

Staff Report for Decision

File Number: DP001174

DATE OF MEETING December 21, 2020

AUTHORED BY CALEB HORN, PLANNER, CURRENT PLANNING

SUBJECT DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NO. DP1174 -

2535 BOWEN ROAD

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To present for Council's consideration a development permit application for a proposed automobile dealership (Nanaimo Honda) at 2535 Bowen Road.

Recommendation

That Council issue Development Permit No. DP1174 at 2535 Bowen Road with the following variances:

- to waive the minimum building height requirement; and
- reduce the required landscape buffer along the west property line from 1.8m to 0m.

BACKGROUND

A development permit application, DP1174, was received from Island West Coast Developments, on behalf of J.B.R. Enterprises Ltd., in order to permit a commercial development at 2535 Bowen Road.

Subject Property and Site Context

Zoning	COR3 – Community Corridor
Location	The subject property is a located on the southwest corner of Bowen Road and Cienar Drive.
Total Area	0.79ha
Official Community Plan (OCP)	Map 1 – Future Land Use Plan – Corridor Map 3 – Development Permit Area DPA No. 9 – Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multiple Family, and Mixed Commercial / Residential Development
Relevant Design Guidelines	General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines

The subject property currently contains the Nanaimo Honda automobile dealership. The existing 900m² building was built in the 1970s, with an addition constructed in 2002. The majority of the lot is paved and utilized for parking and vehicle storage. The existing building is located on a raised step, approximately 5m higher in elevation than Bowen Road.

The surrounding neighbourhood includes a number of other automobile dealerships, with Toyota across Cienar Drive to the north and Mazda on the adjacent property to the south. Properties to the west and across Bowen Road to the east are zoned for light industrial use.



DISCUSSION

Proposed Development

The applicant is proposing to construct a new 2,280m² car dealership to replace the existing Honda dealership. The new building will be a more modern structure to meet the needs of Honda, and the design of the facility is largely dictated by corporate brand standards. The proposed building will have a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 0.29 and the maximum permitted base FAR in the COR3 zone is 0.75.

Site Design

The proposed building will be sited in the same location as the current building but with an expanded footprint. The site has been designed to improve vehicle circulation. Currently, there are two vehicle entrances from Cienar Drive and one vehicle entrance from Bowen Road. The eastern vehicle entrance from Cienar Drive will be closed as part of this development.

Different parking areas will be provided with display parking in front of the building facing Bowen Road, customer parking along the south side of the building, and service parking to the rear. A drive-thru service bay and wash bay is proposed on the south side of the building. A drive aisle will connect to surplus parking at adjacent 2321 Cienar Drive. A walkway for pedestrians from Cienar Drive will provide both an accessible entryway and a feature staircase. A small patio and outdoor staff amenity area is proposed near the service bay entrance. Site lighting will be improved with on-site exterior lighting and increased street-facing fenestration.

An outdoor refuse receptacle area will be provided on the west side of the building facing the internal drive aisle and facing away from the street.

Building Design

The building design is standardized for the Honda corporate brand. The building is sited close to Cienar Drive and provides street presence with large showroom windows. The east elevation, facing Bowen Road, is situated above the lower parking area and features large windows for vehicle display and a significant entryway with red aluminum composite panels. The south and west elevations, facing neighbouring properties, will have corrugated siding and smaller window openings.

The interior of the building is separated into different sections based on intended use. The street-facing portions of the building will contain sales and the showroom, the interior of the building will contain parts and service, the west portion will contain the automobile repair garage, and the second floor will contain administrative offices.

Landscape Design

Robust landscaping is proposed along both street frontages, with low evergreen shrubs, ornamental grasses, and a feature raingarden at the northeast corner of the property. Small-species street trees are proposed to enhance the existing Cienar Drive street boulevard and at the vehicle entrance from Bowen Road. A landscaped bank below the east face of the building will accentuate the building entrance with retaining walls, Japanese maple, dwarf dogwood, and



evergreen groundcovers. Other trees and landscaping are provided throughout the site in islands and around the edge of the building to break up the hardscaping.

Design Advisory Panel

The Design Advisory Panel (DAP), at its meeting held on 2020-FEB-27, accepted DP1174 as presented with support for the proposed variances. The following recommendations were provided:

- Consider adding landscape islands, in particular at the eastern corner of the site, near the Bowen Road entrance:
- Consider adding street trees along Bowen Road;
- Consider adding weather protection at all building entrances;
- Consider using more robust materials and detailing to accentuate the feature staircase railing and retaining walls to emphasize the main entrance and connection to the street; and
- Advise Honda to consider changing their corporate building design and work with Staff to ensure the proposed design meets the City's design objectives.

The applicant subsequently revised the application to address the DAP recommendations with the addition of a landscape island with trees near the Bowen Road entrance, weather protection, and extension of the decorative concrete surface to the feature staircase.

Proposed Variances

Minimum Building Height

Section 9.7.1 of the Zoning Bylaw requires a minimum building height of two storeys above grade. While a second floor is provided in a portion of the building, a variance is requested to allow a primarily one-storey building, given the nature of automobile dealership use and the space programming requirements of Honda corporate branding. The street-facing portions of the building will appear as two storeys above grade due to the large showroom ceiling heights. No negative impacts are anticipated and Staff support the proposed variance.

Minimum Landscape Buffer

The minimum landscape buffer in the COR3 zone along zone boundaries is 1.8m. The proposed landscape buffer along the west property line ranges between 0m and 1.1m; a requested variance of up to 1.8m.

No landscape buffer is proposed on the southern portion of the west property line, adjacent 2321 Cienar Drive, where the neighbouring property will be utilized for parking. The proposed landscape buffer along the northern portion of the west property line, adjacent to 2317 Cienar Drive, will be 1.1m. This buffer will include include low groundcover species and evergreen vines on mesh fencing. There will be an overall increased amount of landscaping on-site compared to the existing condition.

Given the adjacent light industrial uses to the west, no negative impacts are anticipated and Staff support the proposed variances.



SUMMARY POINTS

- Development Permit application No. DP1174 is for a 2,280m² automobile dealership to replace the existing Honda dealership at 2535 Bowen Road.
- Variances are requested to waive the minimum building height requirements and to reduce the required landscape buffer along the west property line from 1.8m to 0m.
- Staff support the proposed variances.

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A: Permit Terms and Conditions

ATTACHMENT B: Context Map ATTACHMENT C: Location Plan ATTACHMENT D: Site Plan

ATTACHMENT E: Building Elevations ATTACHMENT F: Building Renderings

ATTACHMENT G: Landscape Plan and Details

ATTACHMENT H: Aerial Photo

Submitted by:

Concurrence by:

Lainya Rowett Manager, Current Planning Jeremy Holm Director, Development Approvals

Dale Lindsay

General Manager, Development Services

ATTACHMENT A PERMIT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TERMS OF PERMIT

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

- 1. Section 9.7.1 Size of Buildings to waive the minimum required building height of two storeys above grade.
- 2. Section 17.2.1 Landscaping General Regulations to reduce the minimum landscape buffer width from 1.8m to 0m.

CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

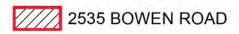
- 1. The subject property is developed generally in accordance with the Site Plan prepared by Raymond de Beeld Architect Inc., dated 2020-AUG-11, as shown on Attachment D.
- 2. The development is in substantial compliance with the proposed Building Elevations prepared by Raymond de Beeld Architect Inc., dated 2020-NOV-24, as shown on Attachment E.
- 3. The subject property is in substantial compliance with the Landscape Plan and Details prepared by LADR Landscape Architects, dated 2020-AUG-10, as shown on Attachment G.
- 4. Existing covenant L68187 is discharged and replaced by a Section 219 Covenant securing the geotechnical assessment and its recommendations, prepared by Lewkowich Engineering Associates Ltd. and dated 2018-APR-27, prior to Building Permit issuance.

ATTACHMENT B CONTEXT MAP

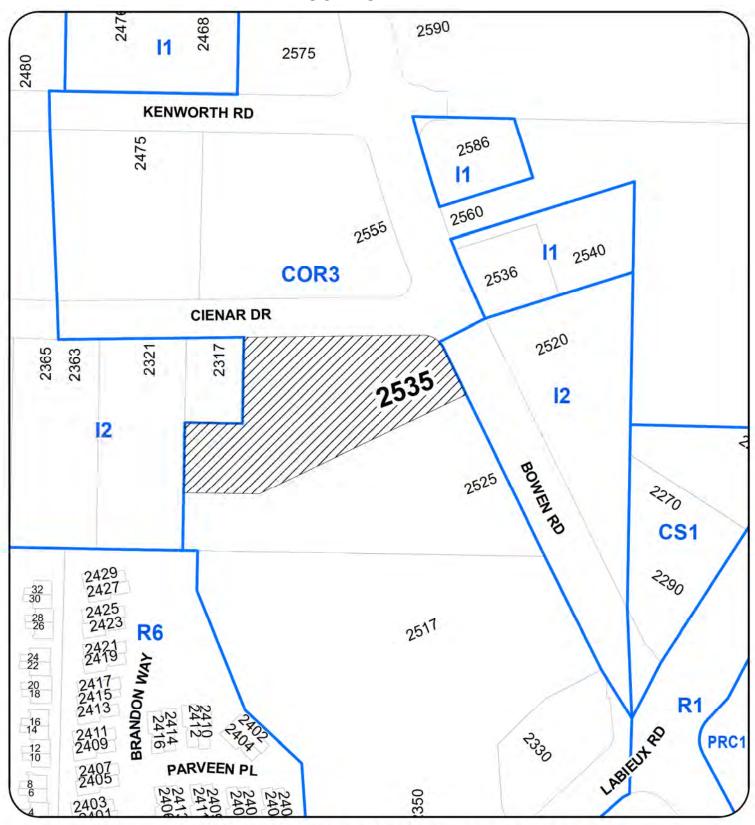


DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NO. DP001174





ATTACHMENT C LOCATION PLAN



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001174

LOCATION PLAN

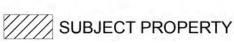
Civic: 2535 BOWEN ROAD

Legal: LOT 1, SECTION 20, RANGE 6, MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

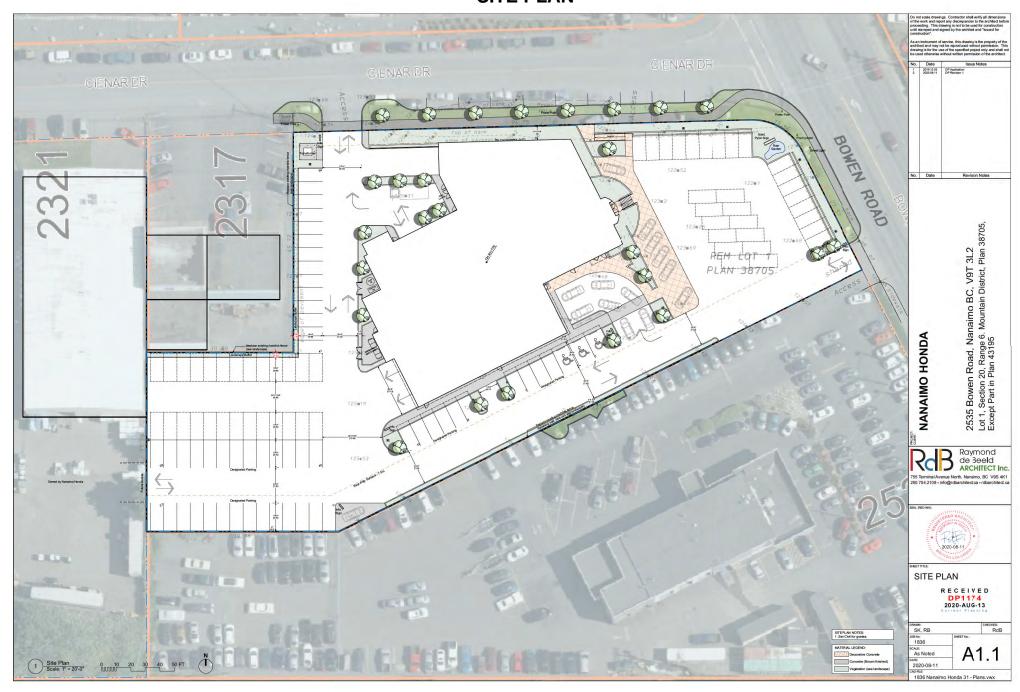
PLAN 38705, EXCEPT PART IN PLAN 43195

153

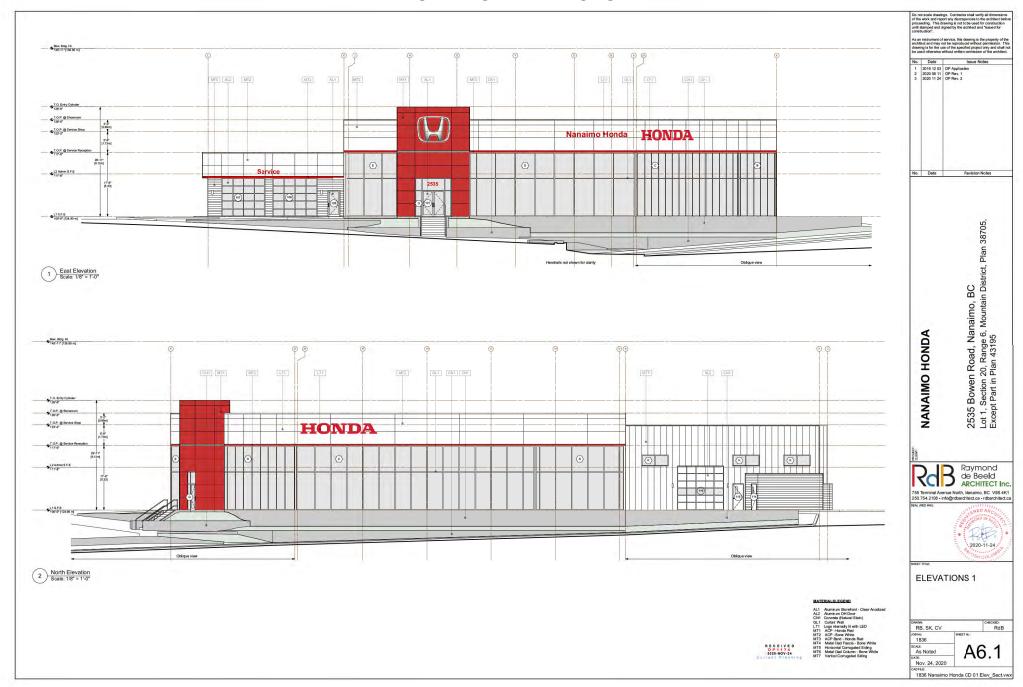




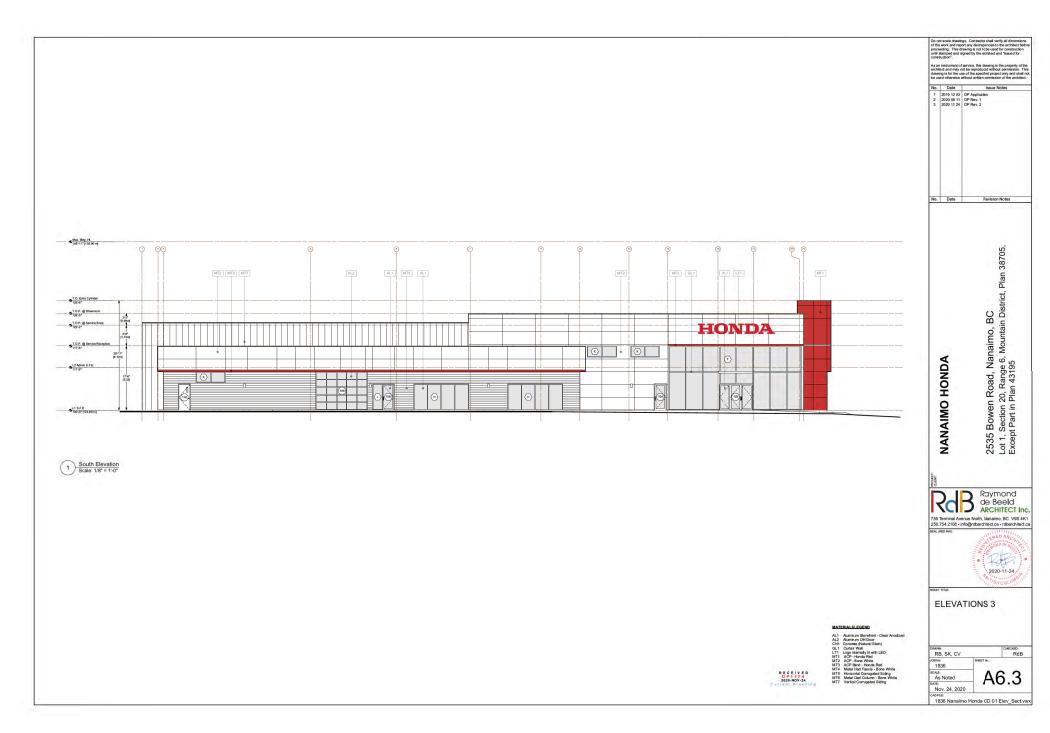
ATTACHMENT D SITE PLAN



ATTACHMENT E BUILDING ELEVATIONS







ATTACHMENT F BUILDING RENDERINGS



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(,)	Drawing List
(1	2019-12-03

ARCHITECTURAL		
Drg. No.	Drawing Name	
A0.0	Cover Sheet	
A0.1	Project Data / Context	
A0.2	Streetscape	
A0.3	Perspectives	
A1.1	Site Plan	
A2.1	Floor Plan L1	
A2.2	Floor Plan L2	
A2.3	Roof Plan	
A6.1	Elevations 1	
A6.2	Elevations 2	
462	Elevations 3	

IVIL		
	General Notes	
	Key Plan	
	Grading Plan	
	Grading Detail	
	Driveway access profile	
	Roadworks - CienarDrive	
	Servicing Plan	
	Details	
	Onsite Stormwater Nanagement Plan	
0	Offsite Stormwater Nanagement Plan	

AND	SCAPE	
	Landscape Concept Plan	

2 Consultants List 2019-11-22

Owner:	Brand Consultants:	Project Manager:	Architect (CRP):	Civil:	Landscaping:	Geotechnical:
Nainamo Honda 2535 Bowen Rd Nasaimo, BC V9T 3L7 Paul Robson Emait: Baul robson@nanaimehonda.com Barry Robson Emait: barry.robson@nanaimehonda.com	Weis & Associates Inc. 310 Spadina Ave. Suite 100 A. Toronto, ON MST 2EB Tel: 416-967-9347 Phone: 416-967-9347 Email: info@weis.ca	IWCD 2214 McCullbugh Rd, Nansimo, BC V9S 4M8 Tel: (250) 759-9685 Patrisk Brandreth Celt 250-802-3596 Emal: patrick@lwcd.ca	Raymond de Beeld Architect Inc. 755 Terminal Ave. N. Nanamo. B.C. V95 4K1 Tel: 250-754-2108 Fax: 250-754-2118 Raymond de Beeld Cell: 250-729-1349 Emili: raymond@rdbarchitect.ca Ruben Boas Emili: raymond@rdbarchitect.ca	Aplin & Martin Ltd. 12448 82 Avenue Surrey, B.C. VSW3 E9 Tel: 178-841-0484 Scott Lewis Cel: 778-269-3355 Email: slewis@splinmartin.com	LADR Landscape Architects 3-864 Queens Ave. Victorie, BC V8T 1MS Megan Walker Tet 250-599-0105 Emait mwalker@ladr.ca	Lewkowich Geotechnical Engineering Ltd. Suites A and ZE 2569 Kenwort Road, Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 3M Tel: 250-756-3851 Fax: 250-756-3831 Steve Stacey Email: sstacey@lewkowich.com



NANAIMO HONDA

2535 Bowen Rcad, Nanaimo Cover Sheet

R E C E I V E D
D P 1 1 7 4
2019-DEC-17
Current Planning

(Issued for DP Application) December 03, 2019 A0.0







3 SE Perspective





4 SW Perspective

RAYMOND de BEELD ARCHITECT Inc.

NANAIMO HONDA

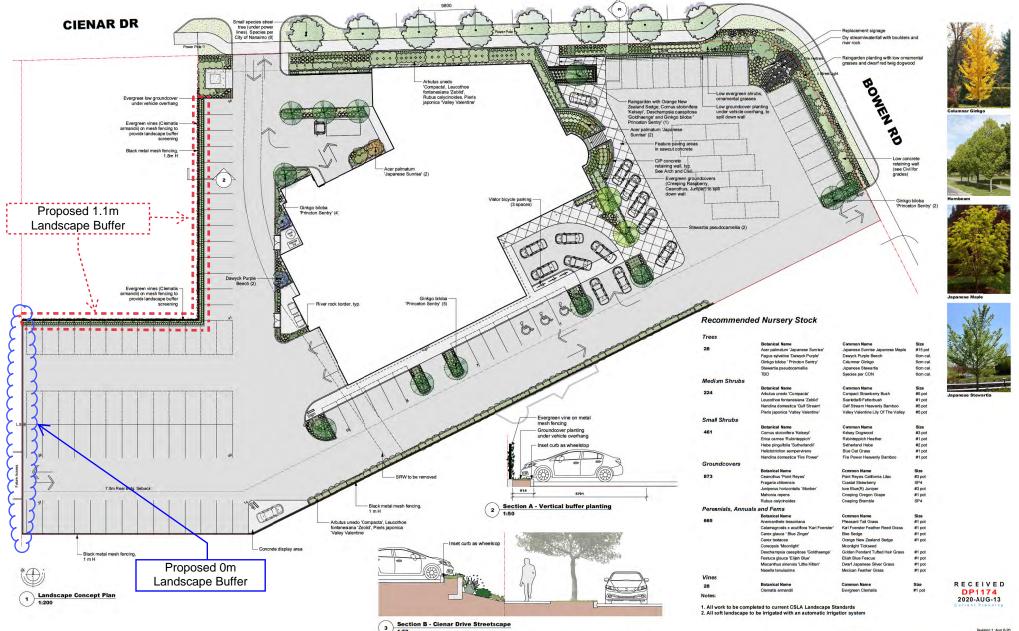
2535 Bowen Rcad, Nanaimo

Perspectives

RECEIVED
DP1174
2019-DEC-17
Current Planning

(Issued for DP Application) December 03, 2019 A0.3

ATTACHMENT G LANDSCAPE PLAN AND DETAILS



Nanaimo Honda - Landscape Concept Plan



ATTACHMENT H AERIAL PHOTO





DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001174

Legend

