

From: Lisa Sabourin [mailto:lisa.sabourin@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 4:45 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3; Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul); Jennifer@macgrove.org
Subject: 1916 Fairmount Ave. Variance Appeal

Dear Chris Tolbert and Yaya Diatta:

First of all, like most of the Fairmount Ave. neighbors, we respectfully understand that the 1916 Fairmount Ave. property belongs to our friend and neighbor Inga Oelschlager, and that she can do what she wants to do with her land, subject to the rules and regulations in place for all residential property owners within the St. Paul city limits.

As to the variance request, I feel the need to second my husband Paul's wise recommendation to simply and cleanly split the 1916 Fairmount Ave. lot, using a straight lot line division from street to alley, into one 40ft lot and one 60ft lot. We certainly understand why the more 'normal' splitting into equal 50ft parcels is unworkable, given the beautiful large house that is already there - and has been there for nearly a century.

As Paul pointed out in his earlier opinion, there are several other 40ft residential lots sprinkled throughout Mac-Groveland already, so such a division would not be new, nor all that unusual. I highly doubt that there are other residential lots in Mac-Groveland that have jogs or cutouts, as was proposed for 1916 Fairmount. Why would you decide to start such an usual precedent here?

The other good thing about the 40/60 lot split (did I read that it is actually 99 feet and not 100 feet?), is that each separated lot would naturally have to abide by the lot setback rules also in place for the neighborhood. Such setbacks were put in place for very good reason and preserve a sense of neighborly "space".

I hope you see the wisdom in Paul Sabourin's simple and straightforward recommendation to split the current 1916 Fairmount Ave. block into two lots - one 40ft (for Inga's new house) and one 60ft lot (for a new tbd neighbor), with a straight lot line from street to alley in between the two lots.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Lisa Sabourin
(1917 Fairmount Ave.)

P.S. I honestly can't imagine sitting in the 1916 Fairmount Ave. sunroom and having someone else's house completely blocking my view to the south. Can you?!