

Planning & Development Report to  
Calgary Planning Commission  
2019 February 21

ISC: UNRESTRICTED  
CPC2019-0093

## Policy Amendment and Land Use Amendment in Richmond (Ward 8) at 2137 – 31 Avenue SW, LOC2018-0266

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This application was submitted by Civicworks Planning + Design on 2018 December 18 on behalf of the owner(s), Naglis Investments Ltd. The application proposes to change the designation of this property from Residential – Contextual One / Two Dwelling (R-C2) District to Residential – Grade-Oriented Infill (R-CG) District to allow for:

- rowhouses in addition to the uses listed in the proposed R-CG designation (e.g. single detached homes, semi-detached, and duplex homes and suites);
- a maximum building height of 11 metres (an increase from the current maximum of 10 metres); and
- a maximum of 8 dwelling units (an increase from the current maximum of 4 dwelling units).

This application is intended to accommodate a comprehensive redevelopment of the subject parcel. An amendment to the *Richmond Area Redevelopment Plan* (ARP) is required to accommodate the proposed land use redesignation. The proposal conforms to the ARP as amended and is in keeping with applicable policies of the *Municipal Development Plan*.

No development permit application has been submitted at this time.

### ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That Calgary Planning Commission recommend that Council hold a Public Hearing; and

1. **ADOPT**, by bylaw, the proposed amendment to the Richmond Area Redevelopment Plan (Attachment 2); and
2. Give three readings to the proposed bylaw.
3. **ADOPT**, by bylaw, the proposed redesignation of 0.12 hectares ± (0.29 acres ±) located at 2137 – 31 Avenue SW (Plan 4479P, Block 52, Lots 21 to 24) from Residential – Contextual One / Two Dwelling (R-C2) District **to** Residential – Grade-Oriented Infill (R-CG) District; and
4. Give three readings to the proposed bylaw.

### PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

None.

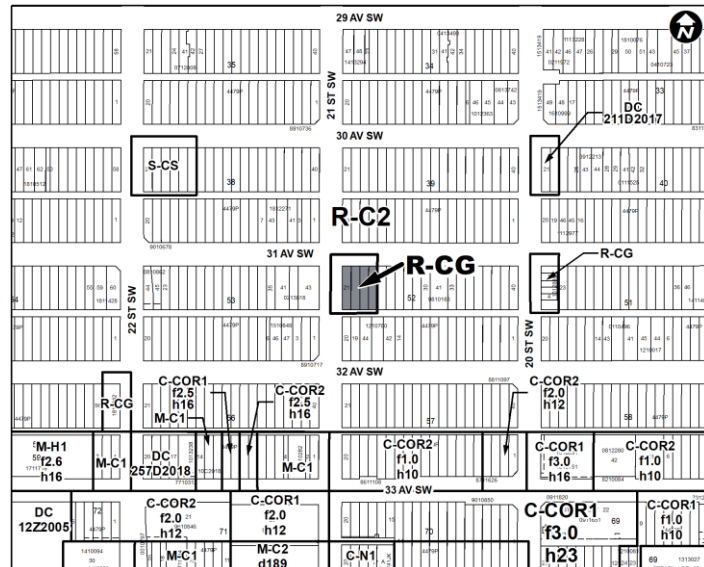
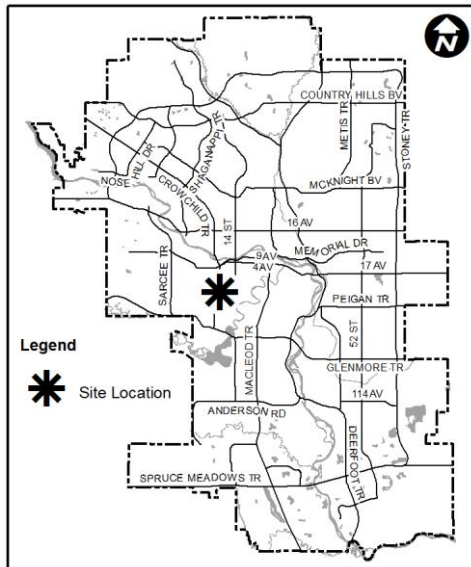
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BACKGROUND

Location Maps



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### SITE CONTEXT

The subject site is located in the community of Richmond on the southeast corner of 31 Avenue SW and 21 Street SW. Surrounding development is characterized by a mix of single and semi-detached homes. The predominant land use in this area is Residential – Contextual One / Two Dwelling (R-C2) District.

The site is approximately 0.12 hectares in size with approximate dimensions of 30 metres wide by 38 metres in depth. A rear lane exists on the south side of the site. The property is currently developed with two one-storey semi-detached dwellings and parking areas accessed from the lane.

As identified in *Figure 1*, the community of Richmond has seen a population decline since its population peak in 1968.

*Figure 1: Community Peak Population*

<b>Richmond</b>	
Peak Population Year	1968
Peak Population	5,080
2017 Current Population	4,781
Difference in Population (Number)	-299
Difference in Population (Percent)	-5.9%

Source: The City of Calgary 2017 Civic Census

Additional demographic and socio-economic information may be obtained online through the [Richmond](#) community profile.

### INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The proposal allows for a range of building types that have the ability to be compatible with the established building form of the existing neighbourhood. Though a minor amendment to the ARP is required, the proposal generally meets the objectives of applicable policies as discussed in the Strategic Alignment section of this report.

### Planning Considerations

#### ***Land Use***

The existing Residential – Contextual One / Two Dwelling (R-C2) District is a residential designation in developed areas that is primarily for single detached, semi-detached and duplex homes. Single detached homes may include a secondary suite. The R-C2 District allows for a maximum building height of 10 metres and a maximum of four dwelling units.

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The proposed Residential – Grade-Oriented Infill (R-CG) District allows for two to three storey (11 metres maximum height) rowhouse developments where one façade of each dwelling unit must directly face a public street. The district provides for a maximum density of 75 units per hectare which would enable up to eight dwelling units on the subject site. The R-CG District also allows for a range of other low-density housing forms such as single detached, semi-detached, duplex dwellings and secondary suites.

### ***Development and Site Design***

The rules of the proposed R-CG District provide basic guidance for the future site development including appropriate uses, height and building massing, landscaping and parking.

### ***Environmental***

There are no environmental concerns associated with the site or this proposal.

### ***Transportation***

Pedestrian and vehicular access to the site is available from 31 Avenue SW, 21 Street SW and the rear lane. The area is well served by Calgary Transit bus service. North and southbound local service via Route 7 is available within 400 metres walking distance. There are no on-street parking restrictions adjacent to the site. A Transportation Impact Assessment was not required as part of this application.

### ***Utilities and Servicing***

Water, sanitary and storm sewer mains are available and can accommodate the potential redevelopment of the subject site without the need for off-site improvements at this time. Individual servicing connections as well as appropriate stormwater management will be considered and reviewed at development permit stage.

### **Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication**

In keeping with Administration's standard practices, this application was circulated to relevant stakeholders and notice posted on-site. Notification letters were sent to adjacent landowners and the application was advertised online.

The Richmond Knob Hill Community Association was circulated and a follow up email was sent. However, no comments were received prior to the finalization of this report.

Administration received two letters in support and five letters in opposition to the application.

Reasons stated for support are summarized below:

- Greater diversity of housing stock;
- Housing affordability; and

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- Compatibility of row housing with existing low density development in the area.

Reasons stated for opposition are summarized below:

- Parcel is too small to accommodate eight dwelling units and vehicles;
- Increase in height, density, and lot coverage;
- Potential loss of mature vegetation;
- Increase in traffic, noise and parking issues; and
- Decrease in property values.

Administration considered the relevant planning issues specific to the proposed redesignation and has determined the proposal to be appropriate. The design compatibility of discretionary uses with respect to the surrounding neighbourhood and parking requirements will be reviewed at the development permit stage.

Following Calgary Planning Commission, notifications for Public Hearing of Council 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.

### **Strategic Alignment**

#### ***South Saskatchewan Regional Plan (2014)***

The site is located within the City, Town area as identified on Schedule C: South Saskatchewan Regional Plan Map in the *South Saskatchewan Regional Plan* (SSRP). While the SSRP makes no specific reference to this site, the proposal is consistent with policies on Land Use Patterns.

#### ***Interim Growth Plan (2018)***

The recommendation aligns with the policy direction of the *Interim Growth Plan*. The proposed land use amendment and policy amendment builds on the principles of the *Interim Growth Plan* by means of promoting efficient use of land, regional infrastructure, and establishing strong, sustainable communities.

#### ***Municipal Development Plan (Statutory – 2009)***

The subject parcel is located within the Residential - Developed - Inner City area as identified on Map 1: Urban Structure in the *Municipal Development Plan* (MDP). The applicable MDP policies encourage redevelopment of inner-city communities that is similar in scale and built form to existing development, including a mix of housing such as townhouses and rowhousing. The MDP also calls for a modest intensification of the inner city, an area serviced by existing infrastructure, public amenities and transit.

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The proposal is in keeping with relevant MDP policies as the rules of the R-CG District provide for a development form that may be sensitive to existing residential development in terms of height, built form and density.

### ***Richmond Area Redevelopment Plan (Statutory – 1985)***

The subject parcel is located within the Conservation Infill area as identified on Map 2: Land Use Policy in the *Richmond Area Redevelopment Plan*. The Conservation Infill area is intended for low-density developments in the form of single detached, semi-detached, and duplex dwellings. To accommodate the proposed R-CG District, a minor amendment to Map 2 is required to change the land use category of the subject site to Low Density Residential (Attachment 2).

### **Social, Environmental, Economic (External)**

The recommended land use allows for a wider range of housing types than the existing R-C2 District and as such, the proposed change may better accommodate the housing needs of different age groups, lifestyles and demographics.

### **Financial Capacity**

#### ***Current and Future Operating Budget***

There are no known impacts to the current and future operating budgets at this time

#### ***Current and Future Capital Budget***

The proposed amendment does not trigger capital infrastructure investment and therefore there are no growth management concerns at this time.

### **Risk Assessment**

There are no significant risks associated with this proposal.

### **REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

The proposal is in keeping with applicable policies of the *Municipal Development Plan*. The proposed R-CG District was designed to be implemented in proximity to or directly adjacent to low-density residential development. The proposal represents a modest density increase of an inner-city parcel of land and allows for development that has the ability to be compatible with the character of the existing neighbourhood.

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**ATTACHMENT(S)**

1. Applicant's Submission
2. Proposed Amendment to the Richmond Area Redevelopment Plan