

Shoshana Gourdin and John Wedoff
65 Newbury Street, #2
Somerville, MA 02144

Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals
Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD)
City Hall, 3rd floor
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143
617.625.6600 ext. 2500

August 1, 2016

Members of the board,

My husband and I bought our condominium in Somerville in 2009, excited to be able to purchase our first home within blocks of where we had been renting for years. We loved the easy access to both Davis and Teele Squares, and the short distance to the bike path and the cities along it.

Our love for Somerville and our place in it has grown as our family has. Our son has been our prompt to explore the parks and playgrounds, and we have been increasingly appreciative of the wide range of entertainment all around us.

Adding an additional person to our family has made us realize how much we appreciate having our bedroom on the top floor of our unit, away from shared spaces like the kitchen and living room. We have all been sharing the top bedroom, and we would like to add a second bedroom on the upper floor to allow us all to grow in comfort.

We are proposing to keep the existing footprint of the building, adding a master bedroom and bathroom in the back. Since our house is on the property line to one side, we are unable to do this within the normal bounds of zoning regulations. We intend to keep the same footprint of the home and match the current exterior for a result that respects what we love while expanding on it. While we suspect it will be many years before we can consistently sleep in peace, we look forward to being here to enjoy it.

Sincerely,

Shoshana Gourdin

John Wedoff