Community Association Response

August 30, 2019

Dear Kelsey:

RE: LOC2019-0118 2416 48 ST NW

Land Use Amendment from R-C1 to R-CG

The Planning Committee met to review this application for a Land Use Amendment of an R-C1 zoned property to RCG.

The applicant has previously met with the Planning Committee on this issue and the committee did not support their initial plan to increase the zoning to M-CG. **We do not support this application** to increase the zoning to RCG. And should it come to it, we will not support an application to rezone to R-C2. These views have also been expressed to us by residents in the area.

Unpredictable Markets: In general, we feel that spot rezoning such as this will only lead to an unpredictable market. Will all R-C1 properties now be up to re-zoning?

Push-back: We're starting to see a lot of push-back on the higher density developments that are springing up from Bowness Rd to 22nd Ave NW in the R-C2 (and higher) zoned districts. The push-back is related to a perception of over-height and overly-massive developments with tight side yards and no new trees, lack of on-street and on-site parking for 3 bedroom 4-plexes, site-drainage issue that have not been addressed despite continued calls to 311, and concerns about water supply and infrastructure due to increased densities.

Random Planning: We don't want to add to this problem by further allowing the up-zoning of R-C1 districts. This is random planning and not the result of a thoughtful planning exercise.

MDP Goals: While increased density is a goal of the MDP, Montgomery has recently undergone a very extensive over-haul of its ARP to achieve and surpass the MDP goals. Further, density should not have to be achieved through random, ill-considered measures.

ARP Policy: The Montgomery ARP very explicitly states:

Policy R1. Low-density residential development is encouraged in the areas indicated on the Future Land Use Plan (Figure 1.3). In these locations, all R-1, R-2 and Direct Control Districts with low-density residential guidelines shall continue.

Policy R2. The redesignation of low-density residential land (R-1 and R-2 and Direct Control Districts with low-density residential guidelines) to R-2A Residential Low Density District and to medium density residential (RM-4) should only be permitted in the locations indicated on the Land Use Plan (Figure 1.3). Redesignations outside these will require an amendment to the ARP.

Policy R4. In order to secure the stability of single detached neighbourhoods and retain community character the redesignation of R-1 Residential Single Detached District to R-2 Low Density Residential District should not be permitted.

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Policy R5. The redesignation of individual lots from R-1 Residential Single Detached District to R-2 Residential Low Density District is not supported.

Policy R6. The redesignation of existing R-1 Residential Single Detached District areas will require a comprehensive amendment to the Plan.

For these reasons, we do not support this Land Use Amendment application.

Regards,

Janice Mackett, Architect

Planning Committee Chair Montgomery Community Association

cc: Councillor Druh Farrell
Executive Assistant Ward 7
President of the Montgomery Community Association
Members of the MCA Planning Committee

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