

# 26-22

**Jennifer Breslouf**

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**From:** Carol Moore  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2022 12:16 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Breslouf  
**Subject:** FW: January 11 Public Hearing - Land Use Committee

**From:** Jacqueline Lee <lee\_jackie@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:36 PM  
**To:** City Council <citycouncil@newtonma.gov>  
**Cc:** Nate Donabed <ndonabed@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** January 11 Public Hearing - Land Use Committee

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Dear Chairman Lipof and City Councilors,

We are the owners of 982 Beacon Street in Newton Centre which abuts the property at 14 Crystal Street. We are writing regarding their application to exceed the FAR, setback and door width variance ordinances. After reviewing the submitted plans, we have a few concerns.

While the renderings look attractive, the proposed addition will be located extremely close to our shared property line. We feel this presents a disservice to the aesthetics of both properties, and to the neighborhood. Building directly along the property line creates a crowded look and feel, which is not congruent with the aesthetics of the long established community. More importantly, the height and location of the addition greatly compromises the privacy for all of the residents involved.

An additional concern would be the loss of trees. Currently the property is lined with beautiful, tall, established trees which provide a natural privacy screen and shade. Though the trees belong to 14 Crystal, and we understand their fate is ultimately not up to us, they are enjoyed and appreciated by all. It is our opinion that removing the trees would be a sad loss for our block. If the addition proceeds, could there be new plantings to replace the lost greenery and privacy?

While we appreciate the efforts of 14 Crystal to improve their property, we feel that exceeding the established FAR and setback ordinances as outlined in the current plans would ultimately prove to be a detriment to the property value and quality of life on our side of the fence.

On a personal note, we want to mention that we have only good will and respect for our neighbors. We do not want to cause any hard feelings by objecting to their plans. However

**we feel strongly that the proposed plans are not ideal for our families and we felt compelled to speak up.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**The Donabed Family  
982 Beacon Street  
Newton, MA 02459**