

September 18, 2025

New Visions Baptist Church  
2830 McGavock Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

Re: Reasonable Accommodation for Religious Use

Dear Mr. Michael,

New Visions Baptist Church (the “Church”) has requested a reasonable accommodation for the use of property located at 2830 McGavock Pike, Nashville, Tennessee. The Church seeks to use a portion of this property to house indigent veterans as part of a veterans’ assistance philanthropic mission. The Church proposes to build approximately seventy-five units of veterans’ housing and provide on-site services, including counseling and religious gatherings, in conjunction with this mission. The Church states that it is essential to its religious mission to serve this community with its ministries and programs in furtherance of its calling.

The Church states that the property is suitable for such purposes and a substantial burden would be imposed if it were not able to operate the mission onsite.

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 and advice of legal counsel, I grant the request for the reasonable accommodation for the proposed use. All required permits and approvals will be needed, and this accommodation governs only the land use provisions. All applicable setbacks, life safety and other governmental approvals will still be required.

If you disagree with this accommodation, you may file an appeal with the Board of Zoning Appeals within 30 days of the date of this letter. Once 30 days after the date of this letter has elapsed, no appeal may be filed. To file an appeal, please email the Board of Zoning Appeals at [bza@nashville.gov](mailto:bza@nashville.gov) to request an "Item A Appeal" and reference the location stated in the letter.

Joel K Hargis,  
Zoning Administrator