

Report to Development Permit Panel

To:

Development Permit Panel

Date:

August 16, 2002

From:

Joe Erceg

File:

DP 02-202952

Manager, Development Applications

Re:

Application by Darshan Rangi for a Development Permit at 9191 Blundell Road

Manager's Recommendation

That a development permit for a property at 9191 Blundell:

- 1. Be issued to allow the construction of a 7-unit residential complex on a site zoned Comprehensive Development District (CD/28), and to:
- 2. Vary the regulations in the Zoning and Development Bylaw to:
 - allow stairs to project 2.5 m (8.202 ft) into the front yard setback, and to
 - allow entry trellises to be constructed within 0 m (ft) of the front yard or side yard setback, and
- 3. Deny the request to vary the provisions of the Works and Services Bylaw to:
- > not relocate two hydro poles,
- > not upgrade Blundell Road,
- > not install ornamental street lights,
- > not service the back lane with storm sewer and hydro (only to provide catch basins in the middle of the lane),
- > not build the retaining wall in the lane (only to plant Cedar hedge), and

> not upgrade Heather Street beyond the north property line.

, Joe Erceg

Manager, Development Applications

JE:aj1 Att. 1

Staff Report

Origin

Darshan Rangi has applied to develop a seven-unit project at the north east corner of Heather Street and Blundell Road, in the McLennan South Planning Area. The project consists of a five-unit building at the corner, with a coach house behind. The coach house contains six parking spaces accessible to the lane, with two units above. There is also a small amenity "exercise room", a children's play structure and two surface parking spaces in the development.

The site is currently zoned CD/28, however the CD/28 text is in the process of being changed, and is scheduled for the public hearing September 16, 2002. The attached plans for the development permit reflect the changes, and therefore the development permit panel's recommendation should not be sent to Council until after the zoning text changes are adopted.

At the rezoning stage, the applicant agreed to road and lane dedications and improvements on Blundell Road, Heather Street and the lane, however he is now asking that these requirements be relaxed (see attached letter).

A copy of the development application filed with the Urban Development Division is appended to this report.

Development Information

Site Area:

869.669 m² (9,361.34 ft²)

Building Area:

 $564.739 \text{ m}^2 (6,079 \text{ ft}^2)$

Site Coverage:

45% Allowed

26.4% Proposed

F.A.R.:

.65 Allowed .649 Proposed

Parking:

8 Spaces Required

8 Spaces Proposed

Findings of Fact

Development surrounding the subject site is as follows:

To the north and east are large residential holdings slated for re-development;

To the south, across Blundell Road there are single family residences (and diagonally, to the south west, is the Garden City/Blundell neighbourhood shopping centre, and

To the west, across Heather Street are older single family residences in the process of being rezoned for townhouse development (Palladium).

Guidelines for form and character are found in the Official Community Plan, Schedule 2.10D, the McLennan South Area Plan.

Staff Comments

Note: The applicant's response is shown in **bold type**.

Urban Design Planner

This small project has chosen a coach house, an innovative housing form not tried before in Richmond, although it is fairly common in Vancouver and other cities. The overall result is generally satisfactory from an urban design point of view. The design could be improved by eliminating one unit and redistributing the floor area to other units, for example make the coach house one large unit. This would also reduce the required parking by one unit, thereby freeing up some more ground space.

We agree with the Design Panel, that the project could easily be made more universally-accessible (three of the units have a substantial amount of living space at grade). To do this would require ramping the entries and putting pocket doors in slightly larger bathrooms.

The garbage bin shown on the site plan is not necessary. Curb-side pickup would be more appropriate for this small project.

The existing trees on the site should be retained. The plant list should specify the number of plants. All wood fences, etc. should be stained or painted, two coats.

The applicant does not want to reduce the number of units or add ramping to the living space at grade. The landscape architect has screened the proposed garbage area and incorporated the existing trees into the plans.

Transportation Staff

The turn into the visitor parking space in the Heather Street setback may be tight. There also is a concern that so many parking spaces (8) close together back into the lane (especially once the lane continues through the adjacent lots). This was agreed to at the rezoning stage.

City Centre Planner

The concept and form is consistent with that seen at the rezoning stage. Improvements have been made to the facades, especially along the lane. The garbage should not be located within the setback along Heather Street. Perhaps it could be relocated to the east side of the site at the head of the open parking stall. The visitor stall in the Heather Street setback was indicated as being acceptable at the rezoning stage, but it must be paved with decorative paving and should be separated from the sidewalk by a low hedge to ensure that drivers do not encroach on the sidewalk. Nice to see wood siding. No other significant urban design issues. Hedge has been added along Heather Street to screen the visitor parking stall and proposed garbage area.

Engineering

The applicant has submitted a letter requesting an amendment to the Works and Services Bylaw To:

- > not relocate two hydro poles,
- > not upgrade Blundell Road,
- > not to install ornamental street lights,

- > not to service the back lane with storm sewer and hydro (only to provide catch basins in the middle of the lane),
- > not to build the retaining wall in the lane (only to plant Cedar hedge), and
- > not to upgrade Heather Street beyond the north property line.

Staff do not support this request for the following reasons:

Most of the five variances requested have been generally or specifically identified as requirements in the Rezoning staff report dated November 18, 2001, and Council adopted the resolutions in that report. Relocation of the power poles and hydrant was not identified in the staff report, as they only became issues once the consultant did the engineering design.

Response to each variance request:

- 1. Relocation of the power poles is consistent with Engineering and Transportation policy, but should they stay, it also increases liability to the City for restricted sightlines and general pedestrian safety.
- 2. As properties redevelop around the perimeter of McLennan South (and around Richmond), City policy has been to create a grass and treed boulevard. This is consistent with policy. It is unfortunate that the hydrant is located where the sidewalk is being relocated to, but if it were left, we have a liability issue with a significant obstruction on a City sidewalk.
- 3. City policy is to get ornamental street lights in conjunction of other frontage improvements. This includes our lanes which include lighting in their standards.
- 4. The lane must be fully serviced to the for east edge so that those services can be extended when the lane eventually extends. Although no surrounding grades are shown on the approved design drawings there must be at least a 0.5m grade differential for a retaining wall to be required. As the lane design is right to the neighbours edge, a retaining wall is required so the lane will not collapse into the neighbours' property.
- 5. The flare on the lane access crossing and the asphalt taper back to existing Heather road edge are required as a public safety issue and are completely consistent with standard Engineering practice and policy.

Analysis of the McLennan South Guidelines

- General Guidelines for Transition Areas:
 Setback and landscape between housing types/ neighbourhoods.
- ☑ Entry portals, etc. for transition. No vehicle gates.
- Edges between properties to be semi-private but open (no high fences).
- 2. General Architectural Guidelines:

Building Scale and Form:

- ☑ Single-family form and massing.
- ☑ Reduce building scale by varied housing types and design.
- ☑ Reduce the apparent height of buildings.

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Ø	Balconies inset - no large projecting balconies on street-front.				
Roof T	reatment:				
Ø	Pitched forms visible from the street.				
Ø	Decorative elements such as dormers to complement the pitched form.				
Ø	Re-emphasize the pitch at the ground floor level, such as at front doors.				
☑	Materials should be natural or west-coast.				
Windo	ows:				
\square	Residential scale, operable, and with strong identity.				
	Not flat, but bays, box widows, French balconies, trim, shutters, or similar features. Windows on the east elevation appear somewhat flat.				
$\overline{\checkmark}$	Visible at sidewalk level and clear glass for surveillance.				
\square	Traditional character, not bubbles or skylights visible from the street.				
Entrances:					
	Direct grade access for front doors. Front doors are reached via stairs. (This also has implications for wheelchair access.)				
\square	Visible from the street.				
☑	Emphasize ground-level entries – no two-storey entries.				
	Minimize exterior staircases, except along arterial roads. There are four exterior stairs in the area between the two buildings. These could probably be reduced by combining (sharing) the two from the coach house.				
Mate	rials:				
\square	Use high-quality natural materials, or at least replica materials with wood trim.				
Ø	Obviously synthetic materials (plexi-glass, etc.) should not be visible on the outside of buildings.				
Colou	irs:				
	Use muted, Heritage colours.				
	Less than 50% of any wall area to be a colour which "draws attention" to the wall.				
V	Vary colours to reinforce smaller components and reduce the apparent scale of buildings.				
3.	General Landscape Guidelines:				
Inten	t:				
	To preserve wood-lots and hedgerows having mature trees. n. a.				
	Use lush vegetation and native plants to promote wildlife habitat. The landscape plans do not indicate any native plants. For some recommendations as to appropriate native plants for				

August 16, 2002 - 6 - DP 02-202952

Richmond, refer to www.city.richmond.bc.ca/planning/wildflower.htm; in particular there is a list of native perennials. For suggestions for trees and shrubs, refer to www.city.richmond.bc.ca/planning/environment/esa.htm.

Tree P	reservation:
<u> </u>	Plan open spaces based on a tree survey, and group buildings around these spaces.
₹	Avoid fill and grading on existing tree roots, or use tree wells.
<u> </u>	Tree wells to be a minimum of 1.5 times the diameter of the tree's drip-line.
Comm	on Open Space:
	Co-ordinate contiguous blocks of existing mature trees on adjacent sites. The application does not include any information about the adjacent sites.
	Encourage privately-owned, publicly accessible open space (POPAS). None proposed.
Ø	Landscape front yards to enhance the streetscape.
Drivev	vays:
Ø	Locate and construct driveways and buildings so as to preserve existing trees.
Ø	Use lanes for vehicle access, or else screen vehicle entrances from the road.
Ø	No driveway access to arterial roads or entry roads.
Retain	ing Walls:
Ø	Maximum height of retaining walls on street frontage to be 1m, except for tree wells for existing trees.
Water	and Habitat:
	Enhance or create wildlife habitat using ponds or wetlands with native aquatic and terrestrial plants. <i>No wetlands or ponds are proposed.</i>
4.	Special Character Guidelines for Neighbourhood 'A':
Buildi	ng Types:
Ø	Three-storey on parking, 2-2 ½ storey townhouse, or one-storey wheelchair accessible.
Mana	ging Transitions:
Ø	6m setback from arterial roads.
V	Concealed parking.
	9m setback and height step-back on ring road (adjacent to neighbourhood B1). n. a.
	Height step-back to neighbourhood C2. n. a
	Screen neighbourhood pub with fence and hedge. n. a

Buildin	ng Scale:
Ø	Avoid overshadowing of the natural realm.
Ø	Minimum 4m between buildings.
Ø	Maximum building width 45m, and 2m x 2m recesses approximately every 8m.
Entran	ices, Porches and Stairs:
\square	Exterior stairs to front doors along streets.
	Accentuate staircases with traditional railings such as wood or iron.
	Along arterial roads, where there are berms, stairs to blend in. n. a
Balcon	ies, and Private Open Spaces:
\square	Generally discouraged.
	Along arterial roads, balconies may be on the third level, if recessed. n. a
Materi	als:
$\overline{\square}$	See general guidelines, but brick is discouraged, and stucco should be minimized.
Herita	ge Building Form:
	ngs near the heritage house at 7011 Ash Street (near Granville Avenue) should adhere to the ing special heritage guidelines: n. a
Lands	cape Guidelines
Plant I	Materials and Open Spaces:
	Evergreen trees @ irregular spacing (20m+) along Garden City Road. n. a
	60% evergreen plants, grouped where possible.
	Seasonal effect to be provided by flowers with bulbs. To be determined.
$\overline{\square}$	Windows and doors to be visible from the street.
	Driveways among the ring road to have columnar trees. n. a
	Soften buildings along the street edge with vines and shrubs.
	POPAS along the ring road with mature trees, with under-storey trimmed for visibility. n. a
	Tall columnar trees in side yards. n. a
Lands	cape Along Arterial Edges:
Ø	Tall, rapid-growth trees behind buildings.
	Front berms with hedge to hide parking. n. a

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Parking and Driveway Treatment:

	The first 10m of driveway (off the ring road) to be grey paving material other than asphalt. n. a			
	Parking screened with 2m hedge or trellis. n. a			
Retaining Walls, Planter Walls and Fences:				
V	Retaining walls maximum 1m, of stone or treated timber.			
	Screen walls with landscaping.			
Ø	Hedges maximum 1m at the property line.			
\square	Fences not allowed in front setback.			

Design Panel Comments

The Panel's comments, from their meeting of June 5, 2002, are as follows:

The Chair prefaced the staff introduction to the project with the note that the issues of a lack of an architect, a BC registered landscape architect and a model, raised at the previous meeting had apparently been rectified.

Mr. Jamieson said that the property was in the process of rezoning. A small coach house plus a five unit building on the front of the property, were planned. The McLennan South area guidelines were attached to the plan. Mr. Jamieson noted that the landscape plan indicated no existing trees on the property, but that existing trees are located on the corners of the site, and should be retained.

Mr. Von Drathen said that his understanding of the Panel's concern was that the project was subject to the architect's act and that to address this, he proposed installing a firewall(s) to remedy the situation.

The Chair pointed out that the proposed remedy did not meet the intent of the Architect's Act which was that any project of 5 units or more required an architect.

A brief discussion ensued on the matter during which Mr. Von Drathen expressed the opinion that the AIBC should issue a letter on the matter, and that this was not a role of the Panel. Mr. Von Drathen, explaining that he did not want to be contrary to the Act, said that were he to be in receipt of such a letter, the project would be passed on to an architect.

The Chair concluded the discussion by recognizing the difficulty of the situation and suggesting that the Panel review the project subject to clarification of the intent of the Architect's Act. Mr. Jamieson recognized that this project was in process prior to the receipt of the memorandum from the Architectural Institute of British Columbia dated March, 2002. Panel members Glenn Burwell and Alex Jamieson, as members of AIBC, said they would be refraining from comment and vote on the project; David Lee declared himself to be in a conflict of interest on the project.

Mr. Von Drathen, with the aid of elevations, site plans and an artist's renderings, said that a number of changes had been made to the project since the preliminary presentation. The McLennan South guidelines were fully complied with. The vehicular access from the front units to the carriage house had been addressed – access points had been added. The consistency of the 800336

gables to the front had been increased. Mr. Von Drathen said that the project was overburdened by the costs of the upgrades to Heather St. and Blundell Road.

Mr. Laurie Freeman, landscape architect, said that his company, Landscape Associates, had been registered in BC since 1999. Mr. Freeman holds a landscape architect licence in Washington state. The landscape plan for the project was to develop a sense of community, 'a neighbourhood within a neighbourhood'. Gazebos, a clipped hedge around the front, a small play area, existing trees and residential tree types have been incorporated into the plan.

In response to questions Mr. Freeman said that a narrow evergreen hedging cedar was planned for alongside the visitor parking and also to screen the garbage container; a small boxwood was planned for other areas within the site. A cement wall was noted to provide privacy between yards and front entries.

Critique and Decision

Constable Julie Powroznik provided written comments.

- > The west elevation does not read like it is addressing the street; could be friendlier to the streetscape;
- > Could turn a gable and get more trim on the outside
- > The outdoor spacing between the two buildings must be fully developed to be successful;
- > The use of materials was commended;
- > The bathrooms are not accessible and should be to some degree;
- > Sufficient space between the visitor parking stall and the sidewalk did not exist for the planned cedar hedge; screening or fencing was suggested;
- > The arbour structure could require a stronger top section;
- > The boxwood hedge should be planted 1 to 1.5 feet apart;
- Play areas should be required;
- The rear yards of south units should be defined to create separation between the yards and the common walkway;

The Chair advised the panel that as a member of AIBC, he would abstain from the vote on the project, but that he would provide comment on the project.

At this point quorum was lost.

Variances

The applicants are seeking minor setback variances for stairs and trellis-entry features. Staff have no objections to these variances.

The applicant has also requested variances to the *Works and Services Bylaw* to exempt him from doing certain frontage improvements, but staff do not support this request.

Analysis

This small project, if well-built, could set a precedent as the first coach house in the neighbourhood, if not in all of Richmond. The units are modest-sized, and the fact that all of the parking is directly off the lane frees up some open space on the rest of the site.

The plans generally conform to the regulations and guidelines. Although the applicant has refused to return to the Design Panel, the plans have generally been changed to respond to the Design Panel's comments, except for the ones about accessibility and CPTED.

The applicant had agreed to frontage improvements at the rezoning stage, but now wishes to be relieved of most of the requirements. Staff do not support this request for reasons of public safety and also because Council has resolved that these works are a condition of the rezoning. In addition, other developers throughout the City Centre are doing similar upgrades and therefore the requirements are consistent.

There are two different permits attached, one with the proposed amendments to the Works and Services bylaw, and one without, so that the Panel can choose which one to send forward to Council.

Conclusions

Mr. Darshan Rangi has applied for a development permit to construct a seven-unit residential development. The plans generally conform to the guidelines and City regulations, but the applicant has asked for relief from frontage improvements. Some minor variances are required. Staff generally support this application, but do not support the relaxation of the *Works and Services Bylaw*.

Alex Jamieson

Planner 2 - Urban Design

AJ1:aj1/att.2

Note: There are conditions to be met:

ex Janeso

- □ Prior to Council: A letter of credit for landscaping.
- Prior to a building permit: Protective fencing shall be erected at the drip-line of existing trees to be retained.



Development Permit Application Development Applications Department

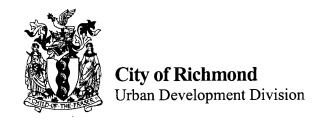
(604) 276-4000 Fax (604) 276-4052

Please submit this completed form to the Zoning counter located at City Hall. All materials submitted to the City for a *Development Permit Application* become public property, and therefore, available for public inquiry.

Please refer to the attached forms for details on application attachments and non-refundable application fees.

Property Address(es):	7191 BU	UNDEU	ROAD		
Legal Description(s):	LOT 1, EXC	POL. B	(Byland Fla	KN: 72466)	
				KILLD , FICHA!	9460
Applicant: <u>カメモ</u>	SHAN S. RA	15, 610	8 #5 BRAD	, RICHTION D,	<u>BC</u>
Correspondence/Calls	to be directed to:	·			
Name:	FREDERICE	W. 1015	DRATHEN		
Address:	9597 FRAN	CIS REMA	0		
/	cimnono ,80	2, VET :	346	Postal Code	.6
	604-241 -	•		Postal Code	
Business	frondiathen i	वे दालम	Cau	Residence 604-241 -	1467
E-mail Property Owner(s) Sign	<i>;</i>	Mus '		Fax	
or	Please	e print name			
Authorized Agent's S Attach Letter of Authorization	ignature:	<u> </u>			
	Please	e print name			
For Office Use Date Received: File No.: Only assign if approximately	202952	2	Application F	ee: <u>735-</u> <u>02-0</u> 0	29380





Development Permit

No. DP 02-202952

To the Holder:

Darshan Rangi

Property Address:

9191 BLUNDELL ROAD

Address:

6108 NO. 5 ROAD, RICHMOND, BC

- 1. This Development Permit is issued subject to compliance with all of the Bylaws of the City applicable thereto, except as specifically varied or supplemented by this Permit.
- 2. This Development Permit applies to and only to those lands shown cross-hatched on the attached Schedule "A" and any and all buildings, structures and other development thereon.
- 3. The "Richmond Zoning and Development Bylaw No. 5300" is hereby varied or supplemented as follows:
 - a) The dimension and siting of buildings and structures on the land shall be generally in accordance with Plan #1 attached hereto.
 - b) The siting and design of off-street parking and loading facilities shall be generally in accordance with Plan #1, 2 and 3 attached hereto.
 - c) Landscaping and screening shall be provided around the different uses generally in accordance with the standards shown on Plan #2 attached hereto.
 - d) Roads and parking areas shall be paved in accordance with the standards shown on Plan #1 and 2 attached hereto.
 - e) Sanitary sewers, water, drainage, highways, street lighting, underground wiring, trees, boulevards, and sidewalks, shall be provided as required.
 - f) Subject to Section 692 of the Local Government Act, R.S.B.C., the building shall be constructed generally in accordance with Plans #4 and #7 attached hereto.
- 4. As a condition of the issuance of this Permit, Council is holding the security set out below to ensure that development is carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Permit. Should any interest be earned upon the security, it shall accrue to the Holder if the security is returned. The condition of the posting of the security is that should the Holder fail to carry out the development hereby authorized, according to the terms and conditions of this Permit within the time provided, the City may use the security to carry out the work by its servants, agents or contractors, and any surplus shall be paid over to the Holder, or should the Holder carry out the development permitted by this permit within the time set out herein, the security shall be returned to the Holder. The City may retain the security for up to one year after inspection of the completed landscaping in order to ensure that plant material has survived. In addition to other remedies, if the existing trees on the site die as a result of construction activities, the City may cash the letter of credit in an amount equal to the value of the trees.

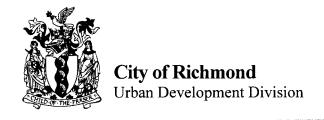
There is filed accordingly:

An Irrevocable Letter of Credit in the amount of \$12,158.00

- 5. The land described herein shall be developed generally in accordance with the terms and conditions and provisions of this Permit and any plans and specifications attached to this Permit which shall form a part hereof.
- 6. If the Holder does not commence the construction permitted by this Permit within 24 months of the date of this Permit, this Permit shall lapse and the security shall be returned in full.

This Permit is not a Building Permit.

AUTHORIZING RES DAY OF	SOLUTION NO. , .		ISSUED BY THE COUNCIL THE
DELIVERED THIS	DAY OF	,	
MAYOR			



Development Permit

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 - f) Subject to Section 692 of the Local Government Act, R.S.B.C., the building shall be constructed generally in accordance with Plans #4 and #7 attached hereto.
- 4. The "Richmond Off-Site Works and Services Bylaw #5720 is hereby varied or supplemented as follows to:
 - > not require relocation of two hydro poles,
 - > not upgrade Blundell Road,
 - > not install ornamental street lights,
 - > not service the back lane with storm sewer and hydro (only to provide catch basins in the middle of the lane),
 - > not build the retaining wall in the lane (only to plant Cedar hedge), and
 - > not upgrade Heather Street beyond the north property line.

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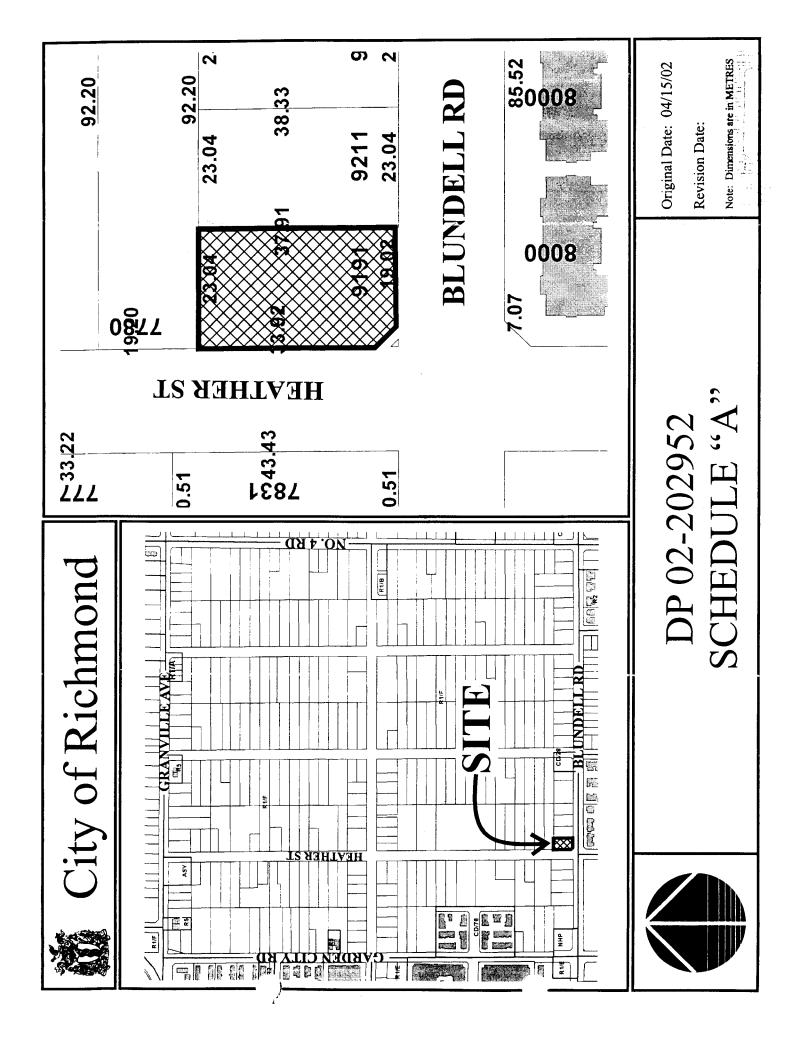
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 This Permit is not a Building Permit.

AUTHORIZING RESC DAY OF	OLUTION NO.		ISSUED BY THE COUNCIL THE
DELIVERED THIS	DAY OF	,	
MAYOR			



To: Erland Carlson
City of Richmond

Fax: (604) 276-4052 Ph. No. (604) 276-4084 From: Darshan Rangi Date: August 8th 2002

Fax Number: (604) 278-7556

Ph. No. (604) 270-7100

RE: 7800 Heather St.

Richmond

Dear Mr. Carlson:

Thank you for the prompt reply. The following is the list of the variances to the Servicing Agreement:

- 1. not to relocate the hydro poles (both)
- 2. not to upgrade the Blundell Road sidewalk and not to remove the fire hydrant
- 3. not to install the ornamental street lights (including the back lane light)
- 4. not to service the back lane (with storm sewer and hydro)- only to provide the drainage (catch basins) in middle of the lane, not to have the retaining wall instead of this the evergreens will be planted.
- 5. not to upgrade the Heather Street beyond the north side of the property line.

If you have any questions or need any further clarifications, please contact me. We could discuss this in person.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Darshan Rangi

