

## 1 of 2



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DP1208  
2021-JAN-05  
Current Biology

# MENZIES TOWNHOUSES

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS ISSUED FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

### DESIGN RATIONALE

#### CONTEXT

497 Menzies Ridge Drive is a 1.35 acre parcel adjacent to Buttertubs Marsh, in central Nanaimo. Surrounded by single family detached homes, the site is a large, undeveloped lot zoned for higher density, multi-family residential development. The proposed Menzies Townhouses will be situated in a landscape designed to support families of all ages with an emphasis on drawing the character, ecological function and aesthetic of the marsh into the urban environment.

#### DESIGN CONCEPT

The design concept for the Menzies Townhouses is to integrate people, place and plantings into a functional urban ecosystem that accentuates the natural character of the site adjacent to Buttertubs Marsh

- As an expression of the local environment, the planting plan is structured around a foundation of indigenous species that reference shady riparian forests and open marshlands.
- Complementary drought-tolerant ornamentals add character and resilience, and perform vital ecosystem functions necessary to support human life and biodiversity.
- To support the sense of community in a time of physical distancing, outdoor seating areas are situated throughout the development, along internal pathways that unify the site.
- A central open space creates a naturalized play area, with mounds, stepping stone paths and a platform overlooking a densely planted low point designed to evoke the feeling of a marsh. Colourful nest boxes that attract birds into the development emphasize it's location and connection to nature.
- Lush, layered plantings envelop seating areas and pathways. This amplifies a feeling of immersion in the local landscape, and aims toward low long-term maintenance as plantings become healthy, self-organizing systems.
- Living walls literally support plants that attract birds and pollinators, reduce the urban heat island effect, and slow the flow of runoff from developed areas into streams, marshes, and stormwater infrastructure.

### DESIGN PRECEDENTS



### PLANT PALETTE

Key	Botanical Name	Common Name
Evergreen / Coniferous Trees		
Po	Picea omorika bruns	Serbian Spruce
Deciduous Trees		
Ac	Acer circinatum	Vine Maple
Bn	Betula nigra	River Birch
Ca	Cornus eddies white wonder	Eddies White Wonder Dogwood
Oc	Oemleria caesalisformis	June Plum
Pp	Parrotia persica	Persian Ironwood
Pc	Pyrus calleryana	Calleryana Pear
Sj	Syrax japonicus	Japanese snowbell
Evergreen Shrubs		
Au	Arbutus unedo	Strawberry Bush
Ga	Gaultheria shallon	Santal
Mh	Mahonia nervosa	Dull Oregon Grape
Mc	Morella californica	Pacific Wax Myrtle
Vo	Vaccinium ovatum	Evergreen Huckleberry
Deciduous Shrubs		
Cs	Cornus sericea	Red Twig Dogwood
Co	Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple'	Smokebush
Ra	Ribes sanguineum	Red Flowering Currant
Sd	Spiraea douglasii esp. douglasii	Hardhack
Sa	Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry
V	Vaccinium	Blueberry
Groundcovers		
Ac	Achlys triphylla	Vanilla Leaf
Au	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Kinnikinnick
Es	Epimedium spthoreum	Epimedium
Fc	Fragaria chiloensis	Coastal Strawberry
Fv	Fragaria vesca	Woodland Strawberry
Oo	Oxalis oregana	Redwood Sorrel
To	Trillium ovatum	Western Trillium
Ferns, Grasses & Perennials		
Am	Achillea millefolium	Yarrow
Bs	Blechnum spicant	Deer Fern
Ck	Calamagrostis Karl Forester	Feather Reed Grass
Ca	Chamerion angustifolium	Fireweed
Dc	Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted Hairgrass
De	Dryopteris erythrosora	Autumn Fern
Hb	Hakonochloa macra 'Beni Kaze'	Japanese Forest Grass
Im	Iris missouriensis	Western Blue Flag Iris
Ls	Luzula nivea	Snowy woodrush
My	Miscanthus yaku jima	Dwarf Maiden Grass
Nr	Nepeta racemosa	Cat Mint
Pa	Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Hameln'	Dwarf Fountain grass
Pm	Polystichum munifolium	Sword Fern
Sc	Saxifraga caerulea	Blue Moor Grass
Sc	Symphoricarpon subspicatum	Douglas' Aster
Vines		
Ci	Campsis x tagliabuana 'Madame Galen'	Hybrid Trumpet Creeper
Ca	Clematis armandii	Evergreen Clematis
Lc	Lonicera ciliosa	Orange Honeysuckle
Seeds		
Wild Grass Area: Pickseed Garry Oak Upland Mix or equivalent		80% Roemers Fescue 11% California Oatgrass

RECEIVED  
DP 1208  
2021-JAN-05  
COURTESY OF KINSHIP

NO.	DATE	ISSUE
1	10-21-20	DP SUBMISSION
2	12-22-20	DP REVISION
3	11-18-21	DP REVISION

#### PROJECT

#### MENZIES TOWNHOUSES

497 Menzies Ridge Drive  
Nanaimo, BC

#### LANDSCAPE PLAN

DESIGN RATIONALE + PRECEDENTS, PLANT PALETTE

#### PROJECT 20006

DB KS CB KS

SCALE NTS  
DATE 2021-OCT-01, 2020

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