

# UPDATED AMENDED AGENDA **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** MEETING OF THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017, AT 9:00 A.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS **CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE**

Located on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees People

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** 

**CONSENT AGENDA** 

**READING OF MINUTES** 

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** 

Workshop

1.

# DEFERRED TO AUGUST 10, 2017

Risk Management Approach: Crystal Pool and Wellness Centre Replacement Project (Report to Follow) --T. Soulliere, Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities

[Addenda]

# LAND USE MATTERS

2.

Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036 for 1479 Fort Street (Rockland) --J. Tinney, Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development

> A report providing information and recommendations regarding the Development Permit Application to increase the number of self-contained units within the rental apartment from eight to nine for the property located at 1479 Fort Street.

> Recommendation: That Council after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion: "That Council authorize the issuance of a Development Permit Application No. 00036 for 1479 Fort Street, in accordance with: 1. Plans date stamped June 8, 2017. 2. Development meeting all Zoning Regulation Bylaw requirements, except for the following variances: i. Reduce the required parking stalls from twelve to six, increasing the existing non-conformity by two stalls. ii. Reduce the setback from a street

7 - 23

Page

for an accessory building from 7.50m to 6.47m. iii. Reduce the separation space between an accessory building and the principle building from 2.40m to 1.50m. 3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution."

1\_Report\_DPwV 1479 Fort Street

2\_Attachment\_Subject Map

3\_Attachment\_Aerial Map

4\_Attachment\_Plans dated June 8, 2017

5\_Attachmnet\_Letter from Applicant to Mayor

3.

Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 Fairfield Road (Fairfield)

25 - 77

--J. Tinney, Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development

A report providing information and recommendations regarding a proposed Development Variance Permit Application to subdivide the existing lot and construct three single-family dwellings.

<u>Recommendation:</u> That Council after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion: "That Council authorize the issuance of development Permit application No. 00193 for 1421 Fairfield Road, in accordance with: 1. Plans date stamped June 23, 2017. 2. Development meeting all Zoning Regulation Bylaw requirements, except for the following variances: <u>Proposed Lot F:</u> a. Part 1.2.5 (a): Reduce the front setback from 7.5m to 6.2m; b. Part 1.2.5 (b): Reduce the rear setback from 7.5m to 3.5m. 3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution. This authorization is conditional on the property being subdivided into three strata lots generally in accordance with the subdivision application dated April 29, 2016."

<u>1\_Report\_Development Variance Permit 1421 Fairfield Rd</u>
 <u>2\_Attachment\_Subject Map</u>
 <u>3\_Attachment\_Aerial Map</u>
 <u>4\_Attachment\_Plans date stamped June 23, 2017</u>
 <u>5\_Attachment\_Ltr from applicant to Mayor and Council dated April 24, 2017</u>
 <u>6\_Attachment\_September 8, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes</u>
 <u>7\_Attachment\_Ltr from the Fairfield Gonzales CALUC, dated May 19, 2017</u>

4. Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00033 for 1421 79 - 84 Fairfield Road (Fairfield)

--J. Tinney, Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development

A report providing information and recommendations regarding a Development Permit with Variances Application for two panhandle lots required for the subdivision of the property. (For attachments see Item No. 4)

<u>Recommendation:</u> That Council, after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion: "That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit Application No. 00033 for 1421 Fairfield Road, in accordance with: 1. Plans date stamped June 23, 2017. 2. Development meeting all Zoning Regulation requirements, except for the following variances: <u>Proposed Lot D:</u> I. Schedule H(3)(a): Increase the height from 5.00. to 6.66m. ii. Schedule H(3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 1.5. <u>Proposed Lot E</u>: i. Schedule H(3)(a): Increase the height from 5.00m to 7.01m. ii. Schedule H(3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 1.5. 3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution. This authorisation is conditional on the property being subdivided into three strata lots generally in accordance with the subdivision application dated April 29, 2016.

1\_Report\_Development Permit with Variances 1421 Fairfield Rd

# **STAFF REPORTS**

5.

Enforcement Update on Cannabis-Related Businesses --C. Coates, City Clerk

A report providing information on enforcement processes with respect to gaining compliance with cannabis-related businesses.

Recommendation: That Council receive this report for information.

<u>1\_Report\_Enforcement Update on Cannabis-Related Businesses</u>
 <u>2 Attachment\_Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw</u>

6. Urban Deer --C. Coates, City Clerk

> A report providing information and recommendations regarding an update on the status of urban deer management strategies within the region, funding opportunities, and implications of examining the problem in Victoria.

Late item: Presentation

# <u>Recommendation:</u> That Council receive this report for information

<u>1\_Report\_Urban Deer</u> <u>2\_Appendix A Lessons Learned\_Oak Bay Deer Management Pilot</u> <u>3\_Late\_Presentation\_Urban Deer</u>

[Addenda]

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

85 - 94

95 - 119

# **NEW BUSINESS**

7.

Endorsing the We Speak Translate project and training City of Victoria 121 - 125 Frontline Staff

--Councillor Loveday and Mayor Helps

A Council Member motion providing information and recommendations regarding the We Speak Translate program.

#### Late Item: Appendix

<u>Recommendations:</u> 1. That Council endorse the We Speak Translate program and that the Mayor writes to partner municipalities in the CRD to inform them of the We Speak Translate program. 2. That the We Speak Translate initiative be brought forward to the South Island Prosperity Project as part of the Smart South Island Plan soon getting underway. 3. That Council and all staff in the Engagement Department receive the 45 minute training as soon as practicable. 4 That Council direct staff to report back at the next Quarterly Update on the implications of the Human Resources Department coordinating with the Intercultural Association to have the ICA provide 45-minute We Speak Translate training sessions to all frontline service delivery staff.

<u>1\_Report\_We Speak Translate Motion</u> <u>2\_Late\_Appendix\_Google We Speak Translate ICA summer</u> <u>trainings.2017</u>

[Addenda]

#### ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

#### CONVENE COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION TO CLOSE THE JULY 20, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

That Council convene a closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 90 of the Community Charter for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Sections 90(1) and/or (2) of the Community Charter, namely:

- <u>Section 90(1)(c)</u> labour relations or other employee relations;
- <u>Section 90(1)(e)</u> the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

# APPROVAL OF CLOSED AGENDA

**READING OF CLOSED MINUTES** 

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** 

#### CORRESPONDENCE

# **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Land --P. Rantucci, Head of Strategic Real Estate
- 2. <u>Late Item:</u> Employee Relations --Mayor Helps

[Addenda]

# **CONSIDERATION TO RISE & REPORT**

# ADJOURNMENT



Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

То:	Committee of the Whole	Date:	July 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2017
From:	Jonathan Tinney, Director, Sustainable Plannin	g and Con	nmunity Development
Subject:	Development Permit with Variances Applica 1479 Fort Street	tion No. 0	0036 for

# RECOMMENDATION

That Council after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit Application No. 00036 for 1479 Fort Street, in accordance with:

- 1. Plans date stamped June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- 2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:
  - i. Reduce the required parking stalls from twelve to six, increasing the existing non-conformity by two stalls
  - ii. Reduce the setback from a street for an accessory building from 7.50m to 6.47m
  - iii. Reduce the separation space between an accessory building and the principle building from 2.40m to 1.50m.
- 3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution."

# LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

In accordance with Section 489 of the *Local Government Act*, Council may issue a Development Permit in accordance with the applicable guidelines specified in the *Community Plan*. A Development Permit may vary or supplement the *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* but may not vary the use or density of the land from that specified in the Bylaw.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present Council with information, analysis and recommendations for a Development Permit Application for the property located at 1479 Fort Street. The proposal is to increase the number of self-contained units within the rental apartment from eight to nine.

Committee of the Whole Report Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036

The variances are related to parking and the location of the covered Class 2 bicycle parking structure.

The following points were considered in assessing this application:

- the proposal is consistent with the Development Permit Area 7B(HC): Corridors Heritage designation contained in the Official Community Plan 2012 (OCP), which supports multifamily housing along main corridors that transitions well with lower-medium density on adjacent streets
- the proposal is consistent with the *Rockland Neighbourhood Plan*, 1987, which encourages the retention of existing buildings and sensitive infill development
- the parking variance to reduce the required number of parking stalls from twelve to six (a total variance request of two stalls, given the existing non-conforming parking) is supportable as the property is on a major transportation route, and the applicant will be providing 10 new covered Class 2 bike parking stalls
- The setback variances from the new Class 2 bike parking structure are supportable. The structure has minimal impact on the streetscape and neighbouring properties, and will provide the units with partially-weather protected bicycle parking.

# BACKGROUND

# **Description of Proposal**

The proposal is to increase the number of self-contained units within the apartment from eight to nine. Specific details include:

- the additional suite would be located within the existing building and does not include any additional floor area
- the new unit would be located in the basement and a new sunken entrance and window would be added
- a new covered Class 2 bicycle parking structure with bike racks totalling 10 stalls would be constructed in the side yard
- the applicant has proposed landscaping improvements including a new side yard pathway, and new plantings in the front and side yards.

The proposed variances are related to:

- reducing the required parking stalls from twelve to six, increasing the existing nonconformity by 2 stalls
- reducing the setback from a street for an accessory building from 7.50m to 6.47m
- reducing the separation space between an accessory building and the principle building from 2.40m to 1.50m.

#### Sustainability Features

The applicant has not identified any sustainability features associated with this proposal.

#### Active Transportation Impacts

The application proposes a new covered Class 2 bicycle parking structure.

#### Public Realm Improvements

No public realm improvements are proposed in association with this Development Permit Application.

Committee of the Whole Report Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036

# Accessibility Impact Statement

The British Columbia Building Code regulates accessibility as it pertains to buildings.

# **Existing Site Development and Development Potential**

The site is presently an eight unit multi-family building. The proposed suite would be installed in the basement of the existing building.

# Data Table

The following data table compares the proposal with the existing R3-AM-2 Zone, Mid-rise Multiple Dwelling District. An asterisk is used to identify where the proposal is less stringent than the existing zone. A double asterisk is used where the conditions are existing non-conforming to the zone.

Zoning Criteria	Proposal	Zone Standard R3-AM-2
Site area (m <sup>2</sup> ) - minimum	741.00**	920.00
Number of units - maximum	9	n/a
Density (Floor Space Ratio) – maximum	0.53	0.60
Total floor area (m²) - maximum	389.73	n/a
Unit size (m <sup>2</sup> ) - minimum	46.73	33.00
Lot width (m) - minimum	15	n/a
Height (m) - maximum	8.50	12.00
Storeys - maximum	2 and basement	4
Site coverage of main building % - maximum	32.80**	30.00
Open site space % - minimum	30.10	30.00
Setbacks (m) – minimum:		
Front	3.56**	7.5
Rear	20.00 (approx.)	4.26
Side (East)	1.54**	4.26
Side (West)	1.01**	4.26
Parking - minimum	6*	10 (existing use) 12 (proposed use)
Bicycle parking stalls (minimum)		
Class 1	-	n/a
Class 2	10 space rack	n/a

Committee of the Whole Report Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036

Zoning Criteria	Proposal	Zone Standard R3-AM-2
Accessory Bicycle Parking Struc	ture	
Location	Side yard	Not in front yard
Separation space main building and accessory building (m) - minimum	1.51*	2.4
Height (m) - maximum	3.00	3.50
Setback from street (m) – minimum	6.47*	7.50
Side yard setback (East) (m) – minimum	1.46	0.6
Site Coverage (%) – maximum	1.12 (approx.)	10.00

# **Relevant History**

A Development Permit with Variance for the same proposal was previously approved by Council on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This previous Development Permit expired before work on the project began. The only change between the previously approved permit and the current proposal involves minor differences to the bicycle parking area.

# **Community Consultation**

Consistent with the *Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Procedures for Processing Rezoning and Variances Applications*, on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the application was referred for a 30-day comment period to the Rockland CALUC. At the time of writing this report, a letter from the CALUC had not been received.

This Application proposes variances, therefore, in accordance with the City's *Land Use Procedures Bylaw,* it requires notice, sign posting and a meeting of Council to consider the variances.

# ANALYSIS

# **Development Permit Area and Design Guidelines**

The Official Community Plan (OCP) identifies this property within Development Permit Area: 7B (HC), Corridors Heritage. The proposal is consistent with the policies and design guidelines within this designation. The proposal supports the Development Permit Area vision of intensification of multi-family development along the Fort Street corridor, with low-to-medium level density that supports transit-oriented development. The proposal supports the OCP neighbourhood strategic direction to support the maintenance of existing buildings.

The proposed bicycle shelter, which is an accessory structure, and the new landscaping are subject to DPA: 7B Corridors Heritage. In DPA 7B, the form, character, finishes and landscaping details for new development are controlled and regulated in relation to the *Advisory* 

Design Guidelines for Buildings, Signs and Awnings 1981. Staff have no concerns about the appearance or siting of the bike shelter and the new landscaping would improve the current site conditions.

# Local Area Plans

The proposal is consistent with the *Rockland Neighbourhood Plan* which supports the retention of existing buildings.

# Tree Preservation Bylaw and Urban Forest Master Plan

There are no protected trees or any public trees affected by this application.

# CONCLUSIONS

The proposed addition of one unit to an existing eight unit multiple-dwelling building is generally consistent with the relevant policy and design guidelines. The proposed parking variance is considered supportable based on the additional Class 2 bicycle parking provided, as well as the location of the property along a major transportation corridor. The variances for the bike structure are supportable given that it adds to bicycle parking options and has minimal visual impact on the streetscape and neighbouring properties. Staff recommend that Council consider supporting this application.

# ALTERNATE MOTION

That Council decline DPV Application No. 00036 for the property located at 1479 Fort Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Chloe Tunis

Planning Technician Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department

a. Meg

Jonathan Tinney, Director Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:

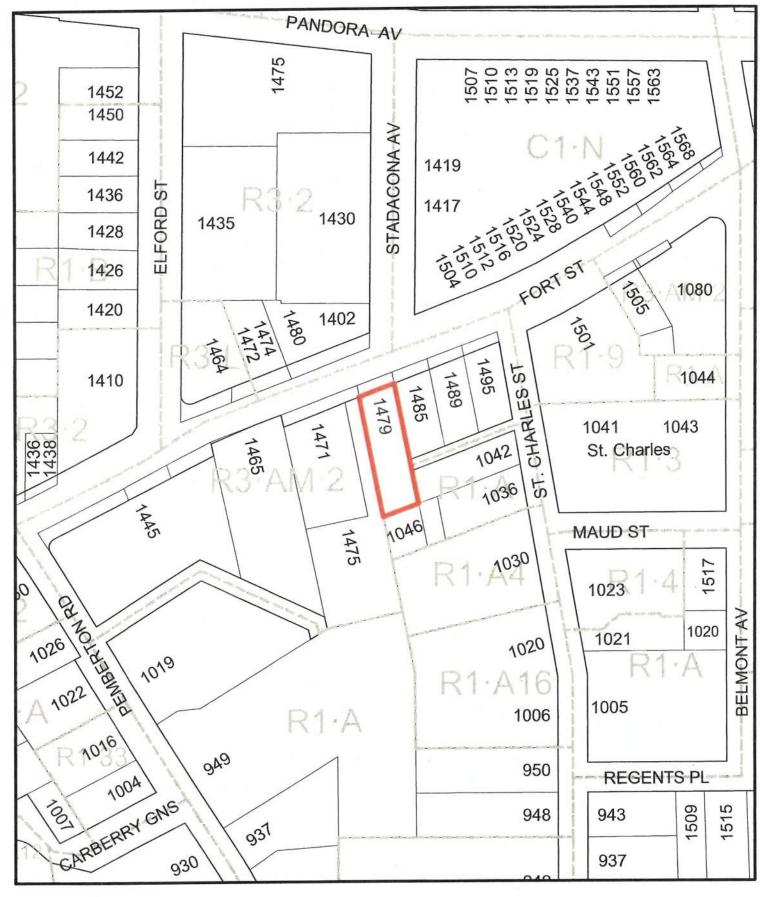
1 12,2017

# List of Attachments

- Subject Map
- Aerial Map
- Plans dated June 8th, 2017
- Letter from applicant to Mayor and Council dated June 8th, 2017

Committee of the Whole Report Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036 July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Page 5 of 5

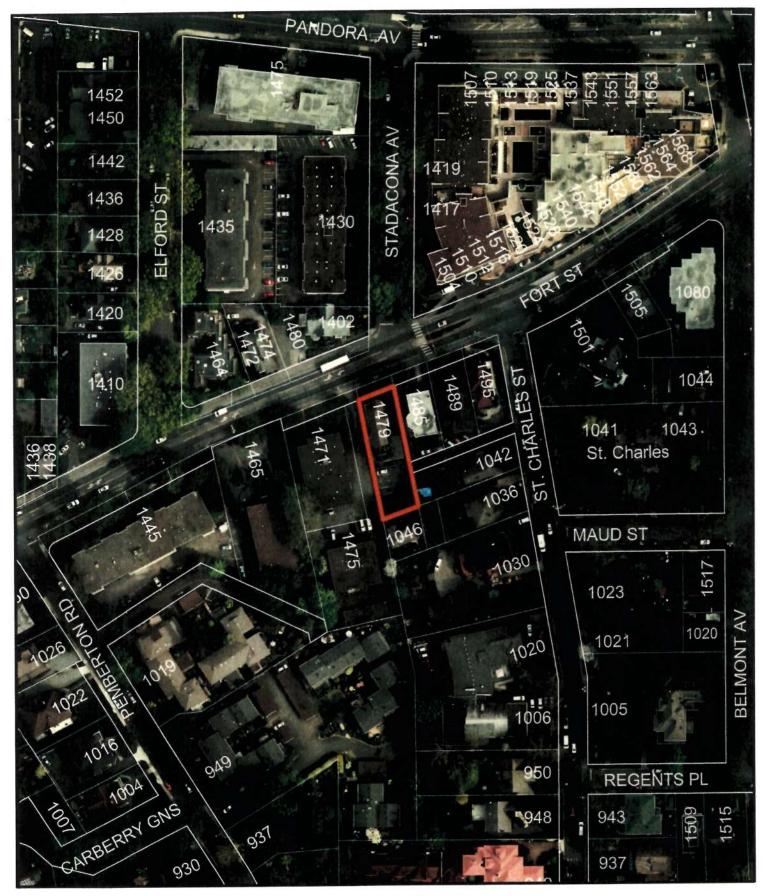
# Committee of the Whole - 20 Jul 2017



N 1479 Fort Street Development Variance Permit #00036 Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036 for ...



# Committee of the Whole - 20 Jul 2017



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M/2017 9-41:56 AM

ARCHITECT Inc.

237 HANDONA AVENUE, VICTORIA, S.C. 057: 345-4505 Tex Sito-4500 VMV 1ND

Building classification: Group C. up to 3 stories. (PART 9).

Combustible or noncombustible construction Floors to be rated 45 mins., Roof, no FR required. Suites separated by 45 mins, rated wals floors, except for 2 story suites.

SCOPE OF WORK:

BASEMENT SUITE

**INSTALL NEW** 

IN BUILDING

Civic Address:

Victoria, BC

Legal Address:

Lot4, Section 74

Victoria District, Plan 309

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E-Warrent, drawings/211005 Apartments & Us -1479 FortNext Drawings/2479 Fort St. DP HAR 17 2017/v1

**Development Permit** 

June 5, 2017

1479 Fort St.

Victoria, B.C.

Cover Sheet

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V85 1Z4

1479 Fort Street

unsprinklered Building Max. Area: 600 sm

8 1 bedroom 332 sf Students

Total Areas 1.971 sf

Corridors 341 st

E)

Total Cars 2

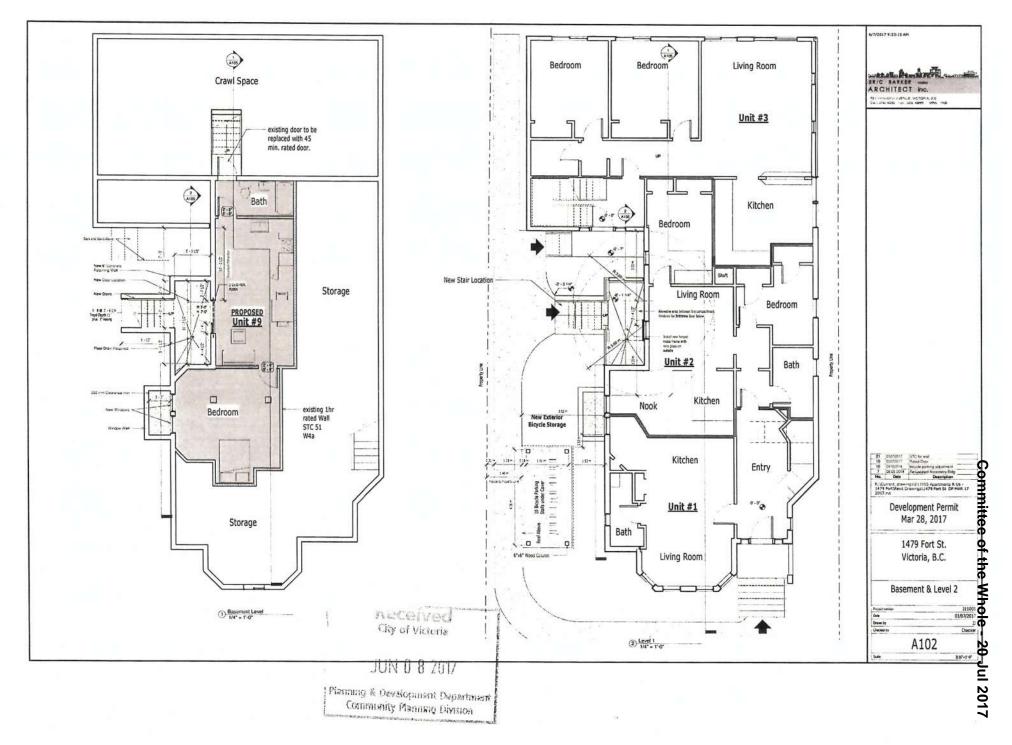


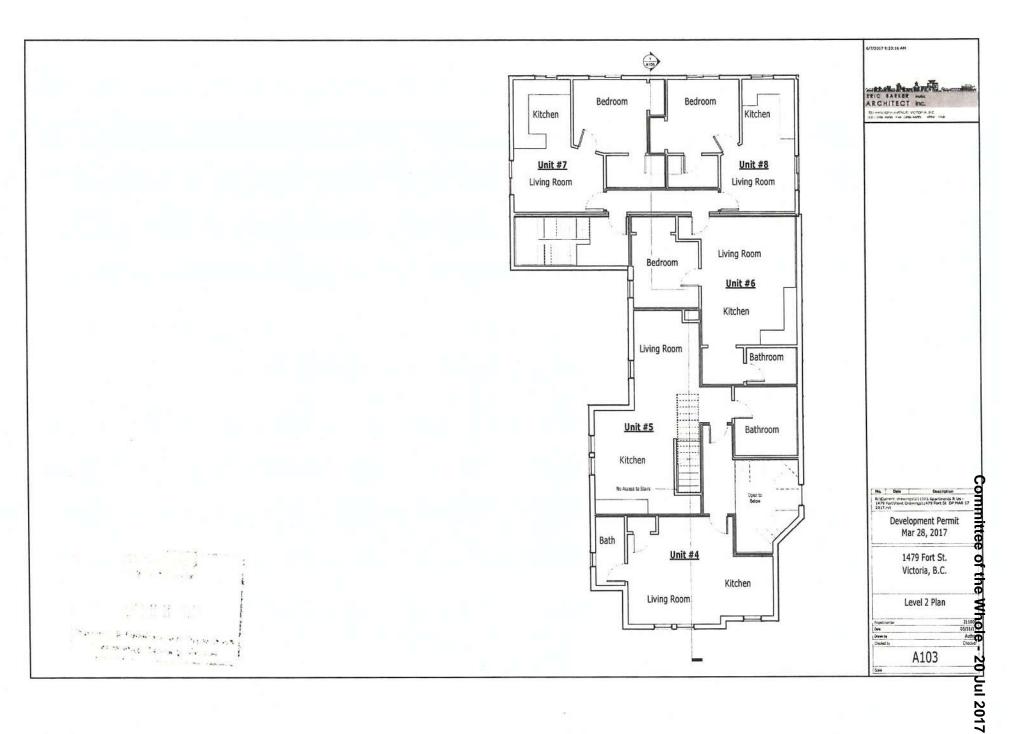


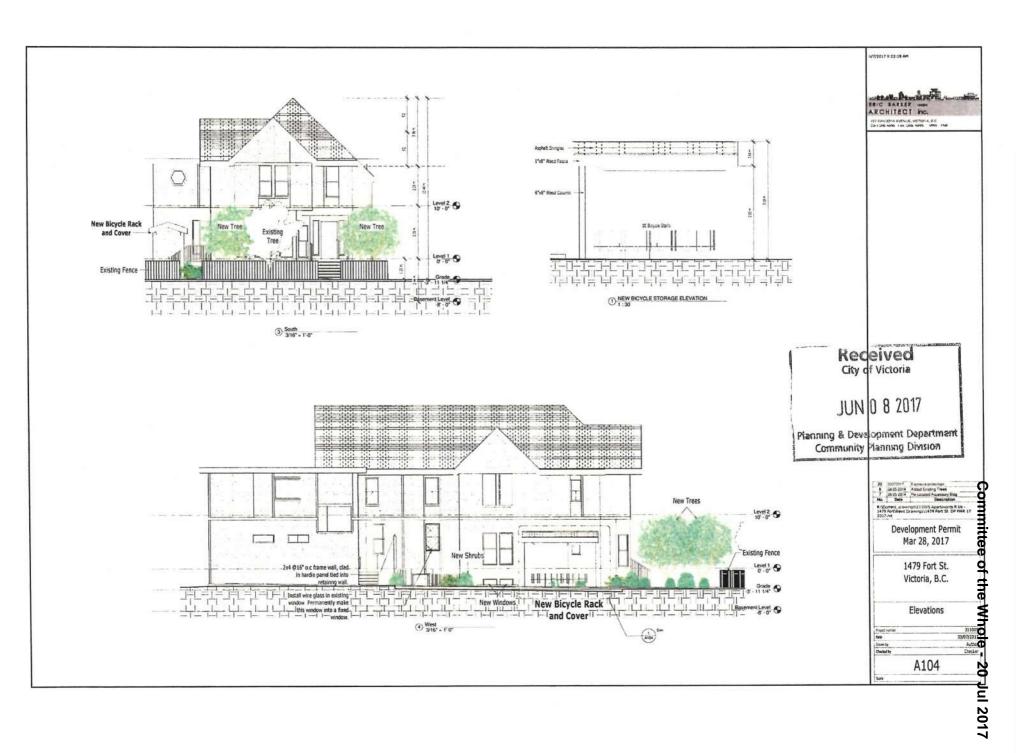
Received City of Victoria

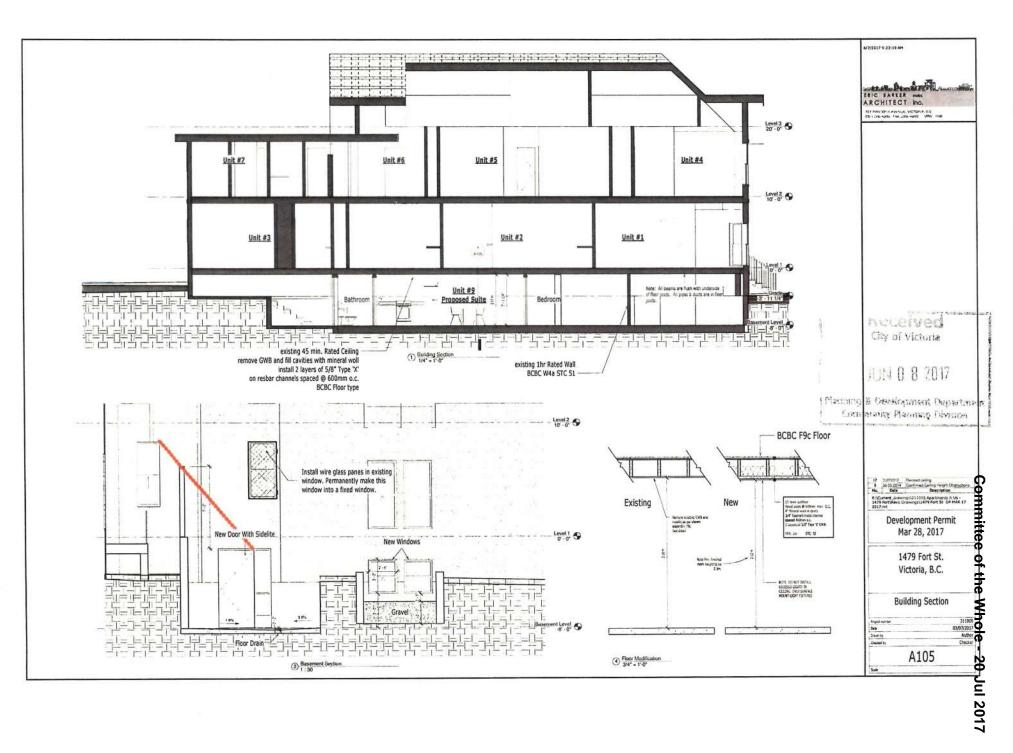
FORT STREET

1/8" = 1"-0"









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Page 1 of 1

July 7, 2017

Mayor and Council City of Victoria 1 Centennial Square Victoria. B.C. V8W 1P6

CITY OF VICTORIA RECEIVED DEEMED

#### Re: 1479 Fort Street

Dear Mayor and Council,

We are applying for a development variance permit approval to add 1 suite to the existing 8 suites currently in the house. The suite is being added into the basement and therefore does not change the building footprint or appearance other than adding windows in the basement wall. The variance is required because the current house with 8 suites and 6 parking stalls doesn't meet schedule 'C' of the Zoning By-law and the addition of our suite adds to the variance.

The argument for this variance is that the house, in its central location, provides rental accommodation for young singles and couples working in the downtown area. This is an important component to supporting the viability of the working population downtown. Unusual to most houses like this, there are 6 parking stalls behind the house accessible by a lane off St. Charles. The addition of the suite in this context will not create additional pressure for parking on site nor in the neighbourhood.

Two other variances are required for the location of the bike parking structure (1. setback from the street and 2. separation space from the principle dwelling).

Regards, Eric B

Architect AIBC, LEED AP EJB/ab

Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00036 for ... <u>727 pandora avenue victoria, bc v8w 1n9 p: 250-385-4565 f: 250-385-4566</u> <u>725 pandora avenue victoria, bc v8w 1n9 p: 250-385-4565 f: 250-385-4566</u>

ERIC BARKER, MAIBC



Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of July 20, 2017

То:	Committee of the Whole	Date:	July 6, 2017
From:	Jonathan Tinney, Director, Sustainable Plannin	ig and Com	munity Development

Subject: Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 Fairfield Road

# RECOMMENDATION

That Council after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 Fairfield Road, in accordance with:

- 1. Plans date stamped June 23, 2017.
- 2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:

Proposed Lot F

- a. Part 1.2.5 (a): Reduce the front setback from 7.5m to 6.2m
- b. Part 1.2.5 (b): Reduce the rear setback from 7.5m to 3.5m.
- 3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

This authorization is conditional on the property being subdivided into three strata lots generally in accordance with the subdivision application dated April 29, 2016."

# LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

In accordance with Section 498 of the *Local Government Act*, council may issue a Development Variance Permit that varies a *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* provided the permit does not vary the use or density of land from that specified in the *Zoning Regulation Bylaw*.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present Council with information, analysis and recommendations for a Development Variance Permit Application for the property located at 1421 Fairfield Road. The proposal is to subdivide the existing lot and construct three single-family dwellings. This Development Variance Permit is for Lot F; a Development Permit with Variances is required for the two Panhandle Lots which are being proposed in conjunction with this application and is

discussed in a separate report.

The requested variances are to reduce the front and rear setbacks. These variances are due to the short depth of the proposed lot and do not have a substantial impact on shading and privacy of the adjacent lots. The proposed front setback is approximately in line with the adjacent houses on Fairfield Road.

## BACKGROUND

# **Description of Proposal**

The proposal is to construct three single-family houses. Lot D and Lot E are Panhandle Lots and therefore are in Development Permit Area 15B: Intensive Residential – Panhandle Lot which are reviewed under a separate report along with associated variances. Lot F is not a Panhandle Lot but would require variances. Similarly, although all three lots would be in the R1-B Zone, Single Family Dwelling District, Schedule H – Panhandle Lot Regulations would apply only to Lot D and Lot E.

# Sustainability Features

As indicated in the applicant's letter dated February 22, 2017, the following sustainability features are associated with this application:

- energy efficiency: New construction to pursue Energuide 80 (or equivalent)
- renewable energy: solar / PV provisions
- water: low flow fixtures
- site permeability: permeable paving stones for hard landscaping
- · landscaping: no net loss in number of trees.

#### **Active Transportation Impacts**

The applicant has not identified any active transportation impacts associated with this application.

#### **Public Realm Improvements**

No public realm improvements are proposed in association with this Development Permit Application.

#### Accessibility Impact Statement

The British Columbia Building Code regulates accessibility as it pertains to buildings.

#### **Existing Site Development and Development Potential**

The site is presently in the R1-B Zone, Single Family Dwelling District. Under this zone, the site could be subdivided and three single-family homes with secondary suites could be built, subject to Council's approval of a Panhandle Development Permit Application.

## Data Table

The following data table compares the proposal with the R1-B Zone. An asterisk is used to identify where the proposal is less stringent than the existing zone.

Committee of the Whole Report Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 Fairfield Road

Zoning Criteria	Proposal Lot F	Zone Standard R1-B Zone
Site area (m²) - minimum	504.00	460.00
Lot width (m) - minimum	28.60	15.00
1st & 2 <sup>nd</sup> storey floor area (m <sup>2</sup> ) - maximum	239.00	280.00
Total floor area (m²) - maximum	290.50	300.00
Height (m) - maximum	7.59	7.6
Storeys - maximum	2	2
Site coverage % - maximum	26.30	40.00
Setbacks (m) - minimum Front (Fairfield Rd.) Rear (south) Side (east) Side (west) Combined side yards	<b>6.20</b> * <b>3.50</b> * 3.50 7.60 11.10	7.50 7.50 2.86 3.00 4.50
Parking - minimum	1	1

# **Relevant History**

A previous application (DPV No.00004) was received for 1421 Fairfield Road to subdivide the property into three lots and construct three single-family dwellings. The proposal was declined by Council at the September 8, 2016 Council Meeting (minutes attached). The subject of this report is a revised application for the same site.

# **Community Consultation**

Consistent with the *Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Procedures for Processing Rezoning and Variances Applications*, on May 18, 2017 the application was referred for a 30-day comment period to the Fairfield Gonzales CALUC; a letter dated May 19, 2017 is attached to this report.

This Application proposes variances, therefore, in accordance with the City's *Land Use Procedures Bylaw*, it requires notice, sign posting and a meeting of Council to consider the variances.

# ANALYSIS

# **Regulatory Considerations**

The applicant is requesting variances as follows:

- reducing the front yard setback from 7.50m to 6.20m
- reducing the rear yard setback from 7.50m to 3.50m.

These variances are the result of the proposed house being sited towards the side lot line (Moss Rock Place) instead of the front lot line (Fairfield Road is defined as the front in accordance with the *Zoning Regulation Bylaw*). The requested setback variances would be reduced if Moss

Rock Place was considered to be the front lot line. The setbacks do not have a substantial impact on the adjacent lot and usable outdoor space is provided in the side yard. Additionally, the proposed front setback is approximately in line with the adjacent houses on Fairfield Road.

# **Tree Preservation and Urban Forest Management**

There are no bylaw protected trees on the development's proposed residential lots. There is one large protected Arbutus tree directly across from the development on Moss Rock Place. There are three privately owned protected Western Red Cedar trees immediately adjacent to the development's east property boundary. Their critical root zones do not extend into the proposed building envelopes; however, they do extend into the subdivision's servicing easement. The Tree Preservation Plan outlines protection measures for these neighbour's trees to be employed during construction. A project arborist will be required to be on site during excavation works for the proposed services to these lots within the road right-of-way on Moss Rock Place, to ensure the Arbutus root zone is protected.

Boulevard landscaping along the Fairfield Road frontage will be secured at the time of subdivision approval, including grass and three new boulevard canopy trees.

#### CONCLUSIONS

The proposal to construct three new houses requires variances associated with the house on Fairfield Road (Lot F). The variances are supportable because they will not have a substantial impact on the privacy of the adjacent house. Staff recommend that Council consider supporting this application.

#### ALTERNATE MOTION

That Council decline Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for the property located at 1421 Fairfield Road.

Date:

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Bateman Senior Process Planner Development Services Division

heys

Jonathan Tinney, Director Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department

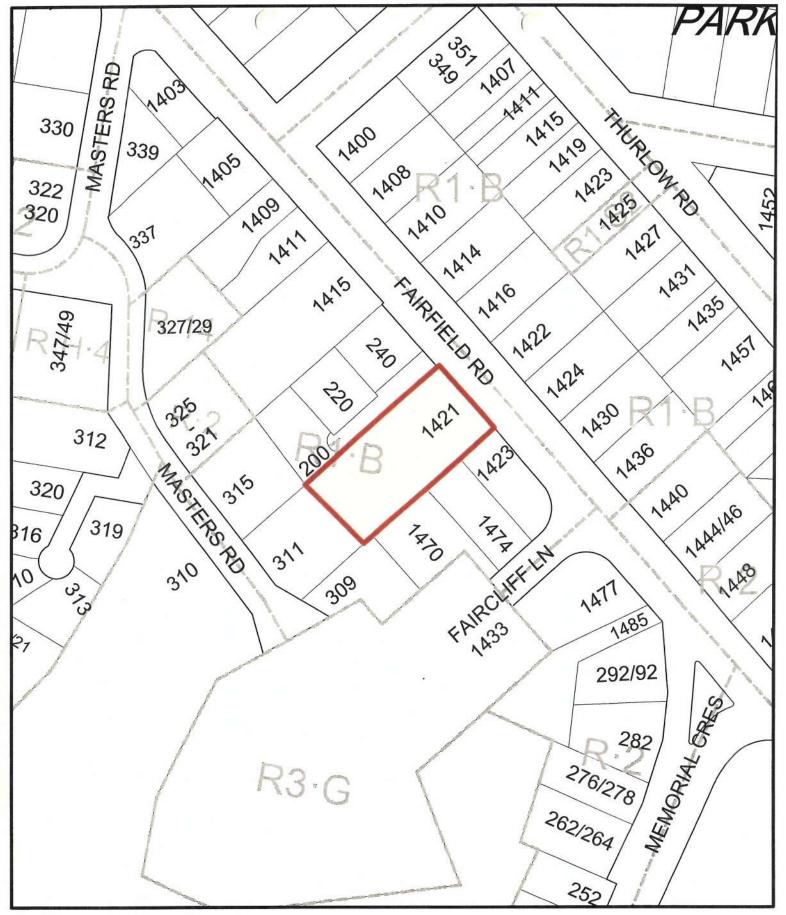
Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

OF

#### List of Attachments

- Subject Map
- Aerial Map
- Plans date stamped June 23, 2017
- Letter from applicant to Mayor and Council dated April 24, 2017
- September 8, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes
- Letter from the Fairfield Gonzales CALUC, dated May 19, 2017

Committee of the Whole - 20 Jul 2017



N Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 F. Development Permit with Variances #00033





N Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 F... Development Permit with Variances #00033



# Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 F...

# PROPOSED SUBDIVISION OF: 1421 Fairfield Road

VICTORIA, BC



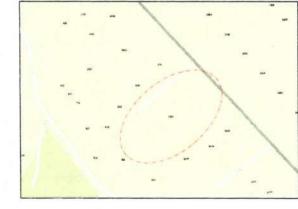
#### PROJECT INFORMATION:

SITE ADDRESS: 1421 FAIRFIELD ROAD LOT A, PLAN VIP17481, LAND DISTRICT 57, FAIRFIELD FARM ESTATE OWNER: MOSS ROCK DEVELOPMENT LTD

#### SCOPE OF WORK:

SUBDIVISION OF EXISTING R1-B PARCEL INTO 3 R1-B STRATA LOTS





#### SHEET INDEX: A0.0 COVER SHEET

41.1	COMMUNITY PLAN	
A2.1	DEVELOPMENT ELEVATIONS	
A3.4	DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES	
00.0	STRATALOT D. COVER SHEET	
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E5.1	STRATA LOT E - PRIVACY VIEW	
F0.0	STRATA LOT F - COVER SHEET	
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		18
F4.2	STRATA LOT F - ELEVATIONS	1
		1
		1
60.0	DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE	1
	A12 A13 A13 A13 A14 A15 A16 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A17 A18 A16 A17 A18 A16 A17 A18 A16 A16 A17 A17 A18 A16 A17 A18 A16 A17 A18 A17 A17 A17 A17 A17 A17 A17 A17 A17 A17	A1.1 CONNUMET PLAN A1.2 PROPOSED NECHOBORHOOD PLAN A1.3 PROPOSED NECHOBORHOOD PLAN A1.4 PROPOSED SUBOINSIN PLAN A1.4 PROPOSED SUBOINSIN PLAN A1.4 PROPOSED SUBOINSIN PLAN A1.7 PROPOSED LANSCAFE PLAN A1.3 SHADOW STUDY A1.9 PROPOSED IANSCAFE PLAN A1.1 DEVELOPMENT ELEVATIONS A1.1 DEVELOPMENT ELEVATIONS A1.1 DEVELOPMENT ELEVATIONS A1.1 DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES A1.4 DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES A1.5 DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES A1.5 DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES A1.5 DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES A1.5 DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES A1.6 DEV

DESIGNER

GENERAL

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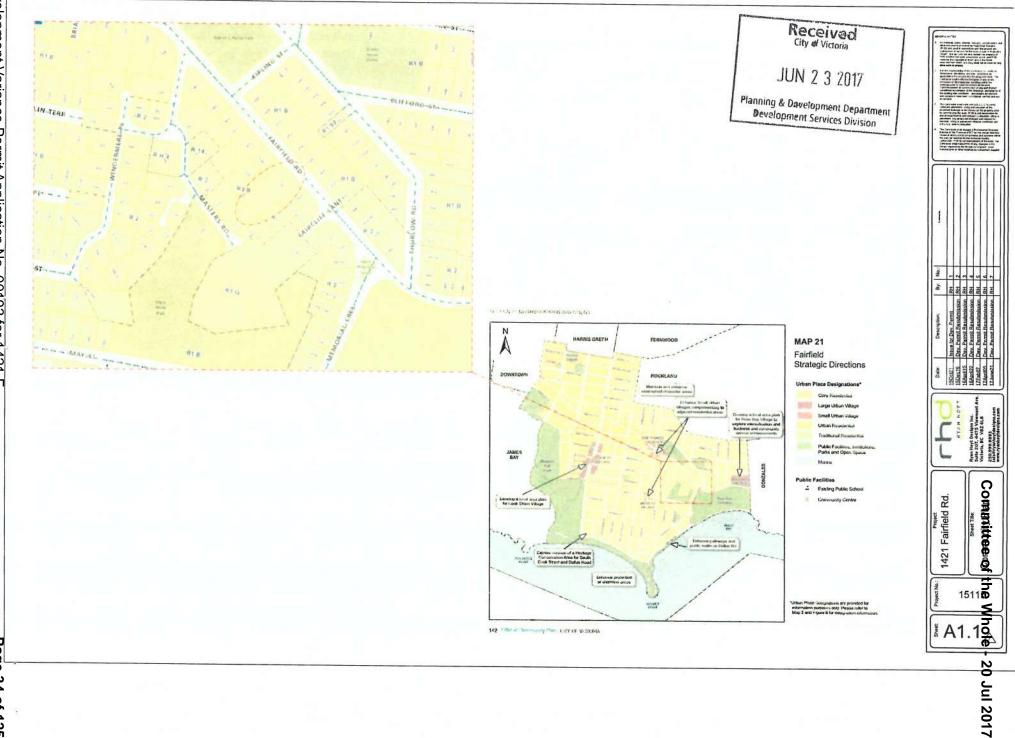
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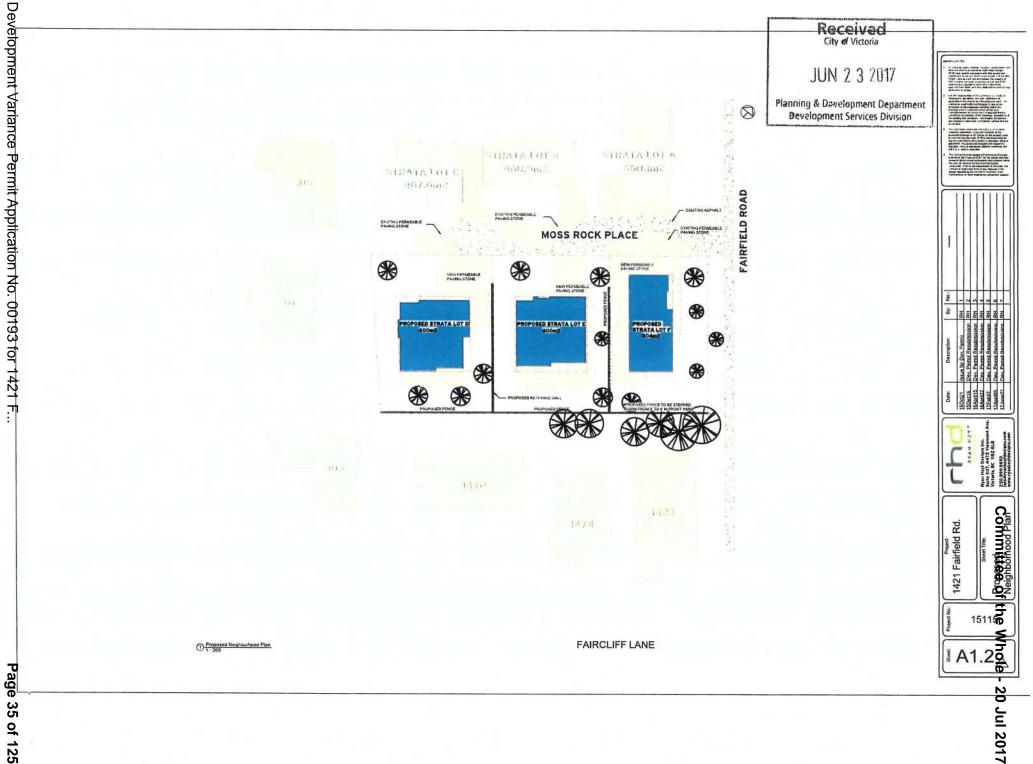
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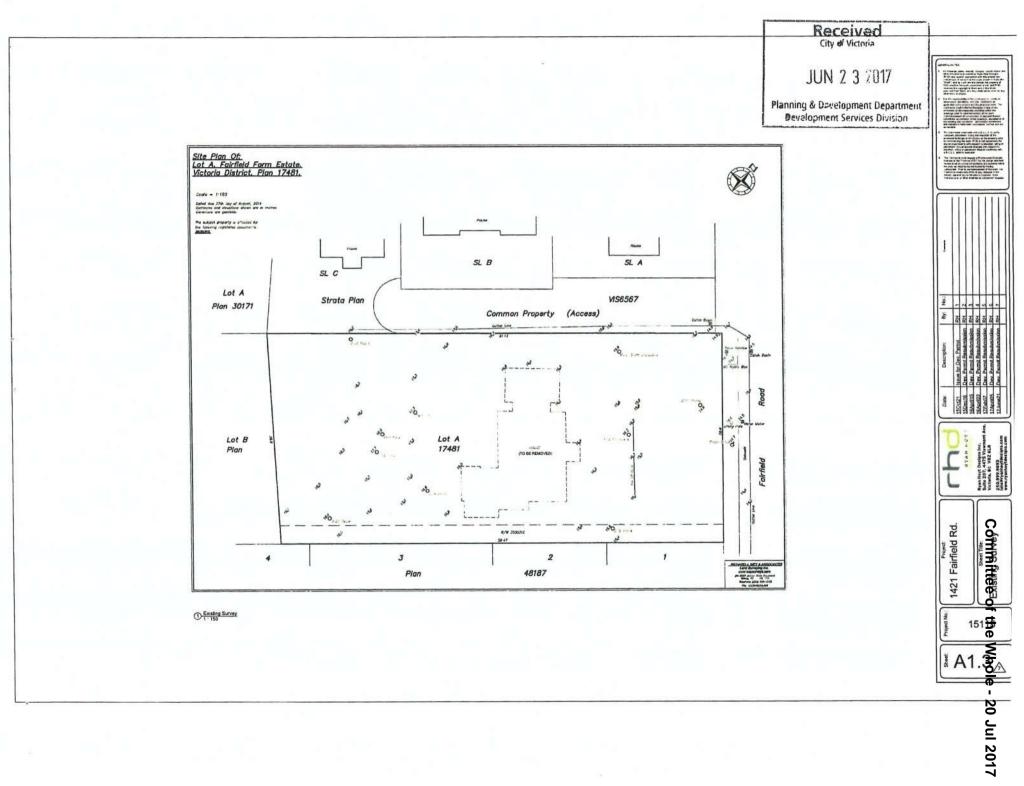


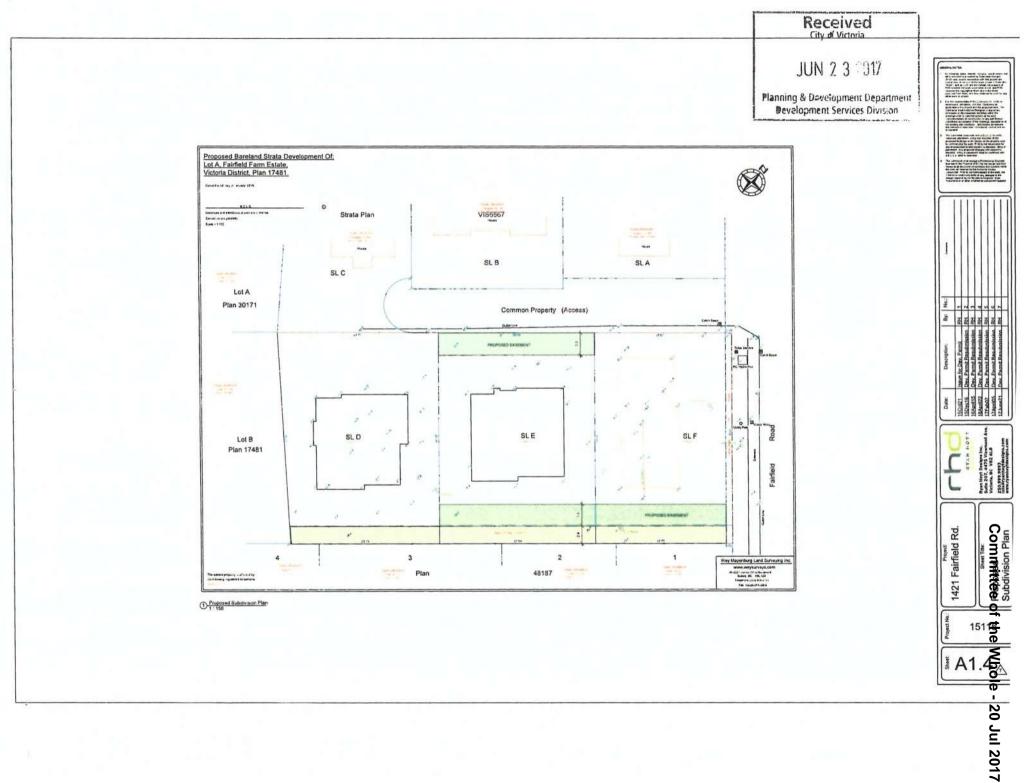




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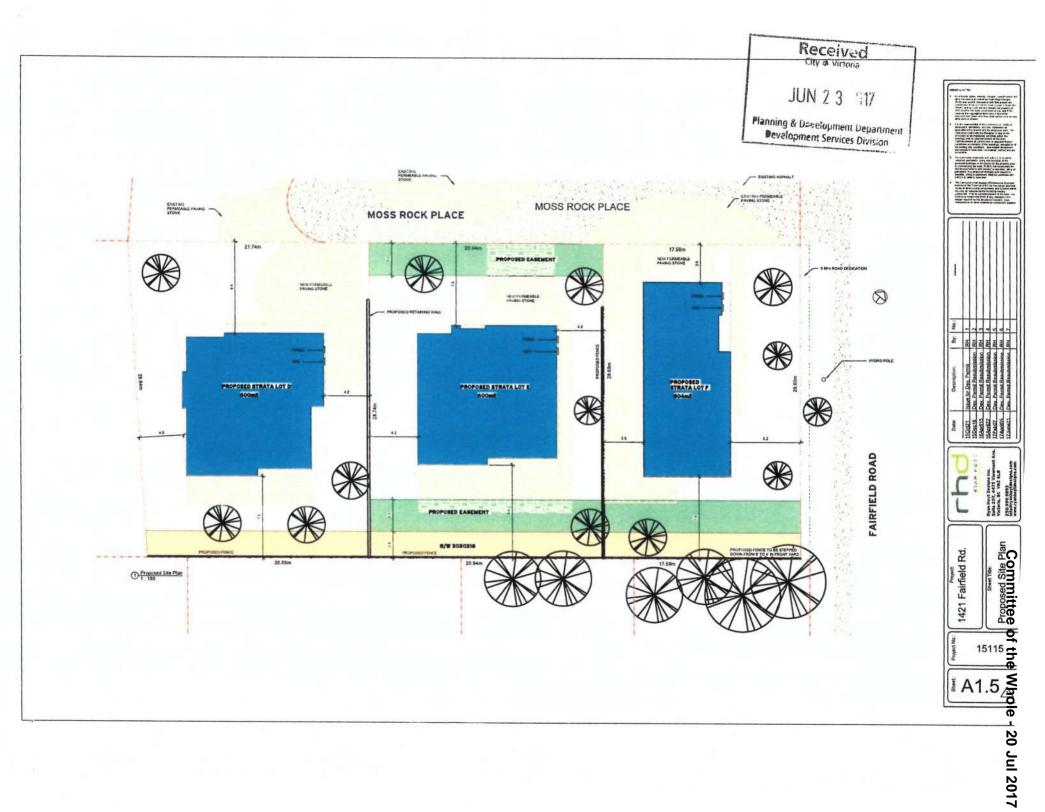


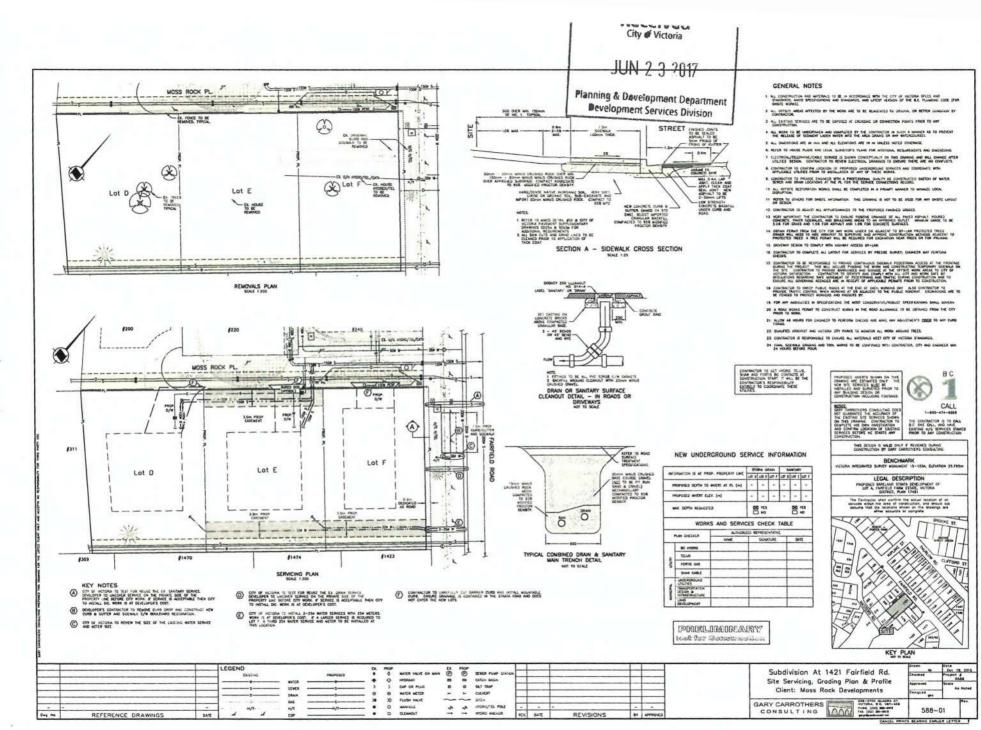


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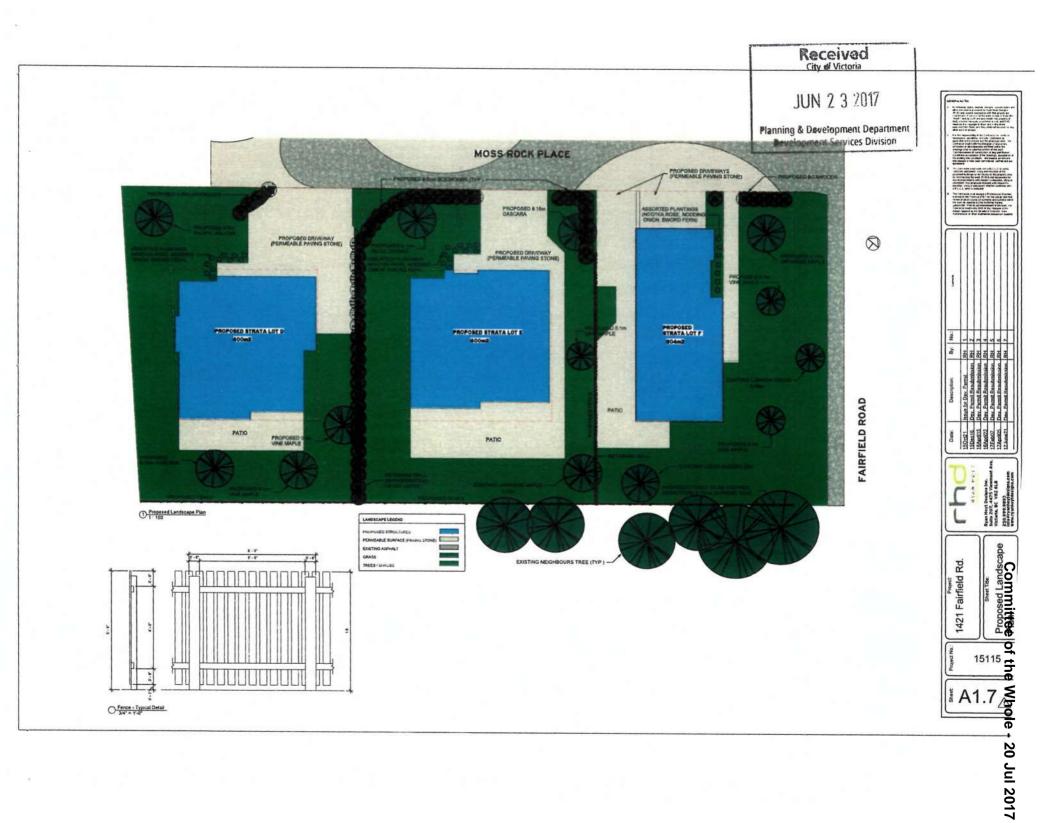
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Committee of the Whole - 20 Jul 2017





EQUINCK 9:00 any



COUNCIA 12:00 pm



EQLINOK 2:00 pm



EQUINCK 5:00 pm





SUMMER SOLSTICE 12:00 pm







Received City of Victoria

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Planning & Development Department Development Services Division

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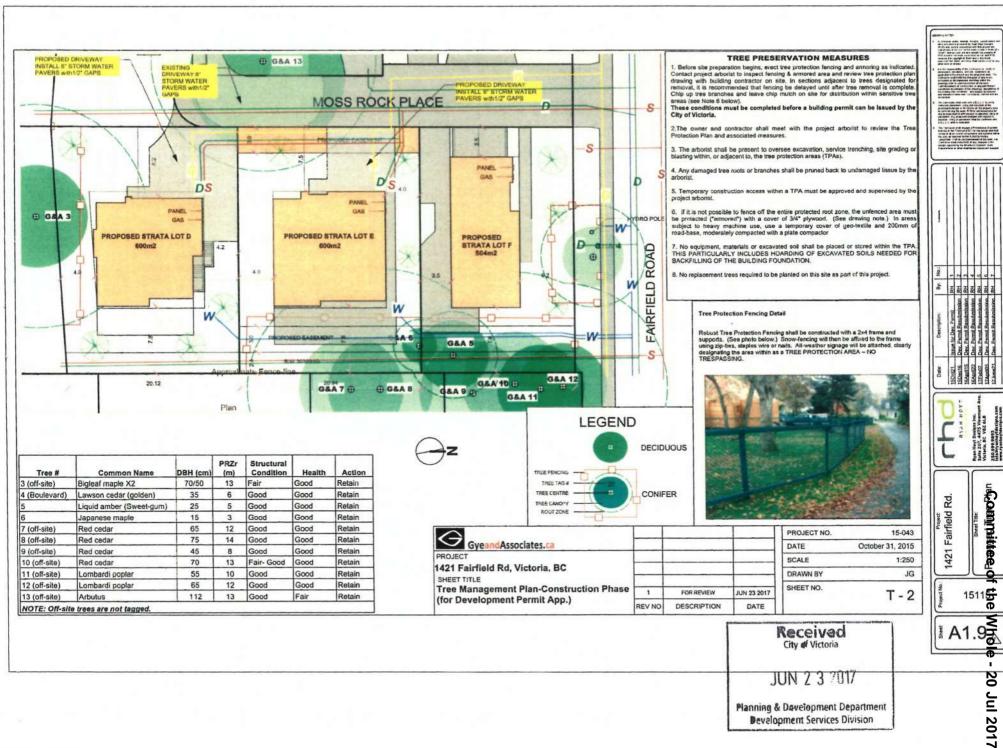


WINTER SOLSTICE 12:00 pm



WINTER SOLSTICE 2:00 pm

















NEW C	USTOM HOME			Received
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KEY PLAN:		PROJECT INFORMATION:		
		SITE ADDRESS: PROPOSED STRATA LOT D 1421 FAIRFIELD GOAD LOT A, PLAN VPT17481, LAND DETROTS 75 FAIRFIELD FARM ESTATE SCOPE OF WORK: CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING PROJECT DIRECTORY: DESIGNER: RYAN HOY'D DESIGNS INC 260 099 993 INFO @RYANHOY'D DESIGNS COM		
ZONING ANA ZONE:		GENERAL TBD CONTRACTOR:	F 03 1 01	
LOT AREA:	R1-B 600.0m2	STRUCTURAL TBD ENGINEER:		NE (OR OTHER SURVACE)
GRADES:	AVERAGE GRADE: 17.76m	SUBJEVOR MEY MAYENBURG LAND	3	
F.S.R:	ALLOWABLE PROPOSED	SURVEYING INC 250.656.5155		
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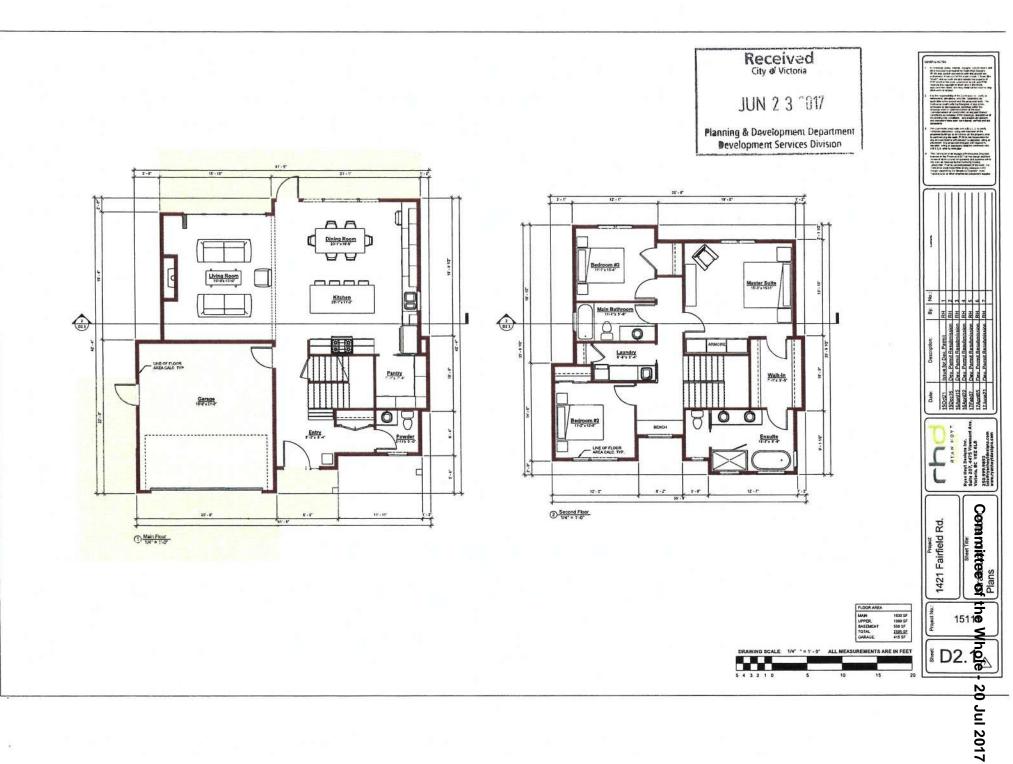
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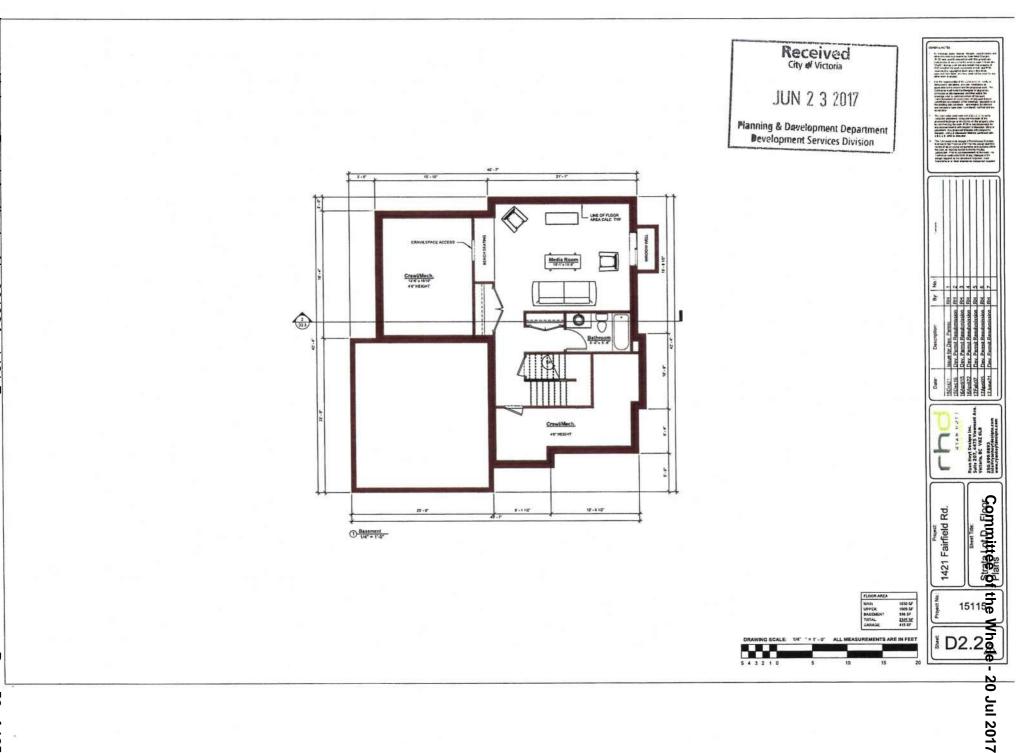
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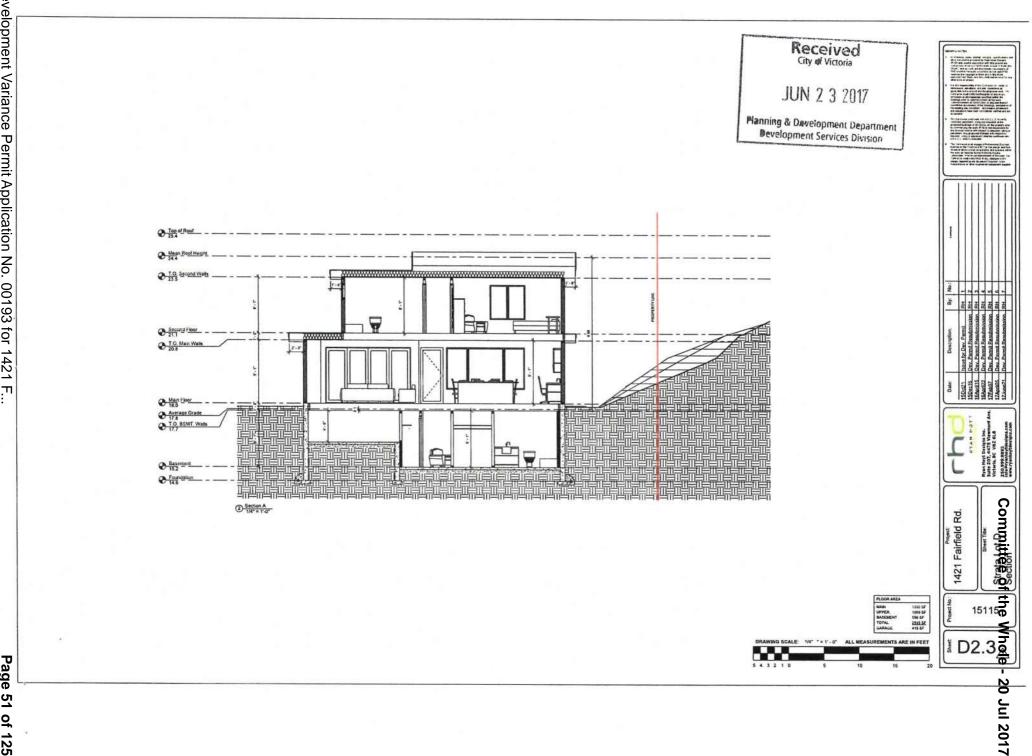


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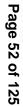


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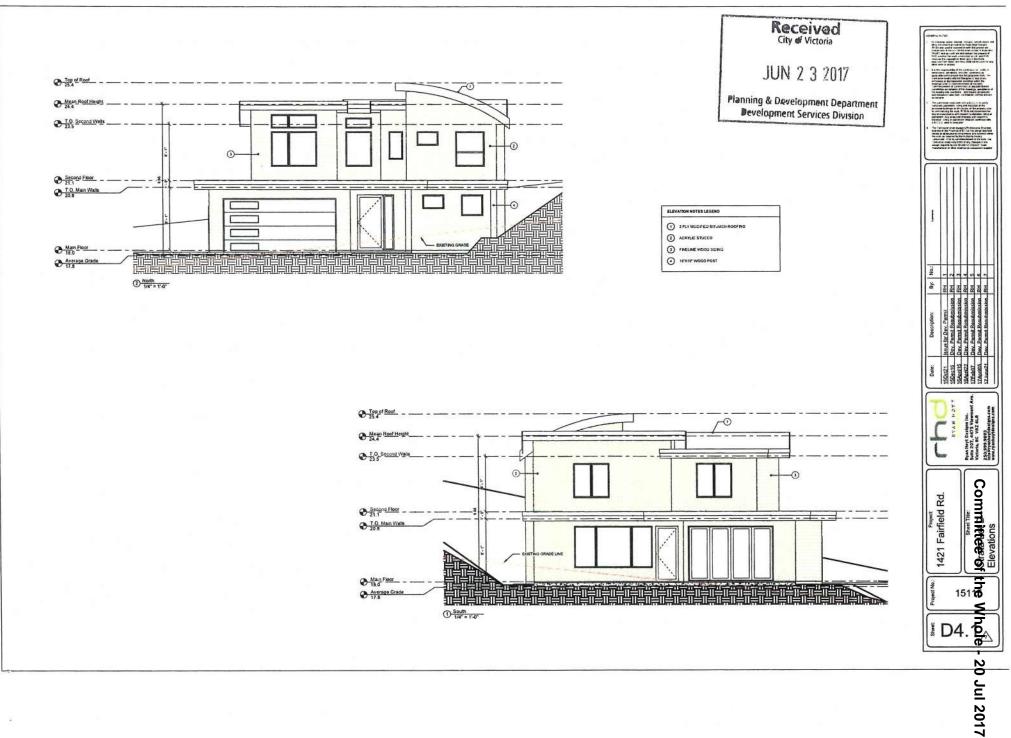
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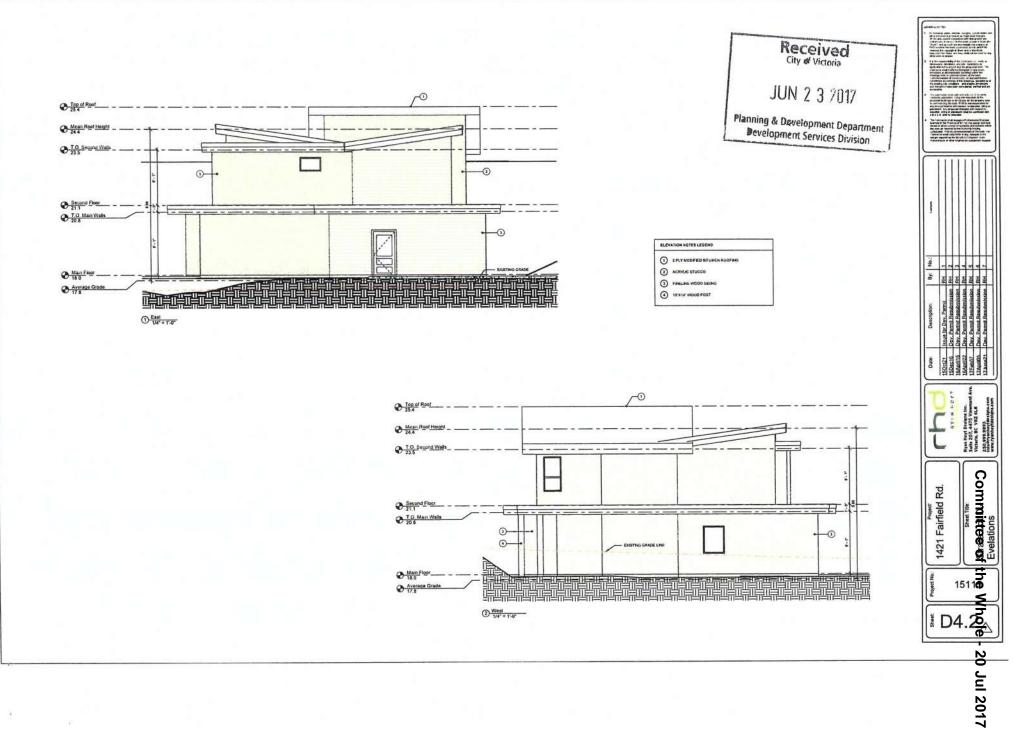


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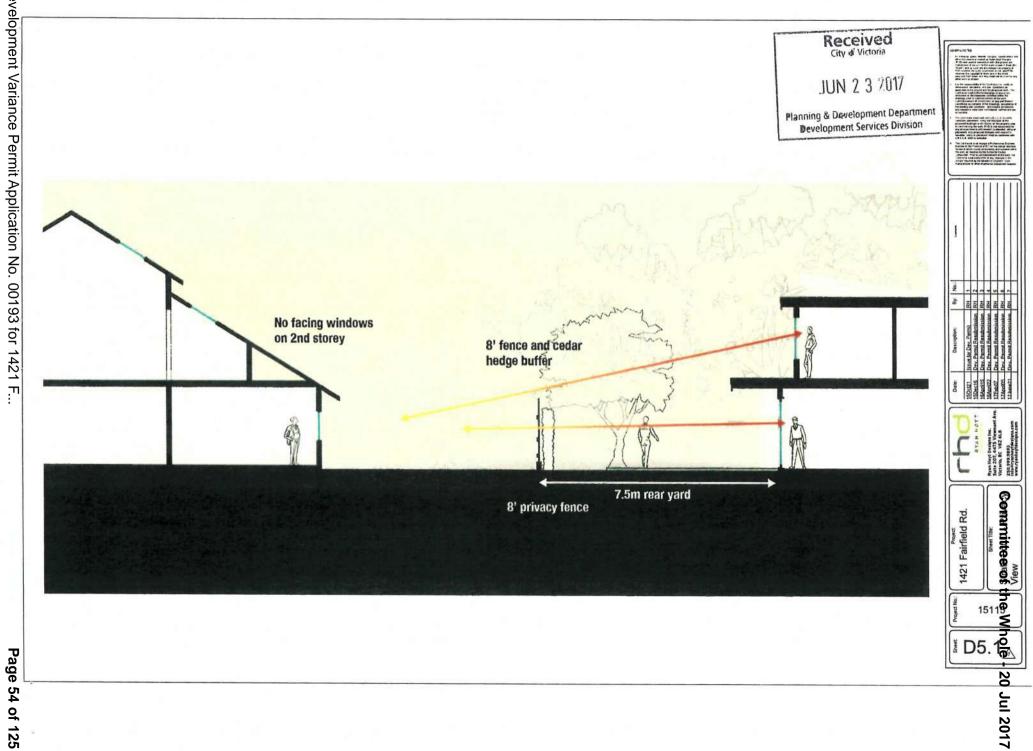








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ALLOWABLE 1 STOREY	PROPOSED 15 STOREY (VARIANCE REQUIRED)
ALLOWABLE	PROPOSED

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8.6m 4.2m 4.3m

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SECOND FLOOR

MAIN FLOOR

BASEMENT

LOT COVERAGE:

TOTAL

HEIGHT: HOUSE

STOREYS:

SETBACKS:

HOUSE

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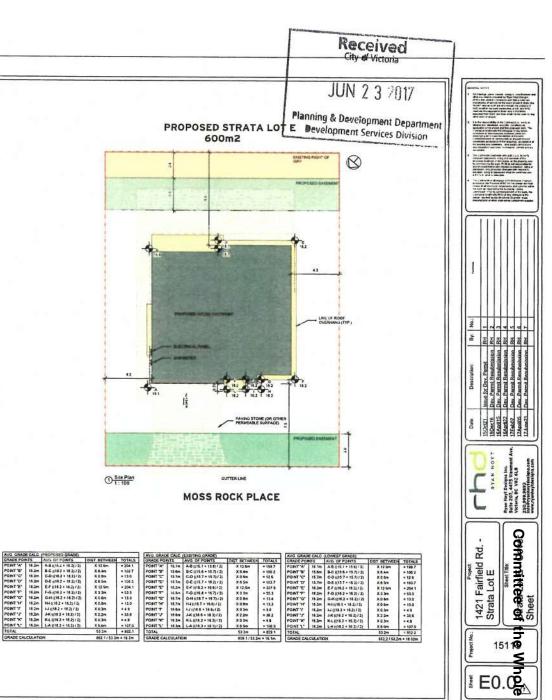
REAR (S) SIDE (E) SIDE (W) 7.5m

7,5m 4,0m 4.0m

PROPOSED STRATA LOT F 1421 FAIRFIELD ROAD LOT A, PLAN VP17481, LAND DISTRICT 57 FAIRFIELD FARM ESTATE

250.599.9893 INFO@RYANHOYTDESIGNS.COM

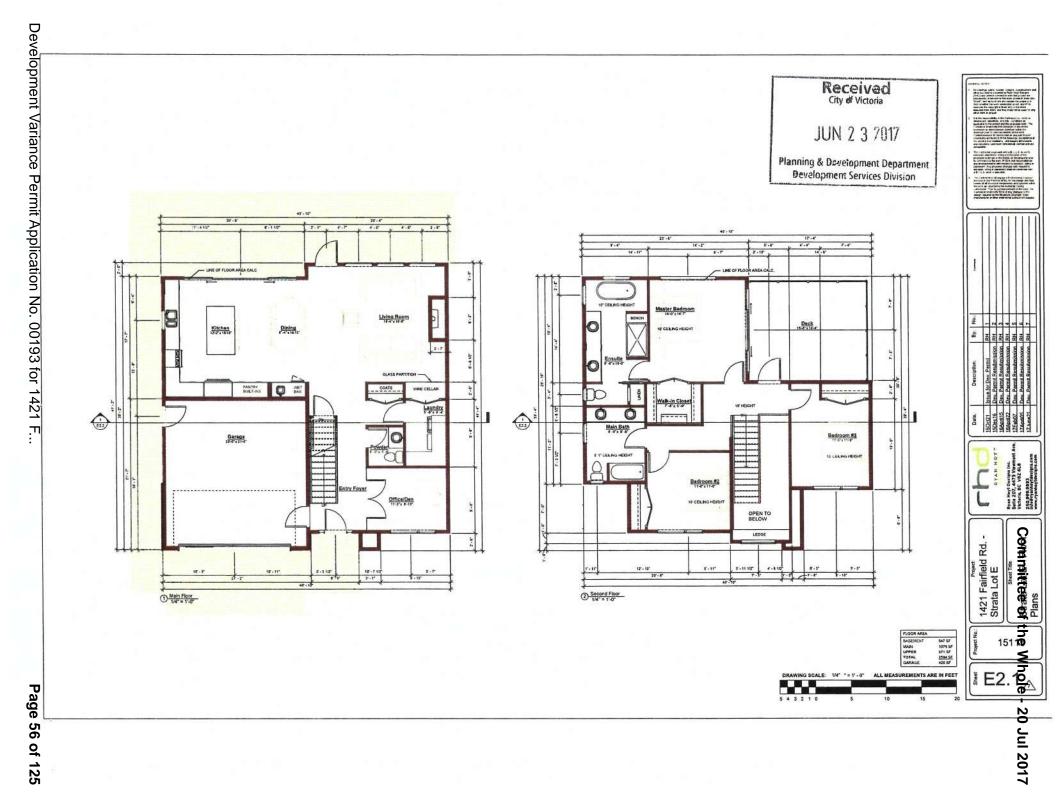
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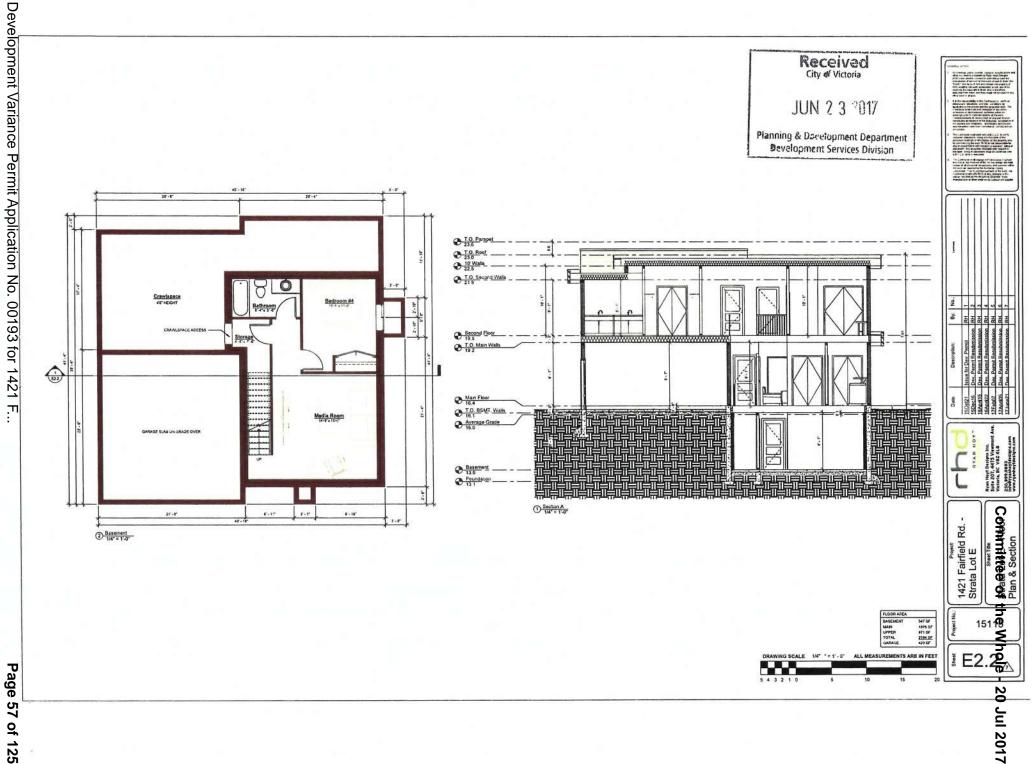


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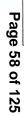
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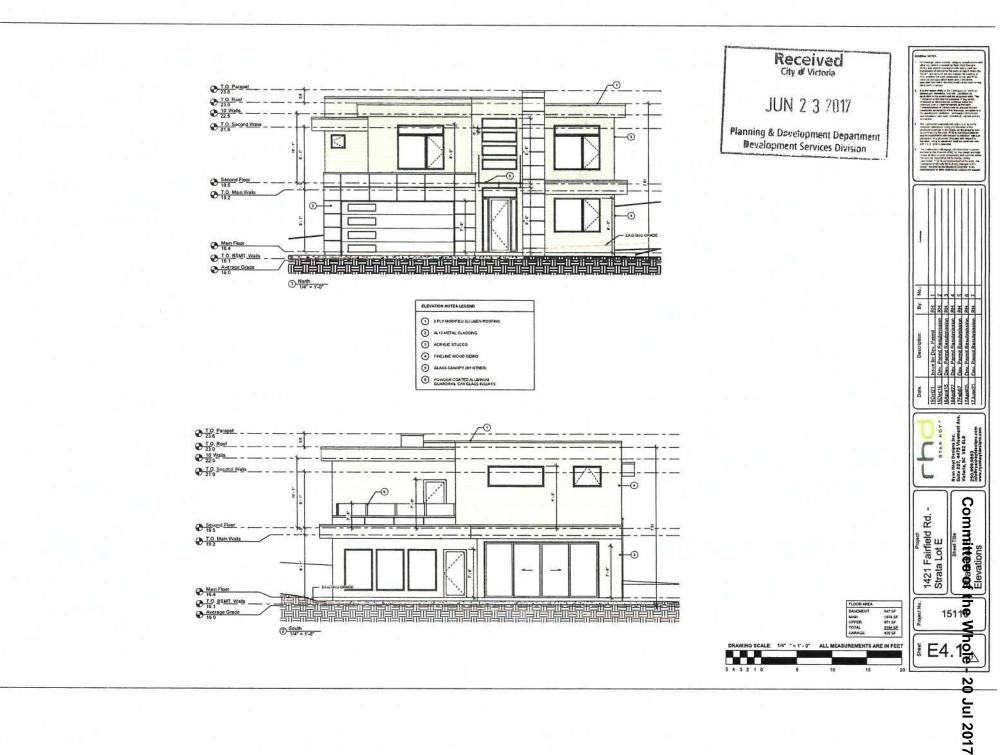
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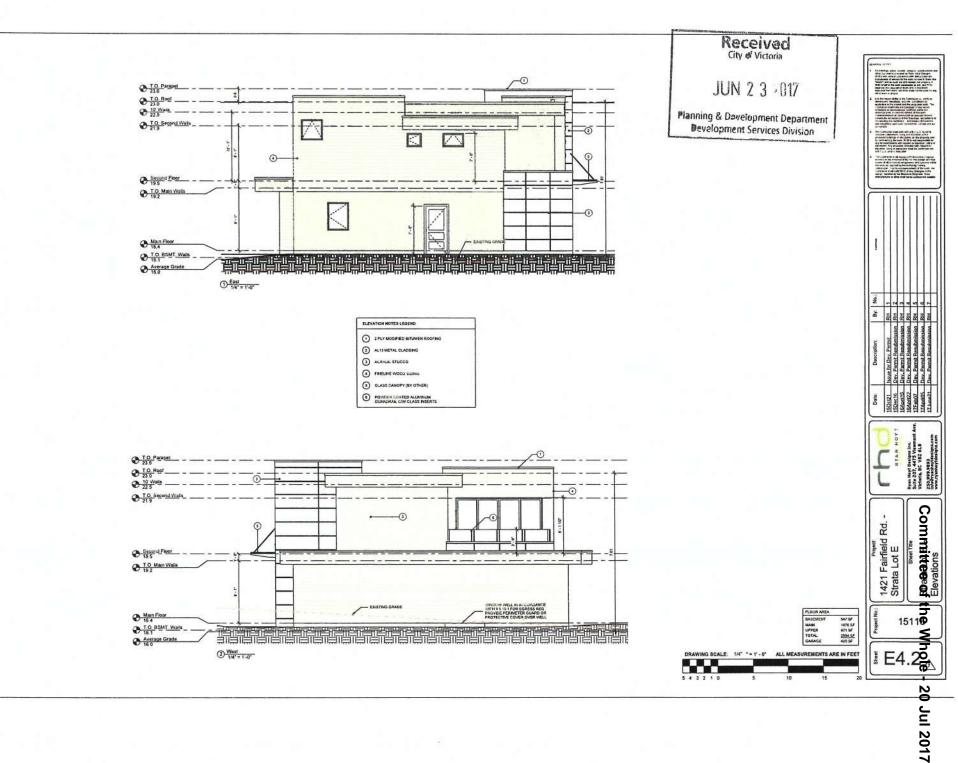


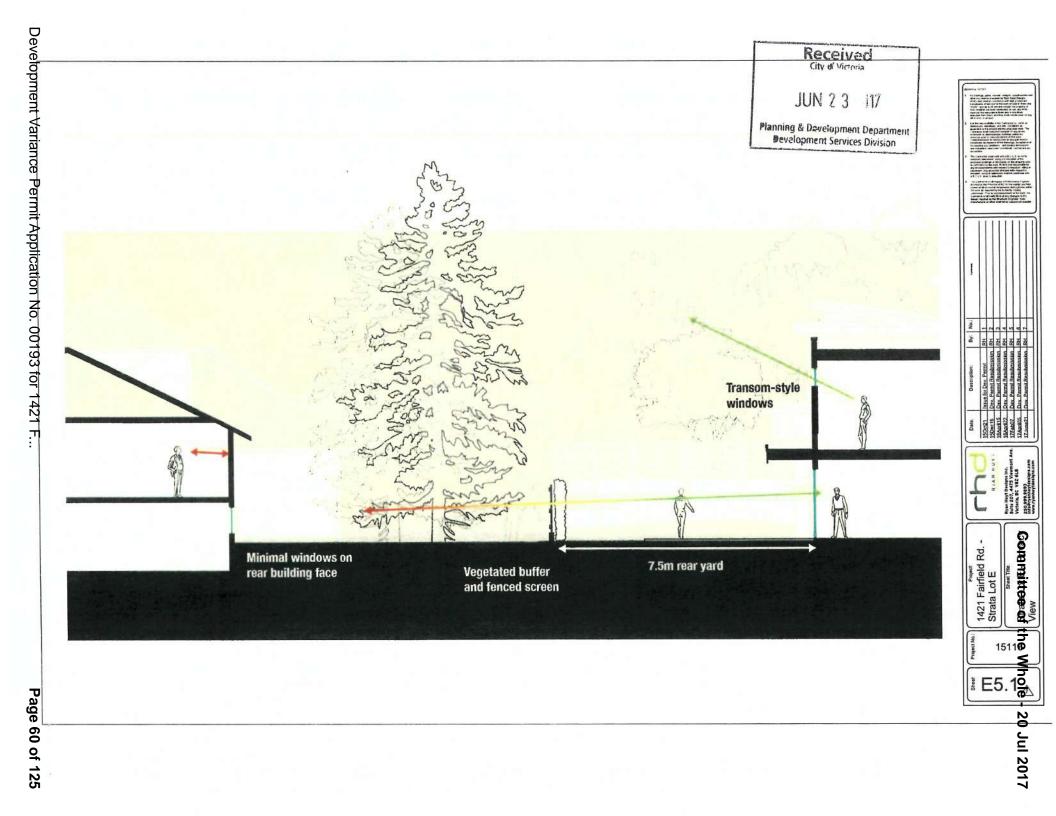
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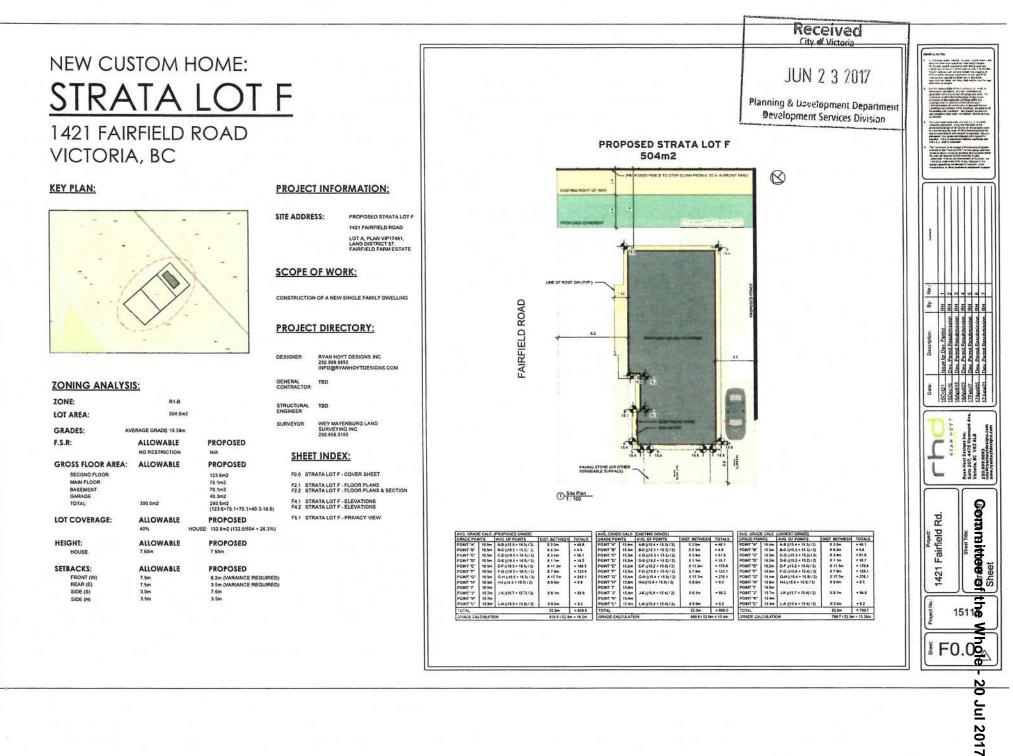




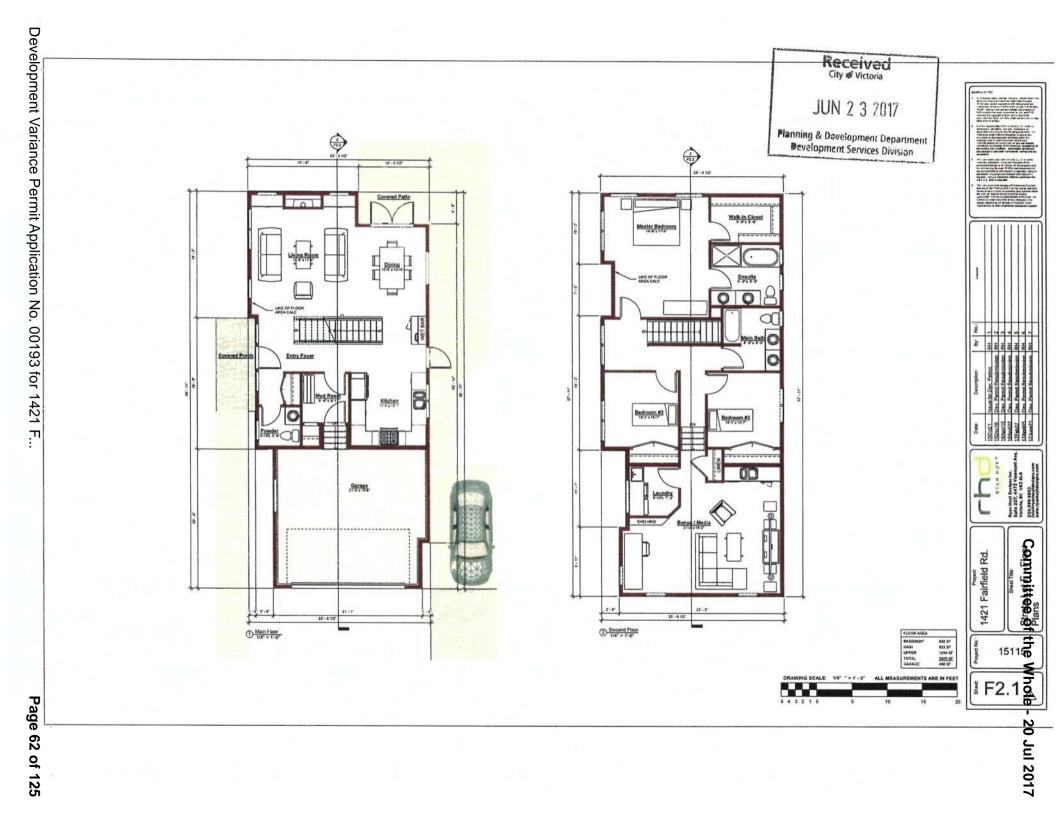


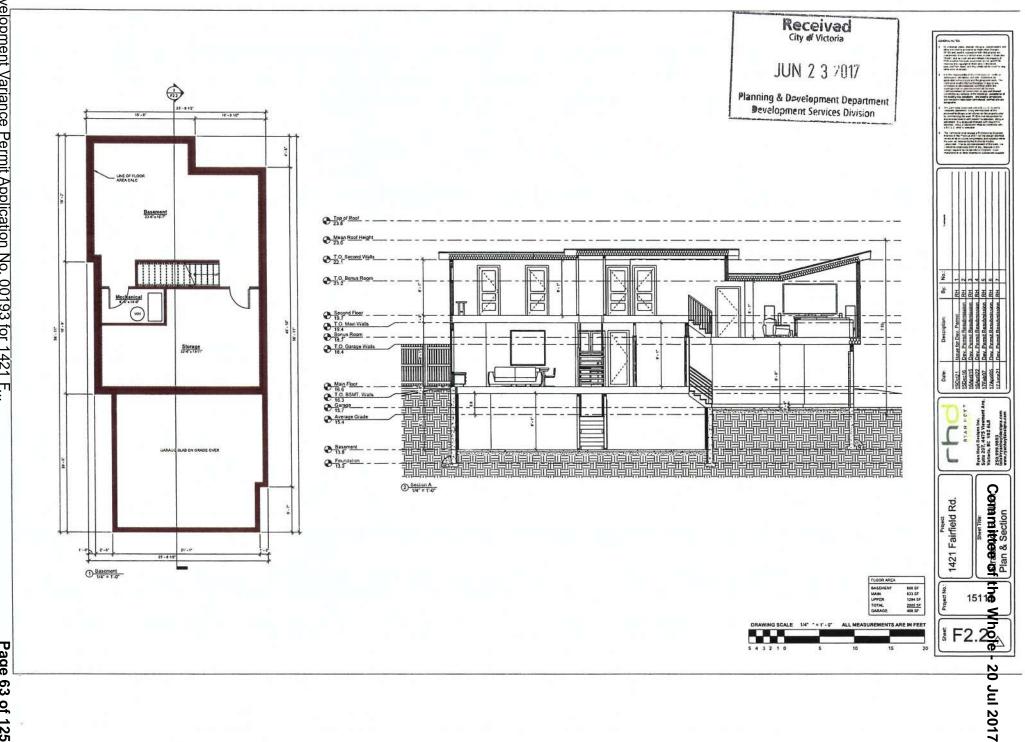






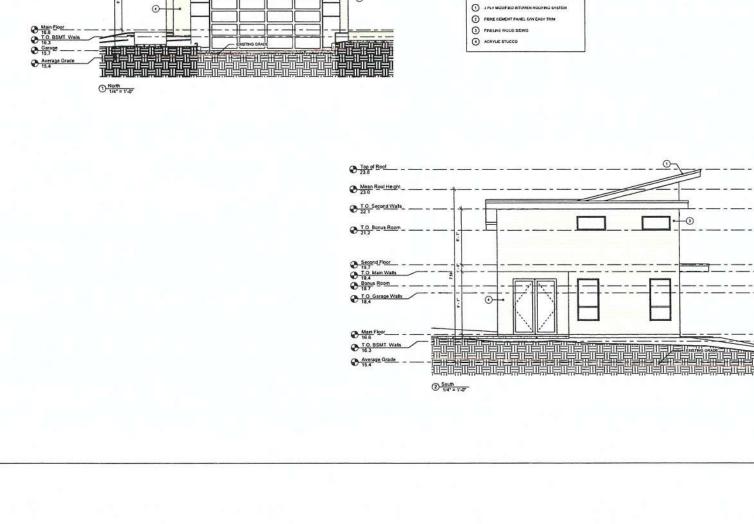
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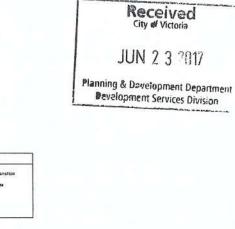
Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 F...

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20 Jul 2017

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1421 Fairfield Rd.

Ryan Heyt Deslyns Inc. Suite 207, 4475 Viewmant A Victoria, Jic. Via2 6LB Mictoria, Jic. Via2 6LB Listoryschayddasignu.com wew.ryschayddasignu.com

Committee

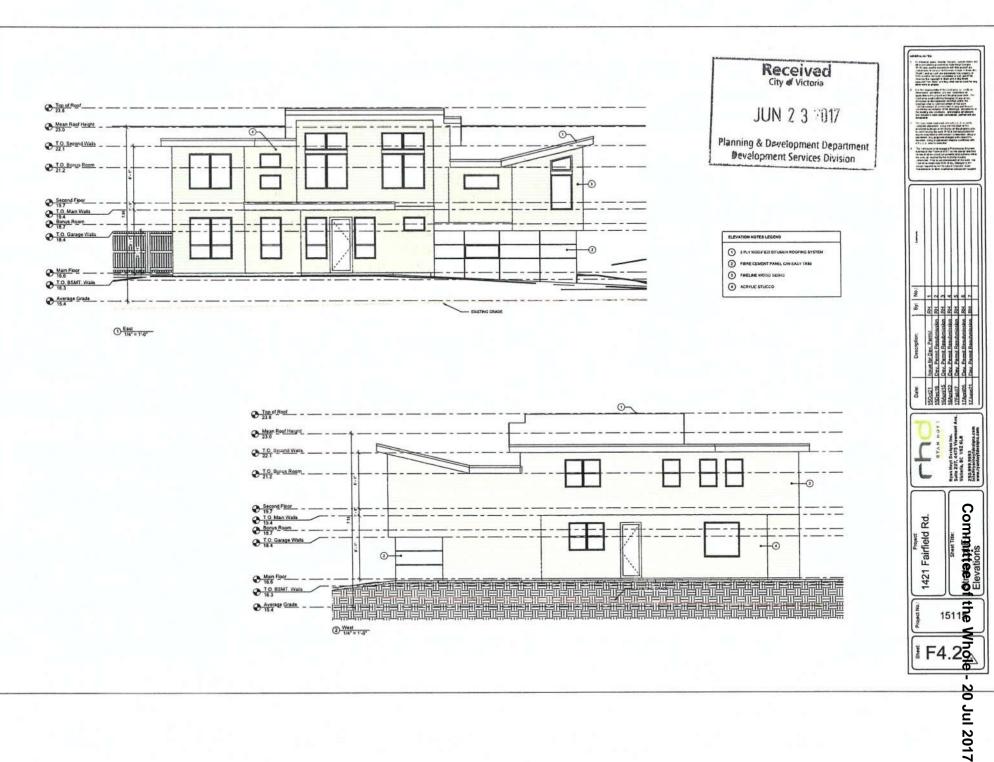
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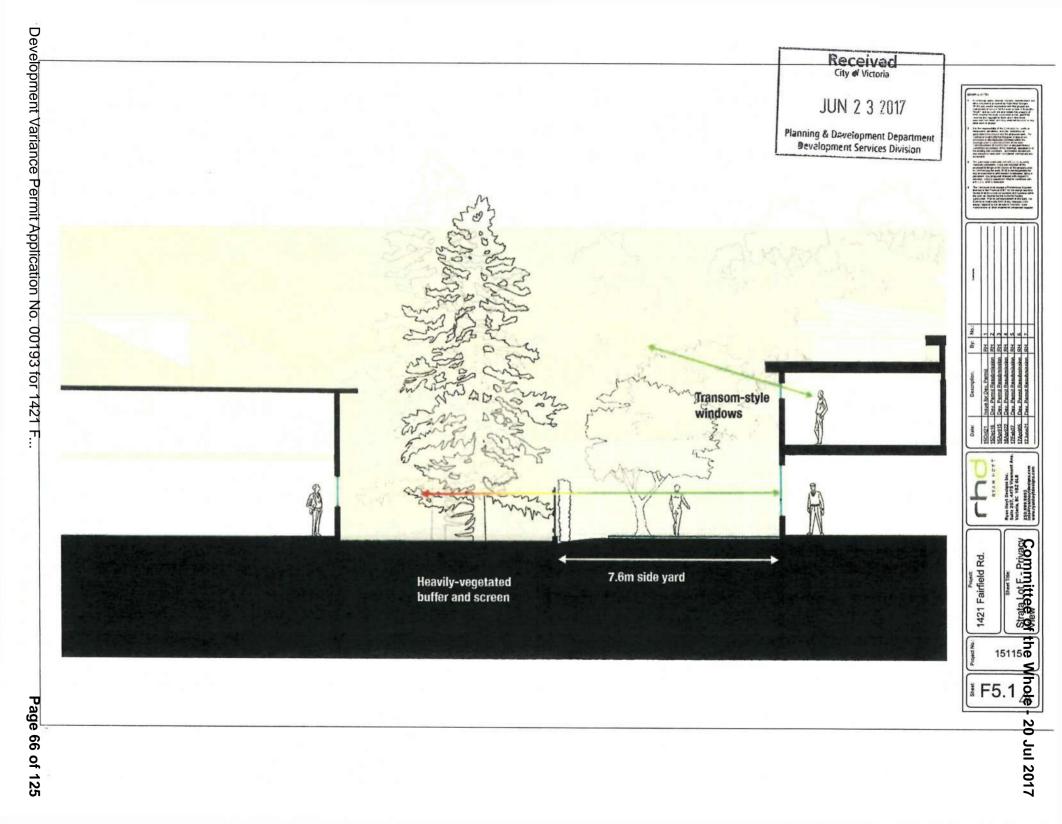
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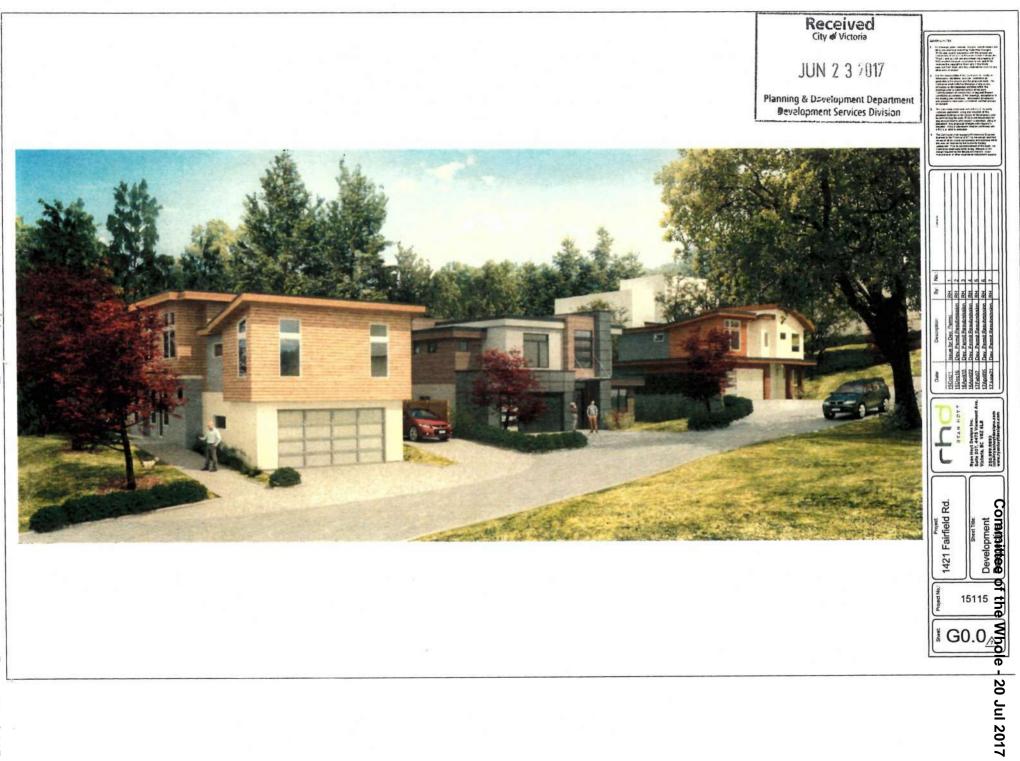
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# Committee of the Whole - 20 Jul 2017



info@ryanhoytdesigns.com www.ryanhoytdesigns RH Designs I 250.999.98

April 24, 2017

MAY 0 2 2017 MAY 0 2 2017 Planning & Development Department Bevelopment Services Division

Mayor & Council **City of Victoria** 1 Centennial Square Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor & Council,

# RE: Development Permit Application - 1421 Fairield Road - Victoria, BC

On behalf of Moss Rock Developments Ltd. (the Owner), Ryan Hoyt Designs Inc. (RHD) has submitted a revised Development Permit application (the Proposal) with variances for a three (3) lot subdivision at 1421 Fairfield Road (the Property). Our original Development Proposal was not approved following a split vote at a public hearing September 8, 2016. We have since worked with a Planner to engage with our neighbors, and revised our proposal in an effort to alleviate some of the concerns.

The following information outlines the details of this proposal.

# 1.0 BACKGROUND

The Property is located on the SW side of Fairfield Road just before Memorial Crescent and Fairfield Road fork around the Ross Bay Cemetery. The Property is currently zoned R1-B (Residential Single Family) with an existing Single Family Dwelling currently on the Property. The existing parcel size is 1704m2.

The existing single family dwelling on the Property suffered a fire recently (prior to the purchase of the Property by the Owner) and remains in disrepair, while the Site has been overgrown and rather unsightly for some time now.

# 2.0 LOCATION

Bordering the Property are:

-One R1-B (Single Family) lot to the West (address on Masters Road above), -Four R1-B (Single Family) lots to the South (addresses on Faircliff Lane) -Three R1-B (Single Family) lots to the North (addresses on Moss Rock Place)

The three lots noted above with addresses on Moss Rock Place were created by subdivision circa 2008. The original parcel (1419 Fairfield Road) was of comparable size to the subject Property.



info@ryanhoytdesigns.com www.ryanhoytdesigns RH Designs I 250.999.98

Height:	R1-B:	7.6m
	Schedule H:	5.0m
Storeys:	R1-B:	2-Storeys
	Schedule H:	1-Storey
Site Coverage:	R1-B:	40%
	Schedule H:	25%

The existing development on Moss Rock Place (completed circa 2008) was approved prior to the introduction of the Zoning Regulations Bylaw (No. 80-159) Schedule H – Panhandle Lot Regulations, and thus the approved constructions already in-situ along Moss Rock Place would not comply with the Schedule H – Panhandle Lot Regulations today as they all are at least 2-storeys, with heights exceeding 5.0m, and Site Coverage exceeding 25%.

The overall goal of the Proposal is to achieve three (3) new single family dwellings that 'round out' Moss Rock Place, with comparable styling, massing, and density, such that years following the development it will appear less as a phased or uncoordinated development.

To achieve this goal, variances are required, as summarized in the following section.

### 5.0 PROPOSED VARIANCES

The Proposal includes a total of seven (6) variances requested.

A detailed breakdown of the proposed variances is as follows:

- 1. Lot D: Height variance from 5.0m to 6.66m
- 2. Lot D: Increase from 1 storey to 1.5 storey.
- 3. Lot E: Height variance from 5.0m to 7.01m
- 4. Lot E: Increase from 1 storey to 1.5 storey.
- 5. Lot F: Front Setback 7.5m to 6.2m
- 6. Lot F: Rear Setback: 7.5m to 3.5m

Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 F...

# barefoot

910 Lucas Ave, Victoria, BC evan@barefootplanning.com barefootplanning.com 778.967.2575

# Cover Letter

To:	City of Victoria
From:	Evan Peterson, Barefoot Planning
Date:	February 8, 2017
Att:	Mayor and Council
Re:	1421 Fairfield Road - Revisions and Neighbourhood Consultation

#### Introduction

Following the Council meeting on September 8, the owners of 1421 Fairfield Road engaged Barefoot Planning to [a] assess the current application, [b] consult with neighbours about the project and key concerns, and [c] provide subsequent recommendations to improve the proposal.

This covering letter serves to briefly highlight 7 key issues identified by and discussed with neighbours, as well as related improvements made or clarifications discussed to alleviate concerns. Please, see the updated application package for full details.

# 1. Privacy & View Impacts

**Summary** The new homes will replace an empty lot, having some impacts on neighbouring homes.

**Neighbours** Initially, two neighbours on Faircliff Lane and one on Masters Road had concerns with regard to privacy and view impacts. After the below response, concerns have been significantly reduced.

**Response** The rear face of the homes on Lots F and E have been reworked, *replacing standard windows with high 'transom'-style windows* on the upper floors. The applicant has also committed to work with the neighbours to improve fencing and vegetated screening.

Moreover, further engagement provided the opportunity to discuss the actual impacts: For example, the neighbouring houses on Masters Road are at a significantly higher elevation, greatly reducing privacy impacts, and the houses on Faircliff Lane have significant screening in their rear yards and limited rear-facing windows.

Rear-facing upper storey windows are transom style to reduce impacts.



City of Victoria - 1421 Fairfield Road



910 Lucas Ave, Victoria, BC evanetbarctootplanning.com barefootplanning.com 778.967.2575 Proposed two-storey homes will be expressed as two storeys, not three.



Perceived scale of Lot F home has been reduced.

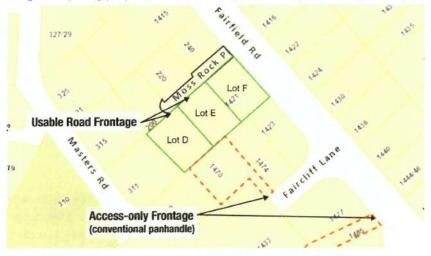


### 3. Panhandle Considerations & Height Variance

**Summary** The two back lots (D and E) of this proposal are subject to Schedule H Panhandle Regulations, despite having road frontage. This is because Moss Rock Place is a private strata road.

**Neighbours** Several neighbours took exception to the height variances for Lots D and E, largely based on principle. Once the above/below was explained, neighbour concerns were significantly reduced.

Image comparing proposed lots and true panhandle (access only frontage).



**Response** Lots D and E *do not function as panhandle lots* and, upon approval, all three lots will become part of the existing Moss Rock Place strata. Thus, the variances proposed to the Schedule H regulations hold significant merit relative to a 'true' panhandle context.

City of Victoria - 1421 Fairfield Road

3



910 Lucas Ave. Victoria: BC examibatedoctplanning.com barefootplanning.com 776,907.2575 additional driveway space. Moreover, the proposal will result in a net decrease in driveways accessing Fairfield Road.

#### 6. Shadows

**Summary** A few neighbours have expressed concern over potential shadowing from the new homes.

**Response** A shadow diagram can now be found in the application package. In summary, due to its location on the north side of Moss Rock and adjacent to large evergreen trees, there is *virtually no shadowing impacts* from the proposed homes on neighbouring lots..

## 7. Neighbourhood Consultation & Perception

**Summary** Perhaps the most significant issue with the original application was the (lack of) consultation with neighbours.

**Neighbours** Many neighbours felt frustrated with the lack of communication regarding the project leading up to the initial application, and this was also accompanied by some misinformation and rumours.

**Response** Barefoot Planning engaged neighbours (one-on-one) on all sides of the development, including Faircliff Lane, Masters Road, and Fairfield Road. Consultations were all amicable and generally very in-depth, with plenty of time given to talk through key issues – as well as potential design responses.

With regard to rumours, it is worth clarifying (again) that the previous house burnt down and was condemned two owners prior to the applicants.

#### Conclusion

Through additional consultation with neighbours, the enclosed proposal has been improved. While not reinventing the wheel, as the vision for this project remains as the 'completion' of Moss Rock Place, meaningful changes have been made to reduce impacts on neighbours and better integrate these homes with the neighbourhood. Moreover, constructive conversations have allowed for misinformation to be corrected and many concerns to be reduced or alleviated.

Sincerely,

Evan Peterson Principal Barefoot Planning

City of Victoria - 1421 Fairfield Road

5

# Committee of the Whole - 20 Jul 2017



info@ryanhovtdesigns.com www.ryanhovtdesigns.com RH Designs Inc. 250.999.9893

FEB 2 3 2017

Planning & Development Department Development Services Division

February 22nd, 2017

Mayor & Council **City of Victoria** 1 Centennial Square Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor & Council,

# RE: Green Features - 1421 Fairield Road - Victoria, BC

On behalf of Moss Rock Developments Ltd. (the Owner), Ryan Hoyt Designs Inc. (RHD) has submitted a Development Permit application with variances for a proposed 3 lot subdivision at 1421 Fairfield Road (the Property). The following 'green features' are considered for this project:

Building Retention and Reuse:	The existing building suffered a fire and is in disrepair. All demolition waste will be recycled where possible.
Transportation:	Required parking does not exceed the minimum number of off-street spaces
Energy Efficiency:	New Construction to pursue Energuide 80 (or equivalent)
Renewable Energy:	Solar / PV provisions
Water:	Low flow fixtures
Site Permeability:	Permeable paving stones for hard landscaping
Landscaping:	No net loss in number of trees

Yours truly,

Ryan Hoyt Designs Inc.

Ryan Hoyt, ASCT, RBD, LEED®AP Principal

#### PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS

#### 3. <u>Development Permit with Variances and Development Variances Permit Application No. 00004 for</u> <u>1421 Fairfield Road</u>

#### a. Hearing

Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00004 for 1421 Fairfield Road

The Council of the City of Victoria will consider issuing a Development Permit with Variances for the land known as 1421 Fairfield Road, in Development Permit Area 15B Intensive – Panhandle Lot, for purposes of allowing two single-family dwellings on panhandle lots.

The Development Permit will vary the following requirements of the Zoning Regulation Bylaw:

Proposed Lot D

- Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the height from 5.0m to 6.8m;
- Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 2.

#### Proposed Lot E

- Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the height from 5.0m to 7.5m;
- Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 2;
- Schedule H (5)(a): Increase the site coverage from 25% to 27.4%.

## b. Development Variance Permit Application No. 00004 for 1421 Fairfield Road

The Council of the City of Victoria will consider issuing a Development Variance Permit for the land known as 1421 Fairfield Road for purposes of reducing the front and rear setbacks to allow a single-family dwelling.

The Development Permit will vary the following requirements of the Zoning Regulation Bylaw:

Proposed Lot F

- Part 1.2.5 (a): Reduce the front setback from 7.5m to 6.25m;
- Part 1.2.5 (b): Reduce the rear setback from 7.5m to 3.5m.

<u>R. Bateman (Planner)</u>: Provided information regarding the application, which is requesting to subdivide the existing lot and construct three single-family dwellings. The Development Permit with Variances is for two proposed Panhandle Lots and the Development Variance Permit is required for the third lot.

Mayor Helps opened the public hearing at 11:12 p.m.

Ryan Hoyt Designs (Applicant): Provided detailed information regarding the application.

<u>Maria Abbott (Masters Road)</u>: Expressed concerns regarding the application's proposed variances for height and foot print, due to privacy concerns.

<u>Gail Harris (Fairfield Road)</u>: Expressed concerns regarding the application's proposed variances as they will affect sunlight and heritage trees.

<u>Dale Bate (Fairfield Road):</u> Expressed concerns regarding the application due to the proposed variances, past history, and how it will effect traffic and neighbouring homes.

Ben How (Faircliff Lane): Expressed concerns regarding the application due the proposed variances, as it will negatively affect neighbouring homes and privacy.

Council Meeting Minutes September 8, 2016

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Council discussed the following:

- I) Whether the basement would be above or below ground.
- m) What could be built on the site if no variances were requested.

Mayor Helps closed the public hearing at 11:48 p.m.

#### c. Development Permit with Variances Approval

#### Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00004 for Fairfield Road, in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped April 29, 2016.

2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:

Proposed Lot D

i. Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the height from 5.0m to 6.8m;
 ii. Schedule FI (3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 2.

#### Proposed Lot E

i. Schedule FI (3)(a): Increase the height from 5.0m to 7.5m;

ii. Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 2;

iii. Schedule FI (5)(a): Increase the site coverage from 25% to 27.4%.

3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

This authorization is conditional on the property being subdivided into three Strata lots generally in accordance with the subdivision application dated April 29, 2016.

#### **Development Permit with Variances Approval**

That Council authorize the issuance of Development Variance Permit Application No. 00004 for 1421 Fairfield Road, in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped April 29, 2016.

2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:

Proposed Lot F

a. Part 1.2.5 (a): Reduce the front setback from 7.5m to 6.25m;

b. Part 1.2.5 (b): Reduce the rear setback from 7.5m to 3.5m;

3. Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

This authorization is conditional on the property being subdivided into three Strata lots generally in accordance with the subdivision application dated April 29, 2016.

#### Council discussed the following:

- Whether the massing of the house is reasonable in comparison to neighbouring homes.
- o) The amount of opposition from immediate neighbours.

**Defeated** 

#### For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Lucas and Young Opposed: Councillors Alto, Isitt, and Loveday

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## **Katie Lauriston**

From:	ALICE ALBERT
Sent:	Friday, May 19, 2017 8:04 AM
To:	David Biltek; Katie Lauriston
Cc:	Lisa Helps (Mayor); Chris Coleman (Councillor); Jonathan Tinney
Subject:	Re: Revised Plans Received for 1421 Fairfield Road - DPV No. 00033

Thanks David, points well ade. Alice

Sent from Samsung tablet

------ Original message ------From: David Biltek < Divide Lauriston Biltek <br/>
Cc: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" < Divide Lauriston Biltek <br/>
Cc: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" < Divide Lauriston Biltek <br/>
Cc: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" < Divide Lauriston Biltek <br/>
Cc: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" < Divide Lauriston Biltek <br/>
Cc: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" <br/>
Cc:

Katie:

Please convey to the Mayor and Council our ongoing concern about variances that are beyond a 15% change or reduction in the standard.

In this particular case all the variances are between a 20 to 50% change in the standard. We view changes such as these not simple variances but major changes to the nature of the building set on the property.

We have seen recently a house set on property as an approved variance that was located within one foot of the property line. This has caused much grief for the property owner and neighbours but was an approved variance.

We continue to receive variance notices that are all well beyond the 15% we have set as our marker to comment. All such referrals to us have been above this 15% marker. Given this it may be time for Council to ask Planning Staff to review these standards. In one case on which we have previously commented, there were 10 - 12 variances for each of three houses on a newly subdivide parcel of land. Changes such as these are not simple but rather may have a significant impact on the built property and neighbours.

All standards have been set for a reason: safety (from fire spread), aesthetics, privacy between neighbours, street scape, etc...it may be time that some of these are amended.

David Biltek Chair Fairfield Gonzales Community Association Land Use Committee

Development Variance Permit Application No. 00193 for 1421 F...



# Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of July 20, 2017

То:	Committee of the Whole	Date:	July 6, 2017
From:	Jonathan Tinney, Director, Sustainable Planning and Community Development		
Subject:	Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00033 for 1421 Fairfiel Road		

# RECOMMENDATION

That Council, after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit Application No. 00033 for 1421 Fairfield Road, in accordance with:

- 1. Plans date stamped June 23, 2017.
- 2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:

Proposed Lot D

- i. Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the height from 5.00m to 6.66m
- ii. Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 1.5.

# Proposed Lot E

- i. Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the height from 5.00m to 7.01m
- ii. Schedule H (3)(a): Increase the number of storeys from 1 to 1.5.
- 3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

This authorization is conditional on the property being subdivided into three strata lots generally in accordance with the subdivision application dated April 29, 2016."

# LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

In accordance with Section 489 of the *Local Government Act*, Council may issue a Development Permit in accordance with the applicable guidelines specified in the *Official Community Plan*. A Development Permit may vary or supplement the *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* but may not vary the use or density of the land from that specified in the Bylaw.

Pursuant to Section 491 of the *Local Government Act*, where the purpose of the designation is the establishment of objectives for the form and character of intensive residential development, a Development Permit may include requirements respecting the character of the development including landscaping, and the siting, form, exterior design and finish of buildings and other structures.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present Council with information, analysis and recommendations for a Development Permit with Variances Application for the property located at 1421 Fairfield Road. The proposal is to subdivide the existing lot and construct three single-family dwellings. This Development Permit with Variances is for two proposed Panhandle Lots. A Development Variance Permit is required for the third lot located on Fairfield Road and is discussed in a separate report.

The following points were considered in assessing these applications:

- the proposal is generally consistent with the objectives for sensitive infill in Development Permit Area 15B: Intensive Residential – Panhandle Lot of the Official Community Plan (OCP)
- the proposal is generally consistent with the design specifications of the *Small Lot House Design Guidelines (2002)*
- the proposed variances relate to height and number of storeys. These variances reflect the context across the lane and do not have a substantial impact on the privacy of the adjacent properties.

# BACKGROUND

# **Description of Proposal**

The proposal is to construct three single-family houses. Lot D and Lot E, the subjects of this application, are Panhandle Lots and therefore are in Development Permit Area 15B: Intensive Residential – Panhandle Lot. Lot F is not a Panhandle Lot but would require variances which are reviewed under a separate report. Similarly, although all three lots would be in the R1-B Zone, Single Family Dwelling District, Schedule H – Panhandle Lot Regulations would apply only to Lot D and E.

Specific details include:

- one and a half storey buildings with basements
- design elements such as contemporary low slope rooflines, covered front entryways, and contemporary styled windows
- the exterior materials include wood siding, acrylic stucco siding, metal cladding, fibre cement panel and aluminium guard rails with glass inserts
- new hard and soft landscaping would be introduced, including permeable paving stone driveways and paths, trees, shrubs and ground cover.

# Sustainability Features

As indicated in the applicant's letter dated February 22, 2017, the following sustainability features are associated with this application:

- energy efficiency: New construction to pursue Energuide 80 (or equivalent)
- renewable energy: solar / PV provisions
- water: low flow fixtures

- site permeability: permeable paving stones for hard landscaping
- landscaping: no net loss in number of trees.

## Active Transportation Impacts

The applicant has not identified any active transportation impacts associated with this application.

## Public Realm Improvements

No public realm improvements are proposed in association with this Development Permit Application.

## Accessibility Impact Statement

The British Columbia Building Code regulates accessibility as it pertains to buildings.

## **Existing Site Development and Development Potential**

The site is presently in the R1-B Zone, Single Family Dwelling District. Under this zone, the site could be subdivided and three single-family homes with secondary suites could be built, subject to Council's approval of a Panhandle Development Permit Application.

## Data Table

The following data table compares the proposal with the R1-B Zone and the Panhandle Regulations. An asterisk is used to identify where the proposal is less stringent than the existing zone.

Zoning Criteria	Proposal Lot D	Proposal Lot E	Zone Standard R1-B Zone	
Site area (m²) - minimum	600.00	600.00	600.00	
Lot width (m) - minimum	21.74	20.94	18.00	
Total floor area (m²) - maximum	279.80	280.00	280.00	
Height (m) - maximum	6.66 *	7.01 *	5.00	
Storeys - maximum	1.5 *	1.5 *	1	
Site coverage % - maximum	24.90	25.00	25.00	
Setbacks (m) - minimum Front (Moss Rock Pl.) Rear (south) Side (east) Side (west)	8.40 7.50 4.20 4.00	7.50 8.60 4.20 4.30	7.50 7.50 4.00 4.00	
Parking - minimum	1	1	1	

# **Relevant History**

The three single-family dwellings located across Moss Rock Place were constructed prior to revisions to the Panhandle Lot Regulations and therefore the Panhandle Lot Regulations did not apply at the time.

A previous application (No.00004) was received for 1421 Fairfield Road to subdivide into three lots and construct three single-family dwellings. The proposal was declined by Council at the September 8, 2016 Council Meeting (minutes attached). The subject of this report is a revised application for the same site.

## **Community Consultation**

Consistent with the *Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Procedures for Processing Rezoning and Variances Applications*, on May 18, 2017 the application was referred for a 30-day comment period to the Fairfield Gonzales CALUC; a letter dated May 19, 2017 is attached to this report.

This Application proposes variances, therefore, in accordance with the City's *Land Use Procedures Bylaw*, it requires notice, sign posting and a meeting of Council to consider the variances.

## ANALYSIS

## **Development Permit Area and Design Guidelines**

The *Official Community Plan* (OCP) identifies this property within Development Permit Area 15B: Intensive – Panhandle Lot. The Design Guidelines for a Small Lot House (2002) apply to Panhandle Lot Development.

## Proposed Lot D – New Single Family Dwelling

The proposal is for a one and a half storey house with a basement. The design of the house incorporates architectural elements such as contemporary low slope rooflines, covered front entryways, and contemporary styled windows. The exterior design, materials, form and character are in keeping with the buildings across the lane, and the proposed Lot F.

## Proposed Lot E – New Single Family Dwelling

The proposal is for a one and a half storey house with a basement. The design of the house incorporates architectural elements such as contemporary low slope rooflines, covered front entryways, and contemporary styled windows. The exterior design, materials, form and character are in keeping with the buildings across the lane, and the proposed Lot F.

## **Regulatory Considerations**

The single-family dwellings across Moss Rock Place were not subject to the Panhandle Regulations at the time of their construction. This application proposes variances to permit increased height and number of storeys which would be more in keeping with these existing houses.

# Proposed Lot D - New Single Family Dwelling

The applicant is requesting variances for the house on Lot D as follows:

- increasing the height from 5.00m to 6.66m
- increasing the number of storeys from 1 to 1.5

A new fence and new trees are proposed to mitigate potential privacy impacts on the adjacent house (1470 Faircliff Lane) which may result from an increased building height. The proposed house is offset and the rear setback is 7.5m so that the existing house will see past it. The other adjacent property (311 Masters Road) will not be substantially impacted because it is at a much higher elevation due to a steep grade change.

## Proposed Lot E - New Single Family Dwelling

The applicant is requesting variances for the house on Lot E as follows:

- increase the height from 5.00m to 7.01m
- increase the number of storeys from 1 to 1.5.

These variances will not have a substantial impact because the adjacent existing house does not have any windows on the rear elevation and there are existing trees on the adjacent lot that will screen the view between the two buildings. The windows on the rear of the house are small in size and number.

## Tree Preservation and Urban Forest Management

There are no bylaw protected trees on the development's proposed residential lots. There is one large protected Arbutus tree directly across from the development on Moss Rock Place. There are three privately owned protected Western Red Cedar trees immediately adjacent to the development's east property boundary. Their critical root zones do not extend into the proposed building envelopes; however they do extend into the subdivision's servicing easement. The Tree Preservation Plan outlines protection measures for these neighbour's trees to be employed during construction. The project arborist will be required to be on site during excavation works for the proposed services to these lots within the road right-of-way on Moss Rock Place, to ensure the Arbutus root zone is protected as well.

Boulevard landscaping along the Fairfield Road frontage will be secured at the time of subdivision approval, including grass and three new boulevard canopy trees.

## CONCLUSIONS

This proposal to construct three new houses requires a Development Permit with Variances for the two Panhandle Lots. Although the application is not in compliance with Schedule H, which provides regulations related to height and number of storeys, the proposal is generally consistent with Development Permit 15B: Intensive Residential – Panhandle Lot. The new houses will fit in with the existing neighbourhood and the variances will not have a substantial impact on the privacy of the adjacent lots. Staff recommend that Council consider supporting this application.

1012,7017

# ALTERNATE MOTION

That Council decline Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00033 for the property located at 1421 Fairfield Road.

Respectfully submitted,

Bater. aney

Rob Bateman Senior Process Planner Development Services Division

Jonathan Tinney, Director Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:

# List of Attachments

- Subject Map
- Aerial Map
- Plans date stamped June 23, 2017
- Letter from applicant to Mayor and Council dated April 24, 2017
- September 8, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes
- Letter from Fairfield Gonzales CALUC dated May 19, 2017



Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of July 20, 2017

To: Committee of the Whole

Date: July 10, 2017

From: Chris Coates

Subject: Enforcement Update on Cannabis-Related Businesses

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive this report for information.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council established a regulatory regime for Cannabis Dispensaries and related Businesses that came into effect September 22, 2016. In April of 2017 Council indicated that the City was taking enforcement action against these businesses that had not applied for rezoning, where required, and/or or had not applied for a business license.

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting held July 6, 2017, Council posed questions about the status and process for enforcing City bylaw for cannabis-related businesses that are not complying with regulations.

To date, six (6) of thirty-five (35) operating dispensaries have not applied for rezoning and three (3) of thirty-five (35) operating dispensaries have not applied for a Business License. In addition, two businesses are in operation that are known to be permitting the consumption of cannabis on premises contrary to the City's regulations. All violations of these businesses are being addressed by increasing levels of enforcement.

Enforcement starts with education of the regulations, then warning operators of the consequences of non-compliance, followed by ticketing. Businesses are regularly inspected for compliance with all of the requirements for operating as a Storefront Cannabis Retailer. Staff are determining which non-compliant operators have reached the stage where injunctive relief is required. Direction to seek injunctions has been provided by Council at the City Solicitor's discretion.

# PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the process of gaining compliance with the Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw.

Committee of the Whole Report Enforcement Update on Cannabis-Related Businesses Page 1 of 4

## BACKGROUND

The Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw was adopted on September 22, 2016. Section 11 of the bylaw permits businesses that were in existence when the bylaw was introduced on July 28, 2016 to continue to operate without a business licence, provided they actively pursue rezoning. Since adoption of the bylaw, enforcement has been proactive, initially focusing on education on the regulations, what is required and assisting the applicants to navigate through the process. Those businesses that were not moving forward were encouraged to apply, warned and then ticketed for non-compliance.

## **ISSUES & ANALYSIS**

Staff continue to perform regular inspections of businesses for compliance. Balancing compliance of the regulations while assisting new businesses to navigate the permitting process is staff's goal in order to value customers and their experience dealing with City processes. To that end, all bylaw officers are involved in the monitoring of dispensaries and providing customer service to those with concerns about operations, which is the same consideration that would be provided to any new business applicant.

Over the past nine months, a variety of actions have happened with respect to the operation of cannabis businesses: most have submitted rezoning and business licences applications; businesses that were open and applied for licenses have closed; others have opened and not applied for licences and some have changed their business model to remove any cannabis-related retail. All nine (9) Bylaw staff are involved in compliance monitoring, enforcement activities and administration of Cannabis Dispensaries and related businesses.

At the July 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting, the question of daily ticketing of non-compliant businesses was raised. Though this is an enforcement option, staff weigh this option with the objective of gaining compliance through consultation which is balanced with the knowledge that tickets can be disputed, which is a court process. However, once the steps of enforcement have progressed to the stage of obtaining injunctive relief, compliance can be reinforced through continued ticketing.

The following points summarize actions that have occurred:

- Thirty (30) operating businesses have applied for rezoning
- Three (3) not open businesses have applied for rezoning
- Six (6) operating businesses have not applied for rezoning or a business license
- Two (2) operating businesses have closed
- Thirty-four (34) businesses have applied for a business licence
- One (1) business licence has been issued
- Four (4) have received rezoning and four (4) are close to receiving their business licences
- Three (3) new dispensaries have opened since September 2016 and not applied for rezoning or a business licence, and continue to operate
- Two (2) applications have been denied
- Thirty-five (35) businesses are being inspected for compliance with operating regulations
- Thirty-nine (39) tickets have been issued
- Two (2) businesses are permitting consumption on their premises; enforcement is underway

Bylaw	Offence	Amount	<b>Tickets Issued</b>	Total
Business	No licence	\$250	2	\$500
Cannabis	Allow Consumption	\$500	8	\$4,000
Cannabis	Display prohibited signs	\$250	1	\$250
Cannabis	Failure to maintain air filtration	\$500	1	\$500
Cannabis	Failure to provide required staff Operate outside of permitted	\$500	1	\$500
Cannabis	hours	\$250	1	\$250
Cannabis	Operate without valid licence	\$1,000	15	\$15,000
Sign	No sign permit	\$250	4	\$1,000
Street &Traffic	No portable sign permit	\$250	1	\$250
Zoning	use/allow use contrary to bylaw	\$350	5	\$1,750
	19. E		39	\$24,000

The following table summarizes ticketing actions:

On April 20, 2017, Council authorized the City Solicitor to commence legal proceedings against cannabis-related businesses operating in contravention of City bylaws. Commencement of legal proceedings requires careful preparation and staff have been gathering evidence necessary to file applications for injunctions with the BC Supreme Court. Applications will be brought against offending businesses individually and, because of resources available, will be done in phases rather than all at once. This approach allows the City to better utilize its resources and it provides further opportunity for voluntary compliance. The City Solicitor advises that first injunction applications should be commenced this month.

To date, Council has approved four (4) cannabis-related retailers through the rezoning process and one (1) cannabis-related retailer has received a business licence. There are six (6) rezoning applications ready for public hearing and twenty-three (23) rezoning applications are with planning staff and are at various stages moving through the process. Nine (9) operators have not applied for a rezoning application and two (2) applications have been denied.

## **OPTIONS & IMPACTS**

Since adoption of the bylaw, staff resourcing has exceeded the 35 hours allotted to cannabis enforcement. It is anticipated that once all cannabis retailers are through the rezoning process and only those permitted are operating, ongoing compliance can be monitored and enforced with the allocated 35 hours a week.

#### 2015 – 2018 Strategic Plan

The current approach to achieving compliance supports objective 7 from the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan: Facilitate Social Inclusion and Community Wellness and objective 13: Demonstrate Regional Leadership.

## CONCLUSIONS

Until federal government legislation comes into effect next year, there will continue to be many unknowns in regulating the sale of cannabis. In the meantime, bylaws implemented by the City to

Committee of the Whole Report Enforcement Update on Cannabis-Related Businesses Page 3 of 4 reduce the community impact of cannabis-related businesses will continue to be enforced by:

- 1. Seeking compliance through consultation with the business to apply for rezoning and business licence.
- 2. Continuing to inspect open dispensaries for compliance with the regulations.
- 3. Ticketing the business for non-compliance.
- 4. Seeking injunctive relief as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Insta

Nancy Johnston Manager of Bylaw & Licensing

Chris Coates City Clerk

Jøcelyn Jenkyns Deputy City Manager

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:

Attachment: Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw

Committee of the Whole Report Enforcement Update on Cannabis-Related Businesses Page 4 of 4

## NO. 16-061

#### CANNABIS-RELATED BUSINESS REGULATION BYLAW

#### A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA

The purpose of this Bylaw is to provide for the regulation of cannabis-related businesses to minimize any adverse effects that operation of such businesses may have on the safety, health and well-being of the community in anticipation of changes to the federal laws regarding distribution of cannabis.

## Contents

## **PART 1 - INTRODUCTION**

- 1 Title
- 2 Definitions
- 3 Application of this Bylaw

#### PART 2 - BUSINESS LICENCES

- 4 Business licences required for cannabis-related businesses
- 5 Licence Inspector's authority to refuse a licence

#### PART 3 - OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

- 6 Requirements for all cannabis-related businesses
- 7 Requirements for businesses that keep cannabis on the premises
- 8 Requirements for storefront cannabis retailers

## PART 4 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 9 Offences
- 10 Severability
- 11 Transition provisions

## PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

#### Title

1 This Bylaw may be cited as the "Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw".

#### Definitions

2 In this Bylaw:

"cannabis"

means cannabis as defined in the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and includes any products containing cannabis;

" cannabis-related business"

means carrying on of activity where

- the use of cannabis for medical or any other purposes is advocated or promoted;
- (b) cannabis or paraphernalia used in the consumption of cannabis are sold or otherwise provided to persons for any purpose;
- (c) cannabis is stored for a purpose of sale or distribution; or
- (d) cannabis is consumed in any form;

#### "shareholder"

means a shareholder with a 10% or greater interest;

"storefront cannabis retailer"

means a cannabis-related business where cannabis is sold or otherwise provided to a person who attends at the premises.

#### Application of this Bylaw

3

The provisions of this Bylaw do not apply to production and distribution of cannabis licensed by Health Canada under the Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulations of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (Canada).

#### PART 2 - BUSINESS LICENCES

#### Business licences required for cannabis-related businesses

- 4 (1) A person must not carry on cannabis-related business unless the person holds a valid licence issued under the provisions of this Bylaw and the Business Licence Bylaw.
  - (2) A person applying for the issuance or renewal of a licence to carry on a cannabisrelated business where cannabis is kept or present on the premises must:
    - make application to the Licence Inspector on the form provided for that purpose
    - (b) pay to the City the applicable licence fee prescribed under subsection (3)
    - provide a security plan for the premises that, in the opinion of the Licence Inspector, describes adequate security measures to mitigate risk of theft or robbery at the premises;
    - (d) provide proof of a security alarm contract that includes monitoring at all times during the period for which the licence is being sought, and
    - (e) provide proof of ownership or legal possession of the premises, and
    - (f) provide a current police information check for:

- (i) the applicant
- (ii) if the applicant is a corporation, each shareholder, officer and director, and
- (iii) each on-site manager.
- (3) The licence fee for purposes of subsection (2)(b) is:
  - \$5,000 for a storefront cannabis retailer and a cannabis-related business where cannabis is kept on the premises, and
  - (b) \$500 for all other cannabis-related businesses where cannabis is not kept on the premises.

#### Licence Inspector's authority to refuse a licence

- 5 (1) The Licence Inspector may suspend or refuse to issue or renew a licence for a business where cannabis is kept on the premises if:
  - the applicant or licensee, or a shareholder, officer, director or on-site manager of the applicant or licensee:
    - (i) was convicted anywhere in Canada of an offence involving dishonesty
    - (ii) was convicted, found guilty of, or liable for any contravention or offence relating to the conduct of a business similar to that to which the licence relates
    - (iii) was convicted, found guilty of, or liable for any contravention or offence, in Victoria, against this bylaw or against any bylaw authorizing the issuance of a business licence or regulating the conduct of a business, or
    - (iv) was guilty of misrepresentation, nondisclosure or concealment of any material fact, relating to the subject matter of the licence or required to be stated in, the application.
  - (2) A decision of the Licence Inspector under subsection (1) may be appealed to Council by submitting a request in writing to the City Clerk within 30 days of the decision.

## PART 3 - OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

#### Requirements for all cannabis-related businesses

- 6 A person carrying on a cannabis-related business must not:
  - (a) allow a person under the age of 19 on the premises

- (b) advertise or promote the use of a cannabis to a person under the age of 19
- (c) allow a person to smoke, vape, consume or otherwise ingest cannabis or products containing cannabis on the premises, or
- (d) display any advertising or sign that is visible from outside of the premises except for a maximum of two signs which display no images and contain only:
  - (i) alpha-numeric characters,
  - (ii) the business name, and

is in a size as permitted under the Sign Bylaw.

#### Requirements for businesses that keep cannabis on the premises

- 7 In addition to the requirements of section 6, a person carrying on a business where cannabis is kept or present on the premises must:
  - (a) install video surveillance cameras that monitor all entrances and exits and the interior of the business premises at all times
  - (b) retain video camera data for at least 21 days after it is gathered
  - (c) install a security and fire alarm system that is, at all times, monitored by a licenced third party
  - (d) not allow cannabis, products containing cannabis or other valuables to remain on the premises when the business is not open to the public, unless the cannabis, products and other valuables are securely locked in a safe on the premises, and
  - (e) install and maintain an air filtration system that effectively minimizes odour impacts on neighbouring properties.

#### Requirements for storefront cannabis retailers

- 8 In addition to the requirements of sections 6 and 7, a person carrying on the business of a storefront cannabis retailer must:
  - (a) prominently display a sign on the premises indicating that no persons under 19 years of age are permitted on the premises;
  - (b) ensure that two employees are present on the premises at all times when the business is open to the public, including one manager;
  - not use the premises to carry on business other than the cannabis-related business and accessory uses;

- (d) ensure that windows on any street frontage of the premises are not blocked by translucent or opaque material, artwork, posters, shelving, display cases or similar elements;
- (e) not be open for business between the hours of 8 p.m. and 7 a.m. the next day;
- (f) promptly bring to the attention of the Licence Inspector:
  - (i) the name of any new on-site manager, officer, director or shareholder of the licensee, and
  - (ii) any criminal charge brought against the licensee or an on-site manager, officer, director or shareholder of the licensee, and
- (g) promptly provide to the Licence Inspector a current police information check for any new on-site manager, officer, director or shareholder of the licensee.

#### PART 4 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Offences

- 9 (1) A person commits an offence and is subject to the penalties imposed by this Bylaw, the Ticket Bylaw, and the *Offence Act* if that person
  - (a) contravenes a provision of this Bylaw,
  - (b) consents to, allows, or permits an act or thing to be done contrary to this Bylaw, or
  - (c) neglects or refrains from doing anything required by a provision of this Bylaw.
  - (2) Each day that a contravention of a provision of this Bylaw continues is a separate offence.

#### Severability

10 Each section of this Bylaw shall be severable. If any provision of this Bylaw is held to be illegal or invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the provision may be severed and the illegality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the bylaw.

#### Transition Provisions

- 11 (1) Notwithstanding section 4(1), a storefront cannabis retailer that was in existence in the same location on the date this bylaw received first reading may continue to operate without a business licence while an application for a rezoning to permit a storefront cannabis retailer use at its location is actively pursued and has not be denied by Council.
  - (2) A cannabis-related business that was in existence on the date this bylaw received first reading is not subject to the requirements of section 7 until 60 days after

adoption of this bylaw.

## **Consequential Amendment**

- 12 That the Business Licence Bylaw (No. 89-071) be amended to prohibit cannabis consumption on site at any licenced business in the City by adding the following new section 35:
  - 35 No consumption of cannabis, as defined in the Cannabis-Related Business Regulation Bylaw, shall be permitted at any business licensed under the Business Licence Bylaw.

READ A FIRST TIME the	28 <sup>th</sup>	day of	July	2016.
READ A SECOND TIME the	28 <sup>th</sup>	day of	July	2016.
AMENDED on the	8 <sup>th</sup>	day of	September	2016.
READ A THIRD TIME the	8 <sup>th</sup>	day of	September	2016.
ADOPTED on the	22 <sup>nd</sup>	day of	September	2016.

"CHRIS COATES" CITY CLERK "LISA HELPS" MAYOR



**Committee of the Whole Report** For the Meeting of June 22, 2017

To: Committee of the Whole

Date: June 16, 2017

From: Chris Coates, City Clerk

Subject: Urban Deer

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive this report for information.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Within the Capital Region, deer are an issue involving such things as conflicts with human activities such as gardening as well as vehicle conflicts, and in rural areas with commercial farming activities. The Capital Regional District did initiate discussions on a regional basis to seek out ways in which to address these issues. The different issues within the various municipalities resulted in more independent approaches being taken by some communities.

In December 2016, Council directed staff to report back on the status of urban deer management in the region. To date, several municipalities including Central Saanich, Oak Bay and Esquimalt have undertaken deer management initiatives, with the support of both the Capital Regional District and Provincial Government.

The City's 2016 Operation Plan identified the interest in providing a report on activities of neighbouring municipalities and identifying potential solutions.

Differing views on the jurisdictional responsibility for urban deer management remains: with the Province asserting that municipalities are responsible for urban deer, while municipalities expect the Province to play a larger role in the issue.

At this point, limited data has been collected in the City of Victoria, making it difficult to determine the full extent of the urban deer issue. However, studies authored by the Province and CRD suggest that deer-human conflicts are on the rise in the region. It is clear that deer are present in the City and there have been complaints received from residents, although the volume of complaints is not significant in numbers.

Should Council choose to proceed with a deer management strategy, there are a number of tools, including population counts, inventories and public opinion surveys, which can help determine the extent of the problem and to develop appropriate solutions for consideration.

Urban Deer --C. Coates, City Clerk A report providing inform...

# PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the status of urban deer management strategies within the region, including funding opportunities as well as discuss the implications of examining the problem in Victoria.

# BACKGROUND

# **Council Direction**

At the December 1, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting, as part of the Quarter Three Update, Council passed the following motion:

That Council request staff to provide a report at the next Quarterly Strategic Update on the implications of examining the urban deer problem in Victoria such as determining the extent of the problem and what funding might be available to examine this.

The above motion was in relation to an initiative identified in the 2016 Operational Plan:

Monitor the efforts in neighbouring municipalities and create a report regarding a solution to the urban deer problem.

## **Deer-Human Conflicts**

Conflicts between deer and humans have become increasingly common in urban environments throughout the Capital Regional District. Urban deer come into conflict with people by eating landscape and garden vegetation, defecating, colliding with motorists and by attacking pets and more rarely, people. Concurrently, urban deer are often highly regarded by residents. Many people enjoy viewing them and are concerned for their welfare. This division has created significant management challenges in many communities in the region.

## **Deer Management Options**

Options for managing deer populations fall into several broad categories:

**Conflict Reduction** - hazing and frightening, landscaping alternatives, repellants and fencing **Population Reduction** – capture and relocation, capture and culling, controlled public hunting. **Deer-Vehicle Collision Mitigation Options** – roadway design, signage, wildlife crossings, speed limit reductions

Fertility Control – immunocontraception vaccines Public Education – information campaigns

Both the capture and relocation and fertility control options are considered experimental. Research projects on capture and relocation are currently underway in several Kootenay municipalities.

# Provincial Role in Deer Management

Traditionally, the provincial government has supported local governments through:

- Participation on community-based deer management committees
- The provision of technical advice
- The development of hunting regulations and the issuance of permits to manage deer populations within or near urban areas
- The loaning of available equipment to communities

More recently, the provincial government has:

- Jointly delivered an Urban Deer Workshop in collaboration with UBCM
- Convened a Provincial Urban Deer Advisory Committee to provide support to local governments in BC managing urban deer conflicts

# **Funding Opportunities**

<u>The</u> Province established the Urban Deer Operation Cost Share Program, which provides \$100,000 (total) to local governments in BC for operational or research projects related to urban deer management. Five local governments, including Invermere, Grand Forks, Elkford, Cranbrook and Oak Bay were recently awarded funding for both conflict and population reduction measures. The Province has not yet committed to another round of funding under this program.

# Regional Urban Deer Management Strategies

In the region, the Capital Regional District and several municipalities including Oak Bay, Central Saanich and Esquimalt have undertaken deer management initiatives.

# Capital Regional District

- Published a Regional Deer Management Strategy, which included short, medium and long term recommendations for both urban and rural environments.
- Developed conflict reduction and public education tools for all municipalities.
- Funded two pilot projects in Central Saanich and Oak Bay.

Since the completion of the pilot projects in 2015, the CRD has reduced its role in regional deer management.

# Central Saanich

• Participated in a pilot project, which included public education, population counts, crop damage inspections, deer collision mitigation such as improved signage and road way brushing and advocating for changes to Hunting and Trapping Regulations. The majority of this work was competed in spring/fall of 2013. CRD staff consider the pilot successful.

# Oak Bay

- Participated in a pilot project focused on both conflict reduction and population control, which included a communications plan, population counts and the capture and culling of 11 deer. A permit was issued by the Province to cull up to 25 deer. Most of the pilot project took place during 2014, with the cull completed in February of 2015.
- Completed a Lessons Learned document that is attached as Appendix A.
- For 2017, Oak Bay was awarded a grant under the urban deer cost-share program to radiocollar up to 20 deer and place motion-activated video cameras on trails frequented by deer.

# **Esquimalt**

• In 2016, completed a public survey of residents to document their attitudes and wishes regarding deer as well as a public education initiative. A population count is currently planned for 2017.

# Urban Deer Management Strategies across the Province

Municipalities in the Kootenays including Kimberley, Cranbrook, Invermere and Elkford have pursued deer management strategies, including two types of population reductions measures: capture and cull as well as the more experimental capture and relocation.

# **ISSUES & ANALYSIS**

# Jurisdictional Responsibility

Local governments contend that wildlife remains a provincial responsibility and that the provincial government should play a larger role in deer management and provide more effective solutions specific to urban deer, as traditional wildlife management techniques such as hunting are not as relevant, practical or safe, in dense urban environments. The Province asserts that municipalities must determine the attitudes and opinions of their residents and that urban deer should primarily be managed by municipalities. Given this, many local governments, including those noted above have chosen to lead deer management initiatives with the support of the Province.

## Extent of the Problem in Victoria

The City of Victoria does not currently track public complaints of nuisance deer or the number of deer-vehicle collisions and a population count of deer in the City has never been performed. Data from other sources such as ICBC is reported for Vancouver Island and is not currently available at the municipal level.

With limited baseline data, it is difficult to determine the true extent of the problem. However, staff do occasionally receive complaints from residents. For example, urban deer conflicts was a frequently raised issue during the Growing in the City project and some residents are investing in conflict reduction tools, including fencing and landscaping alternatives. Although the extent of the problem in Victoria is currently unknown, Provincial reports, including the British Columbia Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis and the CRD's Urban Deer Regional Management Strategy suggest that deer-human conflicts are increasing in the region. Anecdotally, this does impact residents of the city to some degree.

# Next Steps

Should Council wish to take an active role in deer management, there are a number of tools at the City's disposal, which could be used to determine the extent of the problem and identify appropriate solutions.

These include:

- Population counts
- Public opinion surveys
- Inventory of impacts
- Public education campaigns
- Community Advisory Committees

The above can be completed independently but more often is conducted as part of a larger community deer management plan. Engaging the Capital Regional District and neighbouring municipalities in developing collaborative approaches is a further alternative. No funding is currently allocated in the 2017 budget for this work. Should Council wish to pursue deer management initiatives, staff recommend providing direction to develop a project plan and bring that forward for Council's consideration for the 2018 budget process. Development of program details, costs and implementation timelines can be accommodated in Quarter 4 of 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Jamison Legislative Planning Analyst

Chris Coates City Clerk

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Jocelyn Jenkyns

Jocelyn Jenkyns Deputy City Manager

Sure 16,2017 Date:

# List of Attachments:

Appendix A: Lessons Learned: Resulting from the District of Oak Bay's Participation in the Capital Regional District Deer Management Strategy Urban Pilot Project

# OAK BAY

Lessons Learned: Resulting from the District of Oak Bay's Participation in the Capital Regional District Deer Management Strategy Urban Pilot Project

April 30, 2015



# Lessons learned resulting from the District of Oak Bay's participation in the CRD Deer Management Strategy Urban Pilot Project.

**Purpose:** The District of Oak Bay wishes to share with other interested communities some insights and lessons learned resulting from the District of Oak Bay's participation in the CRD's Deer Management Strategy Urban Pilot Project.

**Background**: Wildlife management is the responsibility of the Provincial Government but is now being managed by local governments. In 2011 the Ministry of Environment directed the CRD to develop a Deer Management Strategy for the Capital Region. The Regional Deer Management Strategy was developed by the CRD and a Citizen's Advisory Group with input from wildlife and animal health experts from the provincial government and the private sector. The strategy explains the population of black-tailed deer, addresses the issues of deer-human conflicts and makes recommendations to effectively and humanely address public safety, health and wildlife issues.

There is an overpopulation of deer living in urban areas throughout the Capital Region. Our coastal climate offers urban deer an abundance of year round food and green space while enabling them to live in the absence of any natural predators. As a consequence, deer populations are increasing. Does give birth to twins, and we are now seeing more triplets born every spring – an indication of a strong and reliable food source and a safe environment in which to raise and habituate fawns. Deer-human conflicts are on the rise with real public safety implications.

**District of Oak Bay:** Complaints and concerns from residents are on the rise in Oak Bay. Conflicts and concerns include: vehicular collisions; aggressive deer interactions with pets and people; native plant and property damage; and deer feces in parks, yards and school fields. In response to the growing numbers of residents' concerns, the District of Oak Bay Council (the District) agreed to participate in the Capital Regional District's urban pilot project in November 2013 at an estimated cost of \$25,000.00. The pilot project guided the District through a number of deer-human conflict reduction measures. During the 2014 calendar year, the District:

- Reviewed fencing bylaws to ensure that rear and side fencing heights were appropriate to discourage deer from entering back yards.
- Re-printed copies of the CRD's public information brochures (2 brochures) and distributed them through the Oak Bay News to every household in the District.
- Reviewed the District's practices to ensure that Parks and Recreation departments were applying deer repellants to the District's parks and gardens and planting deer resistant plants.
- Increased fines for feeding the deer to \$300.00 and supported this initiative with education posters in high traffic areas throughout the community.
- Website updates and newspaper editorials.
- Increased signage in areas known for high concentrations of deer and high incidents of deer-vehicle collisions.
- Supported the CRD with a deer count in June 2014 to better understand the population densities in Oak Bay neighbourhoods.

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As a condition of the District's participation in the CRD Deer Management Strategy pilot project, the District asked the CRD to ensure that every possible population management option be examined and implemented prior to the decision to reduce the population through a cull.

The decision to proceed with population reduction in the District of Oak Bay in 2014 was interrupted by the destruction of the Modified Clover Traps during the cull in Kimberly. The provincial government was not able to support the District with the necessary traps and for many months, it was unclear as to whether or not the traps would be rebuilt for the District's use. Late in 2014, the province confirmed their commitment to provide 5 Modified Clover Traps to support the District's decision to apply to the Province for a permit to harvest up to 25 black-tailed deer in Oak Bay.

Twenty three deer fatalities were addressed by Oak Bay police and Oak Bay public works in 2012. The number grew to forty in 2013 and thirty nine in 2014.

The 2014 municipal election provided all Councillors with an opportunity to publicly declare their position on deer management, and specifically, population reduction. The issue of whether or not to conduct a cull in Oak Bay was a high profile and very public election issue. Oak Bay residents elected Mayor and Council with a mandate to proceed with a cull.

The District applied to the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations for a permit to reduce the population of deer in the District of Oak Bay by 25 deer in October 2014. The District engaged a contractor to lead the initiative and 11 deer were harvested over 16 days in February 2015. Homeowners offered their properties and the deer were given to local First Nations for Traditional food and ceremonial purposes.

#### Urban Pilot Study Area: Oak Bay – Lessons learned

#### **Executive Summary:**

There is a financial cost to doing nothing as well as a social cost. There are also real risks to public safety. The costs to taxpayers for managing deer fatalities and to homeowners through property damage, and fencing investments has not been calculated, however it should be noted as it is likely more significant that anyone realizes. We have reports of residents in Oak Bay who have been chased up their walkways to the door, whose children have been challenged by bucks in rut in their own play area, and whose pets have been trampled in their yards. The deer in Oak Bay are 6 and 7 generation habituated deer and they have lost much of their fear of humans. Escalating human deer conflicts are to be expected and learning more about these wild animals and how to live safely and responsibly with them in our neighbourhoods is an important part of any deer management strategy.

Greater, collaborative involvement from the province, who have overall responsibility for wildlife management in BC and who have the knowledge and expertise is an overarching theme in the lessons learned.



The District has no wildlife specialist on staff and therefore was reliant on information provided through the CRD's Deer Management Strategy team. The CRD in turn were relying on the expertise of the professional staff in the Provincial Government who have over-all responsibility for wildlife management in B.C. Wildlife management is a specialized area of expertise and more needs to be done to improve upon the access and exchange of clear, factual information that is written specifically for public consumption. The public demanded more factual information than was available. Given the sensitive nature of the issue, access to subject matter experts and knowledge to promote greater understanding is of paramount importance.

The District attended a Deer Management workshop in January 2015 led by the Union of BC Municipalities and the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations. This workshop was attended by ministry staff, and representatives from 12 local governments all struggling with the same challenges around how to live safely and responsibly with growing populations of deer living in their communities. This was a very helpful and informative session.

The District observed that a very different model of operational and planning engagement was employed in the Kootenays, a model that saw a more active role for the MFLNRO regional wildlife biologist at the planning table shaping and implementing the deer management strategy in partnership with the municipal government and with citizen representatives from the local deer committee. Having subject matter experts actively taking part in informing and implementing a deer management strategy with local citizen involvement appears to be a model that promotes collaboration and shared understanding of all the intricate dynamics involved in addressing the challenges of urban deer in a responsible and humane manner. Improved collaboration between the provincial government staff and the planning team in the community would address many of the District's lessons learned in this document.

While there were residents living in the District of Oak Bay that were entirely opposed to population reduction – or were opposed to the only permitted methodology of capture and euthanize – the 2014 municipal election gave the District of Oak Bay a mandate to proceed. Ways to strengthen that mandate could have included a survey or a referendum question.

Population reduction options are limited and what few are available to urban municipalities are further reduced to only one permitted methodology: capture and euthanize. The nature of this undertaking in an urban setting is very challenging. While we believe that the majority of people in Oak Bay supported the cull, a well-organized and articulate public opposition from citizens, and from animal welfare organizations from across the country and throughout the world played a significant role in how the project was viewed outside of the District. This is to be anticipated going forward.

The District of Oak Bay was the first urban coastal community to undertake a cull. With the support of private property owners, eleven deer were harvested over sixteen days without detection or disturbing neighbourhoods. We learned that while difficult, it is possible providing there is leadership and sufficient social licence in the community. Regardless of having the support of the silent majority in our community, there is currently no permitted and socially acceptable way to responsibly and ethically manage a growing population of urban deer in a manner that does not financially and emotionally severely challenge the municipal leadership who are taking action.



Public safety continues to be an important lens in the evaluation as the real implications of deerhuman conflicts continue. The issues of vehicle collisions, the biological carrying capacity of our environment and the socio-economic carrying capacity of our residents (property damage, fencing costs, vehicle damage, veterinary bills, stress) all continue.

## **District of Oak Bay Pilot Project Overview:**

## 1. Data Monitoring

## Deer fatalities in the District of Oak Bay

Though not scientific, this is a meaningful raw statistic and speaks to public safety concerns. These numbers were generated by the District's public works department as they along with the municipal police were most involved in responding to injured and dead deer. While responding to problem or injured wildlife would normally be dealt with by the provincial conservation office, the responsibility fell to our local police. To ensure that this was done properly, our police were trained by conservation staff.

Year	Number of deer deaths
2012	23
2013	40
2014	39

## Complaints

The CRD Deer Management Strategy Pilot Project attempted to lessen the District's burden by directing complaints to their website. This call to action to the CRD was posted also on the District's website. In reality, the District received a steady volume of verbal complaints, emails and letters. These most often went directly to the District's Mayor and Council. Over time, the amount of information became overwhelming at the District, and there was no one person responsible for records management for this aspect of the project.

## • Lessons learned:

While the intention was to have the CRD manage and track complaints and inquiries, the reality is that the District was a natural point of contact. The heavy volume of inquiries over the duration of the project would have benefited from a dedicated resource to implement a proper records management process at the District.

#### **Urban Deer Count**

Wildlife experts in the provincial government informed us that Black-tailed does do not migrate very far from where they were born. They generally don't cover more than a few square blocks. Home range in urban areas is estimated to be about 2.5 square kms. Bucks, however, will cover slightly more ground looking for females during the rut and for prime food.



Deer generally will not move to a new area unless they are pushed because of predation (animal or people), dense populations and/or a lack of desirable habitat.

The CRD with support from the District undertook a deer count over a period of 5 days in June 2014. The methodology that they used was informed by the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) biologist responsible for rural wildlife management. The scientific merit and validity of the District's count methodology was continually challenged.

## • Lessons learned: Urban Deer Count

Although there were many other influencing factors, the Pilot Project focussed on a deer count to inform population density and link these extrapolated estimates to determine the need for population reduction measures. Counting deer in an urban setting is challenging at best. Identifying a threshold for other aspects of deer human conflict in addition to population density would be a helpful guide to determine when there is a need for population reduction.

The count methodology used in the District, while recognized as a standard count practise in the wild, had never before been applied to an urban setting.

The District would recommend adopting the methodology used in the Kootenays. It includes citizen participation and involves driving/walking in a grid through all neighbourhoods over a number of days. The contractor that the District hired upon reviewing our local process indicated that the District's process would benefit from adopting what was done in the Kootenays as it is more suitable for an urban setting. In the Kootenays, conservation officers, whose authorities include enforcement, were part of the planning and implementation team. The District and the CRD requested the support of the conservation office from the Province. They did not have the staff resources to lend to the initiative.

## 2. Education and Communications

There was an assumption built into the CRD Deer Management Strategy Pilot Project that community engagement and outreach had already taken place during the development of the CRD Deer Management Strategy as this process was very heavily focused on consultation and engagement.

The District's educational component was therefore limited to acting upon the recommendations within the pilot project as referenced at the beginning of this report. The District did however invest in the reproduction of the CRD educational brochures to ensure they were distributed through the local paper to every household and accessible on the District's website.

The District also worked directly with the CRD and the MFLNRO to strengthen the public information regarding permitted population reduction options. The District adopted a proactive media engagement approach to encourage stronger awareness and understanding of the issues, to demonstrate that the District would be accessible to media and was prepared to



address public concerns. The spokesperson however was not a subject matter expert and as such the factual information presented was often challenged.

The District was learning in real time throughout this Pilot Project. The role of the BCSPCA leading up to and during the cull was not clear. Their very public opposition to the Oak Bay cull (but not the cull in Cranbrook) was confusing. The permit to undertake a cull is held by the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resources. The permit provides municipalities with legal authority to proceed abiding by strict protocols. We were advised at the time of the cull, however, that once the deer is in the trap, the animal becomes the responsibility of the BCSPCA who have provincial oversight for the animal's humane handling.

The District, the District's contractor, along with staff from MFLNRO and the CRD met with the BCSPCA representatives. The BCSPCA acknowledged the appropriate expertise of the contractor and affirmed that the methodology of capture and euthanize is not an offence nor did it contravene either the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act or the Criminal Code of Canada.

## • Lessons learned: Education and Communication

While citizens in Oak Bay were largely supportive of population reduction, more substantive educational outreach in the community would have helped the entire process as it would have identified earlier and remedied earlier the challenges associated with getting factual information from the provincial government out into the community.

Provincial government information sheets posted on line, while informative, are not sufficiently clear nor are they written for the purposes of addressing public concerns regarding population reduction. Citizens challenged the District's claims when it came to population reduction methodologies – what was allowed and what was not allowed by the Province, why and why not. Given that the authority for the permitting lies with the Provincial Government, the education with regard to options should be informed by the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations and information should be clearly laid out and easily accessible for all.

There remains significant public confusion and debate over what population reduction options exist for municipalities in B.C., and then what population options the authorities in the provincial government will permit.

Greater collaborative involvement from the province, who have overall responsibility for wildlife management in BC and who have the knowledge and expertise would be a tremendous benefit reducing dramatically the risks associated with misinformation.

#### • Lessons learned: BCSPCA

Given that the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resources is responsible for issuing a permit for population reduction, and that BCSPCA falls under the Ministry of Agriculture, assistance from the province to appropriately define the role and responsibilities of the BCSPCA in deer management strategies is needed.



The BCSPCA's dual role as advocates and enforcement adds a complicated and confusing element to this already emotionally charged initiative. It may be there is a larger role for this organization to play in helping address this emerging challenge of overpopulations of urban deer. The District was fortunate to be able to provide a letter of approval written by the BCSPCA regarding the professional conduct of the Oak Bay contractor. The letter acknowledged his professional services in another community.

#### 3. Population Reduction Options:

What considerations and options were explored with the Province of BC and the CRD to address population reduction in Oak Bay?

Capture and Relocate: This method is not currently supported by the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations for black-tailed deer in this region. The Ministry Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations stated that it will not authorize the capture and relocation of black-tailed deer due to the transportation stress and resulting high mortality rate. Deer habituated to urban and suburban environments do not fare well when introduced into wild environments.

Tranquilize and Relocate: The Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations has stated that it will not authorize the use of tranquilizers to aid in relocation due to the high risk of the deer reacting poorly to the tranquilizer. Risks range from no reaction to the deer succumbing to the tranquilizer causing death. Deer habituated to urban and suburban environments do not fare well when introduced into wild environments. Residual tranquilizers can impact other animals that consume deer that have been tranquilized.

Immunocontraceptives: This method involves trapping a deer in a clover trap, releasing the males, marking the females and injecting them with a contraceptive. This is currently only possible and legal as part of a research project and the contraceptive application must be supervised by Provincial staff. It is necessary to trap the deer in a Clover Trap in order to give the inoculation and manage any appropriate tagging or radio collaring for tracking. The inoculation not only sterilizes the doe, it also makes the meat unfit for human consumption. If the animal dies, scavengers that feed on the inoculated carcass could become contaminated. Approximately 70-90% of the doe population must be treated in order to start slowing population growth. Best results occur in geographically isolated populations. The contraceptives are not currently licenced or approved by Health Canada for use except when being used for experimental scientific research and by permit only. Immunocontraceptive treatment needs to be ongoing in order to be effective over the long term. Treated deer will live out the remainder of their natural life.

Farming: The farming of black-tailed deer has not been supported as a deer management option by the government of BC. This is to reduce the risk of transferring diseases between wild populations and domesticated, farmed big game animals. According to the Provincial Big Game Farm Act, the only big game animals that can be legally farmed in the province are Fallow Deer, Reindeer and Bison.



Capture and Euthanize: Under the direction of professional wildlife experts, deer are baited into modified Clover traps. The wildlife experts use the trap to constrain the deer and employ a bolt gun to euthanize the deer. The deer dies quickly, and the meat, uncontaminated by tranquilizers or contraceptives, can be consumed rather than wasted.

#### • Lessons Learned: Population Reduction Options

Achieving social license to undertake a deer management plan that involves capture and euthanize population reduction measures is going to remain challenging for the provincial government, municipal governments and communities. Factual public education that includes subject matter experts is a critical success factor – so is providing a forum for innovation.

Those that are opposed to capture and euthanize are not necessary opposed to the need to implement a responsible deer management strategy. There is no one in Oak Bay who would not welcome an alternative option to achieving the necessary objective of reducing the population of urban deer providing it is: humane, ethical, legal and affordable.

It is important to note however that the District received many inquiries from residents who wanted to buy the deer meat, and editorial coverage included strong sentiments that the deer meat would be welcomed by those families in our region who are living in poverty. In speaking with the communities in the Kootenays, the food banks are extremely grateful to take the meat. Our First Nations communities were pleased to receive the deer honouring the animal as a food source and for cultural purposes.

The question remains, would harvesting deer on an annual basis find greater acceptability over time? Education and leadership are the two key success factors.

Earlier engagement with a neutral third party to help with the public education throughout the community – such as Wild Safe BC, an organization that specialize in educating the public on how to live safely with wildlife and avoid conflict – would have helped create a foundation of important, trusted knowledge.

#### 4. Modified Clover Traps

The provincial government confirmed in the fall of 2014 that it would provide 5 modified Clover traps to the CRD in support of the Oak Bay pilot.

Online footage of a trapped deer being handled by people inside the trap made its way prominently into the social media and mainstream media networks. The MFLNRO confirmed that the footage posted and aired was not indicative of the capture and euthanize practices. While a person would enter the trap to tag a deer or to administer a shot, no one enters the trap during capture and euthanize. The images of a frightened, trapped animal were disturbing for many viewers. Our local media were very responsive to the correction and took down the footage.

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#### • Lessons learned: Modified Clover Traps

A media strategy that engages much earlier as a component of the public outreach education may have helped address the misperceptions around the utilization of the trap and the trapping. Educating the public on the fact that deer and other wildlife are trapped as part of responsible practise in the wild to tag them and monitor them may have eased some concerns. The animal is only startled during the period that it is being approached which is a matter of a few minutes.

#### 5. Permitting

The District applied to the MFLNO for a permit to reduce the population of deer in Oak Bay by 25 in October 2014 and received the permit in January 2015. The permit was valid for the time period up until March 15.

#### • Lessons learned: Permitting

Municipalities that are attempting a population reduction would benefit from consistent guidelines across the province to standardize the permit application content and process.

#### 6. Contracting and Training

The CRD wrote a request for proposal to attract a contractor to implement the population reduction within the strict conditions of the permit. Given that the permit methodology is restricted to capture and euthanize, those individuals locally with any relevant experience was very limited. Some of those who were identified as strong candidates were not interested in such a controversial assignment, and others who may have been interested determined that the remuneration was not sufficient given the controversy involved.

The District reached out to the most experienced person in this highly sensitive and specialized area. He came to us from the Kootenays. The District's contractor fast became an invaluable resource bringing his many years of experience and wisdom to the District's plan. Of great significance was the professional recognition by the BCSPCA for his professionalism. The contractor was only available, however for 21 days.

The contractor training on the use of the Modified Clover Trap and the Captive Bolt Gun is undertaken by the provincial government. A team of two contractors is necessary to undertake the cull, one lead and one assistant. The training took place out of town over 1.5 days.

#### • Lessons learned: Contracting and training

Finding a contractor with the appropriate experience and appropriate demeanor is challenging. Someone who is a hunter does not necessarily have the appropriate skills and temperament to manage all of the complex requirements that accompany something as sensitive in nature as this initiative.

The District would have benefited greatly from engaging with our contractor at the beginning of the Pilot Project to hear first-hand his experience and recommended approach to community engagement, the count, the qualifications of the contractor etc.



In addition, the contractor's long standing relationship with the subject matter experts working in the MFLNR would have allowed for improved direct communication and may have strengthened the quality of the information crafted and shared with the public.

#### Some of the contractor's observations included:

- Recommendation of a different count methodology
- Recommendation that the Deer Management Strategy team be established before there is a need for a population reduction and that this team include local citizens, municipal staff, provincial biologist and conservation officer.
- Observed that the District started the cull too late in the allowable season. He noted that our mild coastal climate and the unseasonal mild February weather created a lush food source for the deer. The deer were not as tempted by the bait in the traps as the deer in the Kootenays that are being trapped when there is snow cover over their food.
- Observed that the District has a healthy population of racoons and rats that were interfering with the process by triggering the traps shut as they entered to dine on the bait. They also caused damage to the netting.
- Observed that a cull would take longer than other jurisdictions because of the abundance of natural food habitat and that therefore, more time and more traps would be required.
- Recommended that minor modifications to clover traps would be beneficial.

#### 7. Trapping Locations

Home owners volunteered their properties to host the traps. The District had many more properties volunteered than available traps. Locations were selected based on areas where there were known populations of deer and consideration was given to privacy and topography of the yard. Through discussions with homeowners, the District learned that private home insurance would likely not cover any incidents that might take place on the homeowner's property during the cull. Given the high profile challenges to the cull, and given the precedent in other communities for trespass and vandalism, the District entered into agreements with property owners to ensure that the District would be responsible for any property damage associated with the cull. The District also received releases from the property owners to allow for the District and the CRD staff to manage any issues of trespass and potential media attention that might result. As there were no incidents that took place during the cull, these arrangement were not tested.

#### 8. Donations of Meat

As deer meat is a Traditional food source for First Nations, the District through the CRD worked directly with local First Nations to arrange for the deer to be given to them. The harvested deer were used for food and for ceremonial purposes.

#### • Lessons learned: donations of meat

While the province has developed health protocols that inform how harvested deer meat must treated and inspected before it is given to shelters and food banks, we could not find any protocols that govern in the same way the donation of culled game meat to



First Nations communities who preferred to receive the animal whole and hang and butcher the animal in Traditional ways.

The document, Donated Game Meat: Standards for the Donation of Culled Game Meat should be updated in cooperation with First Nations to include the donation of culled game meat to Aboriginal communities.

The District also suggests exploring opportunities with First Nations to take a greater role in the harvesting of deer in communities.

#### 9. Costs:

The District signed onto a Pilot Project with the understanding that the scope of investment would be \$25,000.00. The nature of a Pilot Project assumes learning and responding in real time which inevitably has cost implications. While the hopeful intention was the CRD would be operationalizing the Pilot Project in Oak Bay, the District and the CRD soon realized the limitations of this approach as much of the implementation required local knowledge of the community and the District. Given that the District did not have an internal staff resource who had the time or the expertise to assume this responsibility – and given the highly sensitive political nature of the initiative itself, the CAO assumed the leadership role on the implementation of the Pilot Project and contracted part time a local citizen with communications, risk management and project management experience to assist.

In addition, other expenses were incurred in the following areas:

- The deer count required the unexpected involvement of the District's animal control contractor;
- The additional insurance policy required to protect home owners resulted in corresponding legal costs;
- The CRD provided to each municipality in the region a few copies of two educational brochures. The District printed a second run and distributed them through the Oak Bay News to ensure that every resident in Oak Bay received these two information brochures at their home;
- The District increased signage in key areas;
- The District chose to create and distribute posters and hand bills to educate the community on the fine increases for feeding wildlife;
- The higher than anticipated contracting costs due to the need to hire a contractor from the Kootenays;
- Attendance at the UBCM Deer Management Forum;
- The cost of staff time involved in implementing something as high profile and sensitive as this initiative;
- The District would have benefited from an earlier Deer Management Forum where the subject matter experts from the province, and those with authority including the BCSPCA and municipalities are sharing and hearing the same information. The efficiencies that would result from greater collaboration between the province and municipalities along with the standardization of accessible information would have positive financial implications to the overall initiative. The learning curve is costly.

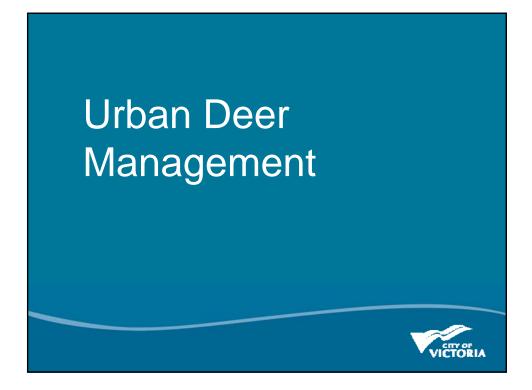


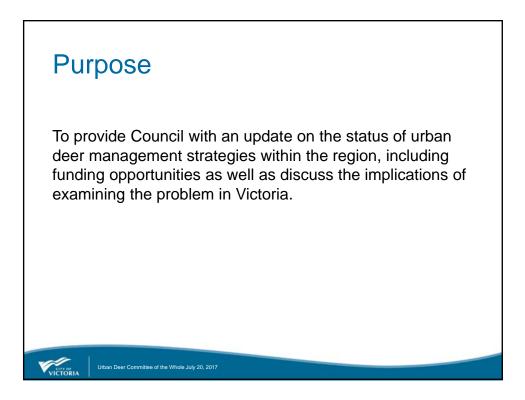
At the Deer Management Forum, the District found the model used by Invermere's Urban Deer Management Committee (Deer Committee) to be an interesting one. The goal of the committee was not to find consensus where all concerns could be met, nor was it to eradicate the deer population from the community. The Deer Committee was tasked with identifying resident issues and concerns, researching and evaluating solutions, determining which potential solutions may work in Invermere and making recommendations to implement proposed actions. It is important to note that despite this grass roots approach, the District of Invermere still concludes that there is no simple solution to address the concerns of all residents and at the end of the day, leadership is what is required.

Seeking alternative sources of funding to help lessen the burden on municipalities/taxpayers is needed. The responsibility for wildlife management in BC is with the provincial government. As this issue of urban deer begins to escalate throughout the province, perhaps the role of ICBC could also be considered given the high number of vehicle collisions that take place across the province.

#### 10. Next steps:

- District of Oak Bay to continue to monitor deer human conflicts going forward.
- District to receive CRD Project evaluation following a second deer count undertaken by the CRD in June.
- District awaits recommendations from CRD regarding Deer Management Strategy to determine next steps for the Capital Region including Oak Bay.





## Background

VICTORIA

At the December 1, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting, as part of the Quarter Three Update, Council passed the following motion:

That Council request staff to provide a report at the next Quarterly Strategic Update on the implications of examining the urban deer problem in Victoria such as determining the extent of the problem and what funding might be available to examine this.

# Deer Management Options

**Conflict Reduction** - hazing and frightening, landscaping alternatives, repellants and fencing

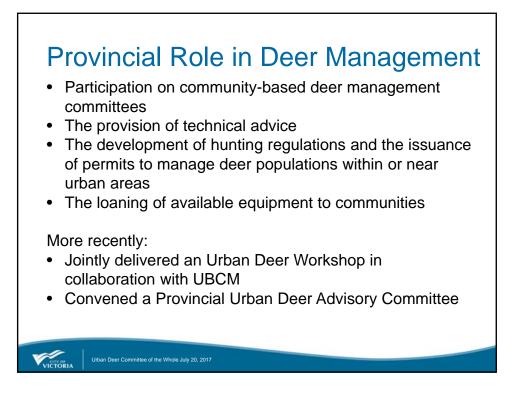
**Population Reduction** – capture and relocation, capture and culling, controlled public hunting

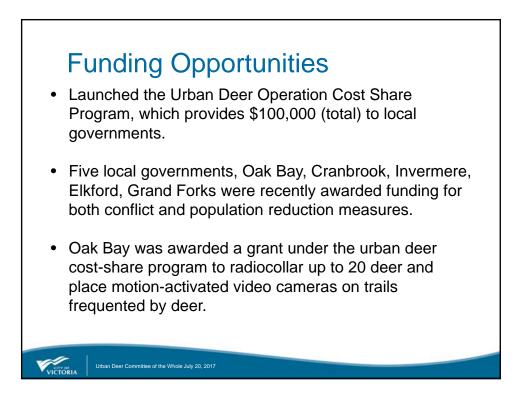
**Deer-Vehicle Collision Mitigation Options** – roadway design, signage, wildlife crossings, speed limit reductions

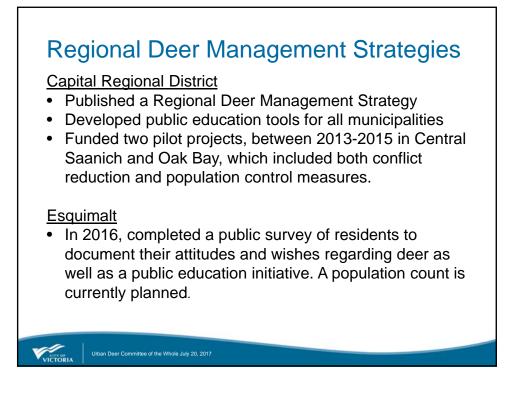
Fertility Control - immunocontraception vaccines

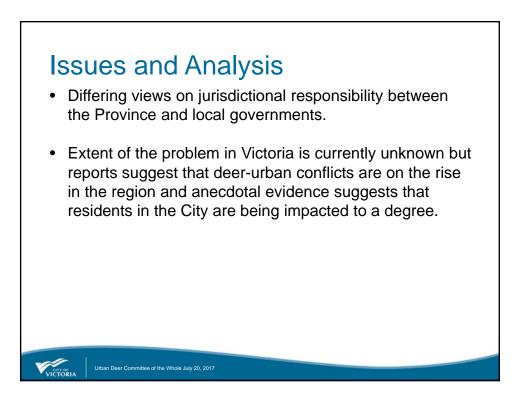
Public Education – information campaigns

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## Next Steps

- Should Council wish to proceed with a deer management strategy, there are a number of tools, including population counts, public opinion surveys, education campaigns and deer management plans that could be used to determine the extent of the problem and develop appropriate solutions for consideration.
- No funding is currently allocated to the 2017 budget for this work. Should Council wish to pursue deer management strategies, staff recommend providing direction to develop a project plan to bring forward for Council's consideration for the 2018 budget process.

Urban Deer Committee of the Whole July 20, 201



## Council Member Motion For the Committee of the Whole meeting of July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Date: July 11, 2017

From: Councillor Jeremy Loveday and Mayor Helps

Subject: Endorsing the We Speak Translate project and training City of Victoria Frontline staff

## Background:

The We Speak Translate project recently launched in Victoria is the first of its kind globally. It's a partnership between the Inter-Cultural Association (ICA) and Google Translate that utilizes the Google Translate app for refugee resettlement and newcomer inclusion in communities.

The We Speak Translate project engages community stakeholders, businesses, community agencies, institutions, and the public sector in Google Translate training. Upon completion of the 45-minute training, community stakeholders and partners receive a We Speak Translate decal. This is a visible symbol of inclusion and the communities' commitment to promoting diversity and communication across language barriers. Familiarity with the Google Translate App establishes a common platform for communication while English language skills develop.

In April 2017, the We Speak Translate project launched in Victoria. Roque Silva, one of two Google Translate Interactions Designers, attended the launch event with over 200 attendees. To date, over 500 community stakeholders have received the training and interest in the project continues to expand across Canada and beyond. According to Silva, "Google is humbled and excited to be supporting this project with the goal of helping New Canadians make the often challenging transition to life in Canada through language and engagement."

In addition, at the South Island Prosperity Project AGM the Executive Director announced the development of a Smart South Island Plan in order to respond to the federal government's recently announced Smart Cities competition. This competition is meant to develop solutions to municipal issues and increase the liveability of communities using data and smart technologies. The Prosperity Project is leading the coordination of the submission to the federal government on behalf of its members including its 10 municipal members. The We Speak Translate program can be leveraged to strengthen the Smart South Island Smart City competition submission.

### Recommendations.

1. That Council endorse the We Speak Translate program and that the Mayor writes to partner municipalities in the CRD to inform them of the We Speak Translate program.

- 2. That the We Speak Translate initiative be brought forward to the South Island Prosperity Project as part of the Smart South Island Plan soon getting underway.
- 3. That Council and all staff in the Engagement Department receive the 45 minute training as soon as practicable.
- 4. That Council direct staff to report back at the next Quarterly Update on the implications of the Human Resources Department coordinating with the Intercultural Association to have the ICA provide 45-minute We Speak Translate training sessions to all frontline service delivery staff.

Councillor Jeremy Loveday

Mayor Helps

## We Speak Translate Training Info

## Training Goals & Benefits:

- 1. Encourage welcoming communities that value diversity, inclusion and integration.
- 2. **Become** familiar with the Google Translate app (free, downloadable app for smartphones and tablets).
- 3. **Establish** a common platform for communication with newcomers while English language skills develop.

## Length of Workshop:

30 - 45 minute

## Group Size:

Suggested number of participants at 25-35 persons/minimum 8 participants.

## Workshop Costs:

The workshop is free. The workshop includes a facilitator, Google Translate training, We Speak Translate decals for all participants, a printed summary of information covered in the workshop and audio visual equipment.

## Workshop Date, Time, & Logistics:

The workshop can be delivered at a convenient location for your organization or business with access to Wi-Fi.

## Workshop Format:

- 1. Introduction and overview of project/objective (5-10 mins)
- Google Translate training presentation (20-30 mins) Explore the capacity of the Google Translate app Learn how to effectively use the Google Translate app Interact with the app

3. Distribution of We Speak Translate decals

## **Project Media:**

http://www.vicnews.com/news/local-cultural-association-breaking-down-language-barriers-fornewcomers/

http://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1096563

http://www.cheknews.ca/theres-an-app-for-that-google-translate-launches-pilot-project-invictoria-299374/

http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/google-translate-enlisted-to-help-victoria-businessesserve-immigrants-1.13963730

http://citiesofmigration.ca/good\_idea/we-speak-translate/



## We Speak Translate Summer Trainings



ICA is hosting 3 public We Speak Translate training's this summer.

July 19, 2017, 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm https://lnkd.in/gcpfcmS July 31, 2017, 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm https://lnkd.in/gM5SEna August 22, 2017, 9:30 am – 10:15 am https://lnkd.in/g5BSP\_a

Join us for a free training session, where you will become more familiar with the capacity of the Google Translate app as a means of connecting with new immigrants and refugees in the region. Upon completion of the training you will receive a decal which indicates to newcomers and the wider community your commitment to diversity, inclusion and multiculturalism in Victoria, BC.

The We Speak Translate project is a first of its kind collaboration between Google Translate and the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) utilizing the Google Translate app for refugee resettlement and newcomer inclusion in communities.

Google is humbled and excited to be supporting this project with the goal of helping New Canadians make the often challenging transition to life in Canada through language and engagement - *Roque Silva, Interaction Designer, Google Translate* 

### Workshop Format:

- 1. Introduction and overview of project/objective (5-10 mins)
- 2. Google Translate training presentation (20-30 mins)
  - i. Explore the capacity of the Google Translate app
  - ii. Learn how to effectively use the Google Translate app
  - iii. Interact with the app
- 3. Distribution of We Speak Translate decals

### We Speak Translate Training Facilitator:

Kate Longpre is the Community Integration Coordinator at ICA. Kate works strategically across sectors to ensure that resettled refugees entering the Greater Victoria area are successfully integrated into welcoming communities. Kate approached Google Translate in September 2016 with the idea for the We Speak Translate project. In April 2017 the project launched in Victoria, BC, the first location worldwide to initiate the project.

### Kate Longpre

Community Integration Coordinator Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria klongpre@icavictoria.org 250-388-4728 ext. 167

