



State of Rhode Island Judiciary
Superior Court

Land Use Calendar
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The Rhode Island Superior Court Land Use Calendar was created by the Rhode Island General Assembly during the 2023 session (2023 Public Laws, chapter 306) and is found in Rhode Island General Laws section 8-2-40. Superior Court Justice Jeffrey Lanphear has been assigned to this calendar by Presiding Justice Gibney. The calendar will take effect January 1, 2024.

R.I.G.L. section 8-2-40(d) requires that cases assigned to the calendar will be expedited and **“All memoranda from all interested parties in an appeal assigned to the calendar shall be completed within 60 days of the filing of the certified record.”** Continuances are clearly disfavored.

The Court will enforce these provisions, along with the other provisions of law requiring appeals to be filed within set time limits and the record to be promptly submitted. See, for example, R.I.G.L. 45-23-67. As the statutory structure will require that memoranda from all parties be filed within prompt, pre-set times, counsel should file memoranda simultaneously and at the earliest possible time. The Court will schedule video conferences promptly to track compliance with the statutory schedule. Accordingly, counsel for the appellant will identify all counsel who appeared at the proceedings on the local level, all parties of record and all interested parties on the initial petition or complaint. Upon filing the original petition or complaint, counsel shall categorize the case as “Land Use – Appeal” in the category of case section in the Odyssey computer system initial filing. Land use cases that do not arise out of an appeal shall be filed as “Land Use – Other” in the category of case section.

Parties seeking special assignment of their cases to the Land Use Calendar should file a motion therefore and forward a copy of such motion to Justice Lanphear. A Land Use Calendar Opening Sheet form must be filed with the motion. This form is available on the Rhode Island Judiciary Website. Go to Public Resources/Forms/Superior Court/Land Use Calendar Case Opening Sheet.

The Court will schedule video conferences on pending cases beginning January 2024. If the record is not filed or if the appeal is not served, briefed, or submitted, the Court will expect a full report.