

In our experience, we felt that our clients' neighbors abused the D.R. system. We worked with the neighbors throughout the Sec 311 and Variance processes, made major changes to the project, and they went and filed the D.R. anyway. This cost our client a lot of money in our fees and time.

I talked to some people in my office and these are the suggestions we were thinking:

1. Find ways to minimize the abuses of the D.R.
2. For people who file D.R.'s with ulterior motives, based on greed, envy, bad relations, etc, possibly force them to pay for the subject's property owner's architect fees. Just like a court case where people who abuse the system pay the opponet's attorney's fees.
3. We disagree that D.R.s can be filed for projects that comply with the Planning Code. The City's Planner's have extensive knowledge and training to better judge what shape the city should take.
4. Better define exactly who can file a D.R. in terms of how much they are affected by the project.
5. Better define what is the appropriate use of the D.R.

Thank you very much for considering our ideas.

Sincerely,
Heidi Liebes
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