## Questions You Might Have That Documents in **2010** and **2015** Answer **– 2016 on Next 2 Pages**

2010\_Plat\_Showing\_House\_Storage\_Building\_Fence\_Lines\_Going\_into\_1914\_Klauke\_Court  
You can see 2 fence lines flowing into 1914 Klauke—meaning 3 houses flow into it, with the 2 on the right being worse.

### 2015\_0529\_Documents\_for\_Protest\_Meeting\_with\_FBCAD\_Appraiser

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| **Questions You Might Have That This Document Answers** | **Attachment #** |
| **In 12/2010 when we purchased the house, was the house undesirable?**  HAR webpage showing price reduced from $125,000 to $114,900 on 09/29/2010--and it still did not sell. To sell, the owner lowered the price by $1500 more based on “Immediate Safety Issues.” | Attachment 1, 2, 3 (issues from the inspector) |
| **Before purchase in the last week of 2010, was there flooding on this property?**   * Prior to purchase, we had an inspector examine the property. He identified a number of safety issues and shoddy methods of amateur construction. He also identified flooding issues (marked with the word *flooding* at item (1) and item (12). (A PDF of Brookside Inspection Report is available.) | Attachment 3 |
| * He identified flooding on the right side of the house in a separate building containing an air-conditioned area with 2 other storage areas. A picture in the realtor’s photographs showed water in front of that building. | Attachment 8, top |
| * In answer to a direct question about flooding, the owner wrote “this house has never flooded in the past.” His word choice later had a lot of meaning. | Attachment 15 |
| **After living in the house, were there signs that flooding had occurred at the property?**   * Left side of the house, 2 French drains to the street—but they did the drains incorrectly. * Back of the separate building, a large pile of bricks which were previously used as a dam according to a neighbor—but unsuccessfully as the Brookside Inspection report showed. To walk to the gate without walking in water, we used those bricks to make a walkway. | Attachment 8, bottom |
| **After purchase, when were the first floods?**   * During 2011, water came in repeatedly into the separate building and to the house itself. It also came once into the house itself--into the den next to the patio. * Beginning in 2012, we had a drainage person work (recommended by 2 people) and also had gutters put on. Until the weather changed, it looked like the problems were solved. |  |
| **When did the flooding become a repeated challenge?** The flooding resumed, but this time I began taking time-stamped pictures to figure out what was going on.   * 4/18/2015 and 5/26/2015, the water was enough in the separate building that it knocked over barrels and rose as shown on the cinder blocks * 5/21/2015--left side of the house, water overflowing drainage pipes on 3 sides of the patio * 5/21/2015 and 5/26/2015—right side, moat (by fence) and water **in** the separate building * 5/21/2015—front, water a yard-wide flowing to the street | Attachment 11  Attachment 7  Attachment 10  Attachment 9 |
| **What did I discover over the fence and in the backyards of my neighbors? (Still true May 2017)**   * Left and right sides, their land is **higher** than 1914 Klauke. * Left side, wet land and grasses near the fence that look so high they cannot be mowed. * Right side, a water garden next to the fence (Also have a picture of water just flowing from under that fence.) | Attachment 14  Attachment 13 |
| **How much money has flooding cost in this period through the 2015 protest? $12,150** | Attachment 4 |

### 2015\_0529\_FBCAD\_Appraiser\_**LOWERED**\_value

This appraiser lowered the value of the property, said the time-stamped pictures helped my case, and kept the pictures for his supervisor. He said to bring **estimates** to a protest—a repair paid **before** the protest did **not** count against **value**.[[1]](#footnote-1)

## Questions You Might Have That Documents in **2016** Answer

In the period between the May 2015 hearing and my understanding that I needed to have estimates before the 2016 hearing, I tried to do things as cheaply as possible and to test what could actually work. **Because of my experience with the FBCAD Appraiser in 2015:**

1. I used the **same** **kind** of document for the 2016 protest that I had made before with the time-stamped pictures.
2. I tried to get estimates for everything needed to try to stop the flooding and for leftover repairs identified from the Brookside Inspection and new problems developing (such as lead pipes corroding and leaking.)
3. My years of time-stamped videos combined with talking with one vendor showed that solving the flooding from my neighbors would not end all of the flooding. **Why? The patio and house are lower than the back of the yard.**

### 2016\_0608\_Documents\_for\_Protest\_Meeting\_with\_FBCAD\_Appraiser

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| **Questions You Might Have That This Document Answers** | **Attachment #** |
| **Did I offer time-stamped pictures of why flooding of 1914 Klauke is UNLIKE other houses in the neighborhood?** Yes | Attachment 2, 3 |
| **Did I offer time-stamped pictures of flooding in 2016 showing the problems continued to be dangerous?** Yes, flooding on 5/19/201**6**, with equivalent pictures for 4/18/201**6** and 4/24/201**6.** | Attachment 4, 5 |
| **Did I provide time-stamped pictures of each problem and ESTIMATES of repairs to solve it?**   * Yes, I did have time-stamped pictures of the problems to be solved in the document and bids in a separate folder. * However, I tried to show him the time-stamped pictures (as had been the process with the appraiser in 2015). The experience in 2016 was so different from the one in 2015 and so negative that I forgot to hand him the folder of bids.   His only issue was the “Comparable Sales Report.” | Attachment 6, 7, 8, 9, 10  See next page. |
| **Are there other time-stamped pictures in the document that reveal the level of this flooding in the 2015-2016 period?**   * 5/19/2016 and 5/20/2016 – water pooling in shrubs on the back wall of the house. The curved shallow trenches are where I took a hoe and made the trenches to take the water to a catch basin. The slope is so low that water flows **to** the house from the backyard. * 4/18/2016, 5/27/2016, and 5/28/2016, water flows on the patio **to** the back door. In desperation on 5/28, I piled old sheets and towels (ones used in the winter around plants) at the door and continued to wring them out * 5/15/2016 and 5/16/2016, water was so high coming in at the intersection of the neighbor on the right’s fence and the Klauke fence that I tried using a hoe to make a trench to carry water to the sump pump and then tried leftover black plastic to make it flow without mud. * 4/18/2016 – measurement told me that the water on the patio was also coming from the gutters and I needed to repair the gutters. This is one of many examples of the rate the water was dumping off the gutters. I came out in the morning to see the previously emptied bin and tub full and gurgling from the rain. (I used the tub so I could measure volume but be able to lift it so I could pour out the water at the sump pump.) | Attachment 6  Attachment 7  Attachment 8  Attachment 9 |
| **How much money has flooding cost from the hearing in May 2015 to the date of the hearing June 2016?** $1394 (labor in addition to mine) + $1125.84 (materials) = **$2,519.84**  **How much money has flooding cost AFTER the Appraiser refusing to look at estimates in June 2016 through Summer 2016?** $1880 (labor in addition to mine, especially with digging in black clay) + $1765 (retaining wall to stop neighbors’ water) + $752.33 (5” gutters, more flashing near brick fireplace, 2nd downspout) + $880 ( brick/mortar repair) + $917.34 (generator upfront costs) + $9900 (generator, done by going in debt) =  **$16,094.67**  For why the generator is essential, see page 10 of the attached “Quick Tour…” | Receipts available (If helpful, there are additional receipts for gravel, sod, materials estimated at over $500.) |
| To O’Conner & Associates, I can provide the receipts for numbers above and I can find the receipts on the right. | |

### 2016\_0608\_FBCAD\_Appraiser\_**REFUSED\_to\_look\_**at\_Damage\_to\_Property\_Value\_OR\_ESTIMATES\_for\_Proposed\_Repairs

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| **Questions You Might Have That This Document Answers** | **Page #** |
| **What did I check as the cause of the protest?** I checked Other and wrote “Essential, expensive repairs that—if not done—lower safety & value” | Page 1 |
| **What did the appraiser write?**  This appraiser stated that “PlO [P/O?] DID NOT MARK ANY BOX. TALKED ABOUT MARKET ONLY.” | Page 1 |
| **What did the appraiser talk about?** His only issue was the “Comparable Sales Report.”  Not provable obviously, but he seemed to be very perplexed. | Last page |

**What happened next?** I had planned to go to a protest hearing. I changed my mind and canceled for 2 reasons:

1. When I made the appointment, the clerk told me to prepare by using the Comptroller’s video linked from the FBCAD website. I used that video and downloaded the audio transcripts as well and began searching every part of the FBCAD website. My **layperson’s** view was that **FBCAD** did **not** follow **the Comptroller’s rules** on:
   1. **Lowering value** from **damages** that cause “**adverse impact on the value**” of property.
   2. Accepting **evidence such as “receipts**” for repairs to lower value. — In contrast, FBCAD’s appraisers **say** that FBCAD requires “estimates” at the hearing and does **not** count any repair paid for **before** that hearing.
2. When I ran searches on the Internet on what other people were encountering at FBCAD, my negative experience in 2016 seemed to be the way things are at FBCAD. Protesting would be more waste of a citizen-taxpayer’s time.

### 2016\_0620\_Info\_to\_FBCAD\_Re\_Their\_**Not\_Following\_Comptroller\_Rules**\_on\_**Adverse\_Impact**\_**OR**\_on\_Their\_**Requirement\_for\_Estimates**\_Pre-Approved\_By\_Them

In the past, I have seen **organizations change** when they were **1st politely confronted with evidence** and**, 2nd** if needed, **they knew a regulator or the public could know.** I asked a customer service rep for help to find the information above at the FBCAD website. She asked an appraiser who explained that a repair didn’t count if it improved the value of the property (a standard argument by FBCAD?). I responded that I was not clear enough and offered to type what I was looking for. She said she’d ask an appraiser. I faxed it, there was silence in my calls back**,** and **I have** **not yet done step 2**.

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| **Questions You Might Have That This Document Answers (Including screen prints)** | **Location** |
| **What research approach did I try?** See the FYI and descriptions in the 2nd column of the table. | Fax cover page |
| **Where is the Comptroller’s video “How to Present Your Case at an Appraisal Review Board Hearing – A Homeowners Guide.”?** In June 2016, it was under the Help subtab called Property Tax Videos. | Attachment 2, top for details |
| **How does the FBCAD website contradict the Comptroller’s video?** Overview of the 6 issues  Labels on the screen print explain what I mean by “audio script” (which has more detail) and “slide.” | Attachment 1  Attachment 3 |
| * Issue 1 on damages and “**adverse impact on the value the appraisal district placed on your home,**” with copies of sections from the Comptroller’s video and where to find them. | Attachment 2 |
| * Issue 2 on pictures as evidence - The Comptroller’s slide includes “photos” as evidence. | Attachment 4,5 |
| * Issue 3 on “estimates” must be approved before doing the repair or the $s do **not** count   On slide 22, Comptroller’s video lists “**receipts** for repairs” on its **Evidence Checklist**.  A *receipt* is **after** payment (Definitions for *receipt* and *estimate* as a footnote) | Attachment 5  Attachment 1 |
| * Issue 4 on *estimates* being required at the hearing On slide 13, Comptroller’s video in the **audio script** uses the word *estimates* with the word ***if***. On slide 14, Comptroller’s video on the **slide** uses the word *estimate* in an***either/or*** structure | Attachment 3  Attachment 4 |
| * Issue 5 on the Comptroller’s video saying fire was an example of “adverse impact.” If fire is, then why not **provable** flooding? (If FBCAD wants an appraisal as well as pictures, say that.) | Attachment 2 |
| * Issue 6 on the Comptroller’s video saying nothing about waiting for repairs until after the protest. If FBCAD does this, why not provide a way for them to approve **immediate** repairs? | Attachment 1, bottom |
| How FBCAD’s website could help citizen-taxpayers know about **“adverse impact”** and about **estimates** being approved **1st** and help appraisers avoid confusing citizen-taxpayers | Attachment 6 |

1. FBCAD’s position does not seem to match the Comptroller’s video of instructions to homeowners. See the attachment 2016\_0620\_Info\_to\_FBCAD\_Re\_Their\_Not\_Following\_Comptroller\_Rules\_on\_Adverse\_Impact\_OR\_on\_Their\_Requirement\_for\_Estimates\_Pre-Approved\_By\_Them [↑](#footnote-ref-1)