

Hello!

We received the notice for a pending permit for 32 George Street and we have a few concerns. We live right behind this residence at 37 Franklin Street. The proposed plans are to build a second level to their existing garage. Currently, the garage is about 8 feet from our fence but they plan to move the garage 2 feet towards their house and then build up another 6 ft.

Our concerns are mainly around privacy and what happens if/when they sell their house. Our children (we have 3) spend a lot of time enjoying and playing in our backyard. The current proposed plans, which were shown to us by our neighbor, had windows on all side of the new structure. This would give them direct visibility into our yard. Even if the windows on the side facing us are removed from the plans, they still have view into the yard and even into our home. This is due to the placement of the structure and the proposed height of the 2-story extension. Even with the birch trees that our neighbor current has planted and the plans to add more after construction, there still wouldn't be enough privacy, especially in the Fall/Winter and early Spring.

The other concern is what if they decide to sell their house? We know the reason why our current neighbors want this extension but what if the new owner decides to use the extension as a rental unit?

Also, what if the new owner decides to remove all trees/shrubs that are currently planted, which help with privacy?

We moved to Belmont to escape the city-like living, where we were an arm's length from our neighbors. We just wanted to share our concerns and hope we can come to a resolution.

If you would like additional information or have question, feel free to reach out.

Thank you!

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