

Sarah Sterry

8/18/2023

To the City of Sunnyvale Planning Staff,

We are the neighbors of Scott, Tracy, and their two children.

The final construction of a work-from-home-office or dwelling unit built in their backyard has not caused any disruption to our household. This structure is adjacent to our fence and does not block any meaningful view; therefore, not creating any distraction or hindrance.

Simply, this structure has little to no impact on our lives. Scott and Tracy should not be required to modify their new office space.

Sincerely,

The tenants of [REDACTED]

Sarah Sterry



Joey Gross



Brett Wittmuss



Dane Huesby



August 17, 2023

To the City of Sunnyvale

Dear Madam/Sir,

My name is Jasper Tran and my wife is Chi Ly. We live right behind Scott and Tracy McClennan's house that is located at 160 S Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale, California.

We are writing to support Scott and Tracy McClennan keep their backyard studio office.

We had no problem when Scott and Tracy were building the backyard studio nor we have any problem with them using it now.

The structure does not cause us any problems or impede our views and again that we are supportive of them keeping it as a studio office

Please feel free to contact us if the city has any questions.

Sincerely,



Jasper Tran



Chi Ly



8/15/2023

To Sunnysvale City Planning Staff.

We are the homeowners and residents of [REDACTED] We are writing in support of the backyard office pod that was built by our next door neighbor at 160 South Pastoria Ave. We approve of the structure as is and do not find that its height or location negatively impacts the use or enjoyment of our own or surrounding properties. The structure is an attractive improvement of the property at 160 South Pastoria. We also prefer that it be located near the back of the property and not further forward where it would block the views from side windows of the neighboring houses.

We agree with homeowners Scott and Tracy that the office pod is a reasonable size required to provide a comfortable working space. Slightly modifying or lowering the roof would significantly impact the usefulness of the structure without providing any real or additional benefit to surrounding homes/neighbors.

Thank you for considering our perspectives.

Sincerely,

Steven and Rachel Nishimoto

Handwritten signatures of Steven and Rachel Nishimoto. The signature for Steven is a stylized, cursive 'S' followed by 'Nishimoto'. The signature for Rachel is a cursive 'R' followed by 'Nishimoto'.

From: [Steven Robert Burke](#)
To: [Robby Miller](#)
Subject: Re: Pln-2023-0642
Date: Friday, December 1, 2023 5:00:40 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

WARNING - This email came from an EXTERNAL source. Confirm the sender and its contents are safe before responding, opening attachment or links.

Hi Robby,

Appreciate that you are reaching out. Distance from main house on same property is not the issue i am concerned about. The four corners of the other three adjoining lots are the potential issue If other owners elect to do the same thing..the corner would be quite congested.

Second potential issue is given that you will be setting precedent, should we also expect to see backyards populated with other structures...an "office," an "art studio," a "yoga room". Just checking that the city has a plan to address this collection of structures in a way that ensures first responders can adequately maneuver in times of crisis without being unnaturally hindered. IMHO, this starts to feel more like an organic growth of a maze of unplanned sheds scattered about.

A desire for more square footage can be addressed strategically and owners should be encouraged to seek alternatives like basements as Palo Alto has shown. If you are relieving the FAR (or whatever measurement restricts land use), then perhaps larger dwellings can be allowed, instead of having a loose collection of disassociated building.

Thanks for taking my comment.

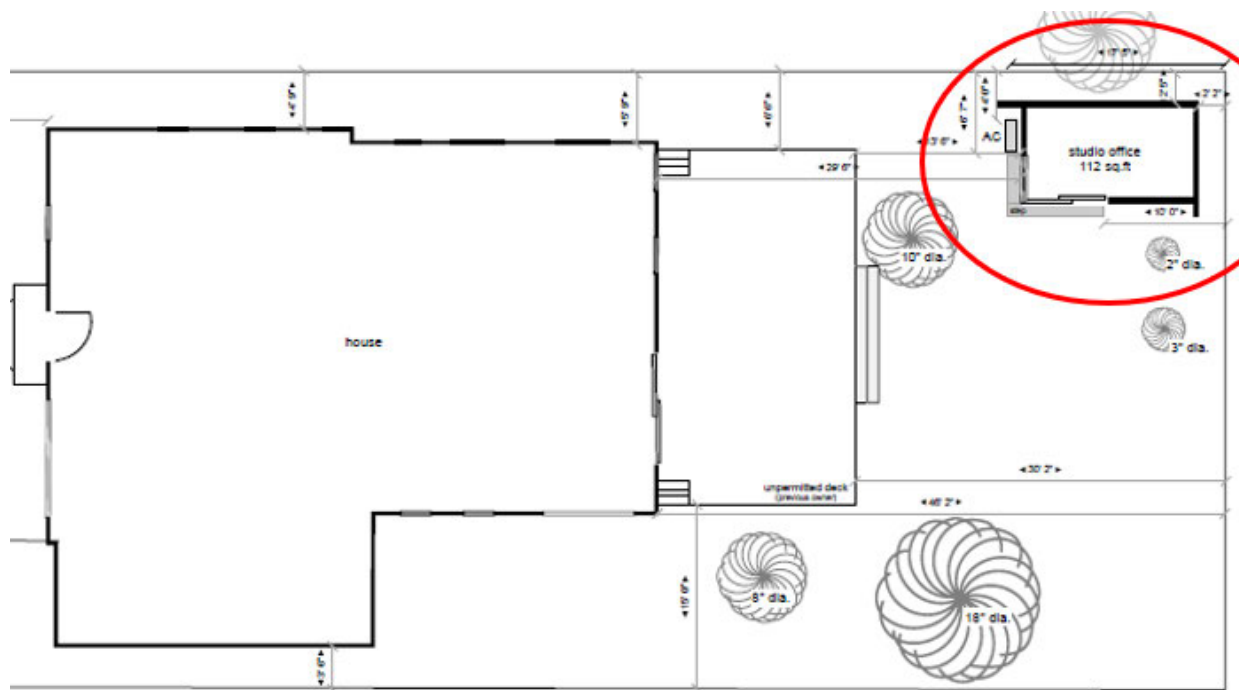
Steve

On Nov 29, 2023, at 4:58 PM, Robby Miller <RMiller@sunnyvale.ca.gov> wrote:

Mr. Burke,

The application was denied by our Zoning Administrator this afternoon, however, there is a 15-day appeal period.

I have a follow up question to your comment: The small detached structure is in the northeast corner of the lot and pretty far away from the main house (see image below). Does the structure and setbacks still concern you?



Best,

ROBERT "ROBBY" MILLER, AICP (Pronouns: he/him/his)

Associate Planner

Community Development Department

Phone: 408-730-7429

From: Steven Robert Burke

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:17 PM

To: Robby Miller

Subject: Pln-2023-0642

WARNING - This email came from an EXTERNAL source. Confirm the sender and its contents are safe before responding, opening attachment or links.

Hi Robby,

Please DO NOT approve this reduced setback. The fire guys really need room in case of fire to bring in necessary equipment and not be encumbered with everything they wear.

Thanks, Steve



Public Comment

Name: Yu Ma

Address: [REDACTED] (rear diagonal neighbor)

On March 26, 2024, staff received a call from the property owner of [REDACTED]. They expressed concerns regarding the office location being too close to property lines, height, design, and that it was constructed without benefit of a city issued permit.

On April 12, 2024, an email exchange with the neighbor confirmed these concerns:

From: [Yu Ma](#)
To: [Robby Miller](#)
Subject: Re: Planning Commission Link (PLNG-2023-0642, 160 S Pastoria Av)
Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 1:03:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

WARNING - This email came from an EXTERNAL source. Confirm the sender and its contents are safe before responding, opening attachment or links.

Hi Robby
Thank you so much for reaching me and working on this issue. The summary looks fine to me.

Thank you!
Yu Ma

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From: Robby Miller <RMiller@sunnyvale.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 10:25 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Planning Commission Link (PLNG-2023-0642, 160 S Pastoria Av)

Hi,

I just want to follow up on our call from March 26 and make sure I understand your concerns for the backyard office structure at 160 S Pastoria. To summarize, your concerns are:

- Location of it being so close to your property line
- Overly tall
- Design is not appealing
- Constructed without a city issued permit

Please respond that this summary is accurate and if there is something you want to add. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best,

ROBERT "ROBBY" MILLER, AICP (Pronouns: he/him/his)
Associate Planner
Community Development Department
Phone: 408-730-7429