

Ann Hillier

From: globe@zipcon.com
Sent: Friday, January 5, 2018 2:23 PM
To: Ann Hillier
Cc: globe@zipcon.net
Subject: Comment On Soundview Dr Lot 5 & variance (PLN50850A RUE & PLN50850B VAR &

Soundview DR LOT 6 RUE & Variance (PLN50850B RUE & PLN50850B VAR).

Project site and Tax parcel LOT 5: 2171 Soundview dr NE TA #
41460040050004 & Lot 6: no situs address* TA # 41460040060003.

I believe no variance should be granted to the builders of these two lots bypassing the front setbacks. The setbacks has encouraged front gardens pleasant as well as sound buffers to neighbor and walker bys. It creates a continuous visual garden. To abruptly change the ambiance of our neighborhood because of this refusal to follow existing rules and practices would create a blight in a crucial part of our neighborhood. And the front setback rule has been used ever since the founding of Fort Ward Estates and created a cohesive looking neighborhood. There is no reason to change it. It is not crucial to a builder enjoying his property which was bought with the full knowledge acceptance of the setback rule. It is a bad precedence to set.

Everyone else in Fort Ward has followed the setback rule and it has resulted in a delightful residential neighborhood encouraging high pedestrian involvement on Soundview, and Belfair. The lots are on Belfair which is the gateway to Fort Ward Park which is heavily used by all ages. It is where the school bus has stop and is the major entry way onto the residential areas from Fort ward Hill Road.

The builders by buying these two lots which ere among the last to sell and were the cheapest in this area because of their wetlands associations acknowledged their acceptance of the building guidelines involving front setbacks and rules by their purchasing. Now they wish to change the rules and the whole scope of the neighborhood. I do not believe it should be granted. Building a smaller new home of 1200 sq ft or so is not a hardship. There is downsizing in homes now. I see in the real estate ads many home of that size and smaller selling for upwards \$600,00 selling in Winslow. Their house will have many new features which will be attractive. We shouldn't put our neighbor hood in jeopardy for something unnecessary.

The builders are not prevented the enjoyment of their property by not granting a variance which could ruin the neighborhood and establish a an unfortunate precedence to be used by others in more dubious circumstance.

The City has a duty to not just uphold an existing rule " the front setback rule which has been in existence in Fort Ward ever since the beginning of Fort Ward Estates and then some. I am sure some because of selfish reasons want to change it but is a good rule that has created an livable neighborhood many want to live in and should be maintained.

Please keep me in touch with this request and its process.

thank you for your attention,

Also let me know you received my comment.

Carolyn Siscoe,
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