

**Land Use Amendment in Capitol Hill (Ward 7) at 1512 – 21 Avenue NW, LOC2023-0039**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Calgary Planning Commission recommend that Council give three readings to the proposed bylaw for the redesignation of 0.06 hectares  $\pm$  (0.14 acres  $\pm$ ) at 1512 – 21 Avenue NW (Plan 2864AF, Block 6, Lots 5 and 6) from Residential – Contextual One / Two Dwelling (R-C2) District to Residential – Grade-Oriented Infill (R-CG) District.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- This land use amendment application seeks to redesignate the subject site to allow for rowhouses and townhouses in addition to the building types listed in the existing district (e.g., single detached, semi-detached, duplex dwellings and secondary suites).
- The proposal represents an appropriate density increase of the site, allows for development that is compatible with the character of the existing neighbourhood and is in keeping with the policies of the *Municipal Development Plan (MDP)* and the *North Hill Communities Local Area Plan (LAP)*.
- What does this mean to Calgarians? The proposed Residential – Grade-Oriented Infill (R-CG) District would allow for increased housing options within the community and more efficient use of existing infrastructure and nearby amenities.
- Why does this matter? The proposed redesignation would allow for greater housing choice to accommodate the evolving needs of different age groups, lifestyles and demographics.
- No development permit has been submitted at this time.
- There is no previous Council direction regarding this proposal.

**DISCUSSION**

This application, located in the northwest community of Capitol Hill, was submitted by Marcel Design Studio on behalf of the landowner Betty Ann Williams on 2023 February 17. No development permit has been submitted at this time; however, as referenced in the Applicant Submission (Attachment 2), the proposal is to obtain land use amendment approval to accommodate four dwelling units and four secondary suites in a building form of two semi-detached residential buildings.

The approximately 0.06 hectare  $\pm$  (0.14 acre  $\pm$ ) site is a single parcel located on the west side of 14 Street NW, just north of the Capitol Hill Community Association and large greenspace. The proposed R-CG District would allow for the development of grade-oriented multi-residential buildings of low height and low density that share a common amenity space.

A detailed planning evaluation of the application, including location maps and site context, is provided in the Background and Planning Evaluation (Attachment 1).

**ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION**

- Outreach was undertaken by the Applicant
- Public/interested parties were informed by Administration

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### **Applicant-Led Outreach**

As part of the review of the proposed land use amendment application, the applicant was encouraged to use the [Applicant Outreach Toolkit](#) to assess which level of outreach with relevant public groups and the respective community association was appropriate. In response, the applicant:

- conducted a mailer drop to approximately 100 individuals and responded directly to queries generated by the mailer via email; and
- provided a general summary in response to the concerns of individuals who contacted Administration.

A more comprehensive summary is contained in the Applicant Outreach Summary that can be found in Attachment 3.

### **City-Led Outreach**

In keeping with Administration's practices, this application was circulated to relevant public groups, notice posted on site and published [online](#). Notification letters were also sent to adjacent landowners. Administration received eight responses from the public in opposition of the proposed land use amendment noting the following areas of concern:

- impacts of future building height allowed by R-CG District and shadow impacts;
- significant density increase; and
- increased traffic and impact on availability of street parking.

Administration contacted the Capitol Hill Community Association (CA) directly requesting feedback, and the CA noted that they had no comments on the application. Correspondence is included in this report (Attachment 4).

Administration considered the relevant planning issues specific to the application and has determined the proposal to be appropriate. The R-CG District is intended to be located adjacent to other low-density districts and accommodates a variety of low-density housing forms. It provides a modest density increase within a neighbourhood while being sensitive to adjacent development. The building and site design and on-site parking will be further reviewed as part of a future development permit stage.

Following Calgary Planning Commission, notifications for a Public Hearing of Council for the land use amendment will be posted on site and mailed out to adjacent landowners. In addition, Commission's recommendation and the date of the Public Hearing will be advertised.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **Social**

The proposed application allows for the development of a variety of grade-oriented development which can increase the diversity of housing options in the area. The R-CG District encourages development that is oriented towards pedestrians and public transportation, which can promote walkability, reduce traffic congestion, and increase access to amenities. This can benefit social

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well-being by providing residents with more opportunities for social interaction and physical activity.

**Environmental**

This application does not include any actions that specifically address the objectives of the *Calgary Climate Strategy – Pathways to 2050*. Further opportunities to align future development on this site with applicable climate strategies will be explored and encouraged at subsequent development approval stages.

**Economic**

The proposed land use would allow for a more efficient use of land, existing infrastructure and services, and provide more compact housing in the community.

**Service and Financial Implications**

No anticipated financial impact.

**RISK**

There are no known risks associated with this application.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Background and Planning Evaluation
2. Applicant Submission
3. Applicant Outreach Summary
4. Community Association Response

**Department Circulation**

General Manager (Name)	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform