

Report to Development Permit Panel

Planning and Development Department

To:

Development Permit Panel

Date:

May 28, 2012

From:

Brian J. Jackson, MCIP

File:

DP 09-453125

Director of Development

Re:

Application by GBL Architects Ltd. for a General Compliance at 9388 Odlin

Road (former 9340, 9360 and 9400 Odlin Road)

Staff Recommendation

That the attached plans involving changes to the building elevations be considered in General Compliance with Development Permit (DP 09-453125).

Brian J. Jackson, MCIP Director of Development

FM:blg Att.

Staff Report

Origin

GBL Architects Ltd. has requested a General Compliance regarding the proposed development at 9388 Odlin Road (former 9340, 9360 and 9400 Odlin Road) on a site zoned Low Rise Apartment (ZLR24) – Alexandra Neighbourhood (West Cambie), which was given favourable consideration by the Development Permit Panel at its meeting held on April 13, 2011 and approved by Council on April 26, 2011. Since approval of the original Development Permit (DP 09-453125), some changes to roof line and building elevations are being considered for the purpose of simplifying facades and moving towards a more sophisticated and contemporary architectural expression of the four-storey residential buildings. Overall site plan layout, typical floor plans and parking provisions have not changed from the approved Development Permit drawings. The applicant is requesting a General Compliance on the proposed changes to building elevations and materials, only.

A copy of the approved elevation plans (Attachment 1) and the proposed new elevations plans (dated May 28, 2012) that include the changes to the elevations being sought (Attachment 2), are attached to this report.

Findings of Fact

The main changes to the approved Development Permit include:

- Changing the original roof from a shallow slope hip roof form to a flat roof.
- Breaking the continuous line of the fascia and soffit with slightly higher portions of the building, capped with a flat roof and visor extensions.
- Changing the extent and distribution of brick use on building facades (limited to the lower two floors and at a constant height) in the approved Development Permit.
- Introducing strong cornices and reinforcing horizontal lines on building facades.
- Achieving cleaner lines and expressing windows vertically.
- Introducing smooth finish Hardie panels and Easy Trim reglet system as a soft contrast background to the richer texture of the brick, which is proposed to be more dominant in the building elevations.

Analysis

In general, the proposed changes to the building elevations respond well to the general architectural objectives identified through the original Development Permit design review process.

- Changes to the roof lines and strategic use of brick, in contrast with the proposed Hardie
 panel and Easy Trim reglet system, simplify and achieve a good articulation of façades that
 add to a playful expression of the building(s).
- The proposed reglet system that contains, and more accurately defines the proposed Hardie panel edges, allows for crisper lines that help reinforce the desirable vertical expression of the windows.
- Changes to the original hip roof form and lines are not noticeable at street level, as both the original low slope hip roof and the revised flat roof being proposed present a flat soffit to views from the street.

- The changes in height of the flat roof design being proposed reinforce the building mass articulation and accentuate its horizontal lines. The addition of stronger cornices that cap the height of the brick accents also contributes to achieving this objective.
- More extensive use of brick accentuate the mass of the corners of the building(s) at both ends of Alexandra Way pedestrian corridor, anchoring and visually identifying the entrances to this public pedestrian corridor at Odlin Road and Tomicki Avenue. This same treatment is also being introduced at the end corner of the buildings that frame the entry area to the interior courtyard from Alexandra Way.
- More extensive use of brick and vertical articulation of flat roof is also used to identify the building(s) front entry and provide interest to the street fronting building facades.

Conclusions

Overall, the proposed changes meet the original massing and architectural form as outlined in the Design Guidelines of the Neighbourhood Plan and retain the general architectural character of the approved Development Permit. The changes being introduced complement, relate well, and respect the character of the immediate built context while adding interest and a playful expression to the building facades. Staff recommends support of this General Compliance request for the purpose of formalizing the proposed changes to the approved Development Permit.

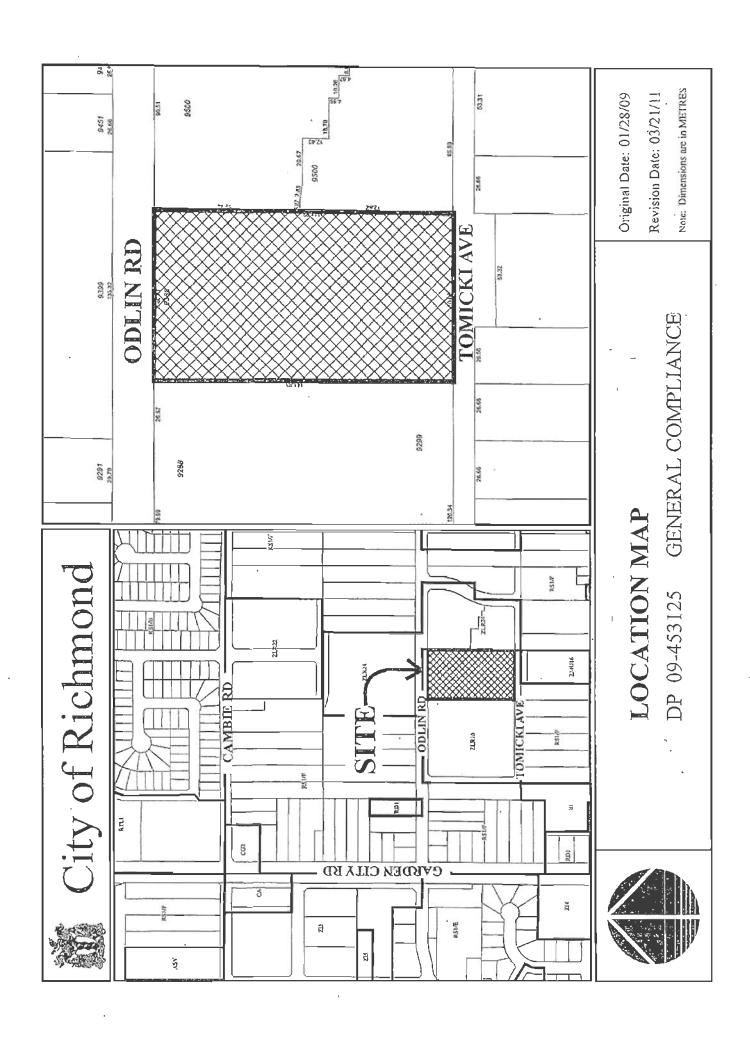
Francisco Molina, MCIP, (IA) AIBC Senior Planner III, Urban Design

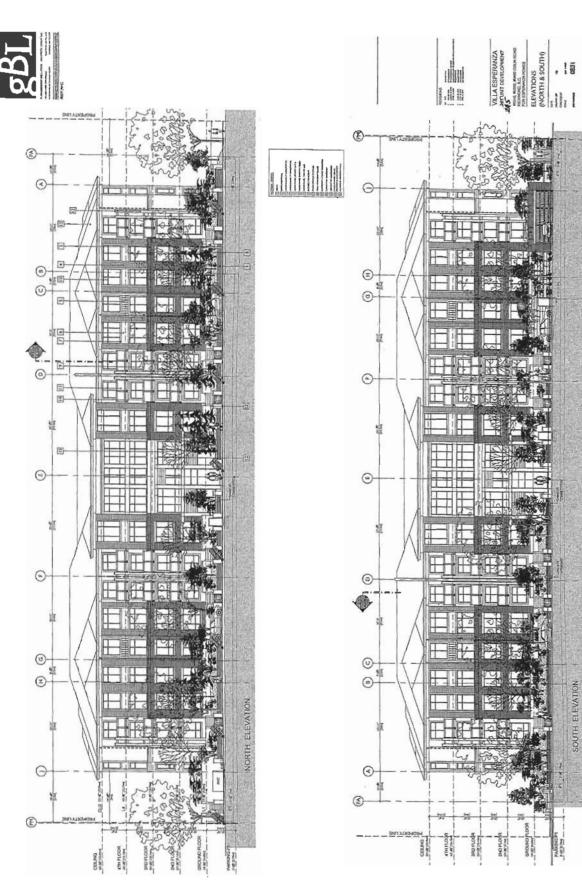
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Attachment 1: Approved Development Permit Elevations.

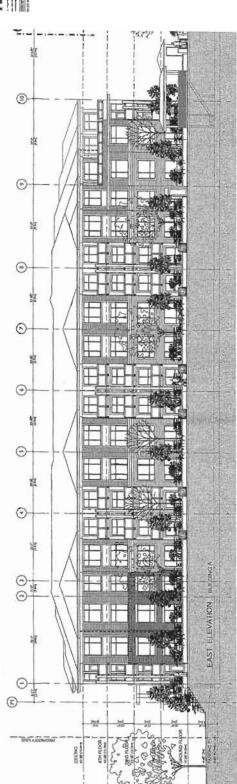
Attachment 2: Changes to Approved Development Permit Elevations.

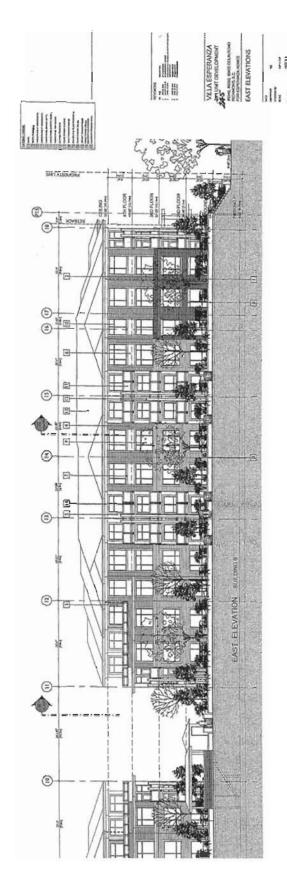




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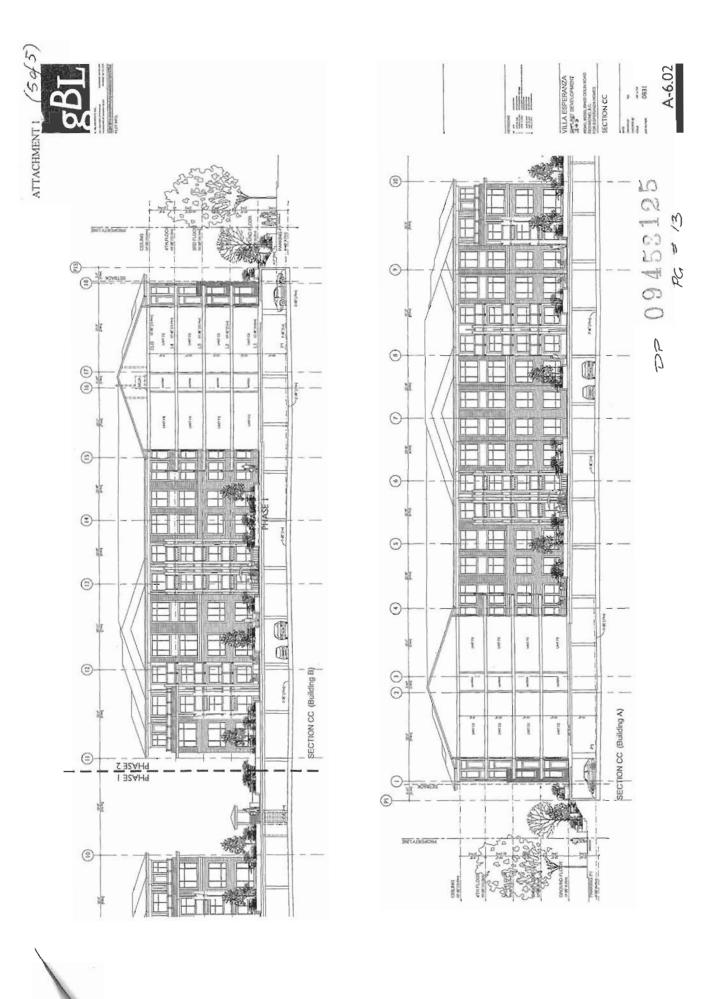


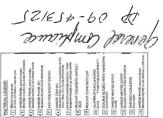


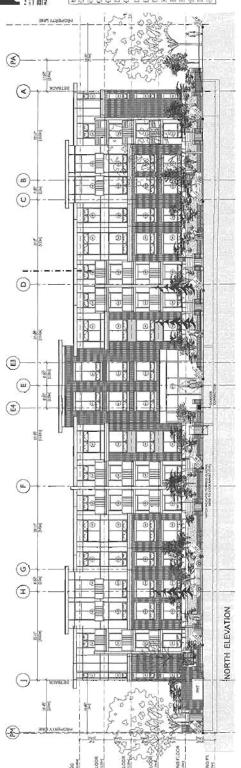


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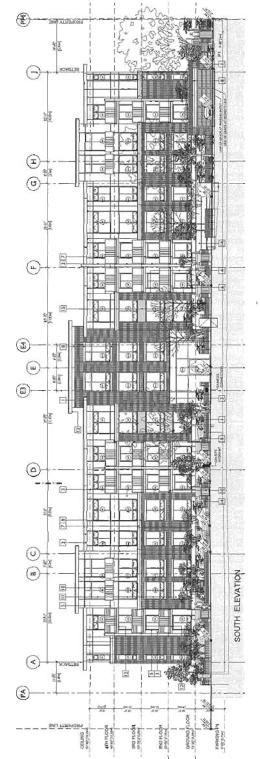






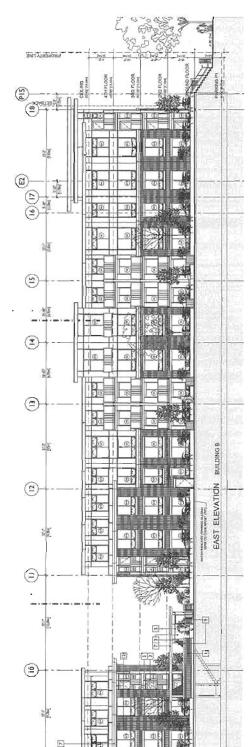


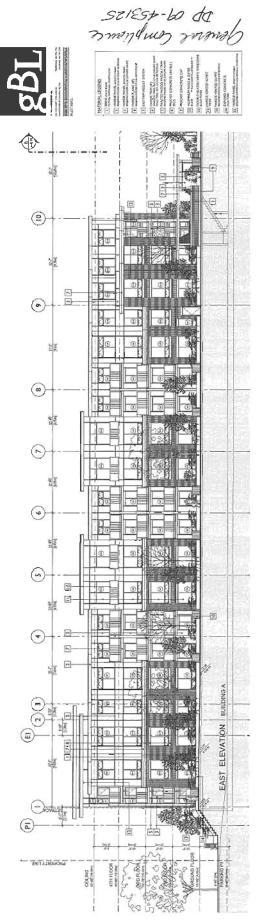












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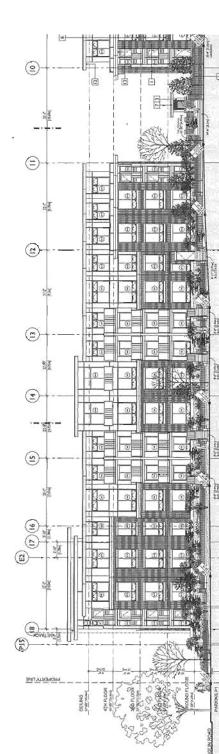
ATTACHMENT 2

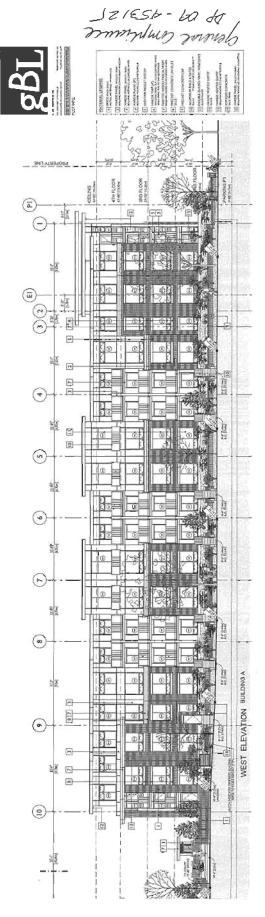


WEST ELEVATION BUILDINGS









ATFACHMENT 2

