

VIA EMAIL

June 23, 2017

Zoning Board of Appeals / % Jon Barrett  
301 East Huron  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
email: [JBarrett@a2gov.org](mailto:JBarrett@a2gov.org)

RE: Opposition to Fence Height Variance at 1510 Morton Avenue  
Parcel I.D. 09-09-33-417-015 / ZBA 17 - 018

Dear Mr. Barrett,

We are the property owners and permanent residents of 1512 Morton Avenue, which abuts the property listed above to the east. We are responding to the pink information card regarding ZBA 17-018. The property owners of 1510 Morton Avenue have submitted a request to construct a 10 foot tall fence, where the maximum height permitted is 8 feet. We oppose this request for variance.

To date, further specifications about the construction have not been made available. Following an email complaint from the Fogels (property owners at 1510 Morton) from June 20th, 2017, we understand that the requested variance for a 10 foot fence is intended to stop balls and frisbees from entering their yard. We would like it to be noted that following complaints from the property owners at 1510 regarding light and noise, we constructed a 7.5 foot tall fence in 2015. Our fence is located 3-4 inches on our side of the property line and runs the length of the property line, varying in height in accordance with city zoning guidelines.

We have lived next to the Fogel family since July 2007, this is the first complaint we have received regarding balls and frisbees being an issue, this within a week of us receiving the note for the variance request. Here it is important to note that their property is abutted on three sides by families with children who play lacrosse and other sports in their yards. The Fogels are often not home and periodically rent their property through AirBnB, during which time they vacate their property for days at a time. Thus, any claim that the balls and frisbees are solely or primarily from our children and/or our yard is not credible, and appears to be directly targeting our family.

Burns Park is a family neighborhood with a convivial fabric. We are not aware of any other property on Morton Avenue or any surrounding street that has a 10 foot tall fence, making this request inconsistent with the neighborhood's character and harboring the potential to decrease home values in the immediate area. Ann Arbor allows for an 8 foot fence to be built, and a 7.5 foot fence already exists near the property line to which we assume the variance is referring. Therefore, we oppose this request for variance.

Thank you,  
The Schaefer Family at 1512 Morton Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104