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TOWN OF BRISTOL
COMMUNITY DEV.

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10/25/2024

Bristol Zoning Board
10 Court Street
Bristol, R.I., 02809

Subject: Opposition to Proposal for Increased Fence Height at 70 Griswold Avenue, Bristol, RI, 02809.

On the date of this hearing, I will be away in Europe and will not be able to attend. However, I would like to put forth my opposition to the proposal. My standing in this matter is based on the fact that I own the land on 76 Griswold Avenue, Bristol, R.I.

Because the existing Bristol zoning ordinance calls for fence height to be capped at four feet, the request of an additional four feet of height is markedly excessive. Fence height dimensions were codified for valid reasons by the zoning board of Bristol. I'm sure noise mitigation and privacy were carefully considered before by the zoning ordinance committee before approval.

I'm familiar with the type of fencing that is being proposed. I have one bordering another property of mine. These fences, as is their wont, discolor quickly and are susceptible to frost heaving, which makes them uneven and subsequently unsightly, especially at this excessive height. The primary reason for my investment in this area of Bristol was the pristine, peaceful, pastoral setting. This dramatic deviation from the existing zoning ordinance will upset that.

I also want to forward my concern that this request will establish a perilous slippery slope precedent. Other petitioners can justifiably use the granting of this petition to render the existing fence height regulations useless. Any denial of future fence height variance requests may open the town to lawsuits using the approval of this variance request as precedent.

Best regards,
Brian McCormick
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