From: William Ellis
To: Lauren Anderson
Subject: File #DEV17-001
Date: Thursday, February 16, 2017 8:29:17 PM

Lauren,

We own the property immediately south of the Velamoor home under construction at 6753 West Mercer Way and would like voice our objection to the variance allowing a 72” fence.

We have lived in this house for 25 years. This project has been a disruption the the entire neighborhood. Groundbreaking was 4 years ago and construction continues. They chose a plan which is totally out of character with the neighborhood. Most of us live in relatively modest sized (for Mercer Island) houses on lots with many trees. They chose to clear-cut the property from property line to property line. Then they got a variance to increase their impervious surface in order to build the biggest house possible on the lot. This is obviously their right, but had the neighborhood known at the time what was planned, there would have been extensive opposition to the initial plans.

They now require another variance to build the 72” fence. If you look at the neighborhood, there are relatively few fences and most of the fences have a significant set-back from the road. The Velamoor's now wish to surround their house with a 72” fence along the property line. This is essentially a wall along West Mercer Way. Our suggestion is that rather than a wall, they should build a hedge, or at least obscure the fence with a hedge. This would significantly reduce the visual impact of a 6 foot fence.. One final point: since there is no additional request for a fence height variance along the shared Cook-Harnisch driveway at the North edge of our property, we are assuming that they are sticking with the 42” fence documented in their plans.

Bill and Erin Ellis