

From: Ryan Wilson <rwilsondfa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 1:02 PM
To: BOSComments
Subject: BOS meeting agenda topic 11
Attachments: Fresno BOS.docx; 5945 N. McCall Parcel - Copy.jpg; Fence 1.jfif; Fence 2.jfif; Fence 3.jfif; Fence 4.jfif

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

Good afternoon,

Attached is a comment I would like to submit regarding the agenda topic number 11. After spending a lot of time writing this comment it was brought to my attention that this topic is for rural urban fences not rural residential properties such as mine. I am still submitting my comment as I think it is relevant to the topic at hand, as noted in my comment.

Thank you for your time,

Ryan Wilson

To: Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Subject: August 4, 2020 Agenda topic number 11- Fence Ordinances

From: Ryan Wilson, Owner of 5945 N. McCall Ave, Clovis, Ca 93619

Date: August 3, 2020

I write this comment regarding the eleventh agenda item of the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting. I am going to attempt to attend the meeting in person to read this aloud at the meeting however due to being on duty the day of the meeting and COVID19 restrictions I don't know if I will be able to.

I live at 5945 N. McCall Ave, Clovis, Ca. In 2017 I removed a dilapidated wooden fence on the north west border of my property. The fence I removed was a 6' tall wooden fence that was an eye sore to say the least. I replaced the wooden fence with a 6' tall chain link privacy fence. I chose this material to match existing fence that I had on my property and fences in the surrounding area. My intention when I built the fence was to improve the aesthetics of the property, security of the property, and design the gate for safe egress. The fence itself is 273' long with a 25' wide gate. The gate is set back 51' from the nearest white shoulder marking of Bullard Ave. This was done with the intention of providing safe entry and exit into the back of my property when I am pulling a trailer and for emergency equipment such as fire engines, water tenders, utility trucks, etc. As a career firefighter myself, I based some of this on our largest piece of equipment which is a truck with a 105' ladder, this apparatus is 43' long and much less than 25' wide. I believe the largest apparatus that would respond to my house in the Fresno County Fire fleet would be approximately the same size. Additionally, I have had a semi-truck successfully pull off and onto Bullard Ave through this gate successfully without impacting any traffic or the safety of any persons. It should be noted that if the county would like, I have no problem adding a KNOX box to my gate for fire department access. Although the simple use of a bolt cutter to remove my pad lock will easily grant access to any emergency apparatus as well (something commonly carried on most fire engines). As for the safety of vehicles stopping on the shoulder next to my fence, county trucks, garbage trucks, and other large vehicles commonly stop next to this fence to use the shade provided by the large trees inside of my fence. When these vehicles are parked next to my fence they are safely off the road, can enter and exit their vehicles, and do not impact the safety of pedestrians or passing by cars.

The fence in question is approx. 350' from the intersection of McCall and Bullard. As seen in the attached picture with the white truck stopped at the stop sign, it is plain to see that my fence does not have any effect on safety regarding the intersection. The fence, on the long portion which does not include the gate that is set back an additional distance, is approx. 20' from the white shoulder marking and over 30' from the center of Bullard. When I had this fence built, I was told by the contractor that I was required to have the fence 30' from the center of the road. It was my belief at that time that this was the only restriction I had to abide by. I did not intentionally build the fence out of the parameters of the ordinance.

I was notified by Fresno County Public Works and Planning that my fence needs be moved or to have 70% of the privacy slates removed to be within ordinance. I believe that my fence should not be subject to the enforcement of this ordinance for several reasons. 1: The privacy slats in my fence do not completely obscure vision, while driving east bound on Bullard you can see through my fence. 2: There are many fences that are the same throughout the county and do not cause an issue of safety. 3. If I move the fence to the setback, which I was initially told required moving the fence 24' but have since been told 11', it will not improve the safety or visual appeal. It will only cost me money without improving anything for my neighbors or community. 5. It is my understanding that there is direction needed from the board as to whether these type of fence ordinances should be enforced as previously discussed in 2013 and 2014.

I would like to mention that I have reached out to my District 5 Supervisor who forwarded my concern to the public works department. I have also had a very pleasant and ongoing experience with John Adams of the Code Enforcement Unit. All encounters have been professional with the intention of making the outcome of this situation the best for everyone associated with it. John is the one that suggested I attend this meeting.

In conclusion I would like to support the board in the decision to not enforce fence violations such as mine. I genuinely believe that the safety and security of my property and that of my children playing in my back yard will be negatively impacted by me moving or removing my fence. I took great lengths to ensure that the public and traffic would not have any safety concerns when the fence was constructed. The cost associated with any changes, thousands of dollars, would simply be for nothing. I would like to reinforce that this fence does not border my front yard, it borders my back yard where my four young children learn and play, as a father I simply want to keep my children safe and private. As mentioned earlier I have no problem adding a KNOX box for the fire department if that would suffice as a happy medium for a compromise.

After completing this comment, it was brought to my attention that the agenda topic is for the application of fence ordinances in Rural Urban areas not Rural Residential areas such as I live in. The agenda notes that the rules found to govern fences in the RR areas be applied to urban areas. It is my belief that, as mentioned, the confines of said ordinance is not in the best interest of many properties such as mine. I understand that a fence in the corner cut off area of my property, which is 350' away from my fence, should be subjected to the ordinance for the sake of traffic safety. However, my fence is not anywhere near such an area and thus should not be subjected to said 70% of visibility or 3' height restrictions.

Sincerely,

Ryan Wilson

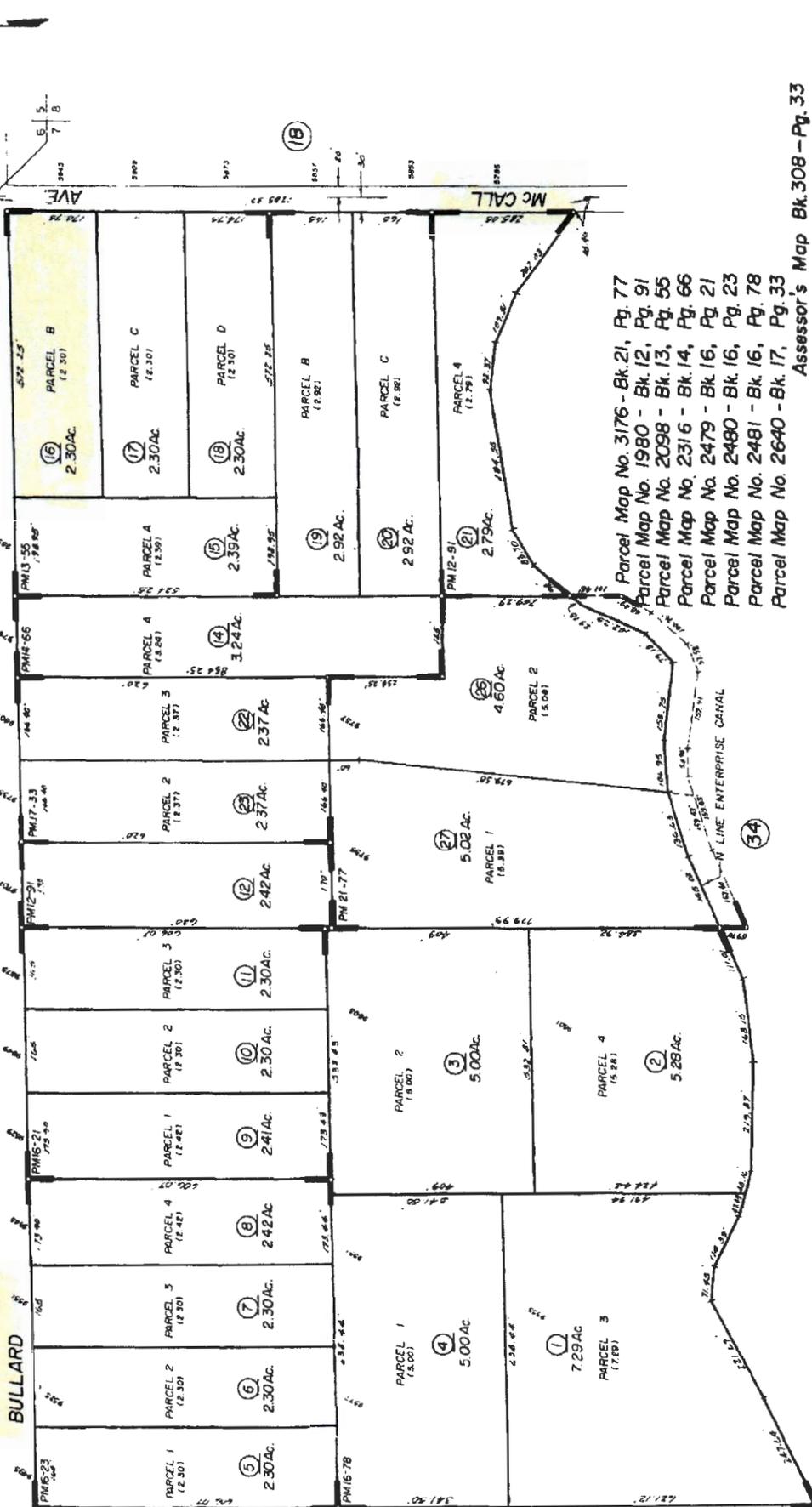
Owner of 5945 N. McCall Ave, Clovis, Ca 93619

Zoning RR

APN: 308-330-16

SUBDIVIDED LAND IN POR. SEC. 7, T.13 S., R.22 E., M.D.B. & M.

NOTE -
This map is for Assessment purposes only.
It is not to be construed as portraying legal
ownership or divisions of land for purposes
of zoning or subdivision law.



Assessor's Map Bk. 308 - Pg. 33
County of Fresno, Calif.

NOTE - Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses.
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles.

ROW WIDTH
53' N/O SECTION
⇒ 30' S/O SECTION c/L ROAD = Plk







