

From: [Jeffrey Paine](#)
To: [Public Comment - ZA](#)
Subject: Objection to DR Approval at 707 Benvenue Avenue
Date: Monday, November 18, 2024 5:07:14 AM

Good morning/afternoon,

I am the son of the original purchaser of 701 Benvenue and, indeed, am still the owner of that property, though I do not currently live in it. My objection to the proposed design is that the 12 houses at the end of the Benvenue cul-de-sac, including 707, comprise a unique and somewhat historic subdivision as they were all single-story homes built to a plan by Manning Construction, the company responsible for designing and building the Hangar One blimp hangar at Moffett Field. (To say that these homes were well-built is an understatement.)

Manning's vision for the end of the street was a protected mini-neighborhood of single-story homes where kids could safely play in the cul-de-sac, which, as change has come to the neighborhood, has remained as almost all these houses have been enlarged and remodeled but have remained single story. (Manning was so protective of this vision that all of us home owners also own a one-inch wide right of way across the end of the cul-de-sac so that the house at the end of the street where the fence is could not build a driveway and exit onto Benvenue from the back of the property on Clarke.)

Building a two-story home at 707 would shatter the lovely village neighborhood feel at the end of this prime Los Altos street and seems completely unnecessary. You can build a lovely 5-bed, 3-bath single-story home at around 3,500 square feet as an alternative, which is what most of the other homeowners here have done. A two-story home at 707 would also tower over the well-used pedestrian path to Clarke that runs alongside the 707 property line, reducing privacy for both pedestrians and children playing in the cul-de-sac as well.

I would have absolutely no objection to a single-story new home at 707, but a two-story home in that anchor location would permanently alter the feel of this unique mini-neighborhood to the detriment of Los Altos overall.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jeff

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