

David D Eyer, P. E.

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Key West, FL 33040

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April 17, 2024

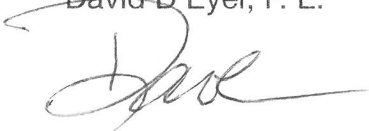
dave1321@bellsouth.net

Dear Ms Halloran, Mr Mannix-Lachner

Re: Variance-1221 Laird St (RE#00059310-000000)

My residence lies within the 300' radius of the property that is the subject of this variance application. I received notice of the public meeting of April 18, 2024. I object to and am opposed to the variance for the accessory structure on the subject property as described in the permit variance application. Prior to its destruction by fire on June 29, 2022, this structure was used by the applicant as a workshop with industrial capabilities and storage for a very large quantity of stacked, air dried tropical hardwood lumber. Although the State Fire Marshall declared the source of the June 29 fire to be indeterminate, there is no doubt these large piles of wood contributed to the size and intensity of the fire. I have still photos and videos of the fire taken from the widow walk of my home. This wood was the major but not the only source of fuel for the fire. It is also incontrovertible that two homes were destroyed, including that for a long term, senior Key West couple- Walt and Joanna Schmida- who were left temporarily homeless. They resided at my home for more than a month as they recovered from the destruction of their home. If the City of Key West is unwilling or unable to regulate the amount of combustible material stored in the midst of such a densely packed residential neighborhood, then this portion of the variance application must be denied. There are surely other places away from the city where this combustible material can be stored without endangering the residents.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave', written over a horizontal line.