

February 17, 2015

Gurdeep Sandhar
11751 Mellis Drive,
Richmond, BC V6X1L9

Attention: Board of Variance Appeal – Hardship Letter

Re: Address **5591 Marine Drive, Burnaby**


Due to a very steep slope on the above property I am requesting to build a detached garage on the north side (Eleanor Street) of the property. I would also need to increase the space between my house and the garage by building the house 10 ft. forward.

Building an attached garage is extremely dangerous, since the property is at an excessively steep slope. It would be extremely unsafe to build and use an attached garage. An attached garage would put me and my family at risk of a vehicle accidentally rolling into the house. I have spoken to and taken pictures of my neighbor's house, who has an attached garage and never uses it. He feels it is unsafe to have vehicles use the driveway as he fears the vehicles could easily roll into the house. He says that the handicapped and elderly have to enter his house from the front Marine Drive walkway. A person relying on the use of a wheelchair cannot enter from Eleanor Street to his house. He also mentioned that numerous times people have slipped and had injured themselves in the winter months. I did go over to try and walk down to his house from Eleanor St and found it very difficult. What I saw was that the neighbours were not using their garage or driveway's year round and was contributing to the congestion problem by parking on Eleanor St, which is a dead end street with no turnaround at the end.

After speaking to a building inspector I was told that the city will no longer allow an attached garage with a driveway at that severe slope because of safety concerns. Nor would they allow me to use Marine Drive as a vehicle access due to the busy traffic on the that street. The building department will accept and allow me to build an detached garage with access from Eleanor street with the approval from the Board of Variance.

My Brother who lives with me is disabled with a nerve disease(GBS), a detached garage would allow him access to a safe place to park and enter the home.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding in this matter.



Gurdeep Sandhar



