

January 9, 2023

Sean Mullin

Senior Planner

Town of Los Gatos

110 E. Main Street

Los Gatos, CA 95030

Respected Mr. Mullin..

10 CHARLES STREET, LOS GATOS, CA 95030 – REQUEST FOR FENCE HEIGHT EXEMPTION

I am writing for your consideration to grant fence height exemption in response to the Administrative Warning dated 11/11/22 issued by the Town of Los Gatos with respect to the captioned home.

I would like to bring to your attention, through this submission, the **unique characteristics & circumstances** surrounding the property, the **specific concerns** we had around safety & security, the principal **goals** we established for the design & construction of this fence, and, finally, the **diligent steps** we undertook to meet these goals, both for ourselves and the community at large.

UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS & CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THIS PROPERTY

- 1 Charles Street is a quiet, dead-end street, with just a handful of residents living on this street.
- 2 The subject home (10 Charles St), though located at the corner of Los Gatos Blvd & Charles, has its entry door and address sign on Charles St, including the detached one-car garage and Cabana.
- 3 The main living room, and the secondary bedroom – typically occupied by our elderly mother, or our grandchild when they visit us – is on the main Boulevard. Further, the living room has expansive half-round windows, and the subject bedroom has a large door leading to the street, both as part of the design of the original home built in 1920.
- 4 While egressing from Charles St to the Boulevard, there is a legal STOP sign that ensures that the exiting cars come to a complete stop before navigating a turn in either direction.
- 5 There are significant trees at the corner of our lot, and they could cause some interference, if any, than the far more open lattice work contained on the fence.
- 6 The home exactly across from the subject property has a fence that is identical in height and form, except for the specific shape of the lattice.
- 7 The yard on the Los Gatos Boulevard side is the primary yard area that is being used for kids' play area and outdoor leisure, and has vegetable beds and other floral decorations planted.
- 8 The subject property was under major renovation and repair for a period of almost 2 years during the pandemic, and there was a 6-foot tall, opaque construction fence surrounding the property that did not result in any concerns that we were aware of.

SPECIFIC CONCERNS FOR SAFETY, SECURITY & PRIVACY

1. Based upon issue #3 raised above, it is clear that the safety & security was of key concern. This was amplified multi-fold when we had two distinct incidents of an intruder loitering around at the door leading to the front bedroom, in one instant to be warned of alerting the police unless the person left immediately. No threat was imposed, nor an imminent danger to life or property.
2. We were equally concerned about the visibility whilst existing Charles St, until we spoke with some of the neighbors, and carefully analyzed the facts contained in (1) through (8) above.

PRIMARY GOAL FOR DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION OF FENCE

Clearly, based upon discussions with the neighbors, as well as the unique facts highlighted above, our principal goal for the design and build a fence that would meet the goals of both the residents, as well as the community.

DILIGENT STEPS UNDERTAKEN TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE FENCE

- 1 The fence is a combination of a 26" tall opaque section, overlaid with a 38" lattice work. The lattice work is custom designed to provide maximum visibility by its orientation and size of the openings (5"). See picture attached. This allows a clear sight or visibility to any south-bound traffic from Los Gatos Boulevard. (see pictures on pages _ and _).
- 2 The fence was designed and built in consultation with some of the the neighbors, and we are working closely to establish their comfort level.

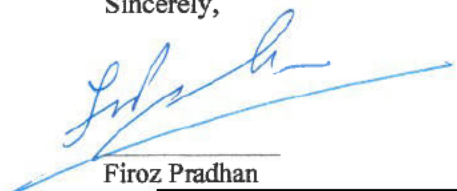
CONCLUSION

I hope we have been able to demonstrate that the specific goals and concerns of the community have been met, and while we may have been short in meeting the letter of the code, we have clearly met the spirit of the law.

REQUEST

In light of the above facts & circumstances, I humbly request you to grant us the fence height exemption. I also want to assure you that we will continue to work with the Town of Los Gatos as well as the neighbors/community to address any further concerns that may arise on this issue.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,



Firoz Pradhan

Tel: [REDACTED]

Ema [REDACTED]

Enclosures: (1) Fence design details with dimensions (2) Letter(s) from Neighbors (3) Fence photos (4 pgs)



Cluster of existing trees at corner of property.

38" Lattice Work
(5" x 5" opening)

26" Tall
solid section

10 Charles St, Los Gatos, CA 95032 - Fence Design Details

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