



**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

Dr. Robert L. Yeager Health Center  
50 Sanatorium Road, Building T  
Pomona, New York 10970

Phone: (845) 364-3434 Fax: (845) 364-3435

**Douglas J. Schuetz**  
*Acting Commissioner*

**Richard M. Schiafo**  
*Deputy Commissioner*

January 19, 2024

Wesley Hills Zoning Board of Appeals  
432 Route 306  
Wesley Hills, NY 10952

**Tax Data:** 41.10-1-20

**Re: GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW REVIEW:** Section 239 L and M

**Map Date:** 12/04/2023

**Date Review Received:** 01/02/2024

**Item:** *GOLDY ROSENFELD/2 ARDLEY PLACE (Whi-204)*

Variations to legalize an existing single-family dwelling with a pool located on 0.80 acres in the R-35 zoning district. The requested variations include building height, rear yard to the pool, and maximum impervious surface ratio.

Northwest corner of Wilder Road and Ardley Place

**Reason for Referral:**

Wilder Road (CR 81)

The County of Rockland Department of Planning has reviewed the above item. Acting under the terms of the above GML powers and those vested by the County of Rockland Charter, I, the Commissioner of Planning, hereby:

***\*Recommend the following modifications***

It is normally our policy to advise caution when granting a variance for impervious surface ratio that exceeds the maximum standard by 20 percent. However, the site features have already been constructed and appear to be consistent with other lots in the immediate vicinity. We therefore offer the following comments on the requested variations.

1 The applicant shall comply with the comments made by the Rockland County Highway Department in their letter dated January 16, 2024.

2 A review must be completed by the County of Rockland Department of Health, any comments or concerns addressed, and any required permits obtained.

3 A review must be completed by the County of Rockland Sewer District No. 1, any comments or concerns addressed, and all required permits obtained.

4 The bulk table indicates a variance is needed from Section 230-14L for fence height. This is not indicated anywhere else in the application materials. This variance must be confirmed and, if required, the materials must be revised so that all application materials remain consistent. If the public hearing notice did not contain all required variations, it must be revised and reissued.

**GOLDY ROSENFELD/2 ARDLEY PLACE (Whi-204)**

5 Pursuant to General Municipal Law (GML) Section 239-m and 239-n, if any of the conditions of this GML review are overridden by the board, then the local land use board must file a report with the County Commissioner of Planning of the final action taken. If the final action is contrary to the recommendation of the Commissioner, the local land use board must state the reasons for such action.

6 In addition, pursuant to Executive Order 01-2017 signed by County Executive Day on May 22, 2017, County departments are prohibited from issuing a County permit, license, or approval until the report is filed with the County Commissioner of Planning. The applicant must provide to any County agency which has jurisdiction of the project: 1) a copy of the Commissioner report approving the proposed action; or 2) a copy of the Commissioner of Planning recommendations to modify or disapprove the proposed action, and a certified copy of the land use board statement overriding the recommendations to modify or disapprove, and the stated reasons for the land use board's override.

7 The following additional comments are offered strictly as observations and are not part of our General Municipal Law (GML) review. The board may have already addressed these points or may disregard them without any formal vote under the GML process:

7.1 This application was officially received by the Rockland County Planning Department on January 2, 2024. The application materials indicate that the public hearing was held on January 17, 2024. As a reminder, State General Municipal Law, Section 239 (m) 4.(b) states that "Such county planning agency or regional planning council, or an authorized agent of said agency or council, shall have thirty days after receipt of a full statement of such proposed action, or such longer period as may have been agreed upon by the county planning agency or regional planning council and the referring body, to report its recommendations to the referring body, accompanied by a statement of the reasons for such recommendations." Adequate time must be provided to the Rockland County Planning Department in order for us to do our review before the public hearing is scheduled and the matter heard before the board.

7.2 The bulk table shall not include estimations. The actual exposed building height must be indicated on the bulk table.

7.3 The site plan shall contain map notes that list all appropriate information, including the district details and parcel specific information such as lot area, zoning designation, owner, and existing and proposed use. The applicant's engineer has been reminded of this requirement, and the importance of providing these details.

7.4 The site plan must contain a vicinity map that has a north arrow and scale.

7.5 A revision table must be provided on the site plan. The revision dates shall be listed chronologically.

  
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Douglas J. Schuetz  
Acting Commissioner of Planning

cc: Mayor Marshall Katz, Wesley Hills  
Rockland County Department of Health  
Rockland County Highway Department  
Rockland County Sewer District No. 1  
Anthony R. Celentano P.L.S.

Rockland County Planning Board Members

*\*NYS General Municipal Law Section 239 requires a vote of a 'majority plus one' of your agency to act contrary to the above findings. The review undertaken by the County of Rockland Department of Planning is pursuant to, and follows the mandates of Article 12-B of the New York General Municipal Law. Under Article 12-B the County of Rockland does not render opinions, nor does it make determinations, whether the item reviewed implicates the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act. The County of Rockland Department of Planning defers to the municipality forwarding the item reviewed to render such opinions and make such determinations if appropriate under the circumstances.*

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*In this respect, municipalities are advised that under the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, the preemptive force of any provision of the Act may be avoided (1) by changing a policy or practice that may result in a substantial burden on religious exercise, (2) by retaining a policy or practice and exempting the substantially burdened religious exercise, (3) by providing exemptions from a policy or practice for applications that substantially burden religious exercise, or (4) by any other means that eliminates the substantial burden.*

*Proponents of projects are advised to apply for variances, special permits or exceptions, hardship approval or other relief.*

*Pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law §239-m(6), the referring body shall file a report of final action it has taken with the County of Rockland Department of Planning within thirty (30) days after final action. A referring body which acts contrary to a recommendation of modification or disapproval of a proposed action shall set forth the reasons for the contrary action in such report.*