

PO Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada



Harbour East Community Council August 7, 2008

SUBJECT:	Case 01174: Non-substantive Amendment - Sheppard's Island, 675 Windmill Road, Dartmouth		
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DATE:	July 25, 2008		
	Paul Dunphy, Director of Community Development		
SUBMITTED BY:	Val Val		
10;	Chan and Wentools of Harbour East Community Council		
TO:	Chair and Members of Harbour East Community Council		

<u>ORIGIN</u>

Application by Harbour Isle Halifax Incorporated for non-substantive amendments to the existing development agreement for the Sheppard's Island lands situated at 675 Windmill Road, Dartmouth.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Harbour East Community Council <u>not</u> approve the requested nonsubstantive amendments to the Sheppard's Island development agreement as the proposed changes to the site plan and exterior elevations of Building "A" are not minor in nature.

BACKGROUND

On April 5, 2007 Harbour East Community Council entered into the Sheppard's Island development agreement to allow for a residential condominium development. The agreement provided for three condominium apartment buildings ranging from 6 to 12 storeys in height and containing a total of 255 dwelling units (Attachment A, B and C). At present, no construction activity has occurred on the lands.

Location

The lands encompass three properties owned by Harbour Isle Halifax Incorporated located at 675 Windmill Road in Dartmouth that extend southward from the intersection of Windmill Road and Ralston Avenue to Wright's Cove in the Bedford Basin (see Map 1). The lands are comprised of two mainland lots with an area of 8.8 acres of which 3.2 acres are water lots and Sheppard's Island has an area of approximately 1.8 acres.

Existing Development Agreement

Under the Sheppard's Island development agreement, Building "A" will be constructed as a 7 storey traditional masonry apartment building containing 135 units surrounded by landscaping and a broadwalk (Attachment A).

The development agreement outlines what issues can be considered as non-substantive matters which may be approved by resolution of Council. Non-substantive matters are those matters deemed to be of a non-contentious nature and within the reasonable interpretation of staff and Council without requiring consultation with the public. Specifically, sub-section 5.1(1) provides for minor changes to the Site Development Plan, the exterior design of the buildings, and the Landscaping Plan (Attachment D). The decision on whether or not a change is minor or not rests with Harbour East Community Council.

Proposed Amendments

Maxim Construction Limited, on behalf of Harbour Isle Halifax Incorporated, has requested nonsubstantive amendments to the existing development agreement to enable changes to Building "A". The requested changes are as follows:

i)	Site Development Plan:	reduction in the building foot print and the number of units
ii)	Landscaping Plan:	additional landscaping and expanded broadwalk
iii)	Building Elevations:	re-design of the building to a modern glass structure that
,	C	contains two (2) additional storeys.

DISCUSSION

The following table compares the proposed changes to Building "A" relative to the building permitted under the existing development agreement:

Criteria	teria Building "A" Proposed Bui		
Design Style	Traditional: masonry finished exterior	Post-Modern: mirrored glass exterior	
# of Storeys	7	9	
Height	29 feet	35 feet	
Roof Type	pitched roof	flat roof	
# of Units	135	110	
Footprint	45,100 sq. feet	12, 800 sq. feet	
Landscaping	vegetation, walkways, broadwalk	vegetation, walkways, expanded broadwalk	

Table 1: Comparison of Design Criteria for Building "A"

The proposed Building "A" is a curvilinear glass design that is less intensive (building footprint and number of units) than the building permitted under the development agreement. Overall, the proposed building contains good architectural design features and is consistent with the overall intent of the agreement to provide for multi-unit residential development of the lands (Figures 1 and 2). However, the proposed changes significantly deviate from the comprehensive design of the development.

The Sheppard's Island agreement allows for three multi-unit buildings on the lands subject to a comprehensive design approach based upon buildings that are more traditional (rectangular) in design and finished with masonry. To allow one of the buildings to significantly deviate from the set design approach would result in a building that is inconsistent with the design of the development which is problematic in staff's opinion. The proposed changes would results in amendments to the Site Development Plan (size and mass of the building), the Landscaping Plan, and, especially, the changes to the exterior appearance of the buildings (glass vs masonry, increase in height and storeys; see Figures 1 and 2) that are not, in the opinion of staff, minor in nature. Therefore, staff recommend Council not approve the proposed amendments as non-substantive matters.

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Should Council choose to refuse the proposed changes as non-substantive amendments, the applicant would be required to submit a new planning application for a substantive amendment to the existing development agreement. This application would follow HRM's standard application process.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications. The Developer will be responsible for all costs, expenses, liabilities, and obligations imposed under or incurred in order to satisfy the terms of the Agreement. The administration of the agreement can be carried out within the approved budget with existing resources.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

- 1. Council may choose to refuse the non-substantive amendment to the development agreement. This is the recommended course of action.
- 2. Council may choose to approve the proposed amendments as non-substantive matters to the development agreement. If Council chooses this alternative they need to approve the attached Amending Agreement (Attachment E). This is not the recommended course of action for the reasons stated in this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Map 1	Zoning & Location
Figure 1	Existing and Proposed Elevation and Plan View Building "A"
Figure 2	Existing and Proposed Site Plans for Building "A"
Attachment A	Existing Development Agreement Site Plan
Attachment B	Existing Development Agreement Building A Conceptual Elevation
Attachment C	Existing Development Agreement Building A, B and C Elevations
Attachment D	Textual Excerpts from Existing Development Agreement
Attachment E	Proposed Amending Development Agreement

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <u>http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html</u> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by :	David Lane, Senior Planner, 490-5719
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Report Approved by:	Kurt Pyle, Acting Manager of Planning Services, 490-7066









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Attachment D Textual Excerpts from Existing Development Agreement

- 4.1 The Municipality agrees that the developer shall be permitted to develop three buildings on the Lands for residential occupancies provided that:
 - (4) the dimensions and external appearance of the buildings substantially conform with the dimensions and external appearance presented on Schedules G, H and I;
 - (5) each building shall be constructed with exterior masonry with a minimum thickness of four (4) inches, double glazed windows and central air conditioning.
- 5.1 The following matters shall be deemed non-substantive and may, at the request of the Developer, be amended by resolution of the Community Council:
 - changes to the Site Development Plan presented as Schedule F; the exterior design of the buildings presented as Schedules G, H and I; or the Landscaping Plan presented in Schedule J which, in the opinion of the Community Council are minor;
 - (2) a maximum increase of five (5) percent to the number of dwelling units allowed within each building as shown on Schedule F;
 - (3) a redistribution of some or all of the units within buildings B and C, as presented on Schedule F;

Attachment E Proposed Amending Development Agreement

THIS AMENDING AGREEMENT made this day of , 2008,

BETWEEN:

HARBOUR ISLE HALIFAX INCORPORATED

a body corporate, in the Halifax Regional Municipality, Province of Nova Scotia (hereinafter called the "Developer")

OF THE FIRST PART

- and -

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY,

a municipal body corporate, (hereinafter called the "Municipality")

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS the Halifax Regional Municipality approved an application by GJR Developments Ltd. to enter into a development agreement to allow for three multi-unit residential buildings on the Lands, which said development agreement was registered at the Registry of Deeds in Halifax as Document Number 88788139 (hereinafter called the "Agreement");

AND WHEREAS GJR Developments Ltd. transferred its interest in the lands to Sheppards Island Incorporated, which transferred ownership to Harbour Isle Halifax Incorporated on May 14, 2008;

AND WHEREAS Harbour Isle Halifax Incorporated is now the registered owner of the lands as described in Schedule "A" to the Agreement;

AND WHEREAS the Developer wishes to amend the Agreement to allow for changes to the site development plan, landscaping plan, and exterior of building "A" pursuant to the non-substantive amendment provisions of the Agreement;

AND WHEREAS the Harbour East Community Council for the Municipality approved this request at a meeting held on August 7, 2008, referenced as Municipal Case Number 01174;

THEREFORE in consideration of the benefits accrued to each party from the covenants herein contained, the Parties agree as follows:

- 1. The Agreement be amended by adding the attached Schedules F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4 and F-5 to Schedule F and thereby providing for changes to Building "A" on the Site Plan.
- 2. The Agreement be amended by replacing Schedule G with the attached Schedules G-1, G-2 and G-3 and thereby providing for changes to the exterior of Building "A".
- 3. The Agreement be amended by adding a new section immediately following subsection 4.1(5) as follows:

"4.1(5a) Notwithstanding subsection 4.1.(5), the exterior of Building "A" shall consist predominantly of pre-cast concrete, steel and glass. The construction details shall incorporate adequate soundproofing measures to the satisfaction of the Development Officer including, as a minimum, double glazed windows and central air conditioning."

- 4. The Agreement be amended by adding a new sub-section immediately following Subsection 4.1(8) as follows:
 - 4.1(8a) The Developer shall provide a revised Schedule J "Planting (Landscaping) Plan" to the Development Officer for approval prior to the issuance of a Construction Permit for Building "A".

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SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED) HARBOUR ISLE HALIFA	ΑX
in the presence of)) Per:))	
SEALED, DELIVERED AND ATTESTED to by the proper signing officers of Halifax Regional Municipality duly authorized))) HALIFAX REGIONAL M)	IUNICIPALITY
in that behalf in the presence of) Per:	
) Per:) MUNICIPAL CL	ERK









