

KARL F. DEAN
MAYOR



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF CODES & BUILDING SAFETY

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November 17, 2014

RE: Request for reasonable accommodation
4100 Clarksville Pike, Nashville, TN
Parcel ID 05800018100

To whom it may concern:

Word of Life Christian Center International has requested a reasonable accommodation pursuant to Metropolitan Code § 17.40.010 (H) and (I) to use the property located at 4100 Clarksville Pike, Nashville, TN as a bible college for approximately 30 students. This property is currently being used as a church and no new facilities will be constructed. The proposed bible college will operate Monday through Friday. There is adequate parking to accommodate approximately 30 students. Word of Life Christian Center International asserts that the bible college is an essential element of the church's religious mission. See attached letter dated October 15, 2014.

The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000cc, mandates that no local government shall implement a land use regulation that imposes a substantial burden on the religious exercise of a person, including a religious assembly or institution, unless the government demonstrates a compelling governmental interest and that such regulation is the least restrictive means of furthering the compelling governmental interest.

The Tennessee Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-1-407, mandates that no local government shall implement a land use regulation that impinges or curtails the religious exercise of a person, including a religious assembly or institution.

Based upon the facts and law set forth above, the zoning administrator grants the request for the reasonable accommodation to use the property located at 4100 Clarksville Pike, Nashville, TN as a bible college to be operated in concert with the existing church.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William B. Herbert IV".

William B. Herbert IV
Metropolitan Zoning Administrator