

## **Staff Report**

File Number: DP001076

DATE OF MEETING November 6, 2017

AUTHORED BY GARY NOBLE, DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL PLANNER, CURRENT

PLANNING AND SUBDIVISION

SUBJECT DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION NO. DP1076 -

**100 GORDON STREET** 

## **OVERVIEW**

## **Purpose of Report**

To present for Council's consideration a development permit application for a nine-storey, 155-room hotel at 100 Gordon Street.

#### Recommendation

That Council issue Development Permit No. DP1076 at 100 Gordon Street with the following variance:

reduce the required number of off-street loading spaces from two to zero.

### **BACKGROUND**

A development permit application (DP1076) was received from PEG Development Inc., on behalf of the City of Nanaimo, to permit the development of a nine-storey, 155-room hotel on the subject property. The City issued a Request for Proposal in January 2017 for the development of this City-owned land and PEG Development Inc. was selected to purchase and develop the land.

#### Subject Property:

Zoning	DT6 – Port Place
Location	The subject property is located to the east of the Conference Centre on the southeast corner of the Gordon Street/Museum Way intersection.
Total Area	1,695m <sup>2</sup>
Official Community Plan (OCP)	Map 1 – Future Land Use Plans – Downtown Urban Node Map 3 – Heritage Conservation Area #1 – Infill – Non-Heritage developments are considered to be in Development Permit Area No. 9 – Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multiple Family and Mixed Commercial/Residential development.
Relevant Design Guidelines	Downtown Urban Design Plan and Guidelines – Precinct J – Harbour Park. General Development Permit Area Design Guidelines.



## **DISCUSSION**

## **Proposed Development**

The proposed development is a nine-storey hotel with 155 rooms. The hotel has a total floor area of 8,533.3m<sup>2</sup>, including the following amenities:

- Indoor pool
- Fitness area
- Meeting room
- Indoor/outdoor restaurant

The site and building designs meet the intent of the Urban Design Guidelines within the Nanaimo Downtown Urban Design Plan and the urban design considerations for Precinct J – Harbour Park.

## Site Design

The building footprint abuts three road frontages and creates a pedestrian-friendly street wall along all three edges with the following organization:

- Drop-off area along Gordon Street;
- Back of house delivery / garbage pick-up from Cameron Road;
- Outdoor patio area is aligned with Museum Way; and,
- Open space between the east elevation of the hotel and Pipers Park (rock bluff edge).

The 4.9m-wide separation between the hotel and the west cliff edge of Piper Park allows the distinctive knoll to remain a landmark and a backdrop for hard and soft landscape design on both the northeast and southeast corners of the site.

As part of the purchase of this property, a parking agreement will be in place to allow hotel patrons to use a portion of the existing parking area within Vancouver Island Conference Centre (VICC) at market rates. No off-street parking is required for this property which is located in the downtown-specified area.

#### Landscape Design

The landscape plan is conceptual. Further refinements will be necessary to respond to the VICC context. The VICC context includes street furniture and rock detailing for planted areas.

## **Building Design**

The ground floor frontages adequately address the Urban Design Guidelines as follows:

- The street wall is largely continuous and very transparent with windows and/or entrance ways, which makes the streetscape visually interesting;
- The main building entrance is clearly visible from a principal frontage street; and,
- The outdoor patio assists in animating the street.



The overall building mass is well articulated and exploits the v-shaped building footprint by creating two wings, which are infilled with structural bays of different masses. The bays are emphasized with different material finishes.

The building height works well with the site context of existing buildings within the civic precinct, existing road widths, and the height of the Piper Park knoll.

For more information, see the Attachments.

#### **Proposed Variance**

Off-Street Loading Spaces

The scale of the hotel requires two off-street loading spaces. No off-street loading spaces are provided; a proposed variance of two off-street loading spaces.

The applicant initially proposed one off-street loading space to the rear of the hotel on the southeast corner of the site with access from Cameron Road; however, this location was not functional given the extreme slope of the loading space apron. Instead, a designated on-street loading zone will be located at the north side of Cameron Road adjacent to the south side of the hotel to allow service truck deliveries.

## **Design Advisory Panel Recommendations**

At its meeting held 2017-OCT-12, the Design Advisory Panel accepted DP1076 as presented and provided the following recommendations:

- Consider ways to improve and add strength to the entry porte cochere;
- Look at providing weather protection to the outdoor awning feature;
- Consider adding public art to the site;
- Consider ways to screen the 1<sup>st</sup> floor rooftop mechanical equipment for overlook purposes; and.
- Give consideration to re-siting the building to remove the space between the cliff and the building footprint.

The Panel supports the proposed variance to remove the off-street loading space and supports the porte cochere encroaching into the City right-of-way.

The applicant and architect are supportive of the Design Advisory Panel recommendations and have completed the necessary site and building design upgrades.

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

 Development Permit Application No. DP1076 is for the development of a hotel at 100 Gordon Street.



- The proposed development meets the intent of the Downtown Urban Design Plan and Guidelines.
- Staff supports the proposed variance for no off-street loading spaces.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

ATTACHMENT A: Permit Terms and Conditions

ATTACHMENT B: Location Plan ATTACHMENT C: Site Plan

ATTACHMENT D: Building Elevations ATTACHMENT E: Building Renderings ATTACHMENT F: Landscape Plan ATTACHMENT G: 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**

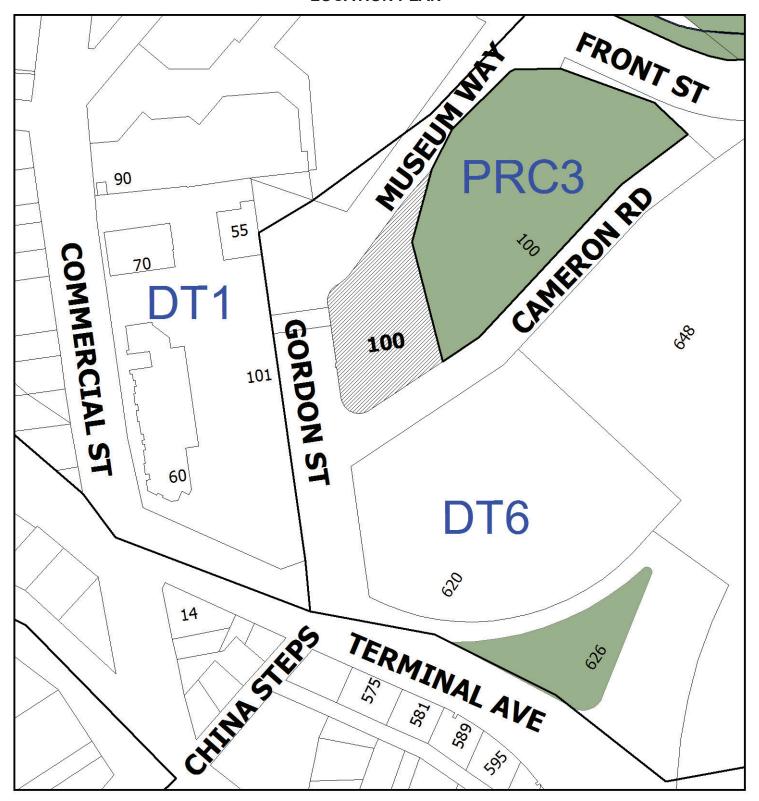
The City of Nanaimo "Development Parking Bylaw 2005 No. 7013" is varied as follows:

1. Section 14.9 – To reduce the minimum number of off-street loading spaces from two to zero loading spaces.

#### **CONDITIONS OF PERMIT**

- 1. The subject property is developed in accordance with the site plan prepared by Turner Fleischer Architects Inc., dated 2017-OCT-26, as shown on Attachment C.
- 2. The development is in general compliance with the building elevations prepared by Turner Fleischer Architects Inc., dated 2017-OCT-26, as shown on Attachment D.

## ATTACHMENT B LOCATION PLAN



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. DP001076

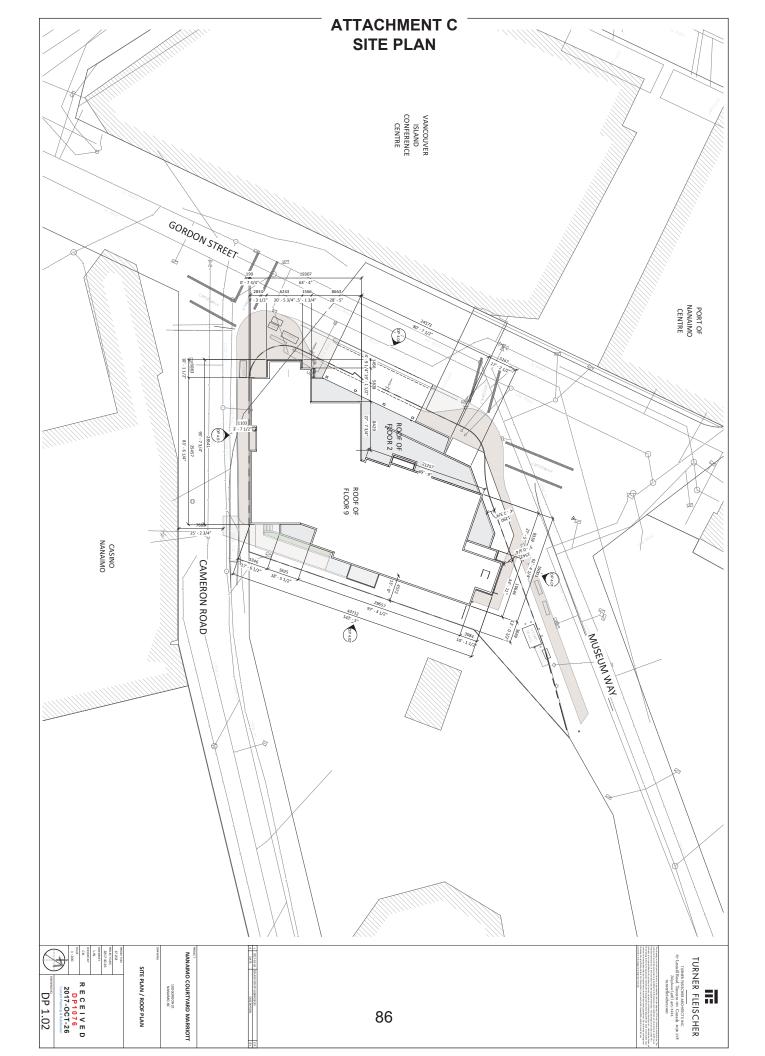


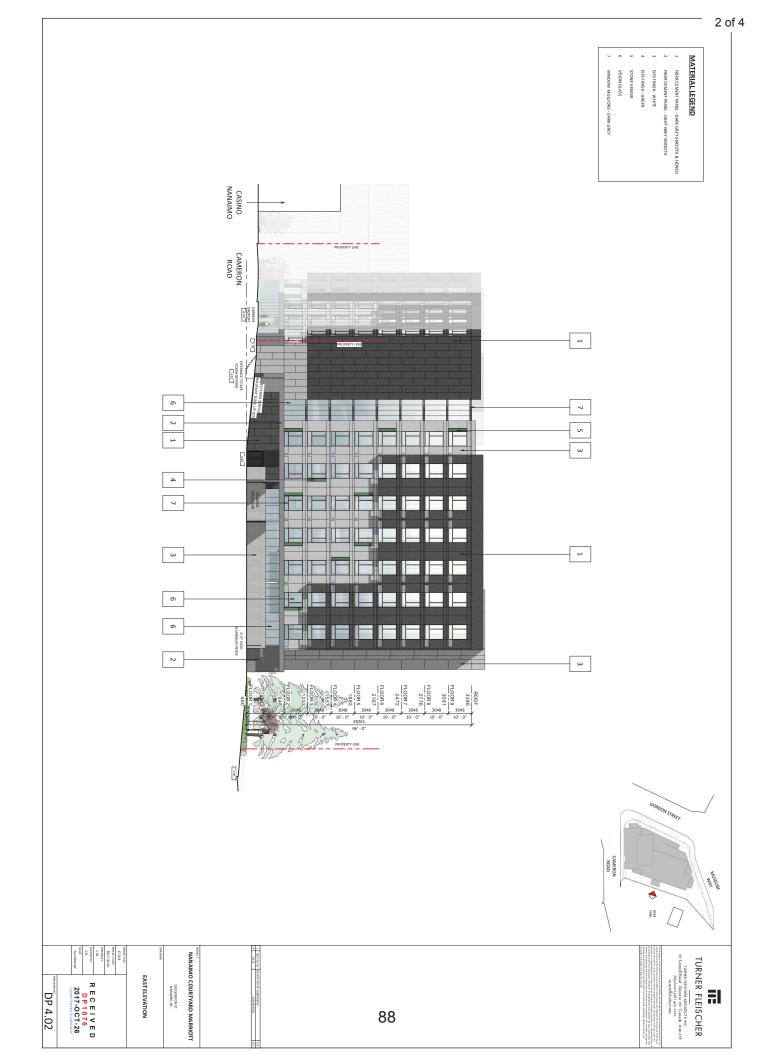
## **LOCATION PLAN**

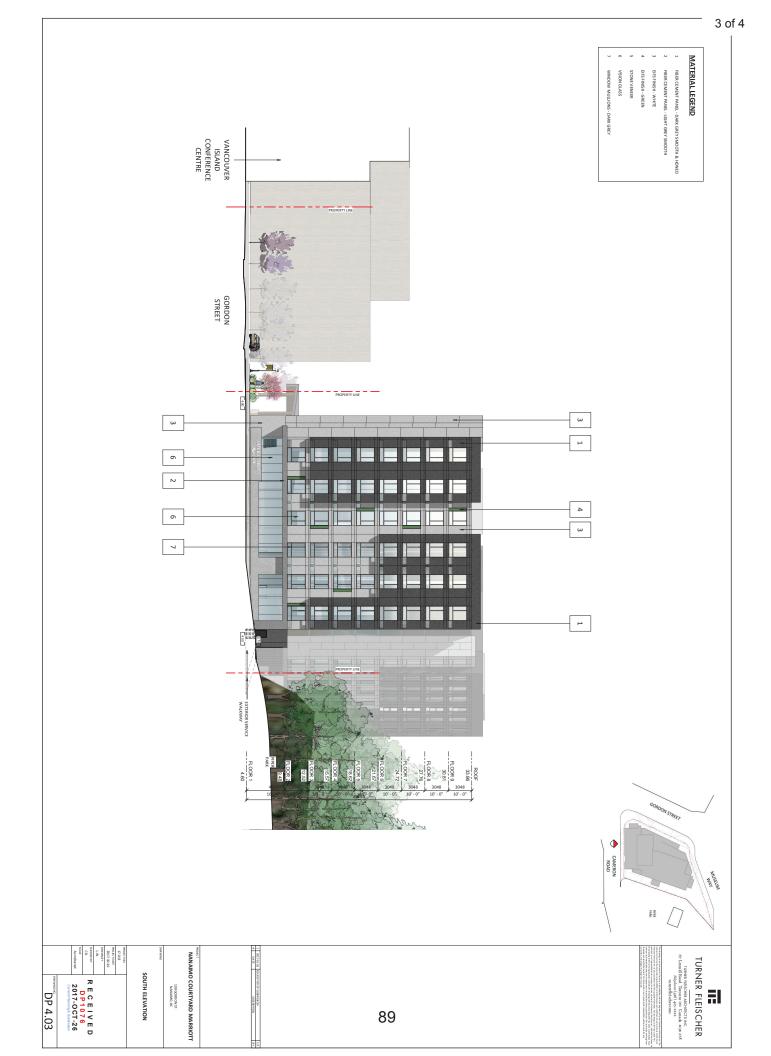
Subject Property

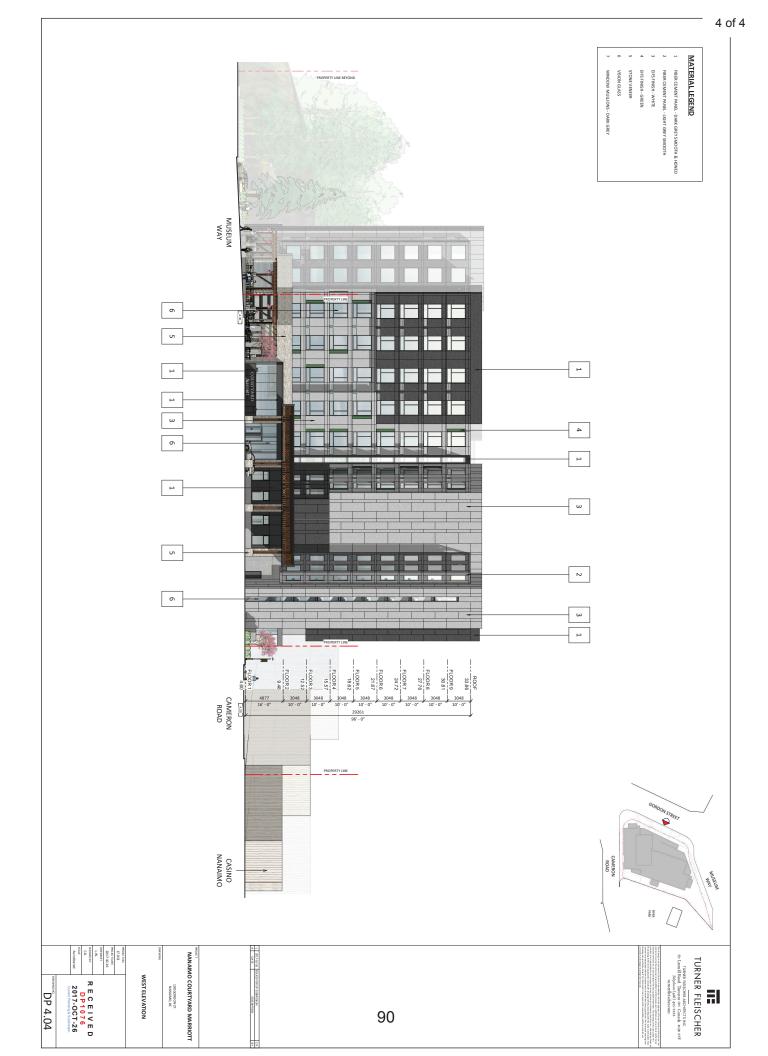
Civic: 100 Gordon Street

Lot A, Section 1, Nanaimo District and the Bed of the Public Harbour of Nanaimo, Plan EPP30518









# ATTACHMENT E BUILDING RENDERINGS



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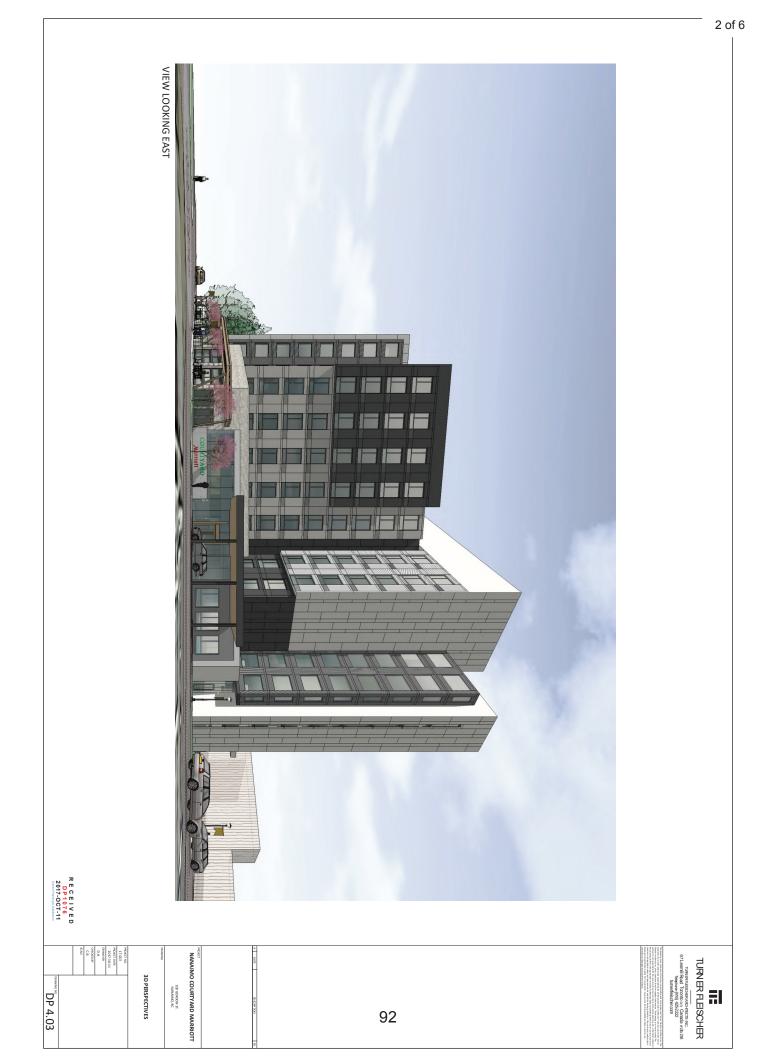
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LANDSCAPE PLAN

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2017-OCT-26

Current Planning & Subdivision

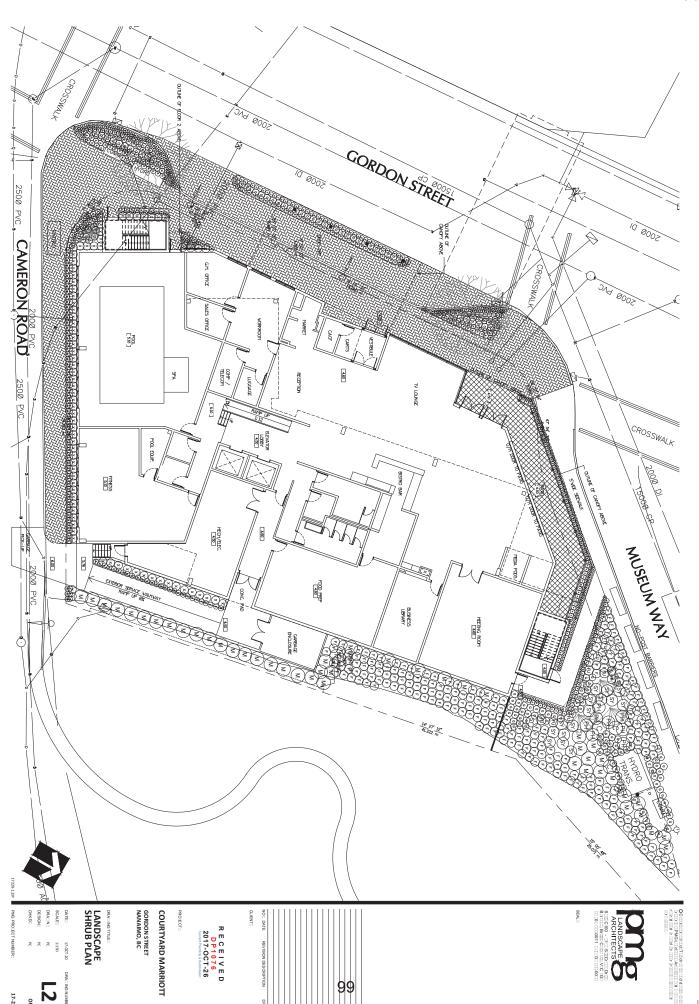
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## ATTACHMENT G AERIAL PHOTO



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