

DATE OF MEETING | March 5, 2018

AUTHORED BY | GARY NOBLE, DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL PLANNER, CURRENT PLANNING AND SUBDIVISION |

SUBJECT | DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NO. DP1059 –  
10 BUTTERTUBS DRIVE|

## OVERVIEW

### Purpose of Report

To present for Council's consideration, a development permit application for a six-storey 156-unit Seniors Congregate Care Housing development at 10 Buttertubs Drive.

### Recommendation

That Council issue Development Permit No. DP1059 at 10 Buttertubs Drive with the following variances:

- increase the maximum building height from 14m to 18.5m;
- reduce the minimum required front yard setback from 6m to 0m for the principal building on a portion of the west elevation;
- reduce the required width of the Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 1d for a portion of the front yard from 1.8m to 0m; and,
- reduce the Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 2d for the east side and rear yard, to eliminate the 1.8m fence.

## BACKGROUND

A development permit application, DP1059, was received from Low Hammond Rowe Architects Inc., on behalf of Nanaimo Affordable Housing Society (NAHS) to permit the development of a 156-unit Seniors Congregate Care Housing facility on a steep slope site.

The subject property is an irregularly shaped steep slope lot (1.14ha). The property has two main characteristics; the north end of the site is a steep slope with trees and understory cover; and a community amenity building is sited on the flat portion of the property at the south end. There is an elevation change of 24m between the highest point of the site (top of slope) and the lowest point.

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

- Buttertubs Marsh across Buttertubs Drive to the south.
- 82 existing older patio homes (owned by NAHS) to the west.
- An older multi-family rental complex at the northeast property line.
- Single-family lots located to the east. Three adjacent properties have rear yards facing the top of the slope and the houses on each lot are set back approximately 7.5m.

**Subject Property:**

<i>Zoning</i>	CS1 - Community Service One
<i>Location</i>	The subject property is located on the east side of Buttertubs Drive, north of the public parking area at Buttertubs Marsh Conservation Area.
<i>Total Area</i>	1.14ha
<i>Official Community Plan</i>	Map 1 – Future Land Use Plan – Corridor Map 3 – Development Permit Area No. 5 – Steep Slope Development Map 3 – Development Permit Area No. 9 -Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multiple Family and Mixed Commercial/Residential Development.
<i>Relevant Design Guidelines</i>	Steep Slope Development Permit Area Guidelines General Development Permit Design Guidelines

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Proposed Development**

The proposed development consists of 156 units of seniors congregate care housing within a six-storey, wood-frame building. The development is receiving support under a B.C. Housing funding program to provide affordable seniors rental housing. The target tenant is 65 years old or older. The facility design provides a meal program, activity space (indoors and outdoors), housekeeping, and a lifeline system.

The proposed building has a total floor area of 11,103m<sup>2</sup> and a floor area ratio (FAR) of 0.97. The maximum FAR is 1.25. The rental unit breakdown is as follows:

- 35 – studio units;
- 101 – one-bedroom units;
- 16 – one-bedroom and den units; and,
- 4 – two-bedroom units.

### ***Site Design***

The Steep Slope Development Permit Guidelines encourage building siting that minimizes the impact on native vegetated slopes. The building is sited close to Buttertubs Drive on the flat portion of the site at the southwest edge. The building siting allows for the L-shaped building to move away from the slope to minimize the cut in the slope needed for the under-the-building parkade.

The back portion of the parkade wall and two modest retaining walls support the slope. The site section verifies the minimal cut into the slope and the limited impact on the existing vegetation on the slope (see Attachments D and G).

### *Building Design*

The overall building design is contemporary and contrasts to the design of the existing patio homes operated by NAHS to the west side at 11 Buttertubs Drive. However, NAHS anticipates future redevelopment of 11 Buttertubs Drive depending on funding.

The building design uses five main architectural elements to express the residential use, and to reduce the massing and scale of the six-storey building:

- The first floor uses the parkade wall façade to create a podium expression that anchors the building to the site.
- The proportions of the single-storey main entrance façade and the glazing convey an inviting human scale. This portion of the building relates to the outdoor patio and community garden space.
- The angled vertical building bays, with recessed balconies, create a strong rhythm of vertical articulation on the five floors that are viewed from the street. The vertical bays are extended to the ground plane by an angled lattice detail on the parkade wall face.
- The rhythm of unit windows punctuates the façade in a pattern that represents the residential use.
- The panelled bays extend to the sixth floor balcony guards to break up the horizontal line.

### *Landscape Design*

The landscape design has four key elements:

- Residential: The southeast corner of the site has been designed for community use with edible plants in the landscape, raised vegetable garden beds, and patio tables with sunshades.
- Parking court: The proposed plantings, flowering street trees, and shrubs visually reduce the onsite parking and the drop-off area at the main entrance. A planted rain garden located between the parking court and the street serves as a focal point and stormwater management element. The plant palette is full of native plants and reflects the context of the marsh across Buttertubs Drive.
- Street trees and understory plantings along Buttertubs Drive: Large-scale street trees are proposed in the northern portion of the subject property. The trees will supplement the existing trees and understory. In the southern portion of the property, small-scale trees and a mix of evergreen and deciduous shrubs are proposed along the parkade wall to add texture, seasonal interest, and layering to enhance the pedestrian experience from the adjacent public walkway.
- Existing native vegetated slope: The focus is to minimize slope disturbance with invasive species removal, and planting small coniferous trees to add density to the existing vegetation.

## Design Advisory Panel Recommendations

The Design Advisory Panel, at its meeting held on 2017-AUG-10, accepted the presentation for Phase I of DP001059 as presented, and provided support for the requested variances in Phase I. The following recommendations were provided:

- *Consider ways to provide screening for rooftop equipment;*
- *Consider providing roof colour, material and/or patterning to the roof and the top of the main level canopy for overlook purposes; and,*
- *Look at ways to soften the south elevation of the Phase I building.*

The applicant will review the rooftop material and will screen rooftop equipment with horizontal pre-finished wood or metal screens when completing construction drawings. The applicant has provided a landscape treatment of climbing vines on the south elevation of the building façade, which provides seasonal and architectural interest.

The Design Advisory Panel, at its meeting held on 2017-SEP-28, accepted DP001059 (Phase II) as presented, with support for the variances, and provided the following recommendations:

- *Consider ways to add some depth to the lattice screening provided along the parking area;*
- *Look at ways to break the continuous glass railing line of the sixth storey deck.*
- *Consider raising the wood-coloured bays on the elevations to break the line of the sixth floor deck.*

The applicant has provided a revised detail for the lattice screening on the parkade. The first floor wall that screens the under-the-building parkade has the angled, panel-clad architectural feature that mimics the upper floors to reduce massing and improve the visual experience for the pedestrian using the existing public trail way. The wood-coloured bays also extend to the sixth-storey decks to break up the horizontal line of the glass rail.

For more information, see the Attachments.

## Proposed Variances

### *Size of Buildings*

The maximum allowable building height is 14m. The proposed building height is 18.5m, a proposed height variance of 4.5m.

The increased building height is part of two strategies proposed to minimize the cut into the existing slope. The increased height allows for a more compact building footprint and under-the-building parking. The additional height requested places the building roof approximately 6m below the ground plane of the rear yards of the three single family lots at the top of the slope. The slope will remain treed to the edge of the building footprint, allowing a natural screen to remain.

### *Required Front yard Setback – Buttertubs Drive*

The required front yard setback is 6m. The proposed front yard setback for the building footprint is 0m, a proposed variance of 6m.

The building footprint and the parkade are 4.5m into the front yard in order to minimize the cut into the slope, and places both at 1.5m from the lot line, which represents a proposed variance of 4.5m. The lattice features are located at 0m, which represents a proposed variance of 6m. The architectural lattice feature is placed in regular intervals along the parkade wall face on Buttertubs Drive to provide visual relief to the horizontal wall face. The positioning of the lattice feature reduces the front yard setback to 0m at six points over the length of the frontage.

### *Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 1d – Buttertubs Drive*

The required width of a Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 1d is 1.8m. The six architectural lattice features are at 0m, a proposed variance of 1.8m. However, in front of the building the width of the landscape treatment is 1.5m, and on the northern portion of Buttertubs Drive the landscape treatment is 1.8m in width.

The proposed landscape treatment includes climbing vines on the parkade lattice wall and southern building façade to add a green wall element to the street edge of Buttertubs Drive. The vines have seasonal colour and architectural branching interest. Additional landscaping along the northern Buttertubs Drive frontage meets the required Minimum Landscape Treatment Level width of 1.8m.

### *Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 2d – Top of Slope Edge*

A Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 2d requires a 1.8m-wide planting area with trees planted six metres on centre, shrubs and ground cover one metre on center, and a 1.8m decorative fence. The proposed variance is to eliminate the 1.8m decorative fence.

The subject property edge abuts neighbouring rear yards, and the existing vegetation presents a natural screen that exceeds 1.8m in width along the property edge. The proposed variance is to delete the decorative 1.8m fence and leave the existing vegetation undisturbed. The landscape consultant has reviewed the state of the existing vegetation (mix of Douglas fir and arbutus trees) on the property edge and concluded that retaining this vegetation along the slope meets the intent of the screening of Level 2d. In addition, the vegetation retention will maintain habitat value and erosion control by not disturbing the slope in order to introduce a hedge or fence. The proposal also includes areas of restoration planting on the slope by introducing six Garry oak trees and a lupine seed or plant mix.

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Development Permit No. 1059 is for a six-storey, 156-unit seniors congregate care housing development at 10 Buttertubs Drive.
- The proposed development meets the intent of the Steep Slope Development Permit Guidelines and the General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines.
- Staff support the proposed building height, front yard setback, Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 1d, and Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 2d variances.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- ATTACHMENT A: Permit Terms and Conditions
- ATTACHMENT B: Location Plan
- ATTACHMENT C: Site Plan with Variances
- ATTACHMENT D: Site Sections
- ATTACHMENT E: Building Elevations
- ATTACHMENT F: Building Renderings
- ATTACHMENT G: Landscape Plans
- ATTACHMENT H: Aerial Photo. |

**Submitted by:**

L. Rowett  
Manager, Current Planning and Subdivision

**Concurrence by:**

D. Lindsay  
Director, Community Development

## **ATTACHMENT A** **PERMIT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **TERMS OF PERMIT**

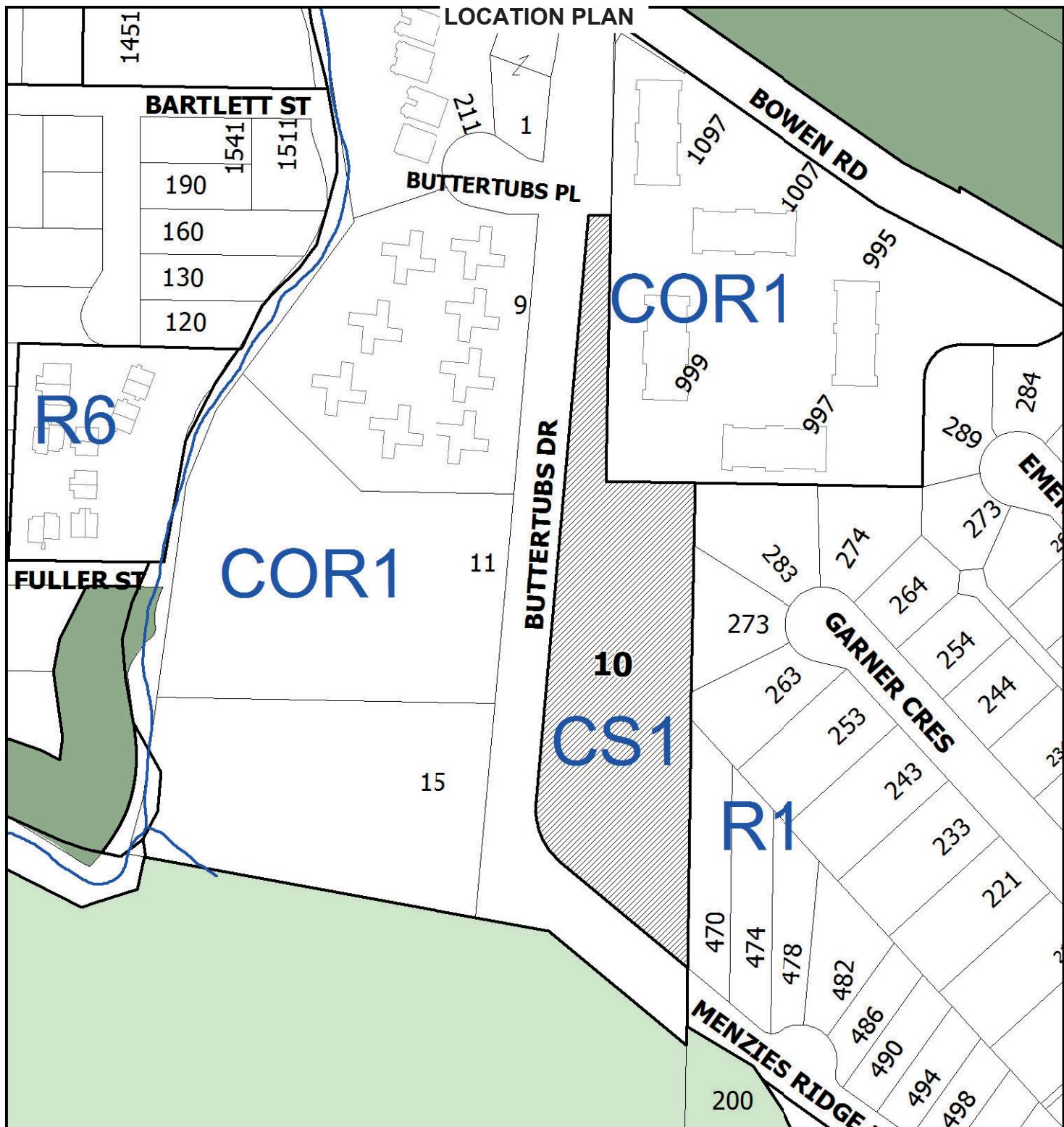
The City of Nanaimo “Zoning Bylaw 2011 No. 4500” is varied as follows:

1. *Section 7.6.1 Size of Buildings* – to increase the maximum height for a principal building from 14m to 18.5m.
2. *Section 7.5.1 Siting of Buildings* – to reduce the front yard setback from 6m to 0m for the principal building on the west elevation.
3. *Section 17.11 Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 1d* – to reduce the front yard Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 1d from 1.8m in width to 0.0m as shown on the site plan.
4. *Section 17.11 Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 2d* – to reduce the east side and rear yard Minimum Landscape Treatment Level 2d from 1.8m in width to the existing vegetation as shown on the Landscape Plan.

### **CONDITIONS OF PERMIT**

1. The subject property is developed in accordance with the Site Plan prepared by Low Hammond Rowe Architects, dated 2018-JAN-31 as shown on Attachment C.
2. The subject property is developed in accordance with the Site Section prepared by Low Hammond Rowe Architects, dated 2017-JUL-20 as shown on Attachment D.
3. The development is in accordance with the Building Elevations prepared by Low Hammond Rowe Architects, dated 2017-SEP-14 as shown on Attachment E.
4. The subject property is in general compliance with the Landscape Concept Plan dated 2017-SEP-26, and the Landscape Planting Plan and Landscape Details, dated 2018-FEB-02 as shown on Attachment G.

ATTACHMENT B  
LOCATION PLAN



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001059



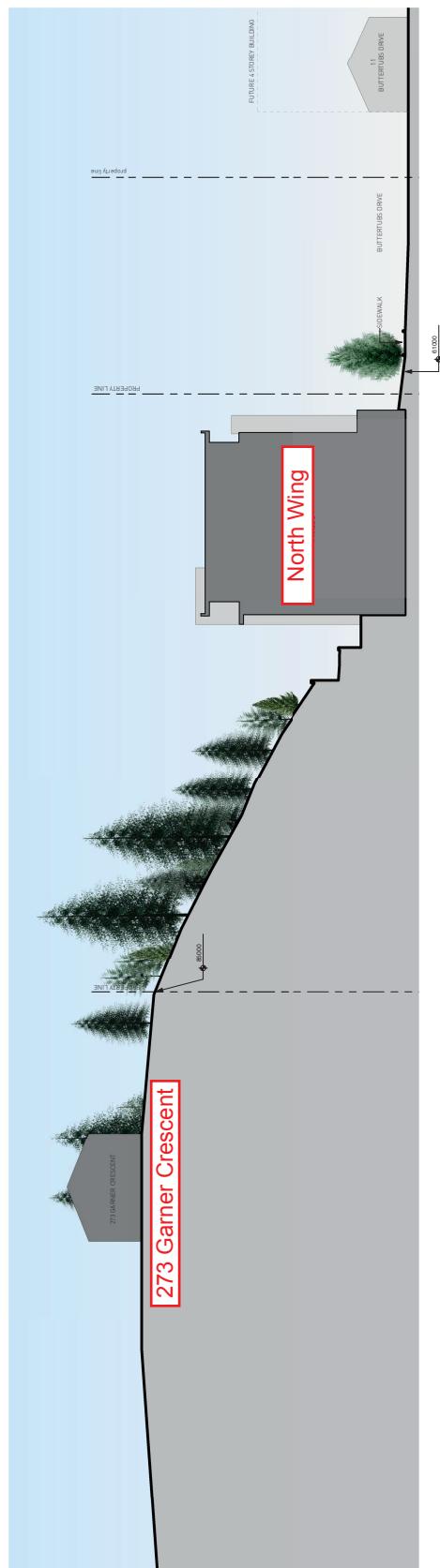
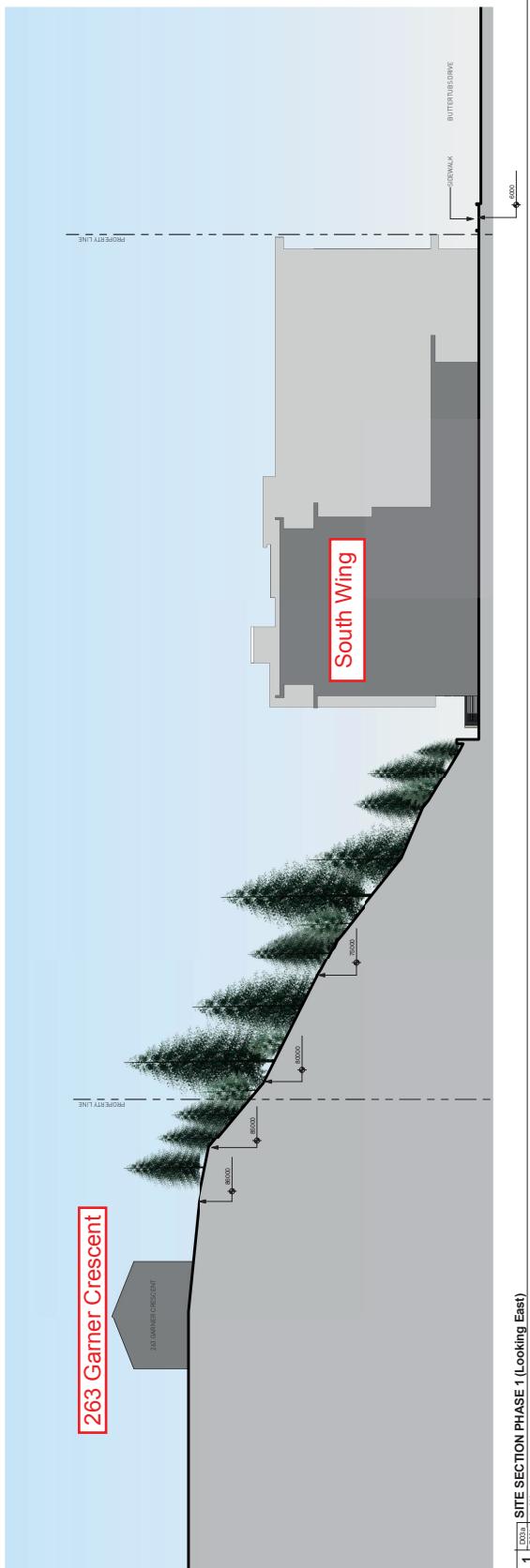
**LOCATION PLAN**

Civic: 10 Buttertubs Drive  
Lot 13, Section 1, Nanaimo District,  
Plan 23432

**Subject  
Property**



**ATTACHMENT D**  
**SITE SECTIONS**



**RECEIVED**  
0 05 2017  
2017.05.20  
CITY OF VANCOUVER

**SITE SECTIONS D03b**

**NAHS BUTTERTUBS DEVELOPMENT PERMIT**

1 : 200  
2017.06.30

**LOW HAMMOND ROWE ARCHITECTS**

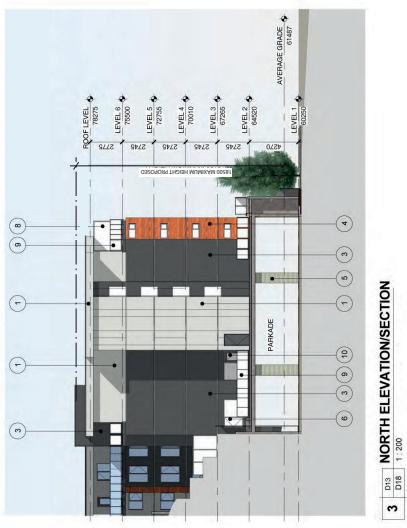


**MAKOLA**  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES



**NEARMO AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING SOCIETY**

## ATTACHMENT E BUILDING ELEVATIONS



- (1) CEMENTITIOUS FIBER PANEL - COLOR 1
- (2) CEMENTITIOUS FIBER PANEL - COLOR 2
- (3) CEMENTITIOUS FIBER PANEL - COLOR 3
- (4) CEMENTITIOUS FIBER Siding
- (5) CONCRETE COLUMN
- (6) VINYL FRAMED WINDOW
- (7) PREFINISHED ALUMINUM WINDOW
- (8) PRIVACY SCREEN
- (9) PREFINISHED ALUMINUM RAIL & GLASS PANEL
- (10) PREFINISHED ALUMINUM DRAWN WINDOW
- (11) INSULATED METAL DOOR
- (12) WOOD SCREEN ON ALUMINUM FRAME
- (13) HORIZONTAL SHADING OVER WINDOW
- (14) UNTILTED SHADING AT WINDOW

**ATTACHMENT F**  
**BUILDING RENDERINGS**



EAST ELEVATION - VIEW FROM HILL



WEST ELEVATION - VIEW FROM BUTTERTUBS DRIVE



SOUTHEAST ELEVATION - VIEW FROM BUTTERTUBS DRIVE



WEST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION    NAHS BUTTERTUBS    DP REVISIONS

D20  
LATTICE DETAIL  
2018.01.31

## **ATTACHMENT G LANDSCAPE PLAN**

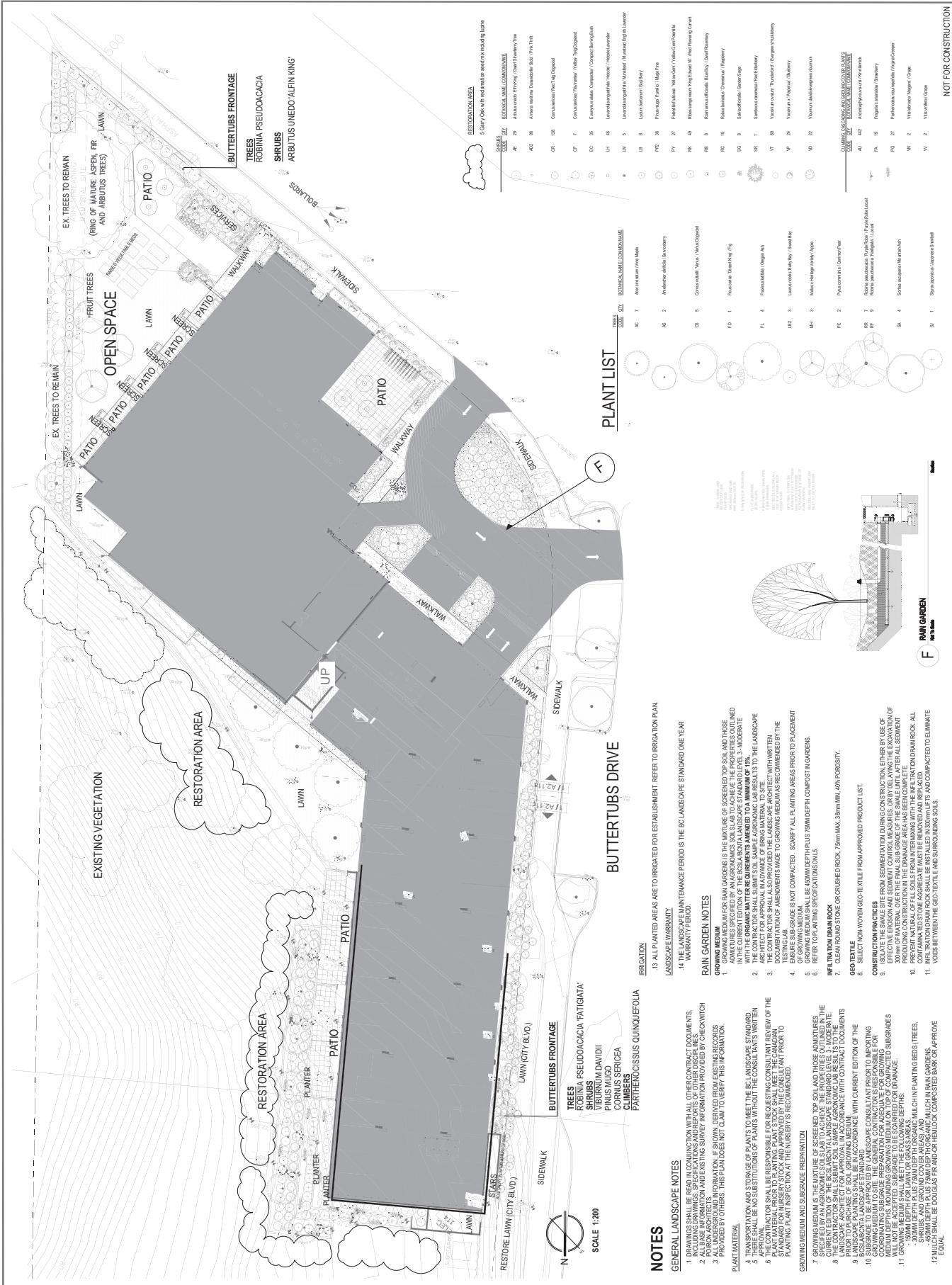
Landscape Concept





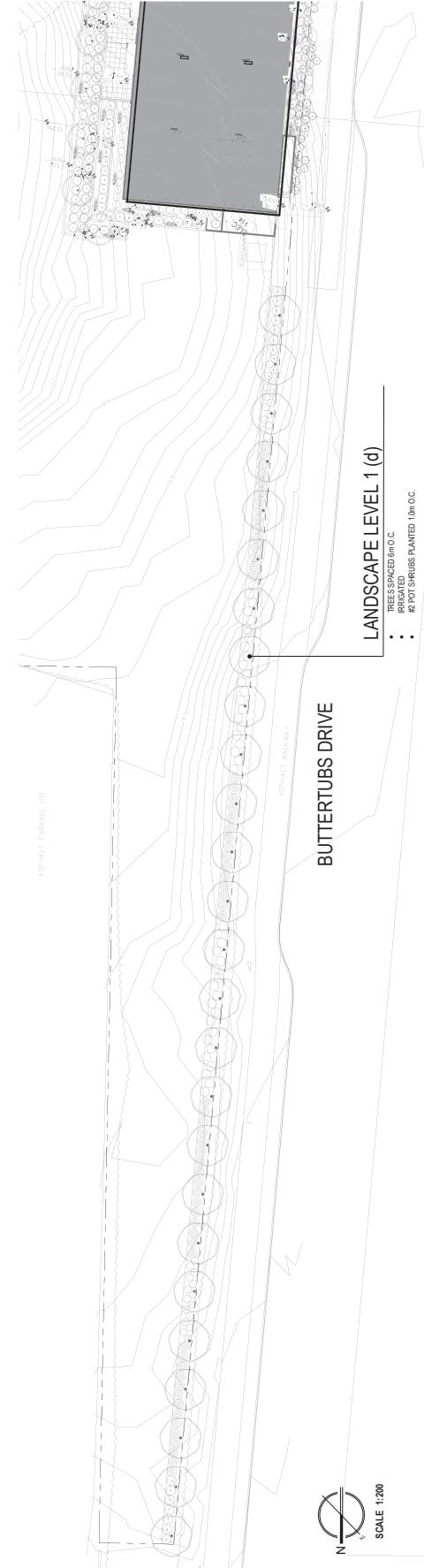
LANDSCAPE  
PLANTING

**NATHS**  
BUTTERTUBS SENIORS  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
10 BUTTERTUBS DRIVE



NAHS  
BUTTERTUBS SENIORS  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
10 BUTTERTUBS DRIVE

# LANDSCAPE PLANTING



AOPHILL PLANNING LTD

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## NOTES

### GENERAL LANDSCAPE NOTES

1. DRAWINGS SHALL BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL OTHER CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS AND REPORTS OF OTHER CONSULTANTS.
2. ALL PLANTING AND IRIGATION INFORMATION IS PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTOR.
3. ALL UNDERGROUND INFORMATION, IF SHOWN, DERIVED FROM EXISTING RECORDS PROVIDED OTHERS THAN AN OWNER DO NOT CLAIM.

### PLANT MATERIAL

4. THERE SHALL BE NO SUBSTITUTIONS OF PLANTS TO MEET THE BC LANDSCAPE STANDARD ONE YEAR WARRANTY PERIOD.
5. THERE SHALL BE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR RECOMMENDED CONSULTANT REVIEW OF THE PLANT MATERIAL PRIOR TO PLANTING. PLANT STOCK SHALL MEET THE CANADIAN STANDARDS PLANT USE SPECIFICATION AND APPROVED BY THE PLANT CONSULTANT.

6. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR REQUESTING CONSULTANT REVIEW OF THE GROWING MEDIUM AND SUBGRADE PREPARATION.

7. GROWING MEDIUM IS THE MIXTURE OF SCREED TOP SOIL AND THOSE ADDITIVES SUGGESTED BY THE MANUFACTURER AS NECESSARY TO ACCELEATE THE PROPER GROWTH OF THE PLANT MATERIAL. THE GROWING MEDIUM IS TO BE SUPPLIED BY THE CONTRACTOR.

8. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A SOIL SAMPLE FOR GROWING MEDIUM ANALYSIS TO THE CONSULTANT. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING FOR THIS SERVICE.

9. LANDSCAPE PLANTING SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT EDITION OF THE GROWING MEDIUM AND SUBGRADE CONSULTANT'S PUBLICATIONS.

10. SUBGRADE PREPARATION SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONTRACTOR'S PUBLICATIONS.

11. GROWING MEDIUM IS TO BE SPREAD ON THE PLANT BEDS AT A RATE OF 30MM DEPTH (1 LB/7.5M<sup>2</sup>) AND TILLED IN. ORGANIC MULCH IN PLANT BEDS IS 45MM DEPTH (1 LB/7.5M<sup>2</sup>). ORGANIC MULCH IS TO BE APPLIED IN RAMP GARDENS.

12. MULCH SHALL BE DOUGLAS FIR AND HEMLOCK COMPOSTED BARK OR APPROVE EQUAL.

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### Issues & Revisions

No.	Date	Details
1	Mar 2017	Draft for review
2	JUNE 2017	DP submission review
3	JUNE 09/2017	DP SUBMISSION
4	SEP 19/2017	PH 1&2 DP SUBMISSION
5	SEP 26/2017	PH 1&2 for DAP
6	FEB 02/2018	5% SUBMISSION

**Gemella**  
D.F.S.I.C.N.L.I.C.  
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jessica@shaw.ca

Project: BPN16

Date: FEB 2018

Draw: JG

Checked: JG

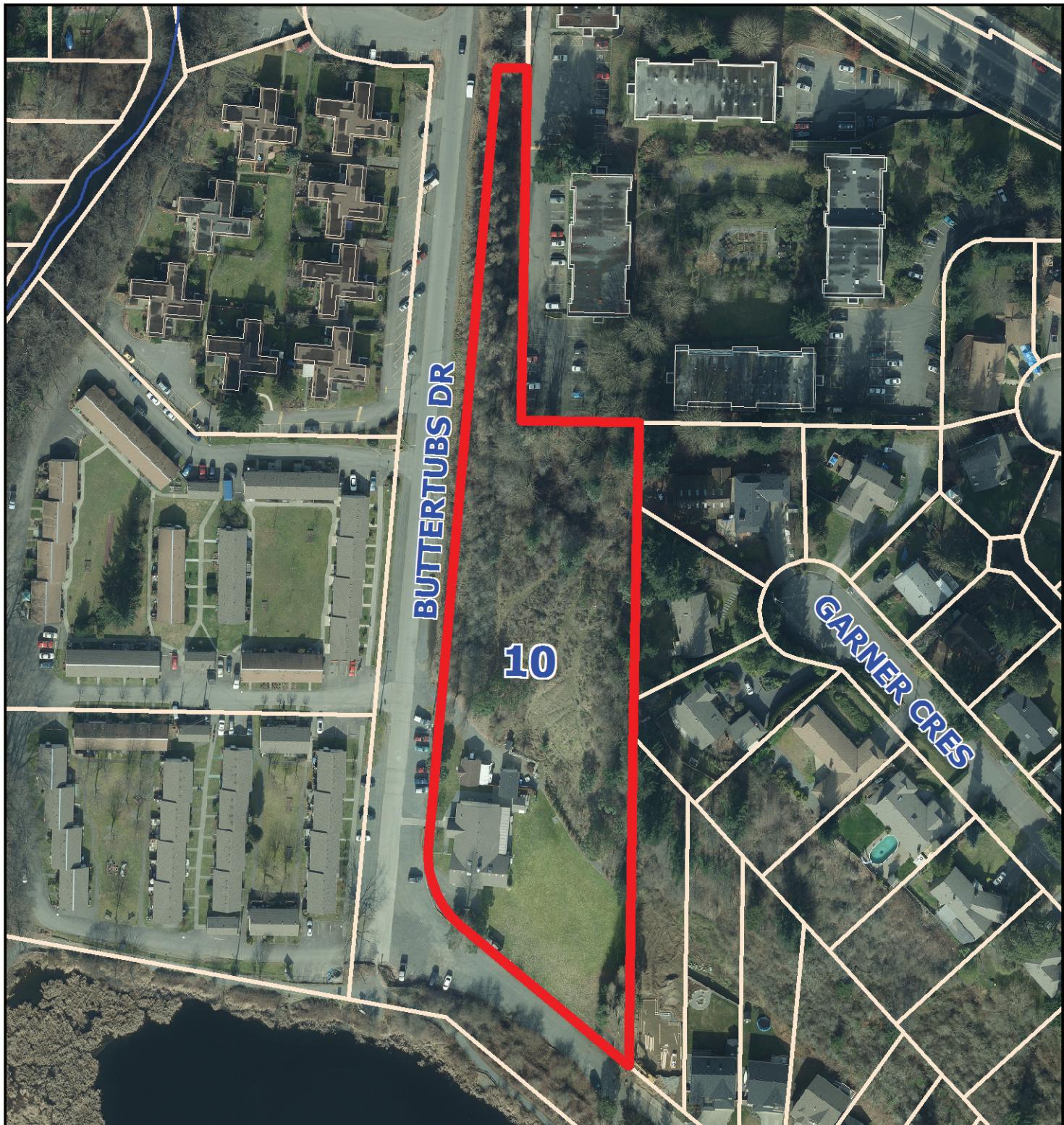
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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**ATTACHMENT H**  
**AERIAL PHOTO**



**DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001059**

