

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

# **BOARD OF VARIANCE**

# NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Variance will be held on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC to hear the following appeal:

APPEAL NO:	BOV00779
Applicant:	NIVEDAN KAUSHAL, BOEHM CONSTRUCTION LTD
Civic Address:	480 WOODHAVEN DRIVE
Legal Description:	STRATA LOT 178, SECTION 5, WELLINGTON DISTRICT, STRATA PLAN 830, (PHASE 3), TOGETHER WITH AN INTEREST IN THE COMMON PROPERTY IN PROPORTION TO THE UNIT ENTITLEMENT OF THE STRATA LOT AS SHOWN ON FORM 1
Requested Variance:	Section 6.5.1 of the "City of Nanaimo Zoning Bylaw 2011 No. 4500" allows open decks to project a maximum of 2.0m into a required front yard.
	The applicant requests to increase the maximum projection from 2.0m to 2.06m to allow the replacement of the front deck as part of a renovation of the existing dwelling. This represents a variance of 0.06m.

You are being notified as an owner or tenant of land that is adjacent to the property that is the subject of this application. If you deem your property is affected by the proposed variance, and wish to address this appeal, you will be given the opportunity to be heard at the Board of Variance meeting. Members of the public may submit comments in writing or attend the meeting in-person.

*WRITTEN SUBMISSION:* To submit comments in writing you must contact Current Planning no later than 2:30 p.m. May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, by contacting Kirsten Dafoe, Planning Assistant, by email at <u>kirsten.dafoe@nanaimo.ca</u>, or by calling 250-755-4460 Ext. 4509.

**ATTEND IN-PERSON:** To address this appeal in person you may attend this meeting, in the Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

# SUBJECT PROPERTY MAP













March 28, 2024

### **RE: Variance Application for 480 Woodhaven**

Dear Members of the Board of Variance,

Boehm Construction Ltd. is respectfully submitting this letter on behalf of Jodie and Larry Woolman to request a variance for their property located at 480 Woodhaven Drive, Nanaimo. This request is made with the intent to undertake critical structural repairs to the property to maintain the safe accessibility of the residence.

### **Structural Risk**

480 Woodhaven Drive presents unique challenges due to its steep grade. Notably, a deck overhang at the front of the property was constructed to provide a safe landing for accessing the home's front door. This construction was undertaken without permit authorization before Jodie and Larry purchased the property, though the lot's topography justifies its presence.

As such, the deck overhang was not built to the standards of the BC Building Code. Jeff Allester, principal at Allester Engineering — a respected firm with four locations across the province and affiliation with the Engineers and Geoscientists Association of British Columbia — has evaluated the integrity of existing deck overhang. **His assessment reveals that the structure poses a threat to life safety, condemning it from further use until significant remedial work can be done (see Appendix 1).** 

## Variance Request #1: Deck Overhang Setback Relaxation

Given the structural concerns outlined above, we seek a variance to permit the deck overhang to encroach an additional 5 cm so that its connection to the existing retaining wall can be maintained. To not allow this 5 cm encroachment would create a gap between the deck and the retaining wall, forming a channel for water ingress. Allowing water to flow through this gap would exacerbate the risk of further damage to the structural members of the deck system as well as the foundation wall of the home, undermining the safety and longevity of the construction. Once again, the landing created by the deck is necessary to ensure safe access to the front door given the steep grade of the property (see Appendix 2 for images).



#### **No Adverse Impact**

We believe that these adjustments will not adversely impact the surrounding community, as the structures in question are already in place and the proposed repair work can be conducted by a standard carpentry crew with minimal disruption to the neighbourhood.

#### Conclusion

We at Boehm Construction, as well as the homeowners, are committed to resolving the existing issues within the City of Nanaimo's bylaws. This request is essential for rectifying safety concerns and ensuring the structural integrity of the residence at 480 Woodhaven Drive. We appreciate the Board of Variance's favourable consideration of our application and are prepared to comply with any conditions or requirements deemed necessary.

Sincerely,

Nivedan Kaushal Project Coordinator Boehm Construction Ltd.



This image shows the front entry in question.





This image illustrates the steepness of the property.





This image shows the structural failure of the deck's support system. Notice how the ledger board is bending and sitting directly on the Sonotube footing, putting the whole structure at risk for collapse.





This image shows the structural failure of the deck's support system. Notice how the ledger board is bending and sitting directly on the Sonotube footing, putting the whole structure at risk for collapse.



# **AERIAL PHOTO**





480 WOODHAVEN DRIVE