

November 2, 2024

Attention: Los Gatos Planning Commission

neighbor of Pooja and Vishal Goel. We have lived directly across the street at [REDACTED] for 46 years. Having purchased and resided at our house since 1978, we are very familiar with 55 Ellenwood. For the record, after Corlene and I returned from our active duty Navy assignment in Japan and, just after the Loma Prieta Earthquake, our house was remodeled around 1991 where we put on a second story and added more square footage.

Over the years, we have known three owners, Merry and Lee Belden who owned the house when we bought ours. Later, Leslie and Andy Holms who bought the house from the Belden's and now, Pooja and Vishal Goel. We have seen the house remodeled from a two bedroom bungalow to what is now; a very different house.

The remodeled house moved the front door to the new addition and the old front door is now an auxiliary entry. The addition built by the Holms was a total change of the floor plan. The two car garage that was never part of the old termite-ridden structure. The Holms remodel had no resemblance to the original structure.

The Historical Committee should know, many of the older homes in Los Gatos were built as smaller summer homes for weekend use by San Francisco residents who wanted relief from the persistent fog in the city. The Goel's house today has no resemblance to any historical building. You can check the building department's records and see the remodel changes for yourself. There is no historical comparison to what the old house on 55 Ellenwood might have been.

We offer this as our declaration that there is no resemblance to a historical house at 55 Ellenwood. We understand that a member of the historical committee who lives in Los Gatos, may have driven by the property and presented the statement that the house is historical. As neighbors of 46 years across from this house, we can attest that the house has been completely remodeled and added onto where there is no resemblance to any original structure on the property. We urge the planning commission to approve the remodel plans Pooja and Vishal Goel have presented to the city. As neighbors across the street from the Goel's property, we can verify that their intended improvements will make a vast improvement over the existing structure.

Verbal claims from historical committee members with drive-by inspections, in our opinion, are not sufficient to stop the remodeling that is requested by the owners. We recommend the planning commission approve the Goel's remodel plans.

Regards,

[REDACTED] oran

Tedi Uhrowczik

[REDACTED]

December 22, 2024

Gentlemen and Ladies:

I am writing to you because I am in support of the current remodel of 55 Ellenwood Ave, Los Gatos. The following are the facts:

1. I have resided at [REDACTED] (across the street from 55 Ellenwood) since 1979, 45 yrs. Since that time, almost every house in our Ellenwood, West Ellenwood, Belmont, Apricot, Alexander and Bachman Ave area has been remodeled, greatly increasing the charm and appeal of the area.

2. 55 Ellenwood specifically has gone through 3 major changes/remodels since 1979:

1981 After we remodeled our home in 1980, the Beldens used our contractor, BenRogers Construction to remodel 55 Ellenwood

1994 remodel by the Holms

1998 major remodel by the Holms changing the entire front of the house

3. Because of all the changes over last 45 years, 55 Ellenwood has not retained **anything** that one could call "historical". However, what it has retained is a home façade which is ugly with no charm/ambiance.

4. For sure, I am not in support of all remodeling. There have been remodels approved in the neighborhood that are way too big given their lot sizes. These are the remodels which are totally inappropriate for our charming area. I support only the ones which are appropriate.

5. I am so very pleased that Pooja and Vishal are now remodeling their property to better fit the upscale charm and ambiance of the neighborhood. Again, the area has changed drastically over my 45 years here, definitely for the better. And I look forward to finally seeing a beautiful home at 55 Ellenwood with a softer, more pleasant look than it's current "non-historic" ugly look.

6. I therefore ask you to allow Pooja/Vishal to proceed with the beautification of their currently rundown, ugly, non-historic property.

Tedi Uhrowczik

Owner/Resident



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