

# 26-22

**Jennifer Breslouf**

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**From:** Carol Moore  
**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 9:14 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Breslouf  
**Subject:** FW: Letter in response to petition to request variances at 14 Crystal Street

**From:** David Breslof <david.breslof@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 9, 2022 7:50 PM  
**To:** City Council <citycouncil@newtonma.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter in response to petition to request variances at 14 Crystal Street

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Dear Chairman Lipof and City Councilors,

We are the owners of 984 Beacon Street in Newton Centre and abut the property at 14 Crystal Street. We have received notification that the owners of 14 Crystal Street have submitted an application to exceed the FAR, setback and door width variance ordinances in order to extend their building closer to our shared property line.

Please note the following concerns we have with allowing this project to move forward in its current form:

- The trees that border and separate our properties will be destroyed
  - o We will lose the beauty, seclusion and peace that these trees provide us
  - o The City will lose the heat island effect offset that their shade provides
- We would no longer have even the opportunity for landscaping options compatible with our neighbors on Crystal Street, Laurel Street, Lake Street and Beacon Street without incurring substantial costs and undue hardship
- Based on the preceding points we feel that this project has the potential to reduce our property value, counteracting our efforts to increase the value of our property through material improvements

Newton is known as the Garden City and works to preserve green spaces and landscaping – it would be a shame for both our families and the City for one such long-standing section to be taken down. We do understand our neighbor's intent to improve their property in ways that are meaningful to them but respectfully request that they revise their current plan in a way that is consistent with the current aesthetic and function of the neighborhood design and layout and the goals for a greener Newton.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,  
David, Lindsay, Rose and Eleanore