

January 24, 2022

Catholic Diocese of Nashville
2800 McGavock Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

RE: Reasonable Accommodation for Religious Institution LED Sign

To whom it may concern:

The Catholic Diocese of Nashville has requested a reasonable accommodation for the property at 2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville, Tennessee for an electronic message center for the church's use. The church states that it is essential to its religious mission to be able to communicate its ministries and worship times to the community in furtherance of its work.

The church states that this property is suitable for such purposes and a substantial burden would be imposed if the church were not able to operate the electronic message center at this location. The sign would replace an existing LED sign currently in use by the Church.

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, I grant the request for the reasonable accommodation for the proposed sign.

Sincerely,

Joel K. Hargis
Metropolitan Zoning Administrator