

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

CITY OF NOVI

Community Development Department (248) 347-0415

Case No. PZ13-0063 - Raven Investments LLC

Location: 25460 Novi Road

Zoning District: 1-2, General Industrial District

The applicant is requesting a use variance from CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCE, Section 2001 to allow principal use of the site for outdoor storage when such yard is not obscured by a masonry wall, landscaped earth berm, chain link fence with heavy screen plantings, or combinations thereof, the height, location and extent of which shall be according to the requirements of Section 2509 and Section 2514 of this Ordinance. The property is located on Novi Road and south of Grand River.

Ordinance Sections:

CITY OF NOVI, CODE OF ORDINANCES, Section 2001, "Principal Uses Permitted" states: Outdoor storage yards either as principal use of a site or as a use accessory to a principal use of a site when such yards are totally obscured by a masonry wall, landscaped earth berm, chain link fence with heavy screen plantings, or combinations thereof, the height, location and extent of which shall be according to the requirements of Section 2509 and Section 2514 of this Ordinance, except as hereinafter exempted in Section 2002.1 for a location within a planned industrial park. Whenever outdoor storage is the principal use of the parcel, no outdoor storage shall extend into the required front yard setback of the district and no wall, fence or other screening devices shall extend into the required front yard setback.

City of Novi Staff Comments:

The applicant is requesting a use variance in order to allow principal use of the site for outdoor storage without screening by a masonry wall, landscaped earth berm, chain link fence with heavy screen plantings, or combinations thereof. Staff does not support the variance as the property can be reasonably used for any of the uses permitted by right or by special land use permit in the zoning district in which it is located.

Standards for Granting a Use Variance:

A use variance may be granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals only in cases where the applicant demonstrates in the official record of the public hearing that <u>undue hardship</u> exists by showing <u>all</u> of the following:

(a) The property cannot be reasonably used for any of the uses permitted by right or by special land use permit in the zoning district in which it is located.

- (b) That the need for the requested variance is due to unique circumstances or physical conditions of the property involved, such as narrowness, shallowness, shape, water, topography, or similar physical conditions and is not due to the applicant's personal or economic hardship.
- (c) That the proposed use will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.
- (d) That the need for the requested variance is not the result of actions of the property owner or previous property owners (i.e., is not self-created)

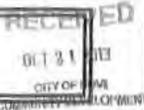
In granting a variance, the Board may attach thereto such conditions regarding the location, character and other features of the proposed uses as it may deem reasonable in furtherance of the purpose of this Ordinance.



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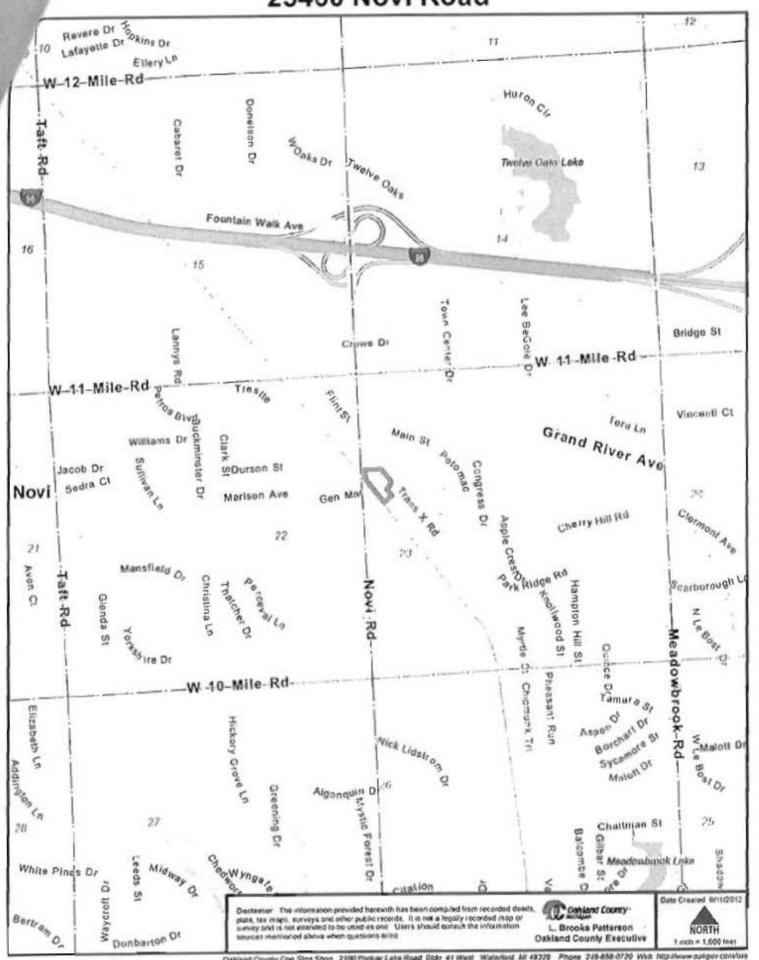


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25460 Novi Road



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Property before building was demolished. Building across Trans-X is owned by Frank Stevens



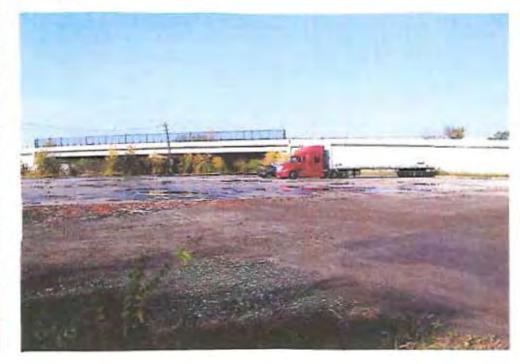
Mr. Stevens property across Trans-X.





New overpass- barrier

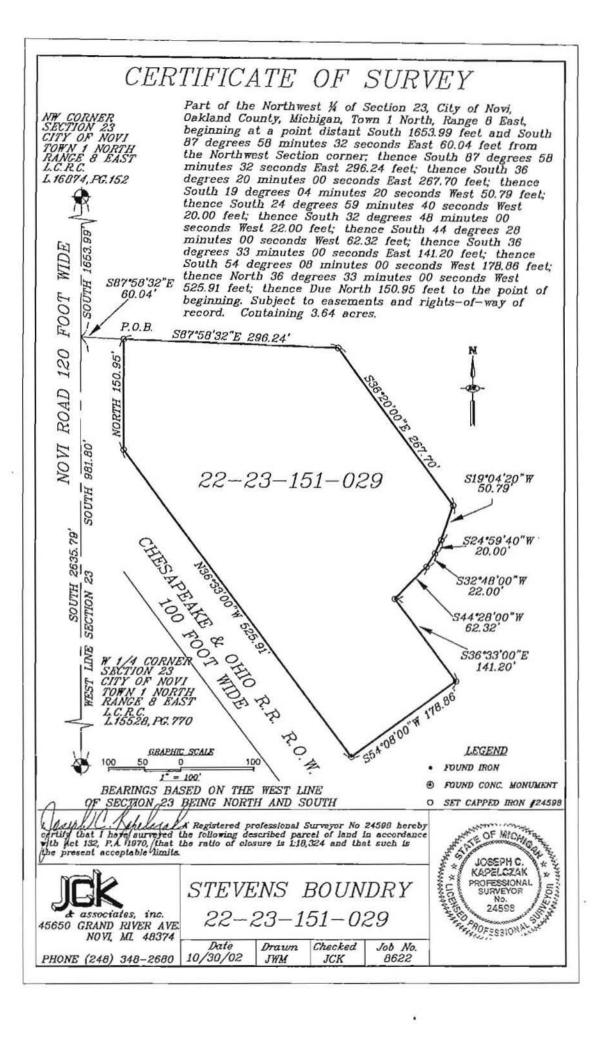






previous fence that was removed





PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES APPENDIX A - ZONING ORDINANCE

ARTICLE 20. I-2 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

ARTICLE 20, I-2 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

Sec. 2000. Intent.

Sec. 2001. Principal Uses Permitted.

Sec. 2002. Required Conditions.

Sec. 2000. Intent.

The I-2 General Industrial Districts are designed primarily for manufacturing, assembling and fabrication activities including large scale or specialized industrial operations, whose external physical effects will be felt to some degree by surrounding districts. The I-2 District is so structured as to permit the manufacturing, processing and compounding of semifinished or finished products from raw materials.

Sec. 2001. Principal Uses Permitted.

In a General Industrial District, no building or land shall be used and no building shall be erected except for one or more of the following specified uses unless otherwise provided in this Ordinance:

- Any use permitted in an I-1 District and as regulated in that District with regard to special conditions, provided, there shall be no necessity for a public hearing (as set forth in <u>Section</u> 3006) and approval as a special land use by the Planning Commission. Provided further, uses permitted under <u>Section 1903</u> shall be permitted within the I-2 District irrespective of adjacency to a residentially-zoned district.
- Heating and electric power generating plants.
- Outdoor storage yards either as principal use of a site or as a use accessory to a principal use of a site when such yards are totally obscured by a masonry wall, landscaped earth berm, chain link fence with heavy screen plantings, or combinations thereof, the height, location and extent of which shall be according to the requirements of <u>Section 2509</u> and <u>Section 2514</u> of this Ordinance, except as hereinafter exempted in Section 2002.1 for a location within a planned industrial park. Whenever outdoor storage is the principal use of the parcel, no outdoor storage shall extend into the required front yard setback of the district and no wall, fence or other screening devices shall extend into the required front yard setback.
- 4. Commercial sale of new and used heavy trucks and heavy off-road construction equipment such as but not limited to: track laying machinery, graders, earth moving or earth hauling vehicles. The outdoor storage of any such equipment shall comply with the outdoors storage requirements of the Section, except that up to five (5) such pieces of new or rebuilt equipment may be displayed within any yard when placed on concrete pads and made an integral part of the vard's landscaping.
- 5. Any of the following production or manufacturing uses provided that they are located not less than eight hundred (800) feet distant from any residential district and not less than three hundred (300) feet distant from any other district:
 - Junkyards, provided such are entirely enclosed within a building or within an eight (8) foot obscuring wall and provided further that one (1) property line abuts a railroad right-of-way.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES APPENDIX A - ZONING ORDINANCE

ARTICLE 20. I-2 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

- Incineration of garbage or refuse when conducted within an approved and enclosed incinerator plant.
- Blast furnace, steel furnace, blooming or rolling mill.
- Manufacture of corrosive acid or alkali, cement, lime, gypsum or plaster of paris.
- Petroleum or other inflammable liquids, production, refining or storage.
- Smelting of copper, iron or zinc ore.
- Indoor tennis courts, roller skating rinks, and ice-skating rinks when, together with accessory uses such as off-street parking, they are located at least one hundred (100) feet from any adjacent residential district.
- 7. Auto engine and body repair shops.
- Lumber and planing mills when located in the interior of the district so that no property line shall form the exterior boundary of the I-2 District.
- 9. Motor freight terminals and trucking facilities.
- 10. Ready-mix or transit mix concrete operations.
- 11. Any other use which shall be determined by the City Council upon recommendations from the Planning Commission after a public hearing as set forth and regulated in <u>Section 3006</u> of this Ordinance to be of the same general character as the above permitted uses in <u>Section 2001</u>. The City Council may impose any required setback, performance standards and/or screening so as to ensure public health, safety and the general welfare.
- 12. Accessory buildings and uses customarily incident to any of the above permitted uses.

Sec. 2002. Required Conditions.

- Outdoor storage of any equipment or material shall be conducted so as not to extend to a greater height than the on-site obscuring screen. This restriction shall include trucks and cranes, the booms of which shall be stored in an horizontal position. When an 1-2 use is located within a planned industrial park of not less than forty (40) acres, the screening requirements may be satisfied by screening of the perimeter of the entire planned industrial park as opposed to screening of each individual site. The park design and screening shall comply with the requirements of Sections 2509, 2514, and footnotes (i) and (m) of Section 2400
- See <u>Section 2520</u> of this Ordinance regulating exterior building wall facade treatments, where applicable.

When any loading, unloading area shall be visible from any residential or commercial district, or road or street, it shall be effectively screened from view so as not to be visible from those areas.

- Site plans shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements of <u>Section 2516</u> of this Ordinance and shall be subject to approval by the Planning Commission prior to issuance of a building permit.
- 4. Where a permitted use abuts a residential district the requirements at Section 1905-4 shall apply, provided, the berm required pursuant to subpart 1905.4.e. shall be of a minimum height of ten (10) feet. The irrigation requirements of Subpart 1905.4.e. may be eliminated upon recommendation of the Planning Consultant when the berm landscaping is of natural low-maintenance planting not requiring irrigation. Fencing shall be erected on the interior side of any such berm. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 37-8(a) of the Novi Code of Ordinances, landscaping of such berm area in an I-2 planned industrial park may be considered in calculating woodland replacement credits.

PART II - CODE OF ORDINANCES APPENDIX A - ZONING ORDINANCE

ARTICLE 20, I-2 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

- See <u>Article 25</u>, General Provisions, relating to off-street parking layout, landscaping and screening requirements, performance standards and other sections of the Article as they relate to uses permitted in the district.
- See Article 24, Schedule of Regulations, limiting the height and bulk of buildings and providing minimum yard setbacks.

(Ord No 99-18,153, Pt. III 12-6-99)



Date 11/15/2013

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