

Larry D. Estridge
1490 Altamont Road
Greenville, SC 29609

Hans Drolshagen
151 Old Altamont Ridge Road
Greenville, SC 29609

August 1, 2007

VA-2007-05

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Pat Webb
Greenville County Planning Commission
301 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29601

RE: Request for Variance / Altamont Ridge Subdivision

Dear Ms. Webb:

We are the owners of all four of the lots which comprise a subdivision on Paris Mountain called "Altamont Ridge." The subdivision plat was approved for recording by James Forbes, as Director of Planning for the Greenville County Planning Commission, on February 24, 1982, and was recorded on February 24, 1982 in Plat Book 8P at Page 63. A copy is attached to this application. Lots 1 and 2 are owned by Hans Drolshagen (tax map numbers 464-1-10.1 and 11). Lots 3 and 4 are owned by Larry Estridge. A single residence was constructed on Lots 3 and 4 between 1982 and 1984 (tax map number 464-1-12).

The purpose of this application is to permit Mr. Drolshagen to construct a new entrance from Altamont Road serving Lots 1 and 2. The proposed location of the new private driveway has been drawn onto the attached copy of the subdivision plan. The proposed new driveway location is labeled on the plat as "shared driveway for Lot 1-2."

In the original subdivision plan, the four lots were to share a single driveway. However, the precipitous grade of that driveway makes it impractical and dangerous to have it utilized by more than one residence. It intersects Altamont Road at the apex of a sharp curve; and the first 50-75 feet of the driveway are on a steep grade. The visibility onto Altamont Road from the top of the driveway is very limited. If a driver should attempt to turn into the driveway at the same time another vehicle is traveling up the driveway, the two drivers would not be able to see each other until they were dangerously close to a collision.

If the variance is granted, Mr. Drolshagen will relinquish his 1/2 interest in the existing driveway to Mr. Estridge and will utilize the new driveway for the residence or residences to be constructed on Lots 1 and 2. The new driveway will be installed in accordance with the recommendations and regulations of the South Carolina Department of Transportation, including:

- (a) Moving it further up Altamont Road if recommended; and
- (b) Bringing in fill dirt to raise the level of the new driveway's intersection with Altamont Road in order to enhance visibility.

We are also enclosing with this application three photographs taken on July 31, 2007. Photo #1 was taken from the front seat of a vehicle traveling up the present driveway, approximately 20 feet from the intersection of the driveway and Altamont Road. Photo #2 is taken from that intersection, looking back down the steep driveway. Photo #3 is taken from the front seat of a vehicle parked at the point where the driveway intersects with Altamont Road. These photos illustrate the points raised above in the preceding paragraph. They confirm that the strict application of the previously-approved subdivision layout would result in substantial difficulties and hardships to the owners of these lots. The requirement for the occupants of more than one residence to share this driveway would create an intolerably dangerous situation. We would appreciate your processing this application and presenting it to the Department of Planning at its next meeting.

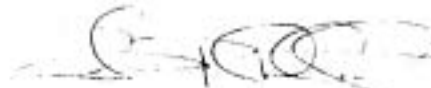
We would be glad to provide additional information upon your request. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Larry D. Estridge

Very truly yours,



Hans Drolshagen

Enclosures