

## **Staff Report**

File Number: DP000979

DATE OF MEETING June 19, 2017

AUTHORED BY GARY NOBLE, DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL PLANNER, CURRENT

PLANNING AND SUBDIVISION

SUBJECT DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NO. DP979 – 601 AND 609

**BRUCE AVENUE** 

#### **OVERVIEW**

#### **Purpose of Report**

To present for Council's consideration a development permit application for a commercial development at 601 and 609 Bruce Avenue.

#### Recommendation

That Council issue Development Permit No. DP979 at 601 and 609 Bruce Avenue with the following variances:

- reduce the required front yard setback for Building A (Shepherd Avenue) from 4.5m to 3.1m;
- reduce the required flanking side yard for Building A (Fifth Street) from 6m to 3.9m;
- reduce the required flanking side yard for Building B (Fifth Street) from 6m to 2.1m;
- reduce the required front yard setback for Buildings B and C (Bruce Avenue) from 4.5m to 1.8m; and,
- reduce the required front yard setback for Building D (Bruce Avenue) from 4.5m to 3.6m.

#### **BACKGROUND**

A development permit application was received from Urban Design Group Architects Ltd., on behalf of DDV Properties (OC) Inc., to permit a commercial development that is comprised of four pad buildings. Previously, the properties were subject to an Official Community Plan amendment and rezoning application to change the land use designation to Corridor and zoning to CC3 – City Centre Commercial, which was approved by Council 2016-NOV-21.

#### **Subject Property**

Zoning	CC3 – City Centre Commercial
	The subject properties were rezoned from R1 to CC3 in 2016
Location	The subject properties are located on the southwest corner of the
	Fifth Street and Bruce Avenue intersection
Total Area	7,814m <sup>2</sup>
Official Community	Map 1 – Future Land Use Plans – Corridor; Map 3 –Development
Plan (OCP)	Permit Area No. 9 - Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multiple
	Family and Mixed Commercial/Residential development
	Harewood Neighbourhood Plan
Relevant Design	General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines
Guidelines	Harewood Neighbourhood Plan Urban Design Guidelines

SRPV1 182



#### DISCUSSION

#### **Proposed Development**

The proposed commercial development is comprised of four pad buildings:

- Building A 248.3m<sup>2</sup> (with drive-thru format)
- Building B 627.1m<sup>2</sup>
- Building C 328.4m<sup>2</sup>
- Building D 882.6m<sup>2</sup>

The proposed Floor Area Ratio (FAR) for this development is 0.27 and the allowed FAR is 0.45.

#### Site Design

The subject properties are through-lots with two front yards, Bruce Avenue and Shepherd Avenue. Fifth Street is the flanking street. There are two commercial pad buildings fronting Fifth Street which provides a degree of street presence to University Village on the north side of the street.

A major site feature is a specimen English oak along the Fifth Street frontage. The tree is also a Harewood neighbourhood icon. Site design, building siting and proposed city works and services accommodate the retention of this tree. The tree location is a visual identifier of a public open space within the proposed commercial development.

The street bulb at the corner of Fifth Street and Bruce Avenue will be branded with a three dimensional public art installation. The public art piece is themed to represent the history of farming in Harewood as well as the growing interest in urban farming. The proposed public art (valued at approximately \$23,440) represents part of the community contribution (\$73,440) that was provided through the rezoning process.

The building siting of the four pad buildings along street edges creates an internal parking court which reduces the visual impact of required at-grade parking for travellers along Fifth Street and Bruce Avenue. Where built form does not contain the internal parking court, there is landscape screening.

The total proposed onsite parking is 89 spaces, including 11 stacked parking spaces within the drive-thru aisles. The required onsite parking is 81 spaces.

As envisioned through the previous rezoning process, the proposed lots are to be consolidated and road dedication provided along the Shepherd Avenue frontage of 601 Bruce Avenue. The road dedication requirement was secured through a covenant at the time of rezoning, and the lot consolidation is noted as a condition of the proposed development permit. Road dedication and lot consolidation must be complete prior to issuance of a building permit.

#### Building Design

The Harewood Neighbourhood Plan – Urban Design Guidelines are addressed in the building facades as follows:



 All building elevations have vertical articulations which divide the building faces into structure bays to express small scale commercial spaces.

The proposed material finishes provide appropriate detail and quality for the building elevations. A modern awning detail is used over the storefront glazing and commercial unit entrances. The awning adds another layer of detail and reduces the scale of the building elevations. Building lighting is also used to highlight architectural detailing.

#### Landscape Plan

The landscape plan proposes street trees along the three street edges.

The drive-thru vehicle lane that parallels Shepherd Avenue is screened with intermittent wood screens (1.5m high and 2.5m wide) and hedge row plantings which are installed upon a small berm.

A tree and shrub palette is organized within the internal parking court. The planting plan softens this area, adds texture and divides the parking area into smaller sections.

The specimen oak tree has an understory of ground cover to decorate and finish the ground plain around the tree stem and to clearly demarcate the path for pedestrian access from the street.

#### **PROPOSED VARIANCES**

#### Building A

The minimum required front yard setback from Shepherd Avenue is 4.5m. The proposed setback is 3.1m, a proposed variance of 1.4m.

The minimum required flanking side yard setback from Fifth Street is 6m. The proposed setback is 3.9m, a proposed variance of 2.1m.

#### Building B

The minimum required flanking side yard setback from Fifth Street is 6m. The proposed setback is 2.1m, a proposed variance of 3.9m.

The minimum required front yard setback from Bruce Avenue is 4.5m. The proposed setback is 1.8m, a proposed variance of 2.7m.

#### Building C

The minimum required front yard setback from Bruce Avenue is 4.5m. The proposed setback is 1.8m, a proposed variance of 2.7m.



#### Building D

The minimum required front yard setback from Bruce Avenue is 4.5m. The proposed setback is 3.6m, a proposed variance of 0.9m.

All of the building setbacks along the three fronting streets are appropriate in order to provide the necessary street presence and meet the intent of the Harewood Neighbourhood Urban Design Guidelines.

#### **DESIGN ADVISORY PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

At its meeting held on 2016-SEP-22, the Design Advisory Panel accepted DP979 as presented, gave support for the requested variances, and provided the following recommendations:

- Consider integrating the Harewood Neighbourhood theme into elements of the building design and landscape plan.
- Consider improving the articulation of the south and east facade of Building D.
- Consider adding a pedestrian access along the drive aisle adjacent to Building D.
- Consider redesigning the vehicle movement through the drive thru.
- Consider adding to the tree density along the perimeter of the site and within the parking lot
- Consider increasing the screening along the landscape buffer on Shepherd Avenue.
- Consider adding day lighting features to the breezeway to make it brighter and more welcoming.

The following response was provided by the applicant:

- 1. The storefront casing is amended with headers extended across the vertical trims to lend a more utilitarian character to the building facades and relate somewhat to agricultural and mining structures that dominate Harewood's architectural heritage. Incorporating other more dominant architectural elements found in these historical references, such as gable roofs or head frames, were considered but found to be incompatible with the design intent.
- 2. The post and lintel trim pattern was extended across the south, west and east facades of Building D, as well as the north and west facades of Building A where back-of-house areas are located and storefront glazing is impractical. The pattern introduces some articulation to these facades in addition to perimeter landscape and planting elements that provide more appeal.
- 3. A stepped sidewalk was introduced to facilitate pedestrian access.
- 4. Two parking spaces directly across the drive-thru lane entrance were deleted to reduce the number of vehicular movements in this area.
- 5. Ten additional trees were introduced in and around the site as recommended
- 6. Staff considered the opportunity to expand the landscape buffer into City property along Shepherd Avenue; however, there is a sidewalk currently located adjacent to the



property frontage. Instead, a 0.9m to 1.2m high berm is proposed within the landscape buffer adjacent to the drive-thru to introduce a more permanent screening solution over which planting and trellis screens will be built.

7. A skylight is added to facilitate day lighting in the breezeway.

Staff has reviewed the applicant's response and determined that the proposed changes have improved the site and building design in accordance with the neighbourhood plan design guidelines.

#### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Development Permit DP979 is a commercial development comprised of four pad buildings.
- The proposed development meets the intent of the Harewood Neighbourhood Plan -Urban Design Guidelines.
- Staff supports the proposed variances to building setbacks and building frontage.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

ATTACHMENT A: Permit Terms and Conditions

ATTACHMENT B: Location Plan ATTACHMENT C: Site Plan

ATTACHMENT D: Building Elevations and Material Finishes

ATTACHMENT E: Landscape Plan and Details

ATTACHMENT F: Overall Aerial Image

ATTACHMENT G: Streetscapes ATTACHMENT H: Aerial Photo

Submitted by:

Concurrence by:

Manager, Current Planning and Subdivision Director, Community Development

#### **TERMS OF PERMIT**

The City of Nanaimo "ZONING BYLAW 2011 NO. 4500" is varied as follows:

1. Section 10.5.1 – Siting of Buildings

#### **Building A**

- To reduce the minimum required front yard setback (Shepherd Avenue) from 4.5m to 3.1m.
- To reduce the minimum required flanking side yard setback (Fifth Street) from 6m to 3.9m.

#### **Building B**

- To reduce the minimum required flanking side yard setback (Fifth Street) from 6m to 2.1m.
- To reduce the minimum required front yard setback (Bruce Avenue) from 4.5m to 1.8m.

#### **Building C**

• To reduce the minimum required front yard setback (Bruce Avenue) from 4.5m to 1.8m.

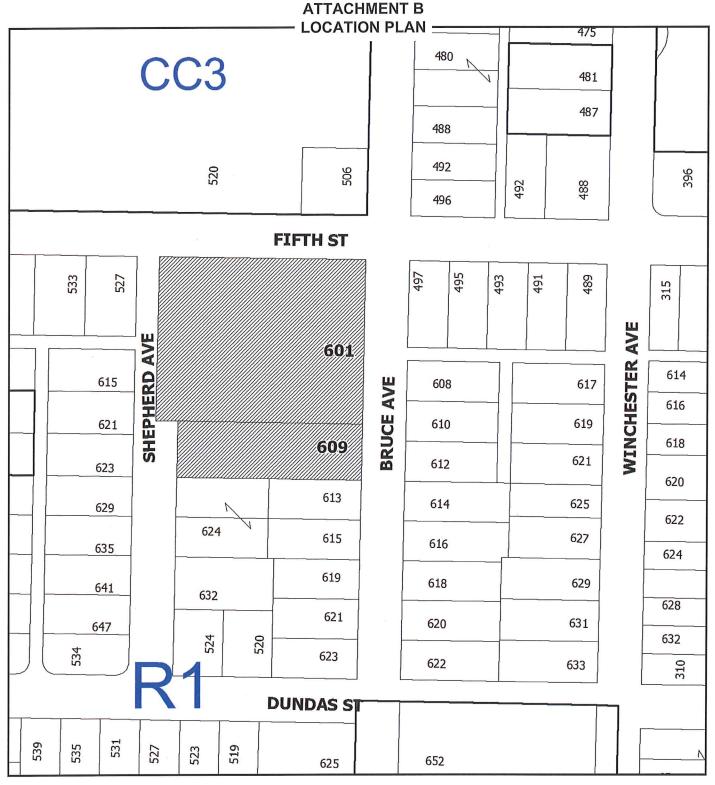
#### **Building D**

• To the minimum required front yard setback (Bruce Avenue) from 4.5m to 3.6m.

#### **CONDITIONS OF PERMIT**

- 1. The subject properties shall be developed generally in accordance with the site plan prepared by Urban Design Group Architects BC, received 2017-MAY-30.
- 2. The subject properties shall be developed generally in accordance with the building elevations prepared by Urban Design Group Architects BC, received 2017-MAY-30.
- 3. The subject properties shall be developed generally in accordance with the landscape plan and details prepared by M2 Landscape Architecture Arboriculture Ltd., received 2017-MAY-30.
- 4. The subject properties shall be consolidated at the owner's expense prior to issuance of a building permit.
- 5. The proposed public art installation is to be determined through a detailed design review and be provided prior to the issuance of a building permit.
- 6. The subject properties shall be developed in accordance with the Tree Management Plan prepared by M2 Landscape Architecture Arboriculture Ltd., received 2017-FEB-08 with the following additional conditions pertaining to the retention of the existing oak tree between proposed Buildings A and B:
  - The City of Nanaimo Urban Forestry Coordinator must be notified and the project Arborist present for the removal of the existing fence and the construction of the Tree Protection Fencing;
  - The Tree Protection Fencing must be constructed a minimum of 8.64m away from the tree trunk and 360 degrees around the tree;

- Fencing must be 1.8m high, constructed out of firmly anchored 2x4 posts with 2x4 top and bottom rails and cross bracing. Hi-Visibility snow fencing must be firmly affixed around the frame;
- Signage must also be attached around the fencing prohibiting any encroachment within the barrier and stating that the barrier must not be removed without the written authorization of the City of Nanaimo Urban Forestry Coordinator;
- The fencing must be in place and inspected by the City of Nanaimo Urban Forestry Coordinator prior to construction;
- A 7.6cm layer of organic mulch is to be reinstated to amend the soil at the base of the tree once the construction activities are complete;
- Regular deep watering is required as well as an application of slow release fertilizer during the construction process; and
- If any pruning is required, the scope of pruning is to be determined by the City of Nanaimo Urban Forestry Coordinator and the project Arborist and the work must be supervised by the project Arborist.



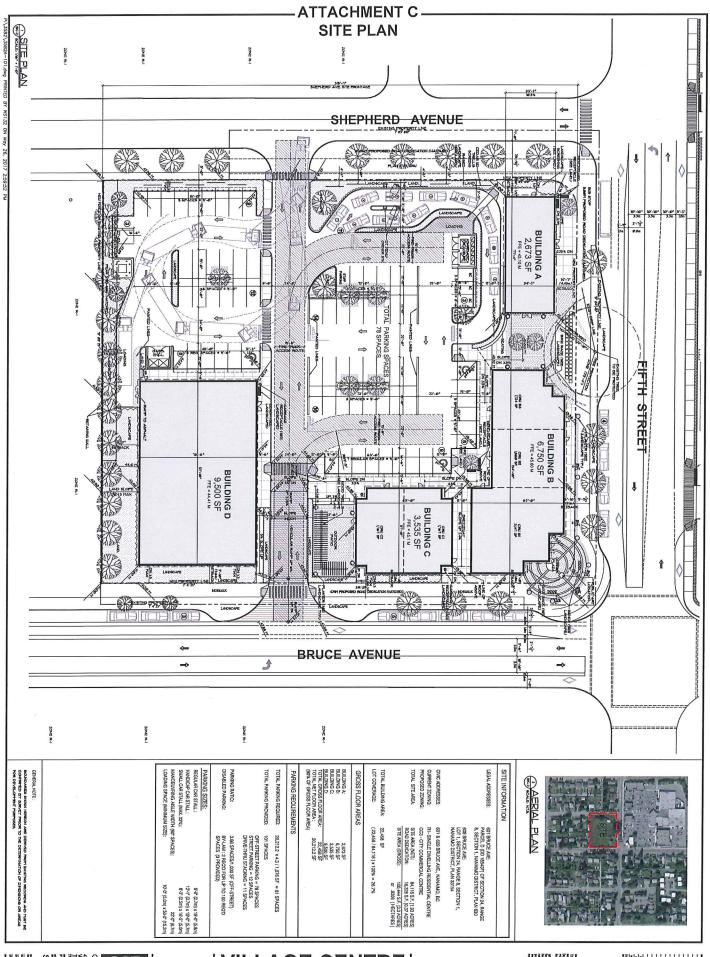
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP000979



## **LOCATION PLAN**

Civic: 601 & 609 Bruce Avenue Lot 1, Section 24, Range 8, Section 1, Nanaimo District, Plan 33154























COLOURS	RS AND FINISHES
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ദ	JAMES HARDIE COLONIAL GRAY
0	BM 2III-60 BARKEN PLAN
0	BH HC-108 SANDY HOOK GRAY SABLE
(m)	BH. HC-164 COPLEY GRAY
⊕	פאר מור-מו ארבאוכאא שאודב
(a)	BM 204-30 IRON HOUNTAIN
€	BERRIDGE HETAL, ZINC GREY
Θ	KAUNEER, "A CLEAR ANDDIZED
0	OLYMPIC STAN, NATURAL TONE CEDAR 116
⊘	SACKED FINISH
Э	BH 205-20 DEEP BPACE

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GREEN WALL ON ALLMINUM FRAME	VNYL LIFESTYLE SCREEN	ALIMINIM AND GLASS GLANDRAIL	SKAWGE BY TEVANT	SPANDREL GLAZIKS	HOLLOW HETAL DOOR, PANTED	HETAL RAILING, PAINTED	ROUGH OUT THYBER TREELIS, STANED	STEEL CANOPY, CLEAR LAYINATED TEMPERED GLASS	EASYTRIM SYSTEM, POWDER COATED	EXTERIOR LIGHT FIXTURE, SURFACE MOUNTED	BRAKESHAPE ALIMINIM	FIBRE CEPENT FASCIA BOARD/CASNA, PANTED	PRE-FNISHED HETAL FLASHING	EF6 STUCCO COPNICE	CONCRETE BASE	STANDING SEAH HETAL PANEL POOFING	PRE-FN AVODIZED ALIM FRAME CLEAR DOUBLE GLAZED THERMALLY BROKEN STOKEFRONTS	FIBRE CEPENT 6" EXPOSURE HORIZONTAL LAP SIDNS

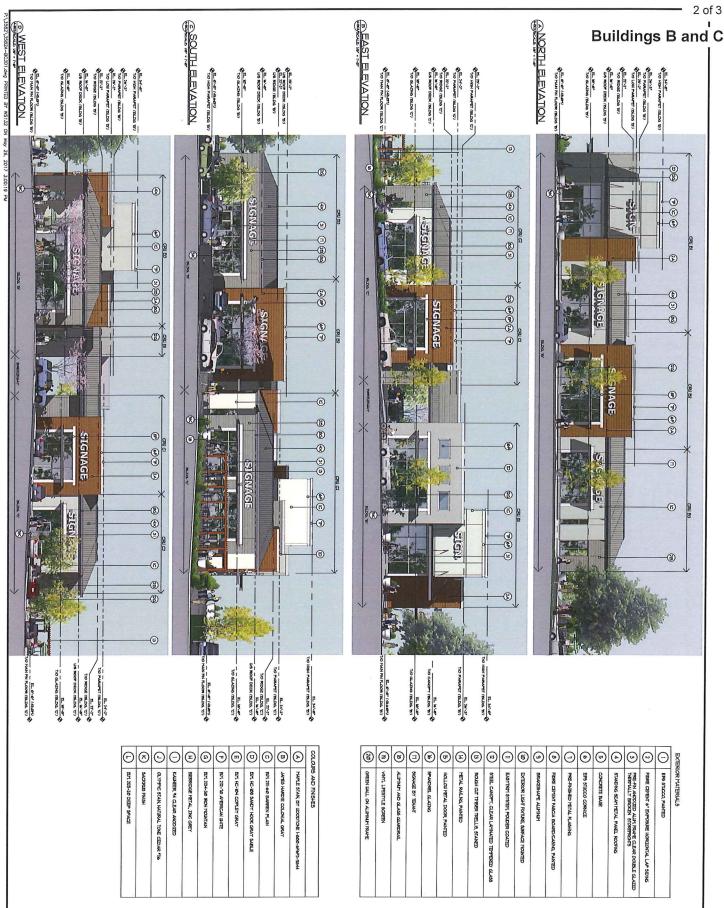


VILLAGE CENTRE |
601 & 609 BRUCE AVENUE, NAMAI (907) BC
For DDV PROPERTIES (OC) INC.





EPS STUCCO, PANTED













### Building D



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BH 212-10 AMERICAN WHITE	⊕
BH HC-164 COPLEY GRAY	(m)
BH HC-108 SANDY HOOK GRAY SABLE	0
BH 2111-60 BARKEN PLAN	0
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COLOURS AND FINISHES	COLOR

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EM 205-20 DEEP SPACE

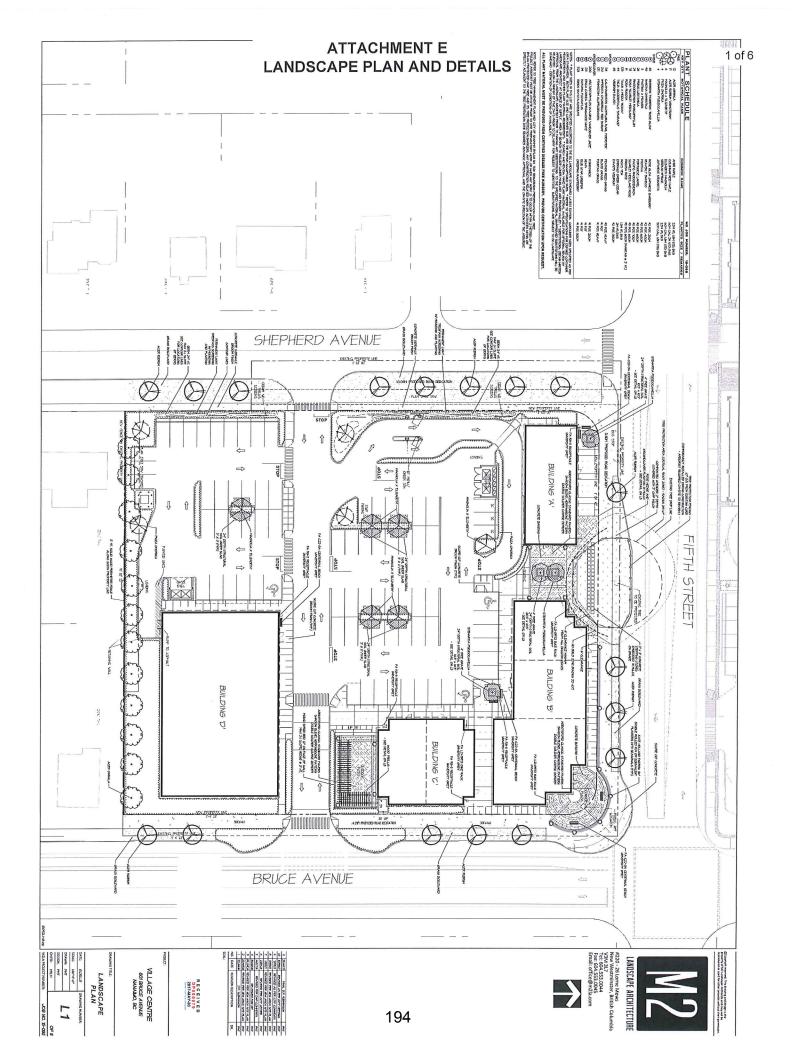
WEST ELEVATION

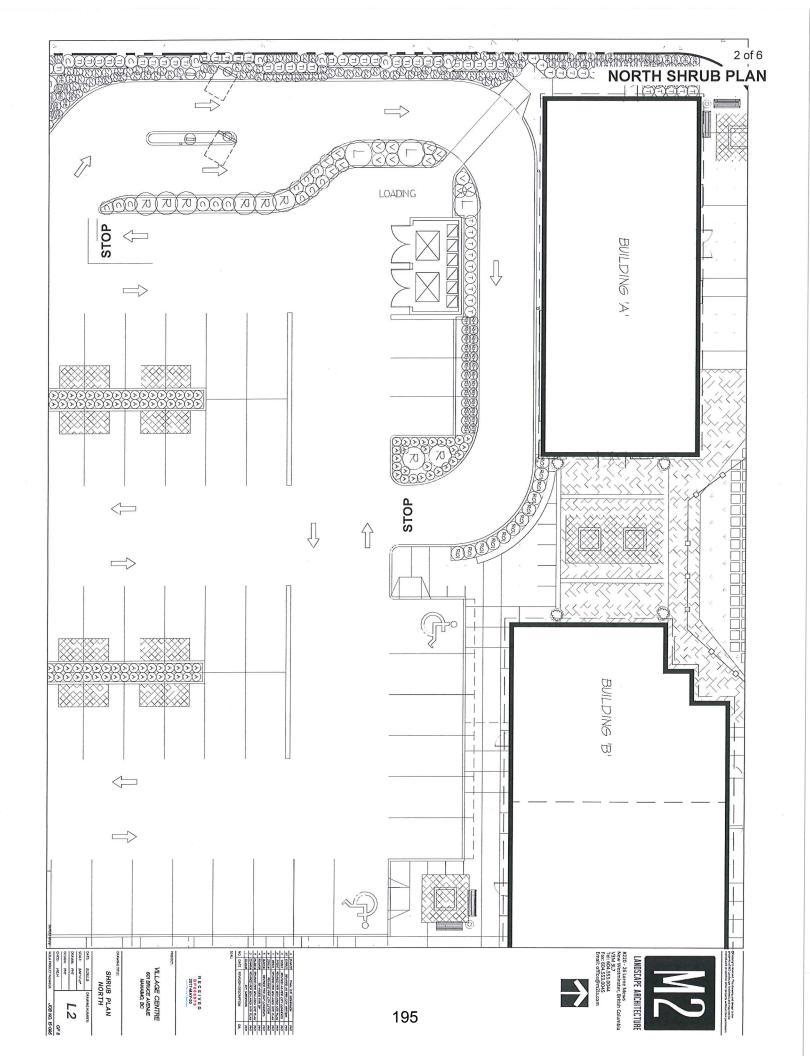


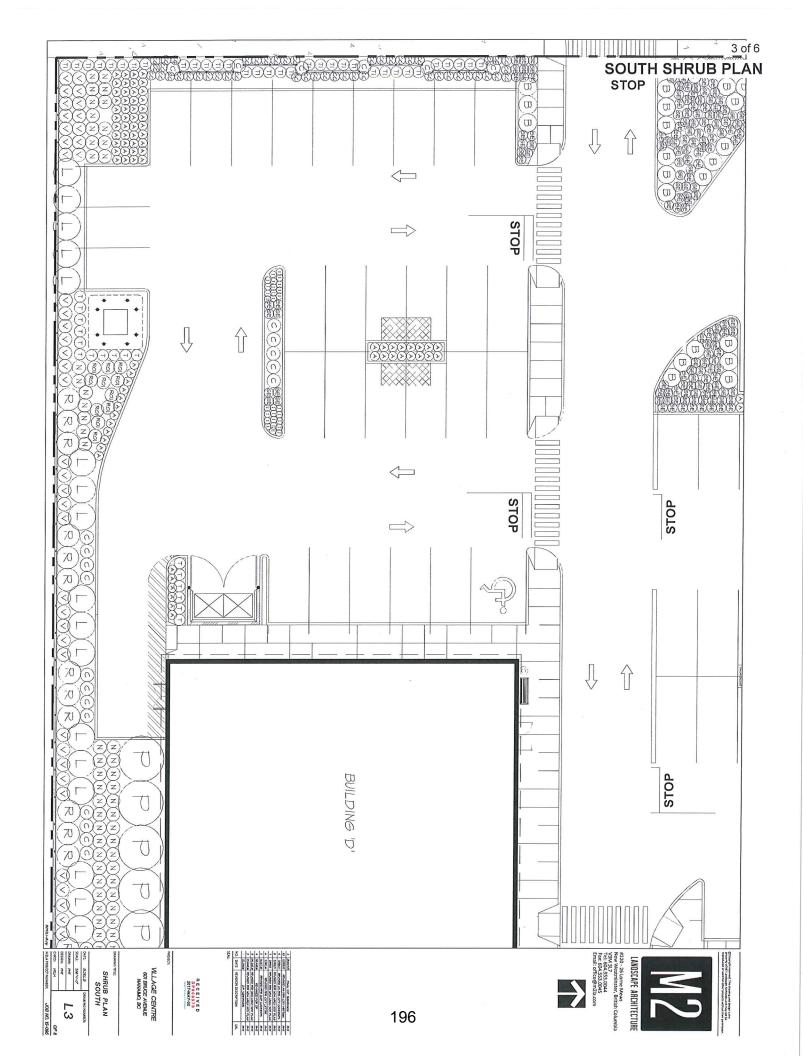


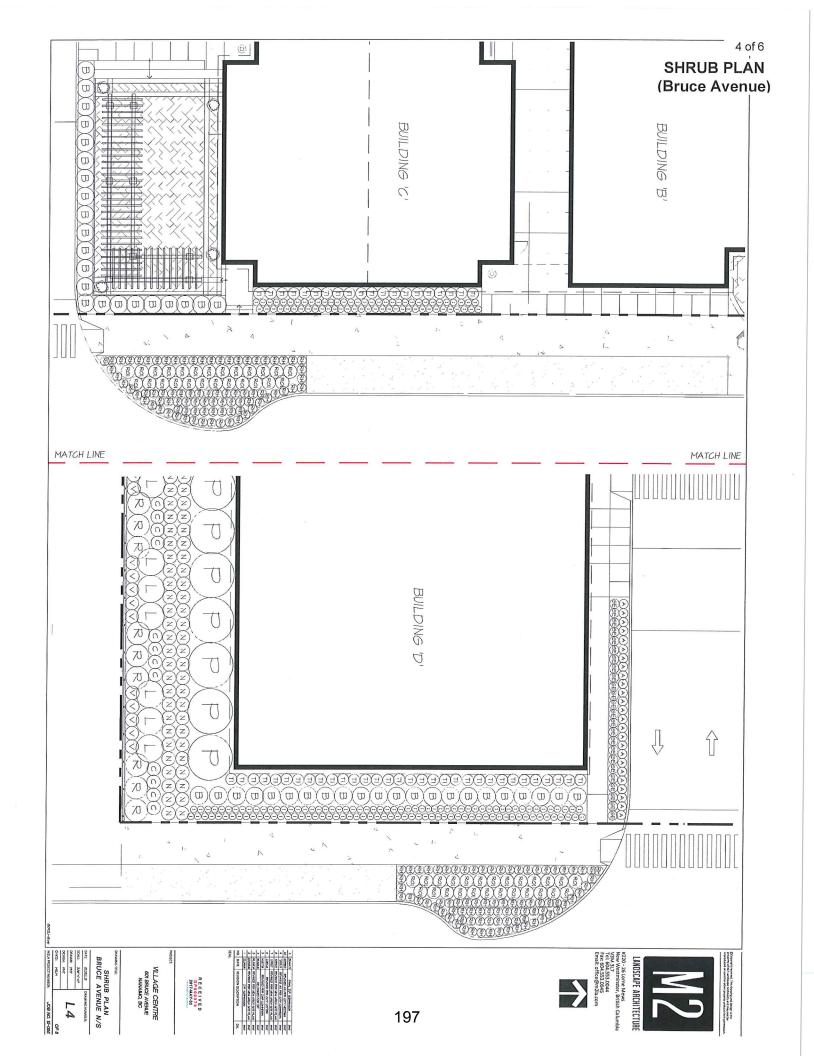


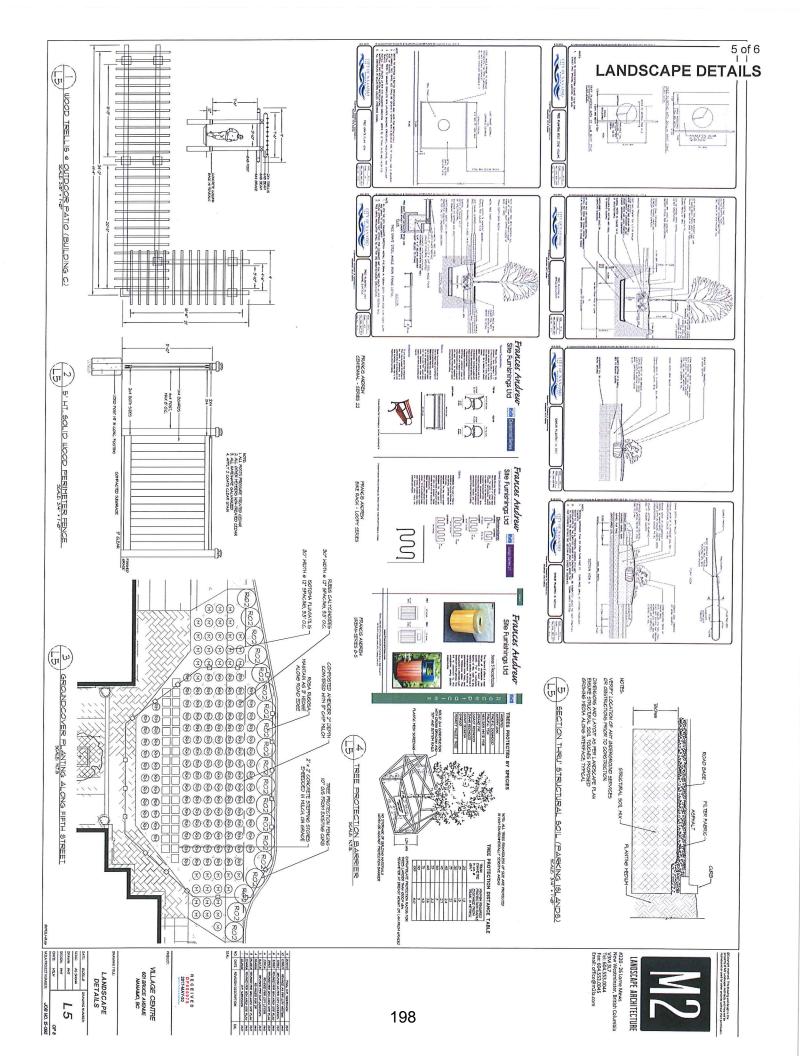
EXTERIOR MATERIALS

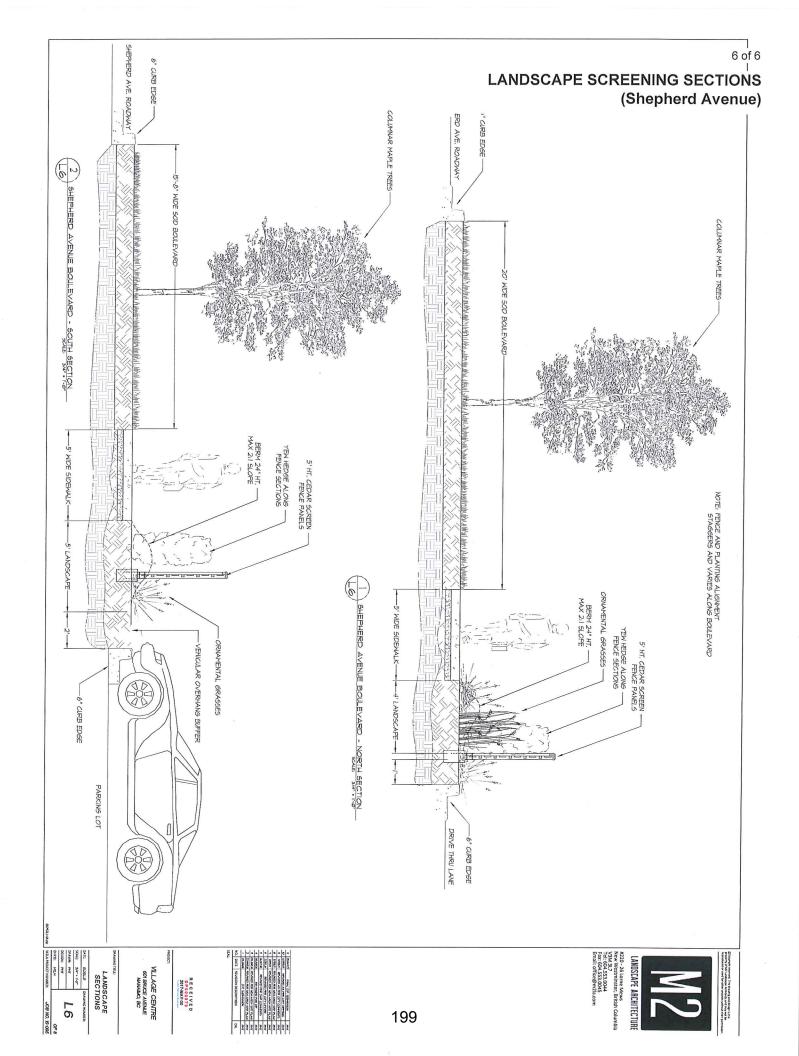












# **AERIAL MAP** PLAN SITE KEY PLAN KEY PLAN 601 & 609, BRUCE AVENUE, NANAIMO, FOR DDV PROPERTIES CONTACT LIST IOCI INC. DRAWING LIST .D. DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FOR SINGLE STOREY COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS A, B/C, & D AND ALL SITEWORK. CIVIC ADDRESS ZONING LEGAL DESCRIPTION 601 & 609 BRUCE AVENUE, NANAIMO, B.C. LOT 1, SECTION 24, RANGE 8, SECTION 1, NANAIMO DISTRICT, PLAN 33154

COMMERCIAL

DEVELOPMENT

## ATTACHMENT F OVERALL AERIAL IMAGE









VILLAGE CENTRE |
601 & 609 BRUCE AVENUE, NA 200 BC
FOR DDV PROPERTIES (OC) INC.



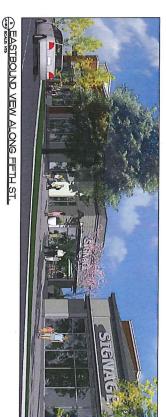


AERIAL VIEW

















VILLAGE CENTRE

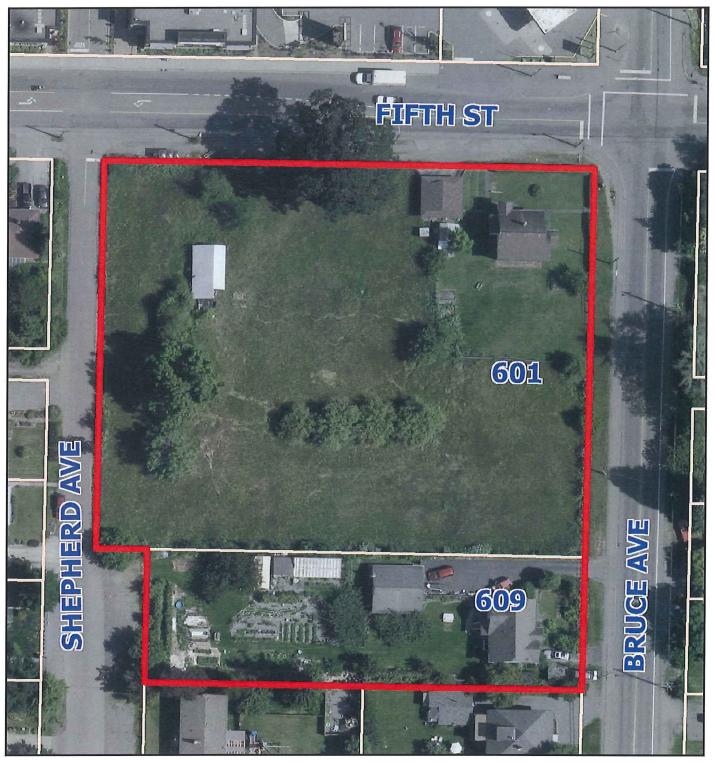
601 & 609 BRUCE AVENUE, NAN 2001BC

FOR DDV PROPERTIES (OC) INC.





#### ATTACHMENT H AERIAL PHOTO



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP000979

