

Susana and Avi Bogler

30 Franmore Circle, Thornhill, Ontario. L4J3C1. [REDACTED]

April 6, 2021

City of Vaughan, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1.

Office of the City Clerk – Committee of Adjustment

Reference: Minor Variance application A148-20. Louise and Steve Cohen, 34 Franmore Circle

Dear committee members,

We would like to register our strong opposition to the request for a minor variance application, A148-20

We are the owners at 30 Franmore adjacent to the property requesting the variance, and we believe that this request is not minor in nature and has a direct negative impact on us and on our neighbourhood. Mr. and Mrs. Cohen are proposing to build a huge structure, both in size and height (it will be 4 meters in height) which will adversely affect our property. It will cast extended shadows during the day, blocking sunlight, killing our garden and diminishing the enjoyment of our own property. Furthermore, it will decrease the green space and set precedent for allowing the construction of such structures and any other structures in a community that prides itself on maintaining the green space in our lots, which greatly enhances the property values and quality of life on Franmore Circle. This structure was planned without any consideration to its neighbours, neighbourhood character and our community, basically only for their own self interests.

We also have a concern regarding the coverage. This past October, to our dismay, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen proceeded to build the structure with Lumon Inc. without any permit or approval from your committee. We noticed the foundations to the structure were laid. Furthermore, Mr. Cohen asserted that this structure would be built regardless of what any of us will have to say. Several of our neighbours called the city at which point they were ordered to stop construction. The plan from the get go was to build the pool and the structure without permission and knowingly contravene the bylaws in terms of the variance and zoning, not so speak of any good will.

Based on this, we do not trust and feel comfortable with their conduct and we are questioning the veracity of their claim of 39% coverage. Mr. and Mrs. Cohen have also built a pagoda on the South side which would be adjacent to the structure and is permanent. We therefore respectfully request for an independent survey of the proposed site, including the house, existing and proposed structures, to ascertain that it complies with the zoning restrictions.

We are also dismayed with the Cohen's and the letter of support from their Rabbi claiming that it is a "must" to have this structure due to their strict observance of Orthodox law. We are members of the BAYT in Thornhill, one of the largest Orthodox North American Synagogues and at no time have our Rabbis declared that our pools must be covered for modesty. This would mean that many many pools in Thornhill would have to be covered. There are many other ways to deal with modesty issues, as it is done in many other jurisdictions without having to infringe on one's neighbours' peace and well being.

Thank you for your consideration,

[REDACTED]
Abraham (Avi) and Susana Bogler