### CORRESPONDENCE/HANDOUTS FROM JULY 31, 2006 COUNCIL MEETING

### Pasadena City Council Presentation July 31,2006

**Summary Of Events** 

Pictures Of Fence

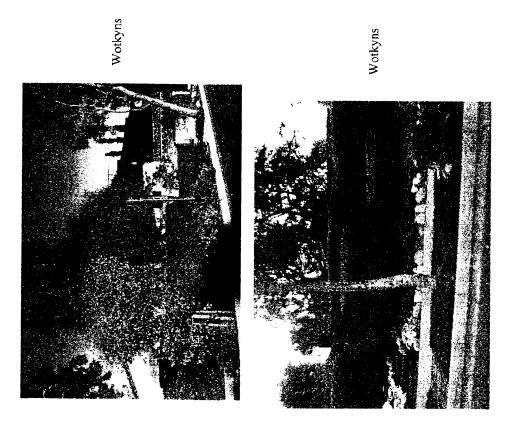
**Neighbor Petition** 

### 1149 Wotkyns Drive Front Fence/Gates

- Property Purchased In October 2003 And Complete Rehab Effort And Residence Addition Was Initiated With The City Of Pasadena
- Effort Included Verbal Discussions With The City Zoning Department, Project Design, Submittal Of Formal Building Plans, And Approval And Implementation Of Those Plans
- Fence 6-Ft Height And Location Were A Part Of That Plan
- The Fence Was Approved 4 Times Over Course Of Two Years
  - November 2003, November 2004, Mar 2005, May 2005
  - Fence, Gates, Electrical, Irrigation, And Gas Line Placement Cost Is \$20,300.00
- Fence Completed July 2005, And Final Approval Of Entire Project Occurred In October 2005.
- Complaint Surfaced In November/December 2005
  - From Someone Other Than The City
  - Fence Height Should Be No Greater Than 4 Ft High
- City Notified Owner That A Minor Variance For 6-Ft Height Would Be Required Even Though All Details Had Been Previously Discussed And Formally Approved
- 2 Hearings Occurred Over 8 Month Period
  - First Resulted In Variance Approval By Appeals Officer
  - Second Resulted In Variance Non-Approval By 3-2 Margin In BZA\*
- Fence, Gates Etc. Are Not Easily Modified, And Results Would Affect The Entire Project
- Owners Request Approval Of Minor Variance
  - Owners Met All City Requirements As Directed By The City
  - Variance Request Supported by Zoning Article 6, Planning and Permit Requirements
  - Many Neighbors Support Project Design As Implemented







City of Pasadena May, 22, 2006

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Council Members,

We recently completed a new/remodel residence at 1149 Wotkyns Drive, which we bought in October 2003. We commenced the building process in November 2003, and, after some legal delays, completed the project with final inspection occurring in October 2005.

We built a home that fits into and enhances the neighborhood, and have received many compliments on its design.

We are writing you this letter per information obtained from City Zoning to request a City Council hearing on a fence matter. We have an existing fence that was approved by the City and constructed as part of the building project that was started in November of 2003. A front fence was completed in July 2005.

We moved into the home in December 2005, and received a letter from the City that stated they issued the front fence permit in error, and a minor variance would be needed.

We were surprised to receive the notice, because we built a six foot high fence in line with a garage/hobby room per City instructions. Its design was an integral part of the house, with hardscape and softscape design as described in professional building plans. Costs for hardscape, softscape, fences and associated electrical and irrigation were about \$45,000

Furthermore, this fence design was approved at least four times by at least 3 individuals over a 19-month period. The first permit was issued in November of 2003. The second was in November of 2004 via the building drawings submitted by our Designer in December 2003 (Legal Delay). The third was approved about March/April 2005 when an "as-built" set of plans was approved by the City. The forth was approved about May 2005 because the original permit needed renewal (Due a 9-month legal delay).

Five months after wall completion, someone (not the City) complained about the height, and we went through the variance hearing process. The Hearing Officer agreed with the City recommendation of 6 ft as permitted, and the fence height stood. But the process continued. We attended a Planning Commission meeting, and then a Board of Zoning Appeals meeting where the Hearing Officer's ruling was overturned by a 3-2 vote. One of the Commission members indicated that, to his recollection, this was the first time that a revocation action was executed for a project that had prior City permit approval and was already completed.

Only about 5 people out of about 100 neighbors voiced opinions about the fence, and that was after their active recruiting failed to get more people to complain or attend the meetings. We are new to the area and did not consider imposing on anyone to come to the hearings because we do not really know anyone, and we thought that we conformed to the specified Minor Variance Laws (Special conditions and rights denial) and that the City agreed with us.

We did what the City asked and conformed to all their rules. We do not believe that the City can force removal of what they approved to be built. We believe that granting of a minor variance, if needed, is appropriate. We believe that the fence should stand "as is". We are open to some minor modification/landscaping, but disagree with the City's view that they made a mistake, but that we have to pay for correcting it.

We feel mistreated and need to talk with one of the council members for resolution, and request that this issue be placed on the Council agenda for discussion. We hope that our 5-month long stress can be resolved now and not proceed to any further course of action.

Respectfully,

Walt and Polly Dennis

CC: V. Gordo, S. Haderlein, C. Holden, P. Little, S. Madison, J. Streater, S. Taylor

Petition Signatures



We think that the development at 1149 Wotkyns Drive was an enhancement to the neighborhood. This includes the front fence that was permitted and approved by the city in the spring/summer of 2005. We think that the fence should stand as presently built.

Name

Address

Elada Siller

1166 A anoya B. Pao. Ca 91/23 11 Riddand Blace 9/103

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Name

Jeff Byen

Address

717 EUE KIS ST PASAORAA, CA. 91103

June, 2006

To the City of Pasadena,

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Name

Michael & Joan Maistern

Address

1145 Wot Kyns Dr. Passlona, CA 91103

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Name

Address

John J. Kenneely owner of 681 Westgate Paradena, CA 91103

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Name Tra Salburay

Jun Kowi

1151 Armada Drive

RMELLE KONDY 11935 Soluta KOND

Johnson 1223 Solita Road Johnson 1223 Solita Road Solubar 1223 Solita Road

June, 2006

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Name

Address

Angle Briles Jayne Bailey

1604 N. Arroyo Blud. Basadera 91103 1604 7). Arroyo Blud. Jasadera 91103

June, 2006

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Name

Parlene Tave

Address

1148 WOTKeyns D.R. PASAlena 9110:

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Name,

Address

1240 N. arrayo Blod 1193 SaiTA FO, Rosadom, CA 1103

Nathamed Ofuel Anthony KARIMI

June, 2006

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Address 594 W. Whohingho-

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Name Jessie Handy

Address 1242 Solita 1199 FOREST AUE

June, 2006

To the City of Pasadena,

Etta Goods

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Name

1661 En Cresto Dr. Pers 9113

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Name

Address

Mil Com Geston - 1770 N. Francy o Blod

Thisly Willow Prestor 1170 N. A CROGO BIVS. Par. Ch.

All Solito Rd. Residence, 91103

Sherry Jones 708 Del Monte Se gusadena 91103

Dall Homefton 1250 A Ray ADA DR

Jesse Sims 701 Enate 24.

Jame Gerenn 1190 G. arrays M. Panider 91103

Valle Gerenn 1190 G. arrays M. Panider 91103

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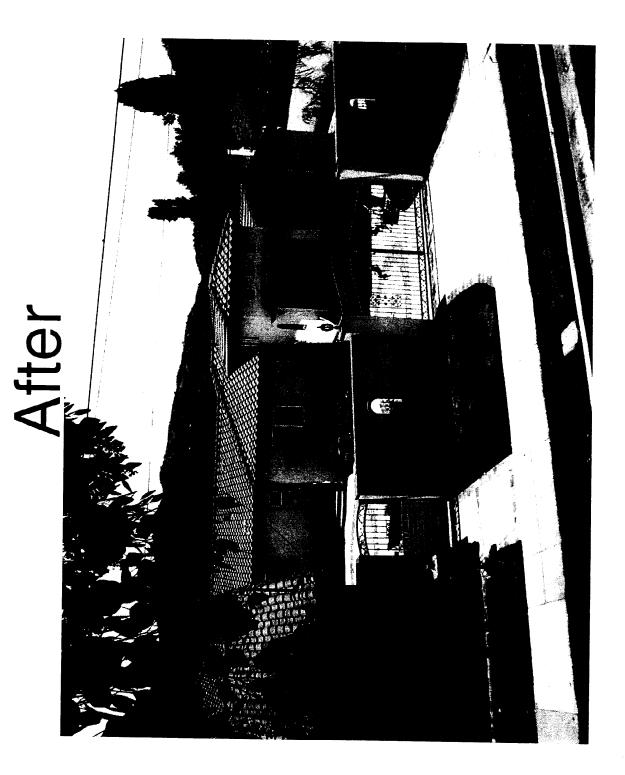
Address

Allie L. Almore-Randle 1710 La Cresta Dr. Allie L. Almore-Randle Pasadeur, CA 91103 Magnet Deux 1127WOTKNY DR

## 1149 Wotkyns Drive

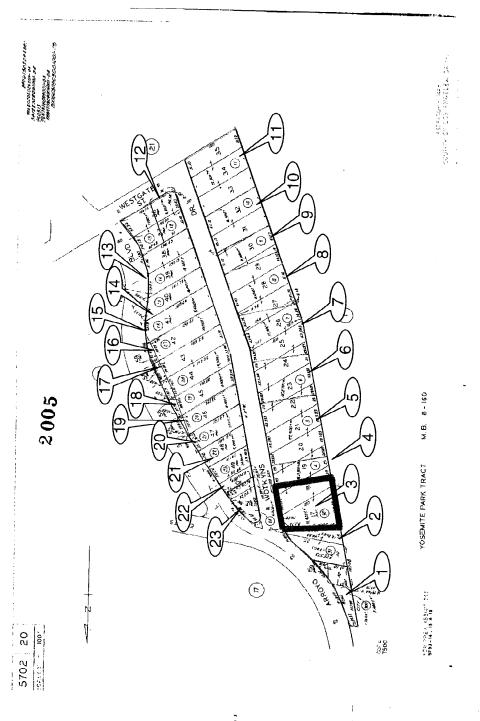


### Before



## The Neighborhood

County of Los Angeles: Rick Auerbach, Assessor



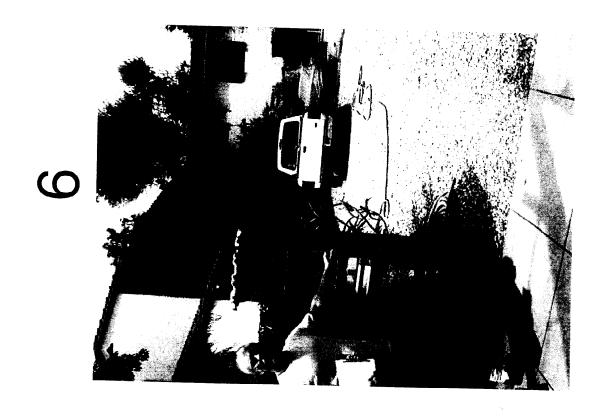




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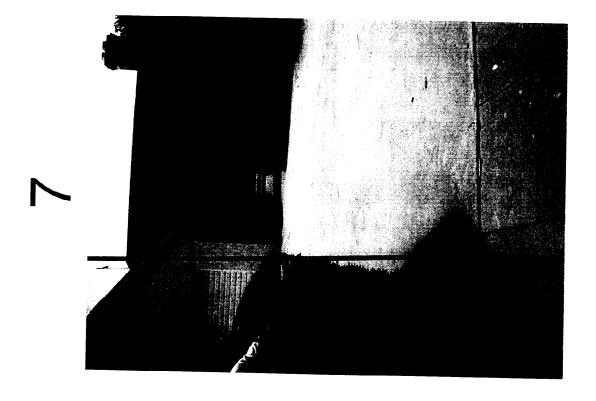




















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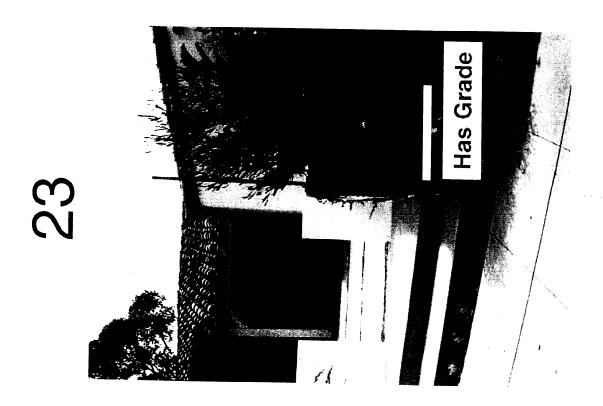




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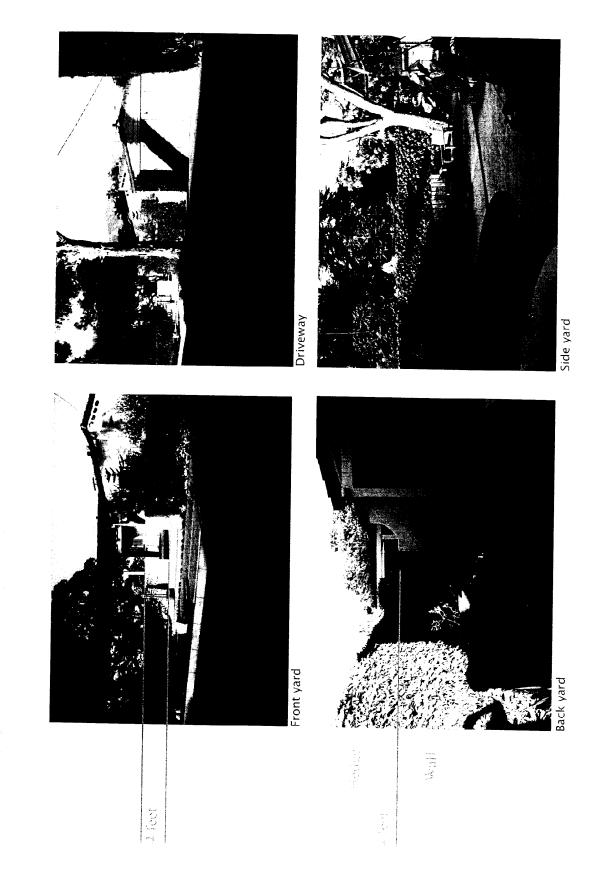




# A request for code consistency

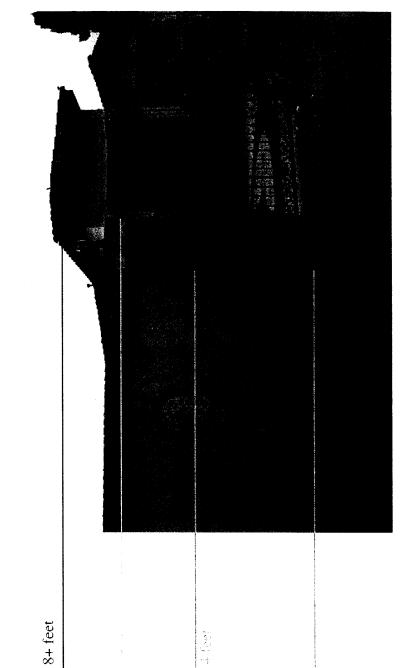
Cara Crosetti and Scott Wallin, 1150 Wotkyns Drive, Pasadena, CA, 626-676-5342

07/31/2006 6.A. 7:30 p.m. Handout by Cara Crosetti



## Beyond six feet

- Exceeds four-foot permit guidelines
  - Exceeds six-foot variance guidelines



# Do you want to set a precedent?

