

WALTER WILLIAMS

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10 May 2021

Battle Creek Zoning Board

Dear Battle Creek Zoning Board:

I am writing this letter to you in support of the newly named Journey Church who is seeking a variance for the signage on the church building. Formerly named Battle Creek First Assembly, this current signage was essentially "grandfathered" in, the newly proposed signage size could also be waived for this building in keeping with the aesthetics of the area while at the same time respectfully stating the intent of the edifice.

Please let Journey Church present and proceed with our plans that allow us to exceed the 8 sq. ft. signage variance in order to help visibly and proportionately mark the location of our church. This would also aid us to tastefully inform people coming off Columbia Ave. to quickly know what our building is.

Thank you very much for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Walter Williams

5/7/2021

To: The Battle Creek Mi Zoning Board
RE: Signage of Journey Church

I am writing this letter to the board today in regards to the signage of Journey Church a.k.a. B.C. First Assembly located at 800 South 24th Street, Battle Creek, MI 49015.

It has come to the attention of parishioners, community members and supporters that there may be a zoning issue regarding the placement of new signage where the current building signage is located.

At the timing of the construction of the building in 2000 it was approved to construct the signage at the current location and size. We feel that this should be considered a Grandfathered Clause to this day even if the signage is to be changed to reflect the name change. The size that the board has recommended is too small for the size of the actual structure. We are asking that the new signage be granted to either be constructed larger or at least be of the same size as the existing size. To change the size would aesthetically change the appearance of the structure. Also, it would not be as visible to the public passing by or from those who may be driving on Columbia Avenue. The signage of any structure delineates it from existing structures.

To decrease the size of the signage would be a dis-service to the church, it's members and the community.

Sincerely,



Jan Guzman
112 Wabash Avenue N
Battle Creek, MI 49017

From: Pastor Steve <pastorsteve@bcfirstassembly.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 9:51 AM
To: Eric S. Feldt <esfeldt@battlecreekmi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Battle Creek Zoning Board letter

Email sent from outside of the City of Battle Creek. Use caution before clicking links/attachments.

Here's one of those letters of support

Sent from Pastor Steven Amaro

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tina Hammond <tina-hammond@hotmail.com>
Date: May 6, 2021 at 3:30:36 PM EDT
To: Steve Amaro <pastorsteve@bcfirstassembly.com>
Subject: Battle Creek Zoning Board letter

Dear Battle Creek Zoning Board:

We are members of Journey Church (formerly known as Battle Creek First Assembly). We understand that the City has determined our desire to change signage to our new name does not meet current codes. While we appreciate the current regulations you are working with, we would ask that you consider our thoughts on a couple of points.

NAME ON BUILDING

We understand current regulations state that the sign must be no larger than 8 square feet. I (Gary) was on the church board at the time we built this addition and worked with you on what size was allowed...and received your approval at the time.

2 FREE-STANDING ROAD SIGNS

The 2 road signs have also been determined to be within the City's right of way, the one at our north entrance being only a couple inches beyond regulations.

In both cases, we would ask that you grandfather in the approvals you have previously given, both for the sign on the building and at the road. The current size on the building as well as the placement at the road are important for two reasons: 1) Based on the size of our building an 8 square foot sign would be illegible from the road and the road sign moved further away from 24th Street would also not be easily seen. In order to give people the ability to locate our church, we feel the signs need to be the current size and location. 2) We also believe the safety on 24th Street is a consideration. With the amount of traffic we have seen on that road, enabling people to see the signs before they are on top of or beyond our entrance would keep them from slamming on the brakes and causing any problems.

We thank you for your consideration and willingness to work with us on this issue.

Sincerely,
Gary and Tina Hammond

From: Casey Waltz <waltz.casey@yahoo.com>
Date: May 11, 2021 at 12:37:29 PM EDT
To: pastorsteve@bcfirstassembly.com
Subject: SIGNS
Reply-To: Casey Waltz <waltz.casey@yahoo.com>

City of Battle Creek

Good afternoon and thank you for your attention in the matter signage at our church and your willingness to hear our concerns.

We appreciate your taking the time to allow us, as a church family, to address our concerns regarding said issue and ask you to please allow the church to continue with the beautiful signing that has been placed. The signage, as it currently sits, is both a esthetically pleasing, as well as, necessary for the purpose of safety and to identify our church's location and exit/entrances.

We prayerfully ask you to reconsider a variance and allow these signs to remain as they currently are.

Many Thanks & God bless!

Tim & Casey Waltz

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)