

Comment Response Memo

23 August 2023

To

City of Mercer Island – Molly McQuire

For the Project

Strand Residence Critical Area Review 2 – CAO23-011

6950 Maker St

Mercer Island, WA 98040

General Description

Below are responses to public comments received during the open comment period. These have been addressed numerically for reference only and not in order of importance or priority.

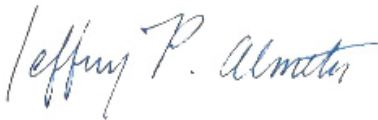
1. Regarding letter from Brigid Stackpool and Pamela Faulkner –
The proposed work to install shoring is in response to the City of Mercer geotechnical concerns and has designed according to recommendations Geotech Consultants. The final proposal has been reviewed by licensed Civil and Geotechnical engineers as well as a certified arborist to ensure that it meet all requirements of Mercer Island code as part of the permit review process.
2. Regarding the letter from Jim and Susan Mattison -
I – The proposed West Shoring shall not increase the height of the finished grade by more than 72" from the existing grade elevation at any location. The shoring is solely intend to stabilize the existing conditions.
II – The impacts of the Shoring on Exceptional tree #4 have been reviewed and responded to by a certified arborist. The full response from the arborist is included in this submittal.
III – Any work associated with Exceptional tree #5 is not included in this permit and has been reviewed by the city arborist as part of other permits.
3. Regarding the submittal from Martin Snoey -
As stated above the impact of the Shoring on tree #4 has been reviewed by a certified arborist and is included in this submittal. Part of this review by Anthony Moran is in response to the City of Mercer Island Arborist, John Kenney's review of this permit.
4. Regarding the submittal from Dan Grove -
 1. We firmly stand by our assessment that the evidence of the road shown in the aerial from 1961 is one of the strongest pieces of evidence that this rockery was installed during or prior to that road being graded and would have been done in conjunction with the city of Mercer Island at that time. Therefore it is possible that the rockery along the South side of the property that is within the right of way could very reasonably been installed by the city itself for installation of the roadway. Further review of historical documents shows that in 1965 there was a City Council Meeting wherein D. L. Anderson requested permission to pave a portion of SE Maker street and this request was approved. We firmly believe that the City of Mercer would have taken any potential illegal construction in that vicinity seriously as that time.

With the approval of Mr. Anderson's request we must assume that there were no concerns of illegal installation of rockery.

2. The impact of the shoring on tree #4 has been addressed above
3. As stated above any prior work associated with tree #5 has been reviewed and addressed by city staff as part of other permit reviews.
4. Any and all disturbance to the existing landscaping as part of the proposed work within the critical area shall be mitigated by replanting native plantings to all areas disturbed. Additional information has been added to the plan set as such.
5. We disagree that this site is illegal non-conforming and have previous demonstrated that the site is a Legal non-conforming site, also addressed above.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey P. Almeter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jeffrey Almeter