Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment June 04, 2025

File: A/047/25

Address: 16 Honeybourne Crescent, Markham

Applicant: Paar Design Inc. (Nikol Paar) Hearing Date: Wednesday, June 11, 2025

The following comments are provided on behalf of the East Team:

The applicant is requesting relief from the following requirements of By-law 2024-19, RES-ENLR, as amended, to permit:

a) By-law 2024-19, Section 6.3.2.2 (e):

a maximum second storey distance from the established building line of 16.43 metres, whereas the by-law permits a maximum second storey distance from the established building line of 14.5 metres;

b) By-law 2024-19, Section 6.3.2.2 (g):

a minimum rear yard setback of 6.71 metres, whereas the by-law requires a minimum rear yard setback of 7.5 metres;

c) By-law 2024-19, Section 6.3.2.2 (c):

a maximum second storey main building coverage of 22.99 percent, whereas the by-law permits a maximum second storey main building coverage of 20 percent;

d) By-law 2024-19, Section 6.2.1 (b):

a maximum projection of a roof with a pitch less than 25 degrees of 3 metres from the permitted outside wall height, whereas the by-law permits a maximum projection of a roof with a pitch of less than 25 degrees of 1 metre from the permitted outside wall height;

as it relates to a proposed two-storey detached dwelling.

BACKGROUND

Property Description

The 976.34 m² (10,509.23 ft²) subject property is located on the west side of Honeybourne Crescent, west of Galsworthy Drive and north of Highway 7 East. The property is located within an established residential neighbourhood comprised of a mix of one and two-storey detached dwellings. The surrounding area is undergoing a transition with newer dwellings being developed as infill developments. Mature vegetation exists across the property.

There is an existing single detached dwelling on the property, which according to assessment records was constructed in 1958.

Proposal

The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing dwelling and to construct a two-storey singled detached dwelling with a gross floor area of 486.70 m² (5,238.79 ft²).

Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on April 9/18)

The Official Plan designates the subject property "Residential Low Rise", which provides for low rise housing forms including single detached dwellings. Section 8.2.3.5 of the 2014 Official Plan outlines development criteria for the "Residential Low Rise" designation to ensure infill development respects and reflects the existing pattern and character of the surrounding neighborhood. These criteria include policies with respect to height, massing, setbacks, and protection of existing vegetation.

Zoning By-Law 2024-19

The subject property is zoned RES-ENLR under By-law 2024-19, as amended, which permits Detached Dwelling, Home Child Care, Home Occupation, and Shared Housing – Small Scale.

Applicant's Stated Reason(s) for Not Complying with Zoning

According to the information provided by the applicant, the reason for not complying with Zoning is, "This is this family's first custom built home. They are trying to make it the maximum enjoyment for all family members. They require relief to build their dream home. This is a minor variance with several large homes in the area who have also had COA approved. The mass/scale of the building is not an issue as the house is pushed back from the front. It is appropriate character to the rest of the houses in the neighborhood. The general intent of the bylaw is being maintained as this house is for a single family who just wants to enjoy their new home. The official plan remains and no changes are being proposed."

Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Undertaken

The applicant has completed a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) to confirm the <u>initial</u> variances required for the proposed development. The applicant submitted revised drawings on May 1, 2025. The applicant has not conducted a Zoning Preliminary Review for the revised drawings. Consequently, it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the application has accurately identified all the variances to the Zoning By-law required for the proposed development. If the variance request in this application contains errors, or if the need for additional variances is identified during the Building Permit review process, further variance application(s) may be required to address the non-compliance.

COMMENTS

The Planning Act states that four tests must be met in order for a variance to be granted by the Committee of Adjustment:

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee of Adjustment, for the appropriate development or use of land, building or structure;
- c) The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law must be maintained;
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

Increase in Distance from Established Building Line

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a maximum building distance from the established building line of 16.43m (53.90 ft) for the second storey, whereas the By-Law permits a maximum building distance from the established building line of 14.5 m (47.57).

ft) for the second storey. This represents an increase of 1.93 m (6.33 ft). The intent of regulating the maximum distance is to maintain a uniform streetscape by ensuring consistent building alignment in addition to the building depth and massing in relation to neighboring dwellings. Staff note that the subject lands is a pie-shaped lot and therefore, the proposed increases in maximum building distance will not disrupt the established building line along the streetscape and maintains a scale that is considered appropriate for the neighborhood. Staff have no concerns for this proposed variance.

Reduced Rear Yard

The applicant is requesting a minimum rear yard of 6.71 m (22.01 ft), whereas the By-Law requires a minimum of 7.5m (24.60 ft). This represents a reduction of 0.79 m (2.59 ft).

The requested variance only applies to the proposed 1-storey sunroom in the rear of the building which does not extend across the entire width of the main building. The majority of the rear yard maintains a minimum depth of 7.5 m (24.60 ft), which complies with the requirements of the By-Law and still provides adequate amenity space. As such, staff support the request for a reduced rear yard, provided it only applies to the 1-storey sunroom portion of the building as it is minor in nature and will have minimal impact.

Increase in Main Building Coverage (Second Storey)

The applicant is requesting a second storey main building coverage of 22.99% of the lot area, whereas the By-Law permits a maximum of 20% for any storey above the first storey. This equates to a total second-storey coverage of 224.45 m² (2,416.01 ft²).

The building layout otherwise complies with most key zoning provisions – such as side yard setbacks, lot coverage and height. This ensures the proposed dwelling will remain in keeping with the intended scale and character of residential infill developments in the neighborhood. The proposed gross floor area is also consistent with the evolving infill development pattern in the area.

Furthermore, the proposed second-storey coverage is less than the first-storey coverage and incorporates sufficient architectural articulation to reduce the visual impact of the massing of the building. Staff have no objections to the proposed variance as it is minor in nature.

Increase in Roof Projection

The applicant is requesting a roof with a pitch of less than 25 degrees to project 3m (9.80 ft) above the permitted outside wall height, whereas the by-law permits a maximum of 1m (3.28 ft).

While the proposed projection exceeds the permitted height, the overall roof structure is modest in scale and well-integrated with the architectural design of the dwelling. The additional height is confined to the roof form only and does not result in any negative impacts.

The design maintains appropriate proportions and articulation, helping to mitigate the visual impact of the increased height. The proposal preserves the intended massing and scale of the neighbourhood, and remains consistent with the evolving built form character in the neighborhood.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of June 4, 2025. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

CONCLUSION

Planning Staff have reviewed the application with respect to Section 45(1) of The Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended, and are of the opinion that the variance request meets the four tests of the Planning Act and have no objection. Staff recommend that the Committee consider public input in reaching a decision.

The onus is ultimately on the applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the zoning by-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the Planning Act required for the granting of minor variances.

Please refer to Appendix "A" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

PREPARED BY:

Aaron Chau, Planner I, East District

REVIEWED BY:

Stacia Muradali, Development Manager, East District

File Path: Amanda\File\ 25 117482 \Documents\District Team Comments Memo

APPENDIX "A" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/047/25

- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains;
- 2. That the variances apply only to the subject development, in substantial conformity with the plan(s) attached as 'Appendix B' to this Staff Report and received by the City of Markham on May 26, 2025 and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Supervisor of the Committee of Adjustment or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to their satisfaction;
- 3. The reduced rear yard depth only applies to the proposed rear 1-storey sunroom portion of the building.

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Aaron Chau, Planner I, East District











