Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment

December 03, 2025

File: A/155/25

Address: 770 Markland Street, Markham

Agent: Macaulay Shiomi Howson (Nick Pileggi)

Hearing Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025

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

The applicant is requesting relief from the following requirements of By-law 177-96, Business Corridor Zone (BC*293) and Major Commercial Zone (MJC*294) as amended, to permit:

a) By-law 177-96, Table B7 Part 4 of 4 MJC Zone GGG:

a minimum width of landscaping adjacent to the interior and rear lot lines of 0.0 metres, whereas the by-law requires a minimum width of landscaping adjacent to the interior and rear lot lines of 3 metres;

as it relates to an auto service and sales building.

This application is related to Consent application B/031/24 which has been approved.

BACKGROUND

Property Description

The Subject Lands front along Markland Street and Major Mackenzie Drive East. Lands north of the property are currently vacant, and designated for employment uses. Located to the west is Highway 404. A large-scale industrial building is located to the south, across Major Mackenzie Drive East. Located at the property to the east, two commercial buildings occupy the northwest corner of Major Mackenzie Drive East and Markland Street, along with a commercial plaza across Markland Street.

Proposal

The site is currently under construction, as an auto service and sales facility will be built on the subject lands. This variance is associated with Consent applications B/030/24 & B/031/24, which have been approved, and Site Plan Control application SPC 24.159325, which has been endorsed.

Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on July 17/24)

The Official Plan designates the subject property "Commercial" under the 2014 Official Plan, which provides for large format commercial developments comprised of office, retail and service uses, and restaurants. Motor vehicle sales and service establishments are permitted under this designation.

Area Specific Policy 9.5.12 also applies to the Subject Property and intends to provide additional provisions regarding total gross floor area and permitted uses for buildings on the parcel.

Zoning By-Law 177-96

The subject property is zoned Major Commercial Zone (MJC*294), which permits retail, service and restaurant uses, and Business Corridor Zone (BC*293), which permits limited retail and industrial uses including manufacturing and warehousing under By-law 177-96, as amended. Exception 293 and 294 relates to specific zone standards and special site provisions regarding permitted uses, frontage, front yard, side yard, etc. for the Subject Property, and are not applicable.

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, "The non-conformity was created due to a severance application and a road which is being constructed through the middle of the lot line, meaning there is no landscaping in that area".

Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken

The owner has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has <u>not</u> been conducted. However, the applicant has received comments from the building department through their permit process to confirm the variances required for the proposed development.

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.

Landscaping Width Variance

The applicant is requesting to permit a minimum width of landscaping adjacent to the interior and rear lot lines of 0.0 metres, whereas the by-law requires a minimum width of landscaping adjacent to the interior and rear lot lines of 3 metres.

Relief from the by-law is required to bring the driveway access from Markland Street to the proposed auto service/sales building into conformity. The driveway runs through Part 3 and 4 of Registered Plan 65M-4031; through B/030/24, Part 4 of the plan was severed and merged with Part 10 of the plan to create a mutual access easement. Because of this, the driveway serves as the interior and rear lot lines of the parcel. Staff opine that the requested variance to landscape width is minor in nature and have no concerns.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of December 3, 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:

Theo Ako-Manieson, Planner I, West District

REVIEWED BY:

Rick Cefaratti, RPP, MCIP, Acting-Development Manager, West District

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APPENDIX "A" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/155/25

- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains;
- 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 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;

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Theo Ako-Manieson, Planner I, West District





