# **City of Nanaimo**

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: 2015-JUL-20

**AUTHORED BY:** GARY NOBLE, DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL PLANNER

PLANNING & DESIGN SECTION

RE: DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP00834 - 1205 OCEAN PEARL TERRACE

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council issue Development Permit No. DP834 at 1205 OCEAN PEARL TERRACE with support for the following variances:

- To increase the maximum principal building height:
  - 5-plex building to 10.09m
  - 24 unit apartment building to 11.16m

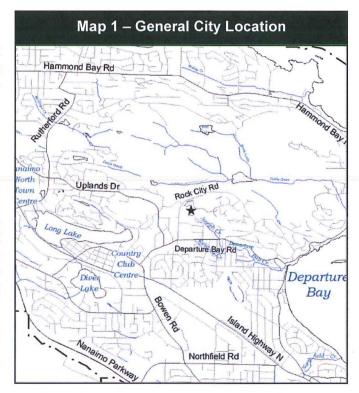
## PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council authorization to issue a development permit for a 29 unit multifamily residential development.

#### BACKGROUND:

A development permit application was received from ELLINS ARCHITECT INC. (Mr. Gerry Ellins), on behalf of Domus Construction and Land Development Corp, to permit the construction of two multi-family residential buildings: one 5-plex building; and, one 24 unit apartment building.

Staff and the Design Advisory Panel (DAP) support the application, including the proposed variances.





Committee.....

Open Meeting
In-Camera Meeting

Meeting Date: 2015 - JUL - 20

## Subject Property

Zoning	R6 – Townhouse Residential Zone			
Location	The subject property is located on the west side of Ocean Pearl			
	Terrace, one lot north of the intersection of Rock City Road and Ocean Pearl Terrace.			
Total Area	1.38 ha			
OCP	Map 1 - Future Land Use Plan – Neighbourhood; Map 3 - Development Permit Area DPA No. 3 – Natural Hazard Lands and Development Permit Area DPA No. 9 - Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multi-family and Mixed Commercial / Residential Development.			

The subject property has a steep sloped area to the south of the apartment building site area which is not being developed due to hazardous site conditions. The siting of the apartment building next to this site feature has been confirmed by the geotechnical report, as suitable for construction.

## **DISCUSSION:**

#### Proposed Development

The proposed development sites two 3-storey buildings (a 5-plex and a 24 unit apartment building) in two different areas on the subject property.

The two building sites are the least challenging portions of the site which is dominated by a fractured rock terrain. The vehicle and pedestrian access to the parking area and the two building sites is via Deer View Drive. There is a secondary pedestrian access to the site from Ocean Pearl Terrace.

## 5-plex Site/Building

Site/Landscape Design

The 5-plex, with 2-bedroom units, abuts Ocean Pearl Terrace, which allows pedestrian access only – no

Map 2 — Subject Property Location

Rock City Rd

Rock City

vehicle access is available. The building has good street presence along Ocean Pearl Terrace. Vehicle access is available via a Deer View Drive from Rock City Road.

The landscape plan provides a good streetscape along Ocean Pearl Terrace, which includes: a native plant palette which is characteristic of the neighbourhood vegetation; coniferous and deciduous trees; a hedge to screen the at-grade parking area, as well as screening between the subject property and the residential strata to the north.

## Building Design

The building form has a residential architectural vocabulary which uses a varied architectural language to reduce the building massing and scale to fit into the neighbourhood context.

- Structured bay elements
- Variety of roof elements: gables, hips and sheds
- A defined rhythm of windows
- Superior detailing and exterior finishes

#### 24 Unit Apartment Building

## Site/Landscape Design

The building is located well within the site, and is stepped on a rock bluff with good southern sun exposures.

The landscape plan is limited to infill plantings, or where site grading has left pockets next to the rock cuts. The focus is to minimize site disturbance and maintain the existing site conditions - rock outcroppings and existing native plantings.

## **Building Design**

The front elevation of the building appears as a 2-storey element fronting the parking lot. Five units have direct access to the parking lot. The architectural language of the building's front elevation is residential, with a townhouse expression. The use of gables, window patterns, and structural bays further emphasizes the townhouse expression seen from the parking lot. The elevation facing south does not have a public exposure and has less detailing, however the exterior finishes retain the architectural language and provide the necessary building articulation to help reduce the building's massing and scale.

## Required Variance(s)

#### Principal Building Height:

The maximum allowable building height is 9.0m. The table below illustrates the height variance required for each of the two buildings:

Building	Max allowable	Proposed Building Height	Requested Variance
	Building Height (m)	(m)	(m)
5-plex	9.0	10.09	1.09
Apartment Building	9.0	11.16	2.16

### APPLICANT'S RATIONALE FOR THE HEIGHT VARIANCE

#### • 5-Plex

The over-height portion of the ridge runs for a distance of only 7.9m. In order for the building height to comply, the roof pitch would have to be reduced to a lower slope, which would impact the building aesthetic. The building is sited such that it is located behind and on the south side of a neighbouring strata development, and does not impact sight lines from the neighbouring strata development.

## Apartment

This is a substantial height variance, however there is no affect on the neighbourhood view lines. The only alternative would be a flat roof; a less acceptable design response.

In Staff's opinion, both height variances are supportable. The two proposed buildings are sited on difficult topography, the height variances allow for a sloped roof, typical of the residential product within the existing neighbourhood. The 5-plex is sited approximately 4.0m above the strata development to the north. The apartment is located on a portion of the site where existing development is well below the building sites, so no neighbouring views are impacted.

## **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 5-plex across the road to main sidewalk.
- Look at extending the sidewalk by varying the textures across the road from the 5-plex to the main sidewalk, and then from the main sidewalk, extend the texture across the road to the existing pathway.
- Consider bike storage building form and character (5-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. Give consideration to the three site zones: parking, plaza and pedestrian.
- Give consideration to the three site zones.
- Look at ways to enhance the entranceway to the apartment building.

The applicant has reviewed the extensive list of recommendations and has adjusted the site and landscape plans with consideration given to the site issues. The entrance to the apartment building has been upgraded; and, the livability of the units facing the parking lot has been improved through a design change, by allowing direct access to the parking area.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Anderson MANAGER

PLANNING & DESIGN SECTION

RE: DP000834 - 1205 OCEAN PEARL TERRACE

Concurrence by:

D. Lindsay DIRECTOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

T. Seward

ACTING/MANAGER

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

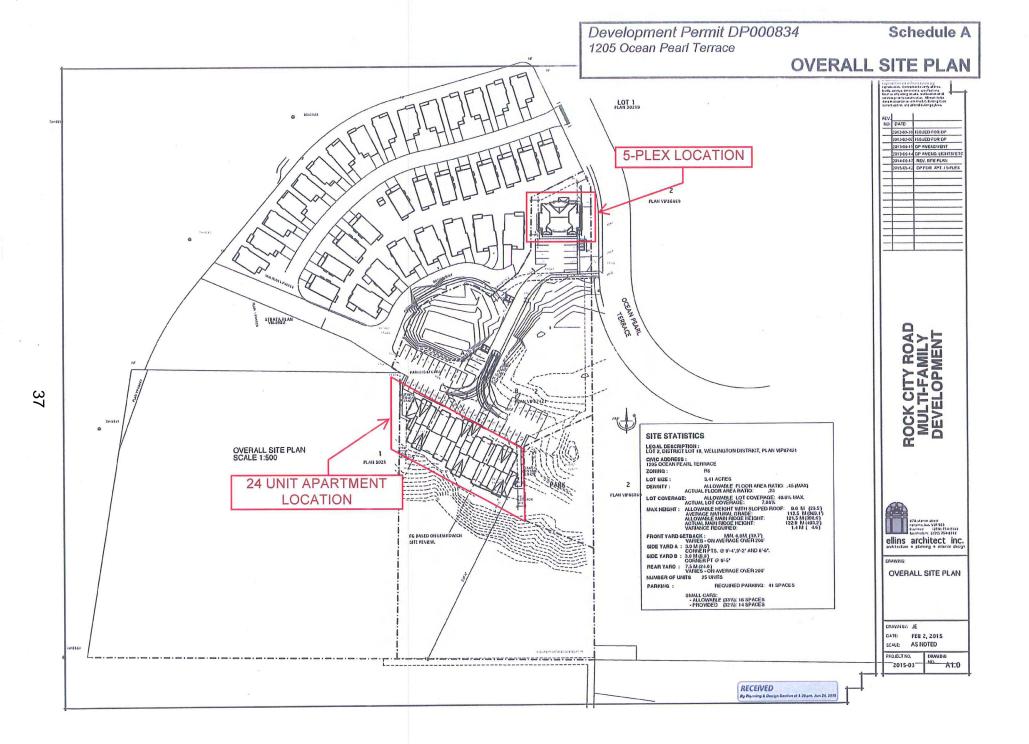
## **CITY MANAGER COMMENT:**

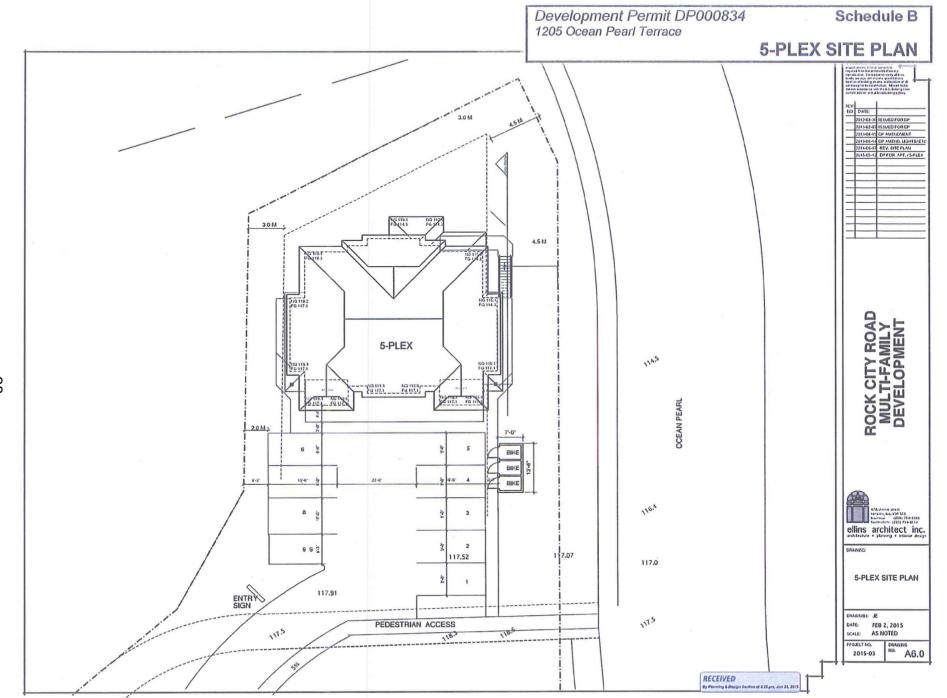
I concur with the staff recommendation.

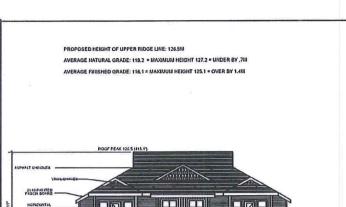
Drafted: 2015-JUN-24

Prospero attachment: DP000834

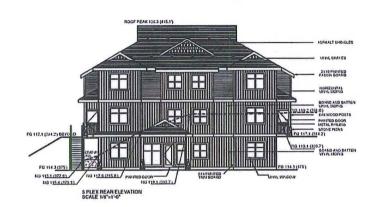
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**ELEVATION FACING PARKING LOT** 

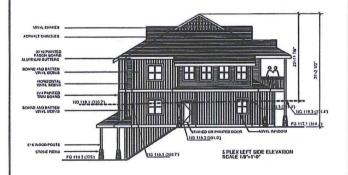


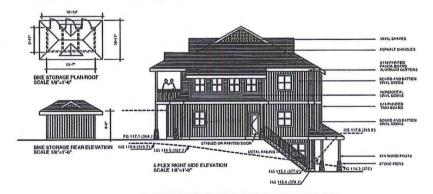
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OCEAN TERRACE ELEVATION

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By Flanning & Design Section et 2:37 pm, Jun 24, 2913

ROCK CITY ROAD MULTI-FAMILY DEVELOPMENT



5 PLEX RENDERED EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

DRAVINER: JE
DATE: FEB 2, 2015
SCALE: AS NOTED

2015-03 DRAWING

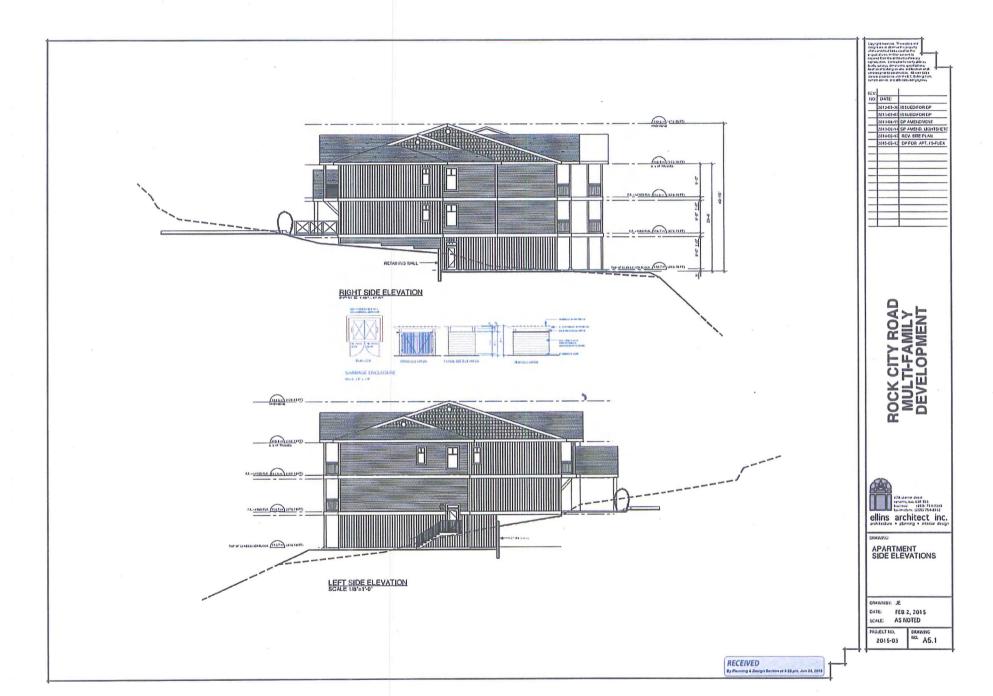
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Development Permit DP000834

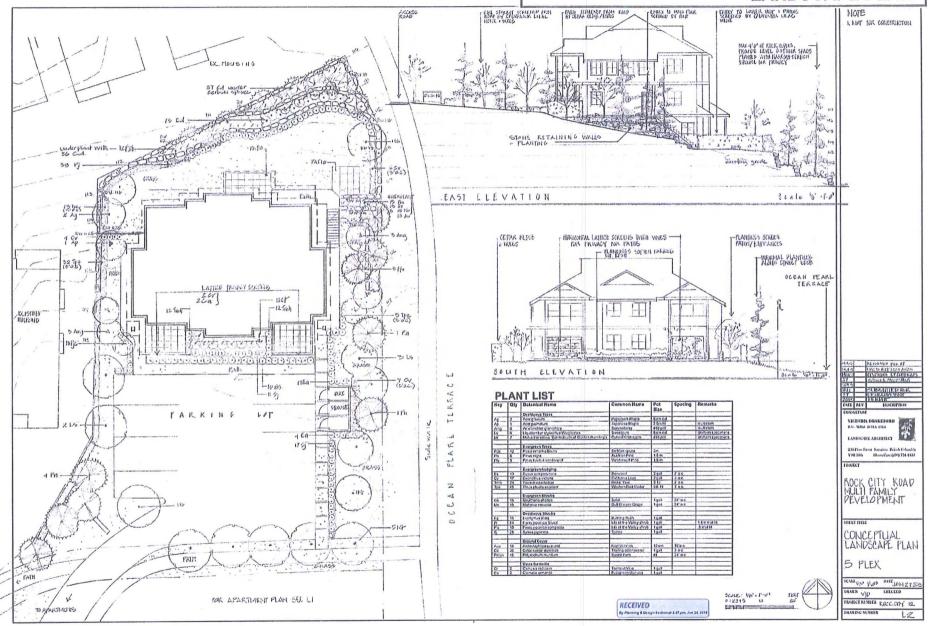
1205 Ocean Pearl Terrace

Schedule D APARTMENT

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LANDSCAPE PLAN



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