

**From:** [Andy Newkirk](#)  
**To:** [Andy Newkirk \(anewkirk@cityofgoleta.org\)](mailto:anewkirk@cityofgoleta.org)  
**Subject:** FW: New zoning code on hedge heights  
**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 2:25:00 PM

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**From:** Connie Cornwell [<mailto:conniecornwell@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2019 8:42 AM  
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**Subject:** New zoning code on hedge heights

To all,

I am writing to encourage the city council to approve the new zoning code (17.24.090) for hedge height regulation. As several staff members at the City are well aware (including but not limited to Vyto Adomaitis and Michelle Greene), we have a good example at 830 Serenidad Place of an overgrown, unkempt hedge that is nearing 40 feet tall that the neighbors are unable to do anything about given the City has no code concerning hedge height. Without a code to enforce the hedge height, we on Serenidad Place, have had to endure damage from these overgrown hedges. The house at 840 Serenidad Place have had mold issues and tree and yard damage due to the hedges being so tall they block the sunlight. The house at 820 Serenidad Place has had numerous large branches fall on the roof and fence damage from the oversize hedge pushing over the fence. As the owner of 830 Serenidad Place refuses to trim the hedges, the bordering neighbors have had to spend thousands of dollars trimming the large branches in order to protect their properties. Now the hedges are so tall that tree companies are unable to reach the high overhanging branches that threaten our property. In addition, these hedges block the view of the hillside where we have had two fires. They also block the view of people backing out of their driveways. I also contend that these hedges are a fire hazard, given they are totally unkempt and now include all sorts of different plants. The owner also does not clear the dead leaves at the base of the hedges, which also creates a fire hazard. A zoning code controlling hedge heights would protect neighbors from an abusive, uncaring neighbor and address safety issues. I encourage you to drive by 830 Serenidad Place to see for yourselves the ridiculous height of the hedges. Please adopt this code so the City has the means to deal with this huge problem.

Respectfully,

Connie Cornwell  
820 Serenidad Place