

To The City of Pembroke Pines:

We are appealing the decision rendered by the Vice Chairman of the board, James Ryan, during the last meeting, who voted NOT to allow us to widen our driveway for handicap purposes. Our reasons for needing a 5% and 2% increase were grossly misunderstood, distorted, and mischaracterized by Ryan.

We need a larger driveway and walkway to accommodate wheel chair and handicap vehicle accessibility. The current driveway and walkway does not permit the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of our home for the handicap resident and, subsequently, all residents. The handicap person, my mother, has to be carried to and from her vehicle currently. The door of her vehicle cannot open when there is a 2nd car in the driveway. The constant shifting of cars and parking is a hardship to my family and four children. Also, when we bought the home, the city allowed for this size driveway. Additionally, we are trying to alleviate the flooding that occurs by replacing the concrete driveway with brick pavers. Furthermore, we do not have any handicap parking in our guest spots or anywhere in our community. There is not a single place for a handicap person to park.

During the last meeting, James Ryan stated that these issues were of our own making, that my mother would not be there long anyway, and we are storing junk cars by having that many cars. His insinuated that because we have too many children we wanted to park all of the cars in front of our house, even though we clearly stated that we are seeking a 3 car driveway only. We had to defend our family, our religion, and our culture of caring for our parents rather than the actual variance we were seeking. He did not consider ADA compliance or accessibility. He stated to every petitioner the same words, "This seems like a problem of your own making." It seemed he had preconceived notion that he carried through the whole meeting rather than considering the variances on an individual basis.

This process has now cost us extended undue hardship and money. Mr. Ryan, the only one to vote No, has denied me the right to the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of my home while simultaneously attacking my family status, religious beliefs, ethnicity, and culture.

We humbly implore the commission to allow us to appeal his decision on our variances.

Regards,

Adrian and Kerry Jagdeosingh