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From: **Gail Handfield**

Date: Fri., Aug. 30, 2024, 11:52 a.m.

Subject: Re: A-2024-0279 Objection to Minor Variance

To: Gail Handfield

Dear Committee chair, Members and City Staff.

We noticed that one of our submitted videos did not get posted with the other documents regarding our objection to this requested minor variance.

Possibly due to email space did not come through to you.

Please kindly include this as well as part of our objection documentation as it illustrates the lack of permeable surface between side lot line for 20 Merlin Drive property.

Thank you

Gail Handfield

22 Merlin Drive

On Wed., Aug. 14, 2024, 2:32 p.m. Gail Handfield,

wrote:

August 14, 2024

City of Brampton

Committee of Adjustment

Subject: **A-2024-0279**

Dear Committee Chair, Members and City Staff,

Please be advised that I, Gail Handfield and my partner Prakash Samlal will be attending in person the Public meeting scheduled for Aug 20, 2024 at 9:30am.

We would like to have the following evidence presented to the Committee for review to support our objection to approving this Minor Variance request for property 20 Merlin Drive for a **0.00 metres of permeable landscaping abutting the side lot line.**

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Listed below are some facts concerning this objection some of which is directly related to the content in the application.

1. Overview

Mr. Gurpreet Samra and Rameeta Samra did approach myself and Prakash Samlal concerning the widening of their driveway when they recently acquired the property.

I clearly remember mentioning to them that the City of Brampton does require a .6m (2 feet) of permeable surface along your driveway to the side lot property line.

At that time, they mentioned that their concern was having more parking space.

I pointed to our neighbour's properties across the street and indicated that we can have some plants and rocks between the driveways like theirs. (Photo 1) to display how the buffer zone was prior to yard renovations at 20 Merlin Drive and 22 Merlin Drive, (Photo 2) displays the neighbours buffer zone showing plants landscape surface as explained to the Samra's and (Photo3) displays the buffer zone presently at 20 Merlin Drive and 22 Merlin Drive. Our discussions suggested we would consider a similar landscape as shown in Photo2.

At no time was permission given to the Samra's to modify my driveway buffer zone or cut my driveway asphalt.

The Samra's undertook their yard renovations with a private contractor and to my surprise removed the grass landscape and replaced it with poured concrete in the side lots buffer zone and at the same time extending their driveway to the property line.

I was very unhappy about this work since I knew I was no longer in compliance with the City By-laws also there was a 10-inch wall like raised structure built inside my buffer zone to the property line as well as the contractor did cut my asphalt without any permission. I was not consulted on any of this work which occurred on my property nor did I provide explicit or implicit permission.

2. Personal Safety and Security

With winter and the changes done by the Samra's my driveway became a hazard since there was no place for the snow melt to permeate to and as such was refreezing and forming ice on my driveway which has resulted in many slips and near falls on many occasions resulted in ankle sprain and strains.

This was a concern for me since I am not a young individual.

The property owners, their visitors and tenants would park on the very edge of their property and exit via my driveway, something which was not acceptable. This occurred at all hours even after midnight which posed a security risk to myself as these individual's were not known to me and were on my property.

I removed the poured concrete due to these safety concerns and to bring my property back in compliance with the by law. I replaced it with a permeable landscape (river rocks) at my own expense of approximately \$3500.00.

3. Drainage issues presently affecting my property.

There are considerable drainage issues occurring due to this non compliance driveway which is adversely affecting my property. As you can see from the photos (See Photo 4) attached and exhibit Video1) The Samra's are negligent in mitigating their collected surface water (water from roof guttering) to prevent dispersing onto my property (See Photo 5 . My garage foundation is being affected due to this negligence, as well as my paved sidewalk on the garage side of property is now coated with moss / algae posing a slipping hazard since the collected surface water is being re-directed onto the common easement due to the lack of permeable surface for drainage at the side lot line bordering the driveway. The Samra's redirected this from the driveway in February to run down between our garages.

To date there has been no efforts whatsoever from the Samra's to mitigate this water drainage issue.

4. Inaccurate information submitted in the Minor Variance Application

The Samra's minor variance application mentioned that the landscape strip was removed, and a paver strip was installed by BOTH neighbours. This is inaccurate, I was at work when the Samra's had their contractor remove the landscape in my absence with neither my explicit nor implicit consent. (Discussions did occur as described in Overview above, but no permission was sought or granted to remove my landscape and cut my asphalt to rebuild the buffer with a concrete wall-like structure).

A paver was not installed as mentioned but instead poured solid concrete was used in the buffer zone.

Second point of inaccuracy on the application is that there was a change in the City By-law regarding side lot permeable landscape bordering driveways. Clearly this City By-Law was in place at the time of this yard renovation since I personally did reference this point to the Samra's at the initial discussion prior to the start of the yard work. I suggested that they check with the city on regulations. I was just ignored and was told they required the parking space. We also queried them as to where would they place their snow and no response was provided.

We are providing our consent to post this correspondence on the agenda for the meeting Aug 20, 2024.

Regards,

Gail Handfield
22 Merlin Drive
Brampton, ON
L6P 1E9