
Jay & Jerivett Ecalnir

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August 15, 20018

City of Santa Clara & Planning Commision

1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050

We are writing this letter to define our needs to apply for minor modification for our single family home. We've been living at this address since May 2005, but I (Jerivett Ecalnir) personally grew up in this neighborhood since the late 70's.

We understand that you have a 20 feet variance and we are kindly requesting a reduced setback of 15 feet. We have been to the permit office with our architect a few times with inconsistent information by your staff. The first time, we spoke to a lady that advised us to apply for minor modification. We came back two days later to apply and Eli or Ela denied our request to apply for minor modification. Later that week, I called the office to express our concerns and was referred to the principal planner Lesely Xavier since Reema was not available. During our exchange in email/ calls she also agreed our best way to grant our variance is to apply for minor modification.

We have done a few inquiries around our neighborhood and the city of SC regarding house additions that have 15 feet setback which was approved recently. One house on Hubbard Street (file # PLN 2018-13327) for example was just approved for a 15 feet setback. They back up to a single family house. Our home does not backup to another home, but an apartment complex, Nantucket. Directly behind us is the Nantucket parking lot and a landscaping area. The landscaping area is right behind our backyard concrete wall with large trees that provide privacy from the Nantucket residents on the upper floors. We live at the end of a T intersection, and there is always a risk of a speeding car from Avenida De Carmen crashing straight towards the house. There have been a few close calls from speeding cars. Currently, both of our daughters rooms are located in front of our house. Our renovation plans has

our girls bedrooms relocated to the back of the house for their safety where the 15 feet variance is greatly needed. In addition, my husband works from home and needs a dedicated office space. We are just adding a little over 400 sq feet to make our home a little bit livable since our mother in law will be living with us most of time. We also cannot afford to build a 2nd story or buy another home due to the high priced homes in our area. Our current neighbors have no issues with us building an addition to our home. We can provide signatures from them if needed. We also like to add that our neighbor that resides at 1910 Avenida De Las Rosas also has a 15 feet setback. They just did a big addition/remodel a few years back. Please consider our request for our 15 feet setback, we like to preserve our home for our kids and enjoy our time here for decades to come just like how I grew up here since the late 1970's.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jay & Jerivett Ecalnir