

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to the comments regarding DEV17-001 submitted by Susan and Jeffrey Cook.

We believe the increased fence and gate height at the Northwest corner of our property will not affect visibility as one drives on Eden Lane in either direction. The new fence and gate in that location will, in fact, be on our property more than 16 feet from the corner stake and not on the property line except where it joins the property line further east, well away from Eden Lane (please see attached pictures). We will not be adding fence or gate beyond what already exists in that corner.

With regard to Mrs. Cook's concerns regarding the increased height fence and gate along West Mercer Way, we would submit the following response. We do not feel our intended fence and gate would be out of character for the neighborhood at all. As one drives along West Mercer Way in either direction from our property, there are countless fences and some gates that can easily be seen (please see attached pictures). Many of these have no vegetation in front of them. Most recently, the City approved a fence and gate proposal very similar to our proposal which is currently under construction just three homes south of our property (please see attached pictures). In fact, there are already taller fences existing on Eden Lane itself, one of which is along the shared drive used by the Cooks just south of our property (please see attached pictures).

Our intended fence and gate along West Mercer Way will be placed on our property so as to allow vegetation and plantings to "soften" its appearance along the road. In addition, our intended fence and gate will be located on the downslope away from West Mercer Way, reducing the visual height impact from West Mercer Way, as well.

We are extremely conscious of the safety factors surrounding entry onto West Mercer Way that Mrs. Cook refers to in her comments, as they affect our driveway, as well. Because these concerns, we placed our intended fence and gate well west of West Mercer Way, so that lines of site from neighboring streets (and our driveway) of West Mercer Way traffic would be completely clear. As you can see from the attached pictures, our intended fence and gate is shielded by cedar trees you exit from Eden Lane onto West Mercer Way going south and is well behind the view of oncoming traffic as you enter West Mercer Way from Mrs. Cooks shared driveway to go north.

Safety and security is actually the major rationale behind our request for fence height deviation. We believe our intended higher gate and fence will help keep our children safe at home and from the busy traffic along West Mercer Way. In addition, we believe it will help deter the kinds of break-ins we've had during our construction process. In fact, just

last week, we had another break-in (see attached pictures). Fortunately, the home wasn't occupied, no one was hurt, and there was only minimal damage. MIPD was instrumental in securing the site expediently, once they were notified. We believe a higher fence and gate would protect against such incidents in the future.

With regard to a potential fence at 1 Eden Lane, we would submit that any fence to be installed on that property (at this point purely speculative) would be subject to the same safety standards as all other fences on the Island would only be approved if those standards were met.

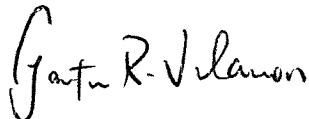
Mrs. Cook also raised some concerns regarding our proposed fence at the SW corner of the property. The cedar tree to which Mrs. Cook refers is immediately east of our neighbor's existing fence. Any issues with that tree's roots were likely already encountered when the existing fence was built. Our intended fence will tie into the existing fence northwest of the existing cedar tree and we will make every effort to ensure roots are not damaged.

Regarding Mr. Cook's concern regarding preexisting vegetation, we would submit the following response. Most of the vegetation that was removed from our site before construction was either dead, dying, or thorn laden blackberry bushes, not conducive to a home landscape or construction of our new home. As part of our landscaping plan and approved building permit, we are adding back more vegetation than we removed, including large trees such as maples and cedars. It will be a much more inviting yard than present before.

We will ensure that the intended fence along the east property line will not be in the right of way, as designated on our plan. The intended fence and gate will be located on our property, allowing for vegetation to be placed in front.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if there are any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gautam R. Velamoor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'G'.

Gautam R. Velamoor