



# Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission

29 Park Avenue, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922  
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## MEMO

Date July 12, 2021

TO: Zoning Board of Adjustment

Subject: 150 Sutton Drive, Block 3201 , Lot 22 R-20 zone

### Findings of Fact:

- Applicant proposes a new portico over the front door of the house.
- Groundwater recharge is apparently zero inches.
- Slope is apparently zero to 3%
- Site is apparently not in a flood zone, riparian zone or wetlands.

Coverage	%	% Allowed for zone	Over, under or =
Existing Structures	11.11	15	Under
Existing Accessory	9.43	10	Under
Total existing lot	20.54	25	Under
Total proposed structures	11.54	15	Under
Total proposed accessory items	9.2	10	Under
Total proposed impervious	20.74	25	Under

- It appears that trees will not be removed.
- General Construction and Design & Grounds and Landscaping Considerations are included.
- DEP has adopted groundbreaking green-infrastructure rules to reduce pollution and flooding from stormwater runoff.
- Applications requesting variances are also requesting increases in impervious surface that exceed the maximum allowed. Unless efforts are made to retain stormwater runoff on properties, stormwater runoff can lead to increased flooding downhill.

### Recommendations:

- The Commission recommends retaining stormwater runoff on the property with green infrastructure. Disconnect downspouts or sump pumps from the street and connect them to rain gardens or vegetative swales. Information on rain gardens can be found at [http://water.rutgers.edu/Rain\\_Gardens/RGWebsite/rginfo.html](http://water.rutgers.edu/Rain_Gardens/RGWebsite/rginfo.html).
- If any trees greater than 8"DBH are to be removed, the applicant shall apply for a permit.

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