## Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment

February 09, 2018

File:

A/08/18

Address:

20 Water St Markham

Applicant:

Water Street Non-Profit Homes Inc./Markham Inter-Church

**Committee for Affordable Housing** 

Agent:

**David Johnston Architect Ltd. (David Johnston)** 

**Hearing Date:** 

Wednesday February 21, 2018

The following comments are provided on behalf of the Heritage Districts Team. Staff has no objection to the application. The applicant is requesting relief from the following requirement of By-law 1229, as amended:

### a) <u>Table 11.1:</u>

a minimum dwelling unit floor area of 500 square feet for one bedroom apartments, whereas the By-law requires a minimum dwelling unit floor area of 600 square feet for one bedroom apartments;

as it relates to a proposed 4 storey residential building.

The 13,372m² property is located within the Markham Village Heritage Conservation District, at the northern terminus of Water Street. The property contains a 6 storey, 150 unit assisted supportive housing building and an attached seniors' activity centre. This application relates to Site Plan Control Application SC 18 124680 currently under review. The subject property is zoned R4 under By-law 1229, as amended. The proposed use is permitted by the By-law.

The Minor Variance Application is to allow a reduced floor area for one bedroom units in order to address design changes to a new free-standing, 32 unit assisted supportive housing building proposed to be constructed on the site. The project is receiving funding from the Region of York.

Applicant's Stated Reasons for Not Complying with the Provisions of the By-law On the application form it is stated "The funding guidelines for this assisted housing project permit one bedroom apartments to be a minimum of 500 sq. ft."

#### **Comments**

The Site Plan Control Application has recently been submitted, however in preparation for the submission, the applicant has previously obtained variances relating to parking standards and front yard setback (A/217/16), and consent (B/33/16) to allow a ground lease for a portion of the property owned by Water Street Non-Profit Homes Inc. Staff and Heritage Markham supported these applications.

The project has already undergone detailed review, beginning in 2016, through the previous Minor Variance and Consent Applications. The requested variance will not have any external impacts on the building design. Heritage Markham will be reviewing this application at their meeting of February 14, 2018. It is not anticipated that there will be any concerns with the requested variance. Staff recommend a condition be included that the

variance is supported by Heritage Markham, to address the timing issue (the staff memo is due prior to Heritage Markham's meeting).

#### **PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY**

No written submissions were received as of February 9, 2018.

#### ZONING PRELIMINARY REVIEW

The applicant obtained a Zoning Preliminary Review for this project dated August 2, 2017.

#### CONCLUSION

Planning staff have reviewed the application with respect to Section 45(1) of the <u>Planning Act</u>, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended, and are of the opinion that the proposal meets the four tests of the <u>Planning Act</u> for the approval of minor variances. Staff therefore have no objection to this application, subject to conditions outlined in Appendix 'A' attached to this report. 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 see Appendix "A" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

PREPARED BY:

George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner

REVIEWED BY:

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Districts

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# APPENDIX "A" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/08/18

- 1. The variances applies only to the proposed development as long as it remains;
- 2. That the variance applies only to the subject development, in substantial conformity with the plans attached as Appendix 'B' to this Staff Report dated February 9, 2018, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Urban Design or designate, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Director of Planning and Urban Design or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to his/her satisfaction;
- 3. That any fees payable to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) be paid, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the TRCA that the fees have been paid in full;
- 4. That the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from Heritage Markham that the requested variance is supported.

**CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:** 

George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner









