

Dear BZA members I would like to submit the following letter expressing my reasons for opposing this particular variance request. I hope you will consider it in your important work. I also would like for the letter to be included on the agenda today as part of the related documents if possible. I have attached a Word file.

Thank you
Jeb Spencer

Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustments

I own a house and a lot across the street from 415 Parr. I oppose this variance request on three grounds. The fence across the face of the building violates ancient principles of traditional architecture, was built without permission, and negatively impacts the views from, and therefore the value of, neighboring property.

This is an historic area. The property in question is within sight of our library, several historically significant homes (including the old Burris school right next door which is also owned by the applicant) and two large churches. It is only four blocks from Main Street.

In my opinion, it is only the portion of the fence that faces Witt and is in front of the building that causes the offense. That residential buildings ought to front a street is an ancient principle of traditional architecture. Recently we have seen this most basic rule violated in our city, particularly in the West End. With no windows or doors facing Warner the Witt street elevation has become the "face" of the house. The city has determined that the fence not only violates city codes, and should come down, but also that there was no permit issued to build it.

Mr. Islas should be commended for working to improve some of the houses in our important historical district. However, these improvements ought to be done thoughtfully in historic areas and follow the established permitting process in order to enhance and maintain the value of neighboring property- Which is one of the main criteria in zoning variance decisions. I hope you will consider these things while making your decision in this important matter.

Sincerely
Jeb Spencer
Property Owner
400 Warner