

Staff Report for Decision

File Number: DP001060

DATE OF MEETING March 19, 2018

AUTHORED BY GARY NOBLE, DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL PLANNER, CURRENT

PLANNING AND SUBDIVISION

SUBJECT DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NO. DP1060 -

1205 OCEAN PEARL TERRACE

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To present for Council's consideration a development permit application for a residential development, which includes 25-unit rental apartments and a five-plex at 1205 Ocean Pearl Terrace.

Recommendation

That Council issue Development Permit DP1060 at 1205 Ocean Pearl Terrace with the following variances:

- increase the maximum building height as follows:
 - apartment from 9m to 10.97m;
 - five-plex from 9m to 10.05m; and,
- reduce the front yard setback for the proposed five-plex on Ocean Pearl Terrace from 6m to 5.1m.

BACKGROUND

A development permit application, DP1060, was received from Ellins Architecture Inc., on behalf of Domas Construction & Land Development Corp, to permit the development of a 25-unit rental apartment and a five-plex on the subject property. The application is a renewal of DP834. The site and building have proposed design solutions to improve the livability of both the apartment and the five-plex. The adjacent park area to the east has a proposed fence to delineate the space, and the natural area on the site has been enhanced with additional planting and tree protection. The main floor units of the apartment now have at-grade access provided and the five-plex has an addition of a bicycle storage facility.

The subject property is an irregularly shaped lot located on Ocean Pearl Terrace off Rock City Road. The site slopes down approximately 15m to a plateau where a stream runs across the southeast corner of the property. A significant ridgeline extends to the subject property on the east side at Ocean Pearl Terrace.

The subject property is located in an established neighbourhood and is surrounded by:

- an existing strata townhouse development to the north;
- Pine Ridge Estates strata development to the south;
- A rental apartment, Tiffany Gardens, to the west; and,
- A park bordering a portion of the east property line.



Subject Property

Zoning	R6 – Townhouse Residential		
Location	The subject property is located on Ocean Pearl Terrace off Rock City Road.		
Total Area	13,755 m ²		
Official Community Plan	Map 1 – Future Land Use Plan – Neighbourhood Map 3 – Development Permit Area No. 3 Natural Hazard Lands; Map 3 - Development Permit Area No.9 Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multiple Family and Mixed Commercial/Residential Development.		
Relevant Design	General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines		
Guidelines	Guidelines Steep Slope Development Permit Area Guidelines		

DISCUSSION

Proposed Development

The proposed development is composed of two, three-storey buildings, a 25-unit rental apartment and a five-plex. The total proposed floor area ratio (FAR) is 0.22. The allowable floor area ratio is 0.45.

The proposed apartment building has the following unit configuration:

- 23 two-bedroom units ranging from 80m² and 87m² in floor area; and,
- 2 one-bedroom units of 62m².

The five-plex with two-bedroom units has the following unit configuration:

- 2 units 88m²;
- 2 units 95m²; and,
- 1 unit 111m².

The proposed development meets the intent of the General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines.

Site Design

The Steep Slope Development Permit Area Guidelines encourages building siting that minimizes the impact on native vegetated slopes. The proposed development responds to the existing topography. The apartment building is sited on a rocky shelf that is relatively flat with access from Deer View Drive, while the five-plex is sited in a previously excavated area that provides street presence on Ocean Pearl Terrace. The remainder of the property, which slopes significantly from the rock bluff to the south property line, will remain undeveloped with tree protection fencing installed at the top of the bluffs.



Vehicle access to the site is from Rock City Road via Deer View Drive. The parking for the apartments is located internally onsite in front of the building, and the drive aisle acts as the access route to the five-plex.

The proposed pedestrian routes will be continuous from Deer View Drive to Ocean Pearl Terrace through the site. A concrete sidewalk will extend to connect to the existing sidewalk of Deer View Drive and will connect to the side entryways of the apartment building. There is a well defined pedestrian crossing across the parking area of the apartment building to define the front entrance, reduce the scale of the parking area, and create a pedestrian first area. The concrete sidewalk continues and connects to the five-plex and to Ocean Pearl Terrace.

The five-plex has a small (8.9m²) exterior bike storage building located within the front yard setback adjacent to Ocean Pearl Terrace.

Building Design

The front elevation of the 25-unit apartment building has been designed with individual unit entrances. The building façade has a rhythm of building bays with shed roofs over the balconies. The building façade and roofline are well articulated, which breaks up the horizontal plane of the front elevation. The exterior materials of horizontal siding, and board and batten siding with alternating colours, further break up the massing and add visual interest to the building form.

The five-plex building form compliments the architecture of the existing strata units located north of the subject property. The building mass is minimized through a variety of design strategies, including:

- Building bay elements
- Different roof elements:
 - Hips
 - Gables
 - Shed features
- Use of vertical and horizontal exterior finishes
- Unit glazing rhythm
- Horizontal banding at each floor

Landscape Design

The proposed landscape design has two key features: protecting existing trees and revegetating with native plants; and pedestrian connectivity, which aligns with the relevant design guidelines.

The existing treed area to the south of the apartment building is to be protected by a stone retaining wall to provide a level area for the rear patios, planting areas, and a black chain link fence to the south of the apartment building. The black chain link fence continues along the east side of the property at the back of the apartment building adjacent to the park. A 1.2m cedar split rail fence is proposed on the visible edge of the park at the parking lot.

An existing arbutus grove is proposed to remain on the rock bluff south of the park, and additional native trees are pocket planted. Ornamental deciduous trees will be located adjacent



to the internal access road to the five-plex. The natural area will remain as an onsite amenity space.

Design Advisory Panel Recommendations

The Design Advisory Panel, at its meeting held on 2013-MAR-14, accepted DP000834 as presented and provided the following recommendations:

- Look at varying sidewalk texture from five-plex across the road to main sidewalk.
- Consider bike storage building form and character (five-plex).
- Look at enhancing rock bluff area even if it means reducing parking spaces.
- Consider reducing parking spaces by two (along the south side of the knoll).
- Consider opening light wells (off lower units in apartment building). Look at design changes to increase the livability of that space light, size, and texture.
- Define pedestrian path from the apartment to the plaza.
- Consider the three site zones.
- Look at ways to enhance the entranceway to the apartment building.

The applicant has successfully responded to the Design Advisory Panel recommendations in the site, building, and landscape design.

For more information, see the Attachments.

Proposed Variances

Size of Buildings

The maximum allowable building height is 9m. The proposed building height of the 25-unit apartment building is 10.97, a proposed height variance of 1.97m.

The proposed increased building height is to provide at-grade access to the lower units of the apartment building, which provides increased livability and light to the units. The existing developments are located approximately 50m from the proposed apartment building.

The proposed building height of the five-plex is 10.05m, a proposed height variance of 1.05m.

The increased building height results in a similar building character and form as the existing adjacent strata units.

Required Front yard Setback

The required front yard setback is 6m. The proposed front yard setback for the building footprint of the five-plex is 5.1m, a proposed variance of 0.9m.

The siting of the five-plex building on the irregularly shaped property provides the required side yard setback of 3m between the existing strata unit on the east, and provides a street presence on Ocean Pearl Terrace. The proposed location takes advantage of locating the building in an area on the property of previous disturbance.



The proposed development meets the intent of the Steep Slope Development Permit Area Guidelines and the General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines.

Staff support the proposed building height and front yard setback variances.

SUMMARY POINTS

- Development Permit DP1060 is for a three-storey 29-unit apartment building and a three-storey five-plex multi-family development located at 1205 Ocean Pearl Terrace.
- The proposed development meets the intent of the Steep Slope Development Permit Area Guidelines and the General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines.
- Staff support the proposed building height and front yard setback variances.

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A: Permit Terms and Conditions

ATTACHMENT B: Location Plan

ATTACHMENT C: Site Plan and Project Data

ATTACHMENT D: Building Elevations

ATTACHMENT E: Landscape Plan and Specifications

ATTACHMENT F: Aerial Photo

Submitted by: Concurrence by:

L. Rowett D. Lindsay

Manager, Current Planning and Subdivision Director, Community Development

ATTACHMENT A PERMIT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TERMS OF PERMIT

The City of Nanaimo "Zoning Bylaw 2011 No. 4500" is hereby varied as follows:

1. Section 7.6 Size of Buildings – to increase the maximum allowable building height from 9m as follows:

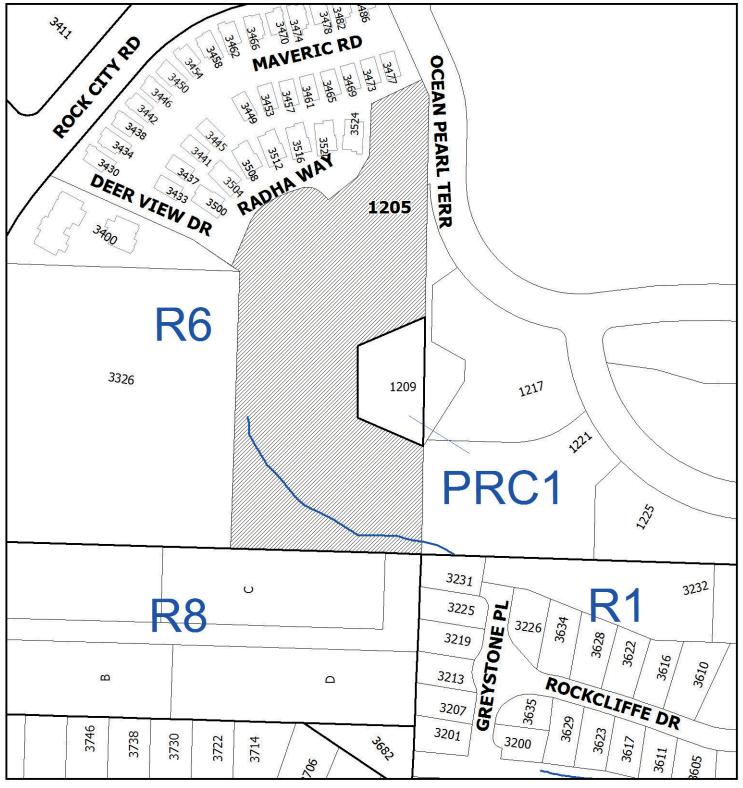
Building	Maximum allowable Building Height (m)	Proposed Building Height (m)	Requested Variance
5-plex	9.0	10.05	1.05
Apartment Building	9.0	10.97	1.97

2. Section 7.5.1 Siting of Buildings – to reduce the front yard setback from 6m to 5.1m.

CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

- 1. The subject property is developed in accordance with the Site Plan prepared by Ellins Architect Inc., dated 2018-JAN-30, as shown on Attachment C.
- 2. The development is in accordance with the Building Elevations prepared by Ellins Architect Inc., dated 2018-JAN-30, as shown on Attachment D.
- 3. The subject property is in general compliance with the Landscape Plans prepared by Victoria Drakeford Landscape Architect, received 2018-FEB-05 (L1) and 2015-APR-14 (L2) as shown on Attachment E.

ATTACHMENT B LOCATION PLAN



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001060

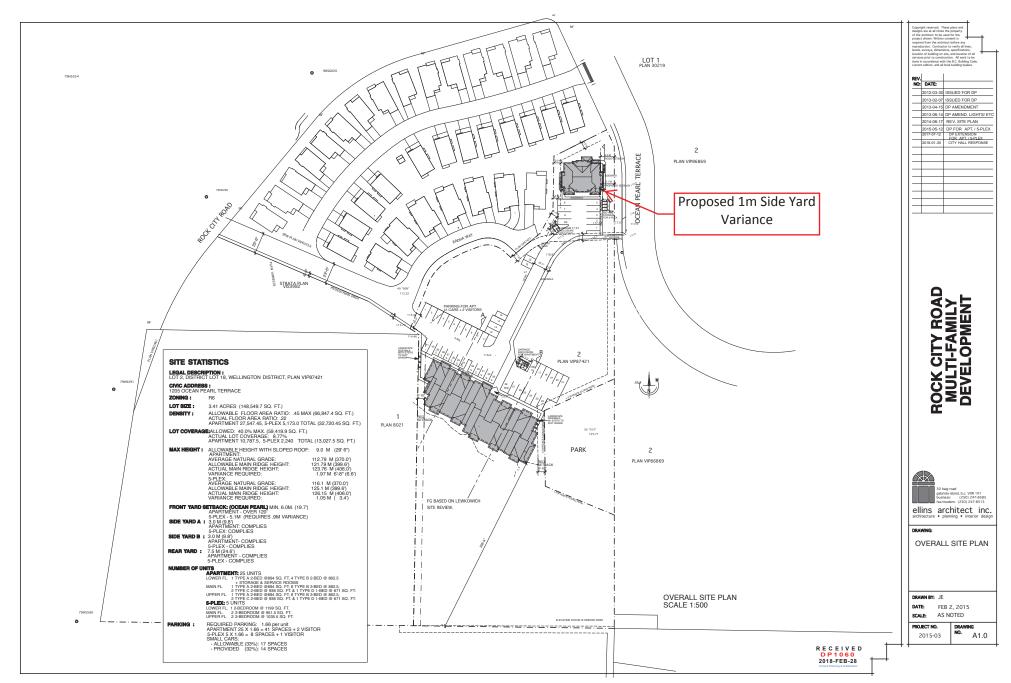


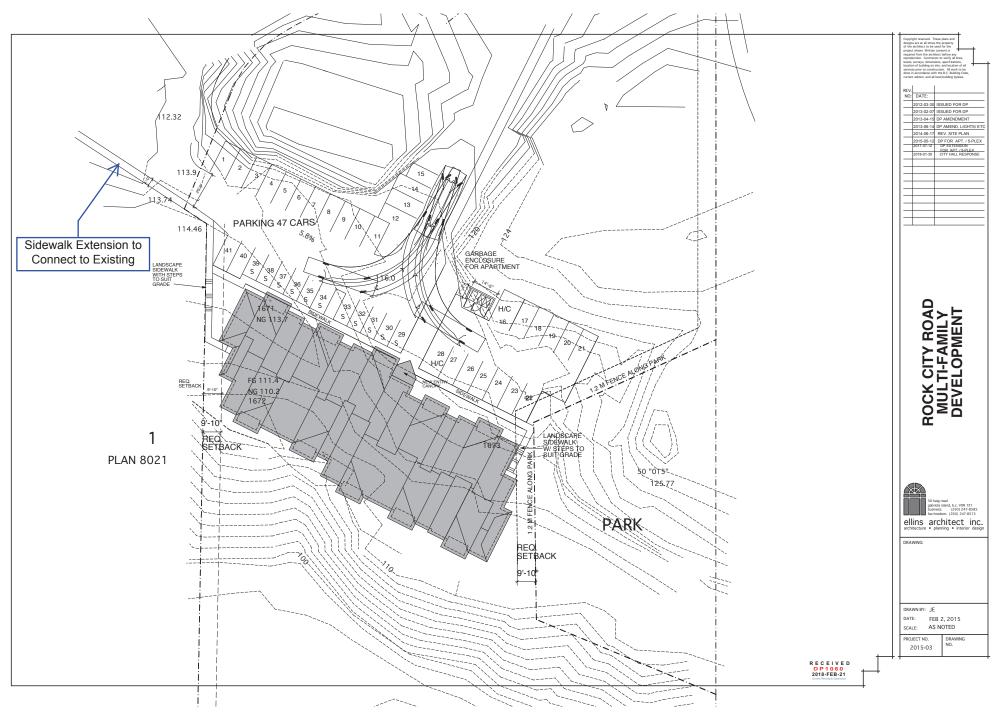
LOCATION PLAN

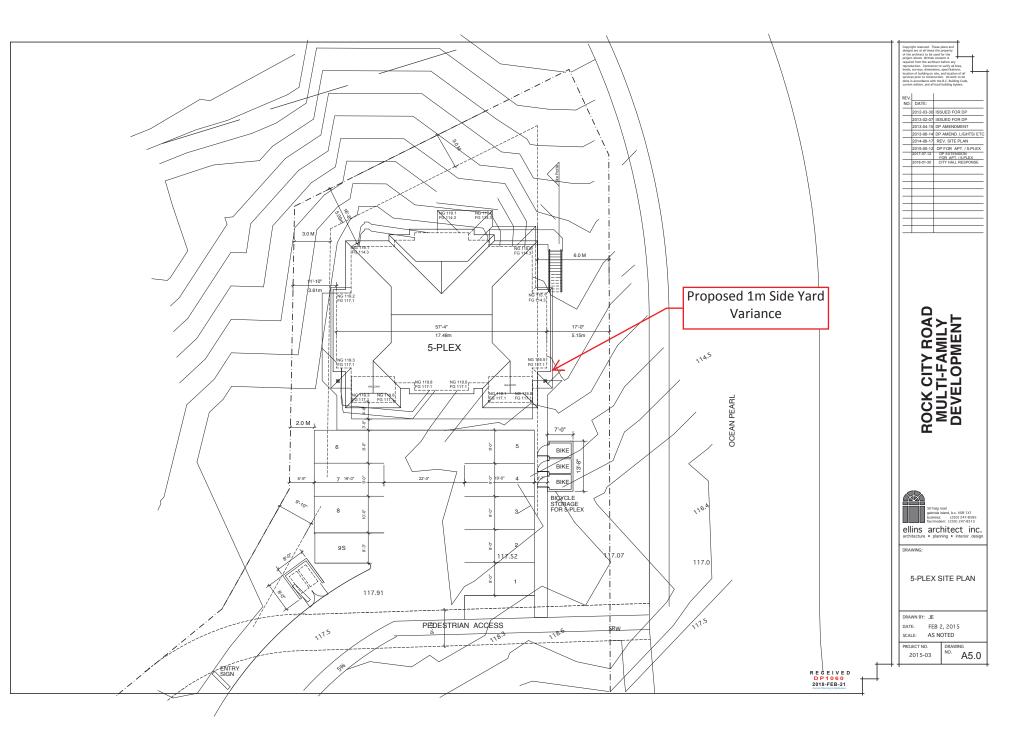


Civic: 1205 Ocean Pearl Terrace Lot 2, District Lot 18, Wellington District, Plan VIP87421

ATTACHMENT C SITE PLAN and PROJECT DATA





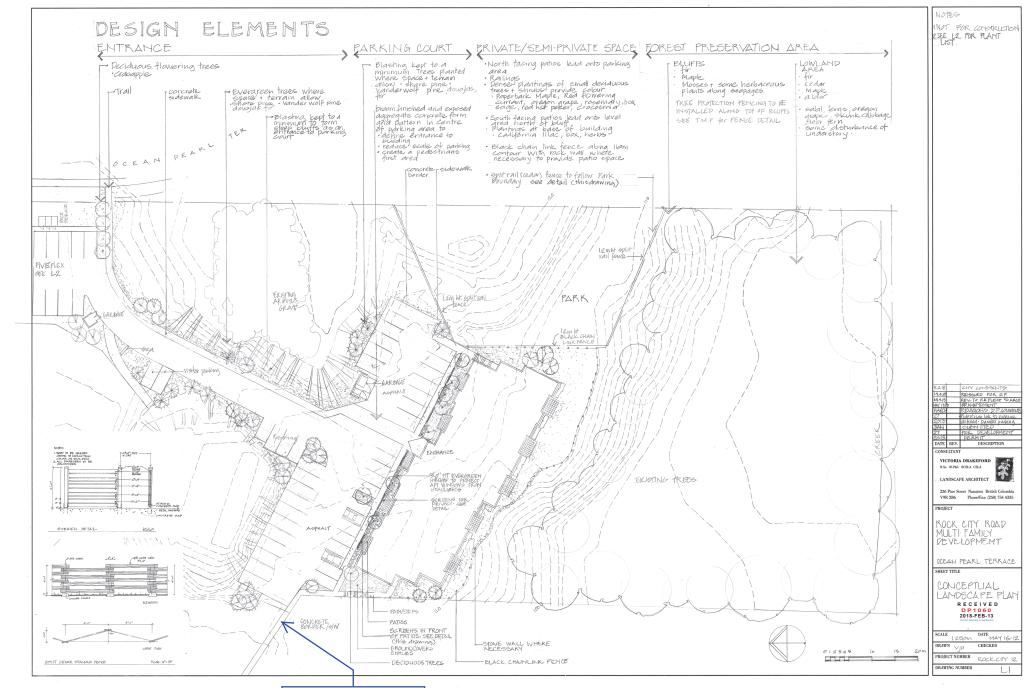


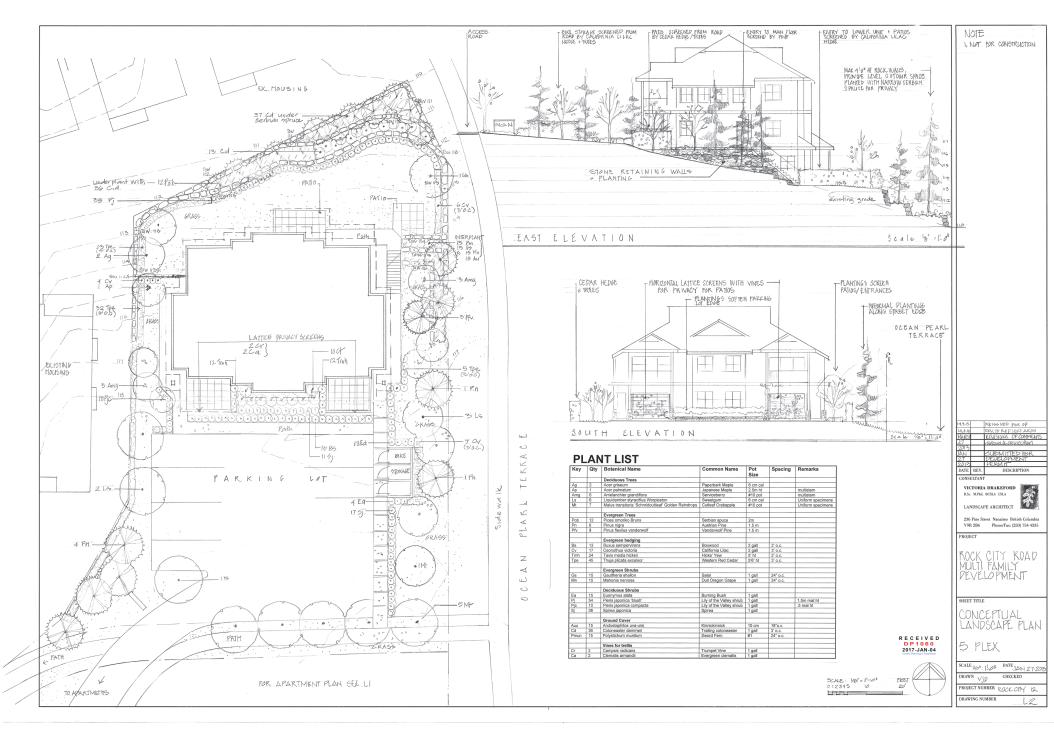
ATTACHMENT D BUILDING ELEVATIONS





ATTACHMENT E LANDSCAPE PLAN AND SPECIFICATIONS





ATTACHMENT F AERIAL PHOTO



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