

Hummel, Robert

From: Gray, Ken (HR) <ken.gray@thermofisher.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 9:50 AM
To: Hummel, Robert
Subject: [EXTERNAL]261 Orchard Street

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Robert,

Thank you again for taking the time to speak with me today. I am writing you with regards to the proposed non-conforming house to be built at 261 Orchard Street. I am the owner of 15 Birch Street and my house abuts this property in the rear. To date, no one has reached out to me regarding this project.

First, let me say that after several years of the current house being in disrepair, I am very happy that this home will be replaced. Unfortunately, after reviewing the plans online, I am deeply concerned about the size of the proposed home and its impact on my home and on the Birch Street neighborhood.

Based on the March 23rd letter to the Board submitted by the new owners, it appears that considerations have been made on how this house will impact Orchard Street but no consideration of how it will impact the homes on Birch Street in the rear of this property (including the two home that abut the land). In their letter, they explain that they intend to move the front of this house back by 4 feet from its current location to “provide a bit more open space with the public side”. Unfortunately, by doing this plus by building a significantly larger home with a deeper footprint, this results in considerably less open/green space in the rear of the house, which I argue is also “public”. This significantly larger footprint plus any deck/patio to be extended off the house will bring the dwelling very close to both homes in the back thus impacting the sunlight each receives and considerably reducing the green space which makes our neighborhood on Birch Street attractive and enjoyable.

Additionally, the two large pine trees on the back edge of the property, which I believe are already dangerous, are likely to become more so as the root structure is likely to be impacted with the digging. These trees should be removed and replaced with smaller trees. I do feel it’s important to provide the abutters with detailed landscaping and fencing plans to ensure ongoing privacy.

I will be attending the hearing on April 19th and would greatly appreciate my opinions/concerns to be heard. Thank you in advance.

Ken Gray
15 Birch Street, Belmont
781-290-7293
kjgray@me.com

Ken Gray
Senior Director, Talent

Thermo Fisher Scientific
 Phone: (781)622-1016

Mobile: (781) 290-7293

