

## **Dela Cruz, Jeff**

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**From:** Ellie Davis <elliedav1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 09, 2017 5:55 PM  
**To:** PRC  
**Subject:** Project 3020338; Madison Valley permit issues

Hello,

As a resident of Madison Valley for 37 years, we have watched the neighborhood change and grow over the years.

One of the landmarks for us and our family has always been City People's Garden Store on Madison. It has brought beauty and neighborhood support as well as a gathering place for those of us who take pride in our gardens and property. There has been ample parking and the quality of products and good available has continued to appeal to a wide group of people eager to support our neighborhood and respect the land on which the property lies.

We recognize change happens and because we have taken pride in keeping up our own property, bringing change to the neighborhood back from our early days here in 1985. It is with regret but clear eyed, we acknowledge good things do come to an end, but the sale of City People's Garden Store does not mean we welcome a proposed building that includes destruction of the fragile hill side plus disruption to the "vibe" the neighborhood has come to know and respect.

The current revised building/design plan would bring traffic into the area that is currently a slow slog often. The commercialization on the scale proposed would alter the spirit of one of Seattle's older and charming areas with the arboretum opposite and existing small independent shops. Crowding, traffic and the proposed height of the building, especially the rear side of the building, Dewey St., out of scale. Have you been down Dewy behind City People's? Can you imagine the clog, chaos, house values falling plus the risk of environmental danger with your proposal? Just next street over was the scene of a woman who drowned in her own basement with the exceptional rainfall several years ago. Yes, I know there is a basin on 30th, nicely planted, graded for walking the trails there. Ofcourse houses had to be bought/destroyed to make that happen. It is a good thing and we all appreciate it in Madison Valley.

But we do not see a plan, design, proposal for the City People's property sale that honors and respects what we have valued and continue to support and take pride in our low-key urban/neighborhood lifestyle. What has been proposed is off the scale of the neighborhood, would result in traffic congestion, which is already an issue for vehicles attempting to enter the Arboretum and head east on 520.

I don't know the answer, but I do know what has been proposed appears to destroy our neighborhood.

We welcome a solid plan for the property and the future building that will replace City People's as

we know it now.

It is not from a "pull up the bridge" point of view I write to you. Change happens. Change can be good, but just change to make the biggest buck for the square foot is alien to what I value in Seattle and the diversity of the neighborhood and its commercial base.

Thanks for reading.

Ellie Davis