

**Subject:** Mike Schmidt's Variance Approval

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**From:** Jeff Krugman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024 2:58 PM  
**To:** Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>  
**Subject:** Mike Schmidt's Variance Approval

Hello,

I am a neighbor of Mike's and fully support the variance he is requesting to build an attached garage addition. Mike and his family are key members of our community and lovely people. They are a young, growing family, are active public stewards for Ann Arbor (Mike's wife Melissa has been an AAPS teacher for 15+ years), and operate a thriving local property management business. As an aside, my daughter is a student at University of Michigan and we rented one of his properties last year. Mike was a wonderful, thoughtful, and caring landlord.

Mike has mentioned to me on numerous occasions that they plan on living in their current home for the indefinite future and want to make Ann Arbor / Lakewood subdivision the place for their children to grow up. They love the community, are great neighbors, and always willing to help other neighbors. Just like me, there's no other place they'd like to live.

My understanding is that a detached garage does not conform currently to current recommended setbacks. Mike wants to give that space between neighborly property lines and I fully agree. The rear setback is not concerning and a great idea to be able to park vehicles in garage. An attached garage is much more beneficial for public works (vehicles trucks / plows) to navigate the alleyway more efficiently and provide better sight-lines. Mike has also informed me that they don't have any plans to alter the front of the home, or sides, which they fully acknowledge could detract from the architecture of the home. Simply put, they are keeping the style and scale from the street intact.

Finally, if the variance is not approved, my understanding is that there will be hardships / challenges for Mike and his family. The entryway into the home is dangerous for the young kids / growing family. The side entry way is used as their main entryway. The side entry has a tiny landing with stairs up and down making it challenging getting out the door for school and for school bags / gear on a daily use. Mike has told me that his kids have fallen down these stairs in the past.

My assessment is that it looks as if the new structure is simply replacing / improving functional living space while maintaining the current architecture and not causing any disturbances to the surrounding neighbors. Given all these factors, I am in favor of approving said variance for 3050 Lakeview (Mike Schmidt's property). If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Thanks

Jeff Krugman  
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