

## AGENDA DESIGN ADVISORY PANEL MEETING

June 8, 2017, 5:00 PM
Board Room, Service and Resource Centre,
411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC

**Pages** 

- 1. CALL THE MEETING OF THE DESIGN ADVISORY PANEL TO ORDER:
- 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:
- 3. PRESENTATION
  - a. Heritage Alteration Permit No. HAP00029 34 Nicol Street

2 - 8

A heritage alteration permit application has been received to remove the bell tower structure (constructed in 1992) located at the top of the Fire House Tower of the Fire Hall No. 2 building (34 Nicol Street).

b. Development Permit No. DO001050 - 3240 Fieldstone Way

9 - 18

A development permit application was received from Island West Coast Developments Ltd. on behalf of 0971051 BC Ltd. for a three two-storey townhouses. The subject property is legally described as Lot 2, Section 15, Wellington District, Plan 48490.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

#### STAFF DESIGN COMMENT

#### HERITAGE ALTERATION PERMIT NO.HAP00029 - 34 NICOL STREET

Applicant/Architect: Ronald Bryson

**Owner:** R. Bryson Insurance Consultants Inc.

**Zoning:** DT4 – Terminal Avenue

OCP Designation: Map 1 - Future Land Use Plan - Downtown Centre Urban Node; Map 3 -

Development and Heritage Conservation Areas – Heritage Conservation Area 1

Relevant Design Guidelines: Heritage Building Design Guidelines

#### **APPLICATION**

An application has been received to remove the bell tower structure constructed in 1992 located at the top of the Fire Hose Tower of the Fire Hall No. 2 building (34 Nicol Street).

#### **BACKGROUND**

Heritage Conservation Area:

The Fire Hall No. 2 building is currently listed as a significant historical building within the Downtown Heritage Conservation Area found in the Official Community Plan. Any significant alteration to the exterior of a listed building requires issuance of a heritage alteration permit by City Council before the alteration can occur.

Heritage Value Statement:

Built in 1893, the Nanaimo Fire Hall #2 is a very good example of Victorian Italianate architecture, one of the most popular 19<sup>th</sup> century styles. The fortress-like crenellated roofline is particularly appropriate on the fire hall, a widely recognized symbol of protection. The large doors at the front lower level were designed for easy access for the fire company's horses and equipment. Similarly functional, the concrete hose tower, added to the rear of the building in 1914, allowed for the efficient drying of fire hoses.

The Nanaimo Fire Hall #2 speaks to the continuing growth and maturity of the City. Although a volunteer fire brigade existed before construction of the fire hall, this substantial and expensive building, whose construction costs were raised through subscription, indicates community commitment to efficient, modern service and faith in the City's future.

Located on a narrow triangular lot between two main thoroughfares and at a major intersection, the Fire Hall is an important downtown gateway building and a highly visible landmark.

The building's character defining features include:

- all the elements of the Italianate style as expressed in the overall vertical form and
  massing of the building, the crenellated roofline, the brick cladding with its original
  parged coursing, the tall rounded windows, the stained glass transoms in the arched
  windows, the flat roof, and the stone trim.
- the functional elements of the building including the large doors at the front lower level and the hose tower.
- the location at a prominent downtown intersection between two major thoroughfares.

#### PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The applicant wishes to remove the bell tower structure constructed in 1992 currently located on the top of the hose tower built in 1914. The primary motivation for this alteration is based on the very poor condition and appearance of the structure, as well as its overall structural integrity (See Attachment A).

The bell tower structure was added to the hose tower in 1992 as part of a larger rehabilitation project, and was intended to replicate the look of the fire hall's original hose tower constructed in the 1890s (see Attachment B). As such, the bell tower structure does not form part of the building's original historic fabric. Its removal will have minimal effect on the building's overall historic value and, in fact, returns the 1914 hose tower to a more authentic appearance (see Attachment C).

The owner's contractor is particularly concerned about the safety of the structure, and the potential for all or parts of the structure to create a debris hazard for pedestrians below. It is also noted that the structure's compromised condition has allowed water penetration into the main building for some time causing issues for the building's business occupants as well as water damage to the original historic fabric of the building (See Attachment D).

Removal of the bell tower structure will include repair of the hose tower's original roof system and ensure that continued water penetration into the tower and main building will be stopped.

Additional repair work to the Fire Hall's exterior (including repair and cleaning of the main building's brick exterior, window repair and repaint) is currently being carried out by the building owner with the assistance of a recently approved \$15,000 Heritage Façade Grant from the City of Nanaimo.

#### PROPOSED VARIANCES

No variance is triggered by this alteration; however, a demolition permit will be required.

CS/GN/lb

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#### **ATTACHMENT A**

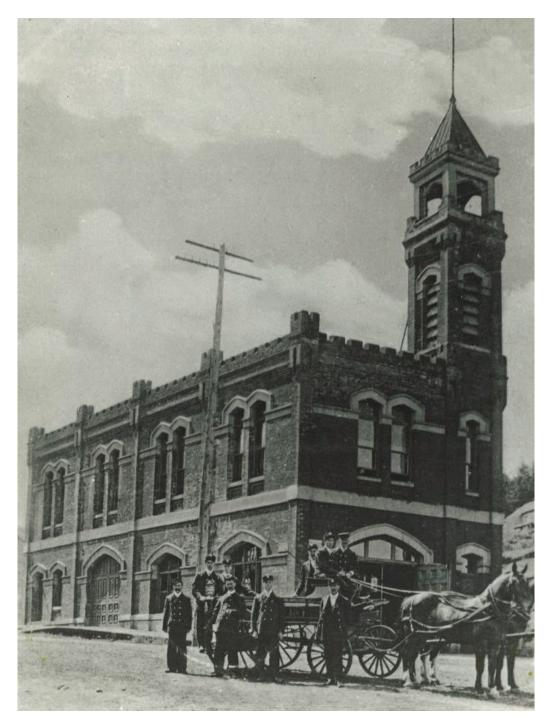


**Bell Tower Structure Current Condition** 



**Current Bell Tower Location on 1914 Hose Tower** 

#### **ATTACHMENT B**



Original Hose Tower – 1906 – Located at front of building.

#### ATTACHMENT C



2<sup>nd</sup> Hose Tower built in 1914 – 1982 Photo

### ATTACHMENT D Owner Rationale for Bell Tower Structure Removal

It is integral that the top section of the Hose Tower is removed; quite simply it is a hazard to pedestrians and the integrity of the building itself. It is causing accumulative leaks in the hose tower which flow into the building of the firehouse and will cause structural issues. Sizeable fragments are falling off this section and landing on the sidewalks; if these fragments were to fall on a pedestrian they could certainly be fatal. Because of its high location and the location of the hydro lines which lead to the building it is not possible to fix with any sort of man lift operated machine.

Ronald G. Bryson R. Bryson Insurance Consultants Inc.

#### STAFF DESIGN COMMENT

#### DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001050 - 3240 FIELDSTONE WAY

**Applicant:** Island West Coast Developments Ltd.

Owner: 0971051 BC Ltd.

**Designer:** Delinea Design Consultants Ltd.

Landscape Architect: Victoria Drakeford

#### Subject Property:

Zoning	R6 – Townhouse Residential
Location	The subject property is within the Edgewood Townhouse Strata. Access to the subject property is via a strata road; Edgewood Drive which, connects to Rock City Road.
Total Area	2729m <sup>2</sup>
Official	Map 1 - Future Land Use Plans - Map 3 - Development Permit Area No. 9
Community Plan	Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multiple Family and Mixed
(OCP)	Commercial/Residential development.
Relevant Design Guidelines	General Development Permit Design Guidelines

#### PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development is three stand alone two storey multi family units.

- Unit 1 346.5m<sup>2</sup>
- Unit 2 289.2m<sup>2</sup>
- Unit 3 300.0m<sup>2</sup>

#### Site Context

The subject property is located on a fee simple parcel within the Edgewood Townhouse Strata. Site access is via a strata road, Fieldstone Way. The subject property is to the northeast of seven Edgewood townhouse units. The strata is aware of the site and building design and has voted to accept the new development.

#### Site Design

The subject property is a decommissioned telecommunication site. The site had been manipulated to accommodate communication towers and a utility building. The site is a knoll with a man made flat top.

The site laneway and building siting has been organized to minimize site manipulation. Site services will be installed under the site laneway. The building siting works with the site contours and site views. The Edgewood Strata allowed the proposed site development with the understanding there would be limited blasting or machine rock picking.

DP001050 Staff Design Comment Page 2

#### Landscape Design

During construction, the perimeter of the building footprints will be fenced so the north, east and south edges will not be disturbed. These edges are covered with native plants and grasses which have done well in the rocky arid conditions. The landscape plan has two focuses:

- a defined unit front access courtyard with hard and soft landscape features and
- green screening edge along the west property line. The evergreen hedge will screen the abutting Edgewood townhouse from the internal lane. Has the proposed screening been designed to protect views of the existing townhouse?

#### **Building Design**

The architectural design is West Coast Contemporary which is a departure from the building design encountered in the Edgewood Townhouse Strata.

The garage location in a townhouse development is always a challenge, as the garage door can become the dominant feature. In this proposal, garages are sited to create an edge to each unit front courtyard and add a level of privacy to each unit.

The mass and scale of each unit is organized to provide a building form which fits into the site contours and is in keeping with surrounding existing townhouses.

GN/kab

## ATTACHMENT A DESIGN RATIONALE

05 May 2017

City of Nanaimo Development Services 411 Dunsmuir Street Nanaimo B.C. V9R 0E4

Attn: Mr. Gary Noble

#### RE: DESIGN RATIONALE - 3240 FIELDSTONE WAY, NANAIMO, B.C.

This project consists of 3 detached residential units located on a parcel formerly occupied by a utility tower. The site is surrounded by and accessed through Edgewood strata residential development.

The site is at a high point with a leveled building area punctuated with rock outcroppings. The lot falls dramatically away along the north, east and south edges, either naturally or with existing cuts to adjacent road networks.

Vehicle access is from a cul-de-sac bulb and level driveway that parallels the east boundary. A defined pedestrian path is incorporated alongside the driveway and connects to unit entries.

With respect to the design of the proposed homes on Fieldstone Way, I offer the following design rationale.

In general terms, the design of the proposed buildings is derived from site conditions and immediate context. Simply put, this extends to include topography, views, pedestrian and vehicle access, natural assets and amenities, exposure, and adjacency of Edgewood Strata.

As the site is located at an apex we have opted to give the buildings a low profile to minimize prominence. The houses are primarily single storey living with the main floor level equating to existing grades at the point of entry. A small lower floor area is incorporated in areas where the topography permits and in order to minimize site disturbance and extraordinary foundation works. In recognition of weather exposure, consideration has been given to weather protected entries and outdoor spaces, This is accomplished with lower sloped roofs, broad overhangs, strategic location of main entrances and covered outdoor spaces. The location of primary living spaces optimizes views and are juxtaposed to ensure privacy and minimize overlook of adjacent units.

Finishes are selected for the optimal protection of the building envelope, durability and ease of maintenance. A description of type and application follows:

Vertically applied cladding consists of fiber cement board (James Hardie product or equal) with battens mimicking the profile of adjacent homes albeit in an inverted form (i.e. raised batten vs recessed channel). Colour is to match the Edgewood Strata colour scheme.

DP2050.

The material palette is expanded with the introduction of natural wood engineered siding on selected elements. This provides a contrasting texture and colour in a balanced application.

Natural materials tend to soften and warm otherwise monochromatic painted surfaces and is readily compatible in the context of the setting.

Architectural concrete where foundations are exposed are imprinted with vertically recessed reveals. Again, a nod to the vertical application of materials of Edgewood units. The concrete is intended to be a natural extension of the rock upon which it sits. Use of large scale rock in the landscape and as features against the backdrop of the architectural concrete minimizes foundation exposure and integrates site and structure.

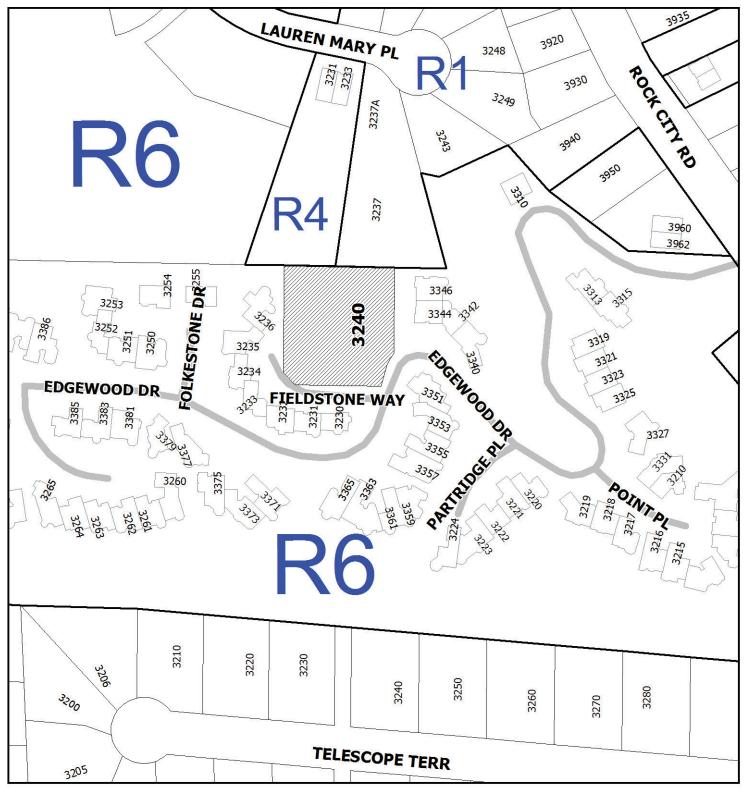
Exposed fascia mounted gutters have been avoided in favor of integrating them into the roof system. Fascia material will be a fiber cement product, again selected for durability and painted to match the trims of Edgewood. Where downspouts are exposed preference is to blend them with the colour of the finish to which they are attached as opposed to contrasting. The objective is not to highlight nor clutter exterior facades, rather emphasize and reinforce clean building lines.

Large expanses of glass are incorporated to maximize views and light penetration. Current Building Codes have strict requirements with respect to weather exposure and thermal performance. At this point the type of window has not been determined. Frame types under consideration however include aluminum, vinyl, fiberglass and metal clad wood. In any case colour will be compatible with the Edgewood colour scheme.

So as not to impede views from the decks and to offer a wind break, deck rails are to be glass.

In our opinion, the proposed dwellings are sensitive to the site, appropriate and compatible with existing product and of a high standard of design and construction.

I trust this provides some insight into the design process and concepts upon which we have developed this design.



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001050



### **LOCATION PLAN**

Civic: 3240 Fieldstone Way Lot 2, Section 15, Wellington District, Plan 48490



#### ATTACHMENT C SITE PLAN







PRELIMINARY	PRELIMINARY PROJECT DATA		
CIVIC ADDRESS: LEGAL ADDRESS:	3240 FIELDSTONE WAY LOT 2, SECTION 15, WELLINGTON	FLOOR AREA: UNIT 1	
	DISTRICT, PLAN 48490	LOWER FLOOR:	1215 SQ.FT 2515 SQ.FT
ZONING:	R6 -TOWNHOUSE RESIDENTIAL	TOTAL:	3730 SQ.FT
LOT SIZE:	2729 SQ.M	GARAGE	575 SQ.FT
		UNIT 2	
LOT COVERAGE:	30.1% (40% ALLOWED)	MAIN FLOOR:	2265 SQ.FT
F.A.R.:	0.35 (0.45 ALLOWED)	TOTAL	3113 SQ.FT
		CARAGE	5/5 SQ.FI
		UNIT 3	1
		MAIN FLOOR:	2340 SQ.FT
		TOTAL:	3230 SQ.FT
		CARAGE	5/5 5Q.F.
		BUILDING AREA: (FOOTPRINTS ONLY)	8845 SQ.FT (822.0 SQ.M)
		TOTAL FLOOR AREA	10 073 SQ.FT (935.8 SQ.M)



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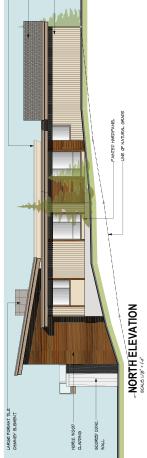


92-0" overall building dimension

# WEST ELEVATION

great room





FAINTED VERTICAL
FIBER CEMENT SIDNS
FIN GRADE
B725M FTE

LINE OF BUILDING



family medi

utility/

EAST ELEVATION

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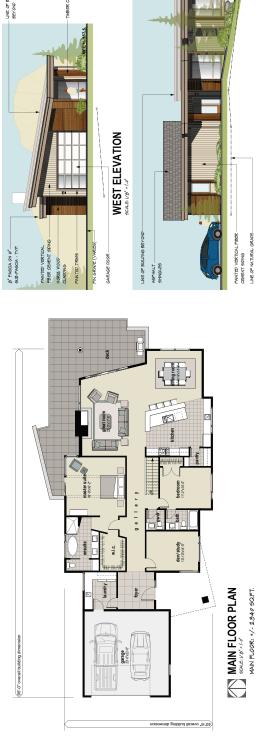
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PR3

LOWER FLOOR PLAN

3240 FIELDSTONE WA

MAIN FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8' 1-8'
LOWER FLOOK, +/- 2,269 SQ.FT.







# SOUTH ELEVATION



# NORTH ELEVATION



# LOWER FLOOR PLAN

LOWER FLOOR: +/- 890 SQ.FT.





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