

Comments to:

Project Name (VA-20-00001)

Brown Setback Variance

Parcel 917135

To: Kelly Bacon, Staff Planner

From: Rob and Betsy (Elizabeth) Weyer

81 Fern Dr.

Please advise us of decision at [betsy@betsyweyer.com](mailto:betsy@betsyweyer.com)

In regards to the above-referenced request for an 80% reduction in the current setback of 25", my husband and I have grave concerns. We like to think we are reasonable and on the surface, might agree with a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> reduction in the required setback, but 80% does not make sense to us; either in principle or in looking at the specifics of this property. We drive past this property to get to our place, as do the other six (one of the six is straight across and maybe doesn't drive "past") properties on Fern Dr. We have owned in Driftwood Acres for 30 years.

Five feet, instead of 25 feet, is just too close to the road; especially with the 40 foot long garage shown on the site plan. This is a huge garage, especially for such a small lot. While I had difficulty locating a lot size on the county records, it appears to be about .25 acres; much smaller than what seems to be an average area lot size of .50 acres. So, on this much smaller than average lot, which has an 1152 sf house and 144 sf shed (per variance app), the owners are wanting to build a nearly 1000 sf garage, just 5 feet from the street. That seems massive and out of character with the area.

If a nearly 1000sf garage is allowed, I can understand they might want to build it that large and that's fine. We have no concern with owners being allowed to develop their property according to current regulations.

The community also has setback requirements and I am unsure how that is being addressed in this situation.

If it does not fit on the front of the house with existing setbacks, they may want to consider putting it on the back of the house. That is on a larger road, with few if any homes that would be impacted as with their current plan.

We do not believe the variance should be granted to reduce the setback by 80% to accommodate this large garage on this very small lot.

Sincerely,

Robert & Betsy Weyer