the following conditions:

1. that the work proceed in accordance with the plans referred to with regard to the variance granted above; and
2. that, with regard to the accessory apartment resulting from this relief, the Petitioners shall not avail themselves of the benefits of Article 4, Section 4.60 of the Ordinance, so that rentals of the accessory apartment may not be for a term shorter than 30 days.

The five-member Board voted unanimously in favor of granting the special permit with the above condition (Alexander, Sullivan, Hickey, Williams, and Leiserson). Therefore, the special permit is granted as conditioned.

The Board of Zoning Appeal is empowered to waive local zoning regulations only. This decision therefore does not relieve the petitioner in any way from the duty to comply with local ordinances and regulations of the other local agencies, including, but not limited to the Historical Commission, License Commission and/or compliance with requirements pursuant to the Building Code and other applicable codes.


Attest: A true and correct copy of decision fileg with the offices of the City Clerk and Planning


Twenty days have elapsed since the filing of this decision.

No appeal has been filed


Appeal has been filed and dismissed or denied.


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233-101
POMA, ALLEN M. \& LISA M.POMA 150 VASSAL LA
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-200
TURNBULL, KENNETH M.
73-75 CHILTON ST., UNIT \#2
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-202
BUCKLEY, CHRISTOPHER J. \& LISA M. ROBERTS
60 CHILTON ST., UNIT \#1
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-206
MAGILL, CARROLL \& CAMERON WU
IRS OF THE MARIE I SOUSA REV TRUST 10 GIBSON ST
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-202
MARSHALL, JASON R. \& ALISON O. MARSHALL
60 CHILTON ST., \#2
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-109
CARROLL, SEAN MICHAEL \&
JESSICA ANN BRYANT
55 CHILTON ST., \#3
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

## 233-201

BOUTAUD, FREDERIC
TR. OF THE BOUTAUD FAMILY REALTY TRUST
5 FULTON RD
LEXINGTON, MA 02420

233-202
MEEHAN, SUSAN N, TR THE SUSAN N. MEEHAN 2020 REV TR 60 CHITON ST UNIT 3
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

## 233-208

WESSLER MATTHEW W H \& SHARON Y WONG 2 WATERMAN RD
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-106
UNA CARE HOSPICE, INC.
120 THOMAS ST.
WORCESTER, MA 01615
233-103
MANNA, MARIE \& JAMES M. MCCREIGHT
136 VASSAL LN., \#136
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-207
ROACH, TIMOTHY M. \& ANDREA C. KRAMER 4 WATERMAN RD
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-177
BARFIELD, THOMAS J.
51 CHILTON ST., UNIT \#1
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

## 233-109

NELSON, NICHOLAS C. \& SARAH M. KLIONSKY 55 CHILTON ST., \#1
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

## 233-109

BURTON, BRENDA F.,
TR. OF BRENDA F. BURTON REVOCABLE TRUST
55 CHILTON ST. \#2
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

## 233-201

BOOMER, TIMOTHY L.
69-71 CHILTON ST., \#69
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

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233-189
KENTON SCOTT
152 VASSAL LN
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138
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## 233-103

MIDUTURU VASUMATHY \& CHANDRASEKHAR
134-136 VASSAL LN - UNIT 134
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

JAMES J. RAFFERTY, ESQ. 907 MASS AVENUE, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

233-177
BARFIELD, THOMAS J.
51 CHILTON ST., \#2
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-107
SAINT, VIKAS \& JULIA ANN CROTON 63 CHILTON ST
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

## 233-200

TURNBULL, KENNETH M.
73-75 CHILTON ST., \#1
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-102
SAINT, VIKAS \& VENA C. SAINT
140 VASSAL LN., \#1
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-102
HASLETS, NANCY F. A LIFE ESTATE
140 VASSAL LN 2
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-189
RUTHERFORD MATTHEW S \& BRIDGET M TR RUTHERFORD FAMILY TRUST

154 VASSAL LN
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

233-198
YESSELMAN, JAY
160 VASSAL LN
CAMBRIDGE, MA

233-177
HOUBART, GILBERTE
51 CHILTON ST., UNIT \#3
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138


[^0]:    *If you have any questions as to whether you can establish all of the applicable legal requirements, you should consult with an attorney.

