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At our neighborhood Board meeting on Thursday we discussed your proposal to expand your business space along Western Avenue.

The Association has been trying for many many years to protect and enhance the residential character of the McKownville neighborhood. That is, it wants residences to remain as residences. It wants residential looking buildings to continue to look like residential buildings. It wants those residential buildings that were once used as residences to again be used as residences. It wants the "footprint" of businesses along Western to not expand.

Your proposal moves the neighborhood in a totally different direction: the removal of two residential looking buildings and their replacement with a dental office building, and the expansion in the "footprint" of your business building. This is not acceptable. It did not meet with neighborhood approval when Dr's. Abuhl and Mastrianni wanted to do something similar about 20 years ago. There is no reason to believe that the neighborhood today would feel differently.

We also checked with your neighbors along Westlyn. They concluded that your proposal would not be acceptable.

An alternative that may be attractive to you is to relocate your dental practice to the former "Denny's" site on Western near Schoolhouse Road. The site probably has adequate parking for you (though not for a restaurant) and is likely of sufficient square footage. From the viewpoint of the neighborhood it would be a good reuse for a site that has obviously had problems attracting another user.

Thank you for meeting with Sue Brown and myself.

You stated at our meeting that you wanted to find out upfront whether your proposal would meet with neighborhood resistance and that you had about a year and a half to figure out what to do about relocating your dental practice. I hope this frank assessment will save you much time and money--you are an outstanding dentist and deserve to be treated with respect and forthrightness by the neighborhood. I hope we have done this.

Don Reeb

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