

From: Blake Tollett <[REDACTED]>
Subject: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita Crescent
Date: July 7, 2023 at 3:59:17 PM CDT
To: Elaine Ramirez <Elaine.Ramirez@austintexas.gov>
Bcc: WANG ExCom [REDACTED]

Elaine Ramirez, Liaison
Board of Adjustment
City of Austin

RE: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita Crescent

Members of the Board of Adjustment:

The Executive Committee (ExComm) of West Austin Neighborhood Group (WANG) has voted electronically to oppose the above referenced variance request at 15 Margranita Crescent.

Our opposition is primarily focused on the allegations of hardship as presented in the application. The size and topography of the building lot was known prior to design of the residence, and specific design considerations were made to conform with the known requirements of LDC Subchapter F. Specifically, in order to maximize FAR a tandem carport was chosen over an enclosed tandem garage. Carports by their very nature are open to the elements, but use of a carport rather than an enclosed garage was an informed decision. It is unfortunate that the drive under the carport was constructed to slope water towards the residence rather than away, and it is hoped that the applicant of the variance and the initial builder of the home, David Weekly Homes, will work with the home owner to find a resolution that will ameliorate at least some of the periodic flooding issues. Again, we see these hardships as self-imposed.

We also have concerns that allowing the carport to be enclosed after construction through the variance process, thus increasing the allowable FAR, does set a precedent for like situated residences.

A member of the neighborhood association will be in attendance at the hearing on Monday 10 July 2023.

Respectfully.

Blake Tollett, Land Matters
West Austin Neighborhood Group
PO Box 5722
Austin, Texas 78763

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Ramirez, Elaine](#)
Subject: Fwd: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita Crescent
Date: Monday, September 4, 2023 6:06:45 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Elaine,

Please add this email chain and a following email chain to the public record on this matter.

My regards,

Blake Tollett, WANG

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bilal Khan [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita Crescent
Date: August 24, 2023 at 12:36:14 PM CDT
To: Blake [REDACTED]
Cc: David Long [REDACTED] WANG ExCom [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. Tollett

David Long is not my friend, acquaintance or in any sort I know him personally. I only know him professionally.

One thing I can tell you about him is that he is a very sincere and a honest man.

I will let this go after reading your email but please be careful with words - they are very powerful.

Thank you
Bilal Khan

On Aug 24, 2023, at 10:22 AM, Blake Tollett

<[REDACTED]>:

Dr. Kahn-

I have personally hesitated to respond to your email complaint regarding an alleged statement by me concerning the destruction of your home because I am currently in an area with very limited

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cellular service. However in light of your below email I will for the record make the following declarations:

At the initial public hearing on the variance request at 15 Margranita Crescent, and under oath, I did not state, infer or suggest that your home should be taken down.

When I had a conversation with David Long, project manager for David Weekly Homes, the applicant for the variance request, on Tuesday 22 August, I did not state, infer or suggest that your home should be taken down. To state otherwise is a gross misrepresentation of my comments during our brief discussion.

I ask that you take notice of my declarations above going forward.

My regards to you and your family.

Blake Tollett
3701 Bonnie Road 78703

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bilal Khan [REDACTED]
Date: August 23, 2023 at 3:02:42 PM CDT
To: Holly Reed <h[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED]; 15
Margranita Crescent

I am not at all upset on your group's decision. Hence I never said a single word. Your organization have the right to oppose it if you feel that way.

I am upset at Blake Tollett comment to "tear my house down".

I consider that comment to be aggressive and makes me uncomfortable about your

ITEM06/4-LATE BACKUP

organization. If WANG doesn't care about me or tearing my house down then what is the purpose of your organization? What do you offer to the community?

I am disappointed that a person in your organization does not care about our community and does not realize that a community begins with each family.

I want an apology from Mr. Tollett and your organization. I feel compelled to let entire neighborhood know what the true nature of your staff entails however I will let you handle this first and see what resolution you come up with.

Regards,
Bilal Khan

On Aug 23, 2023, at 2:44 PM,
Holly Reed

 >
wrote:

Dr. Khan,

On July 6, the West Austin Neighborhood Group Board of Directors voted to oppose a variance request to increase the FAR (floor area ratio) from 40% to 42.61% at 15 Margranita Crescent. I have included the email which WANG sent to the Board of Adjustment on July 7th prior to their previously scheduled hearing.

The West Austin Neighborhood Group Board did not see there was a hardship in this case that warranted a variance to the City Code's maximum FAR, but

ITEM06/5-LATE BACKUP

rather an issue caused by faulty construction. However, it is up to the Board of Adjustment whether or not to grant this variance.

We sincerely hope that you and your builder will be able to work out a good solution to the problem moving forward.

Regards,

Holly Reed, President
West Austin Neighborhood
Group (WANG)



Begin forwarded message:

From: Blake Tollett



Margranita Crescent

Date: July 7, 2023 at 3:59:17
PM CDT

To: Elaine Ramirez
<Elaine.Ramirez@austintexas.gov>

Elaine Ramirez, Liaison
Board of Adjustment
City of Austin

RE: C15-2023-0026; 15
Margranita Crescent

Members of the Board of
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The Executive Committee
(ExComm) of West Austin
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Margranita Crescent.

Our opposition is primarily focused on the allegations of hardship as presented in the application. The size and topography of the building lot was known prior to design of the residence, and specific design considerations were made to conform with the known requirements of LDC Subchapter F. Specifically, in order to maximize FAR a tandem carport was chosen over an enclosed tandem garage. Carports by their very nature are open to the elements, but use of a carport rather than an enclosed garage was an informed decision. It is unfortunate that the drive under the carport was constructed to slope water towards the residence rather than away, and it is hoped that the applicant of the variance and the initial builder of the home, David Weekly Homes, will work with the home owner to find a resolution that will ameliorate at least some of the periodic flooding issues. Again, we see these hardships as self-imposed.

We also have concerns that allowing the carport to be enclosed after construction through the variance process, thus increasing the allowable FAR, does set a precedent for like situated residences.

A member of the neighborhood association will be in attendance at the hearing on Monday 10 July 2023.

Respectfully.

ITEM06/7-LATE BACKUP

Blake Tollett, Land Matters
West Austin Neighborhood
Group
PO Box 5722
Austin, Texas 78763

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious or phishing email, please report it using the "Report Message" button in Outlook or forward to cybersecurity@austintexas.gov.

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita Crescent
Date: Monday, September 4, 2023 6:10:03 PM

External Email - Exercise Caution

Elaine,

Please also include this email chain in the public record on this matter.

My regard,

Blake Tollett, WANG

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bilal Khan <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita Crescent
Date: August 24, 2023 at 1:23:10 PM CDT
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ms. Reed

Mr. Tollett made a comment to “tear my house down” to Mr. David Long. Mr. Long is a professional and even when him and I don’t agree I have never witnessed him not to be truthful.

I do not know Mr. Tollett but I heard him speak at the city council regarding FAR. My first impression of him was that he was an angry person who was burnet out and doesn’t seem to care about each person and their issues. If he truly cared then he would have contacted me to figure out what’s the issue in his neighborhood and perhaps try to help me find a solution or give me ideas. Not to run to the city with letters.

That’s what a person with highest integrity and respect does.

So I disagree with your statement about his character from what I saw. His length of service or who appointed him does not mean much.

Regards,
Bilal Khan

On Aug 24, 2023, at 11:06 AM, Holly Reed

<[REDACTED]>

Dr. Kahn,

Having served on the West Austin Neighborhood Group with Mr. Blake Tollett for the past seven years, including four years as President, I have the utmost respect and regard for his professionalism, knowledge and experience. Mr. Tollett has tirelessly volunteered on behalf of this community for over 30 years. He was the Mayor's appointee to the Historic Landmark Commission for the past 8 years.

I find your statements very difficult to believe as what you have described is completely out of character for Mr. Tollett. He handles all matters with the highest degree of integrity and respect for members of our community. Are you making a statement that Mr. Tollett personally spoke with you and said the things you have written in this email?

If you would like to learn more about the West Austin Neighborhood Group, serving the neighborhood since 1973, you can visit our website at www.westaustinng.com

Sincerely,

Holly Reed, President
West Austin Neighborhood Group
[REDACTED]

On Aug 23, 2023, at 3:02 PM, Bilal Khan

[REDACTED] > wrote:

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I consider that comment to be aggressive and makes me uncomfortable about your organization. If WANG doesn't care about me or tearing my house down then what is the purpose of your organization? What do you offer to the community?

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Regards,

Holly Reed, President
West Austin Neighborhood Group
(WANG)
[REDACTED]

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Subject: C15-2023-0026; 15
Margranita Crescent

Date: July 7, 2023 at 3:59:17 PM CDT

To: Elaine Ramirez

<Elaine.Ramirez@austintexas.gov>

Elaine Ramirez, Liaison
Board of Adjustment
City of Austin

RE: C15-2023-0026; 15 Margranita
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West Austin Neighborhood Group
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Austin, Texas 78763

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