

Trianovich, Amanda

From: PZ DEPT
Subject: FW: Proposed Modification at 270 Saugatuck Avenue

From: Michael Caro <mikecaro@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Planning and Zoning <PANDZ@westportct.gov>
Cc: Sarah Caro <Sarahdahan@hotmail.com>
Subject: Proposed Modification at 270 Saugatuck Avenue

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Town of Westport's email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Westport Planning and Zoning Committee:

My name is Michael Caro and I'm a resident of 7 Eno Lane which is within a few hundred yards of 270 Saugatuck Avenue. I have enjoyed living at this address for nearly three years with my wife, ten-year-old son, and seven-year-old daughter. I'm writing this letter on behalf of my family to express concern over the proposed parking spot increase outside the Eno Foundation building. I strongly encourage the Committee to reject the increased parking spot proposal, as the resulting increase in traffic will make Eno Lane unsafe for children and disrupt the residential feel of the neighborhood.

The current demographic of Eno Lane includes many families like ours with young children who often play together and ride bikes up and down the street. As it is, there is a lot of traffic on our street from people turning the wrong way off of I-95, to then turn back the other way on Saugatuck. Increasing the number of parking spots at 270 Saugatuck would add even more traffic to Eno Lane, compounding the existing safety concern. The problem of safety extends further to the middle school bus stop near the entrance to 270 Saugatuck. An anticipated increase in traffic near the entrance of 270 Saugatuck poses an obvious safety risk for children catching the bus on the already dangerous Saugatuck Avenue.

With regard to the visual impact of additional parking spots, the Eno Foundation building is classic looking with a simple driveway in its current condition. The already approved 26 spots pushes the boundaries of the current quaint aesthetic, but increasing the number to 40, would look incongruous with the street and make the neighborhood feel too commercial. Many of us moved to the winding cul-de-sac of Eno Lane for its family-friendly feel, which would change dramatically with a massive parking lot next to us.

To offer some suggestions to address the above mention concerns, entry to 270 Saugatuck Avenue should not be allowed from Eno Lane. Instead, the town should plant tall trees or shrubs along Eno Lane to block the parking lot from site, allowing privacy for residents. The town should also consider changing the middle school bus stop location from Saugatuck Avenue to further down Eno Lane. However, the best overall solution for the safety of our children and the preservation of our neighborhood, is to reject the proposed increase in parking spots at 270 Saugatuck Avenue. Thank you for attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Caro
7 Eno Lane
Westport, CT 06880