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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Hearing Examiner City of Mercer Island 3505 88th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040

RE: Bender variance

Dear Hearing Examiner:

This letter is regarding the variance request by Helene Bender regarding her property located at 2765 60th Ave S.E. in the East Seattle neighborhood of Mercer Island.

We very strongly oppose this variance to allow for the division of her undersized property which is directly north of Calkins Landing, and we oppose her proposal to access through part of Calkins Landing.

Granting this variance would set a precedent for the property owners to the south of Calkins, who would also seek the same type of access to their property. The proposed variance conflicts with the comprehensive plan for the island which favors low density development, public use of the waterfront, and preservation of open space.

Calkins Landing is the most treasured open waterfront open space in East Seattle. It's a safe gathering place especially for the younger ones who cannot get to any other beach on their own and know they'll be amongst friends and neighbors at Calkins.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Ida - Dennis Alkire

2704 63rd Se

232-5841

cc: East Seattle Coalition

Jerry Bacon

Anna Rabago

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