

Fence Exemption Application

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request an exemption to the Ordinance 2286, which was effective August 6, 2019. Our property is at 14741 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos.

First off, I wanted to apologize for not being within code. When we bought our property in the Fall of 2019, along with the renovations we constructed a fence that is 6 feet high at a setback of 15'6". As new homeowners, we were unaware of the ordinance and our fence company was also unaware of the 25 foot setback (they thought it was 10 feet). We also checked with our neighbor before constructing the fence and they said the location was ok with them.

I would also like to note, that our house is a renovation and not a new construction. This means that our garage (which has probably been there since the original house was constructed in 1962) is only setback 23 feet. So even if we moved the fence back 8 feet to be in line with the closet part of the house, it still would not be within code.

Renovating a house also meant that we ended up with a slightly unconventional layout and we have one bedroom that is facing the street (which is on the other side of the fence we are requesting to keep). The bedroom window belongs to my 4 year old son. Due to this fact of his bedroom placement, I have a two-part concern with removing/lowering the fence.

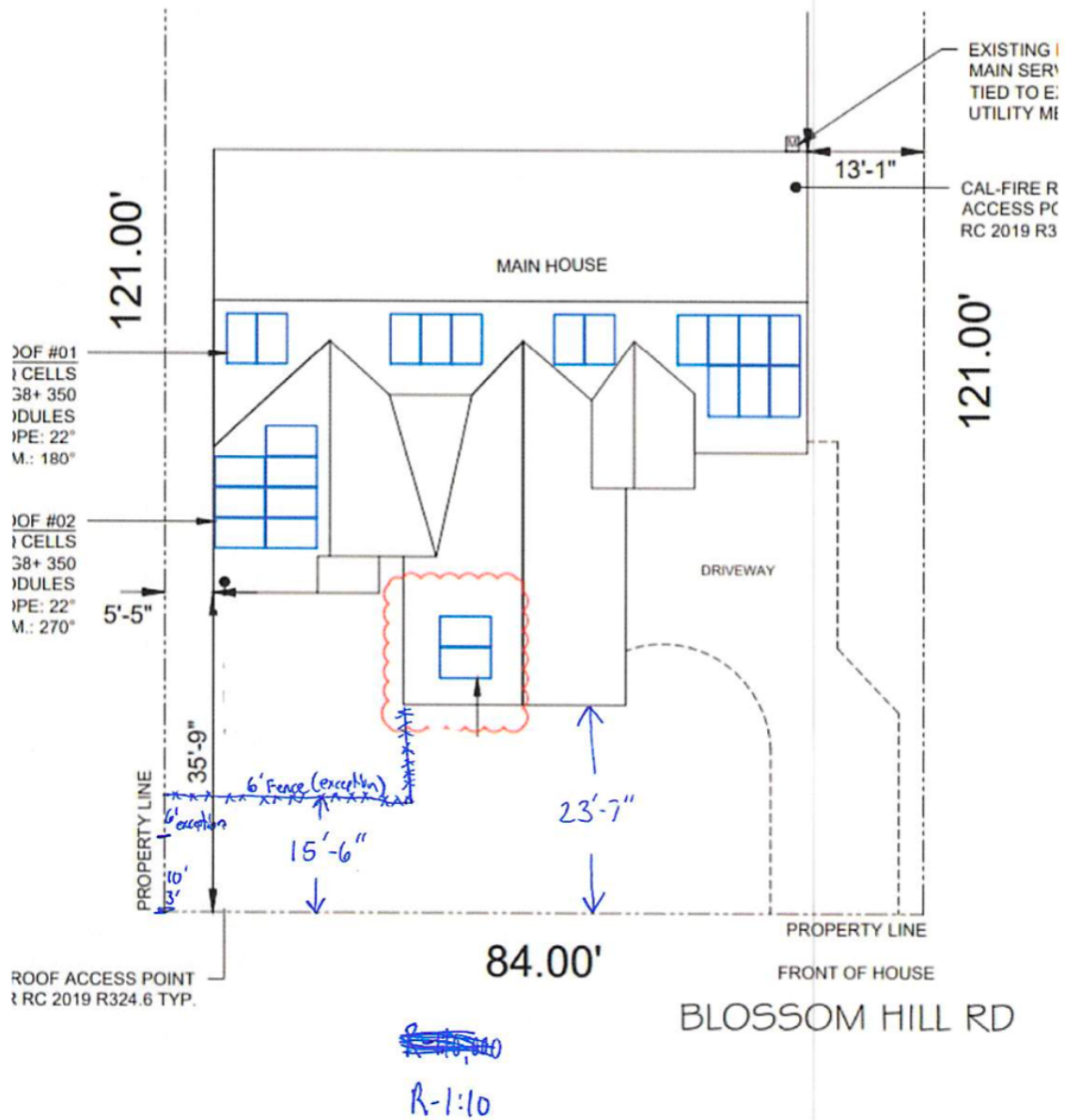
- 1) **Privacy** - As I mentioned, his bedroom is behind the fence. We have multiple people on a daily basis that stop in front of our house while waiting for cars to pass to cross the street onto Regent Drive. It's not an issue for them to see in our living room windows, but it would become very strange to have them be able to look into my son's bedroom window. It's also a very busy street in general and during rush hour traffic sometimes backs up where people are slowing down in front of our property. The fence really ensures our private bedroom area stays private.

The below picture shows what he sees out of his bedroom window. Dropping the fence to 3 feet would be a very clear view for the people from the street to see in.



- 2) **Security** – Since we are on a main street, we’ve had a number of issues related to security. We’ve had the property viewed a few times at night (which we see from our cameras). We also had one incident where we had something stolen from the front, which we did file a police report about. My neighbor has also had issues in the recent months. The fence around the property (specifically around my sons’ room), makes us feel more secure. Having to drop the fence height would definitely not help the security issue. We even designed the fence to only have a gate on one side in order to secure the property around the bedrooms better.

I have attached pictures that show the fence. The red circle shows my sons bedroom window.



March 1, 2022



I can be reached by email at Alexandra.mims@gmail.com or by phone at 703-507-2825.

Thank you so much for the consideration.

Best,
Alexandra Mims