

September 26, 2019

#### PREPARED FOR

#### **Azure Urban Developments Inc.**

Attn: John Thomas 463 Golden Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K2A 2E4

#### PREPARED BY

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ENGINEERS & SCIENTISTS

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** 

This report describes a pedestrian level wind study undertaken to assess wind conditions in support of a

Zoning By-Law Amendment (ZBA) for a proposed mixed-use development located at 2070 Scott Street in

Ottawa, Ontario. The study involves simulation of wind speeds for selected wind directions in a three-

dimensional (3D) computer model using the Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) technique, combined with

meteorological data integration, to assess pedestrian comfort and safety within and surrounding the

development site. The results and recommendations derived from these considerations are summarized in

the following paragraphs and detailed in the subsequent report.

Our work is based on industry standard CFD simulation and data analysis procedures, architectural

drawings provided by Quadrangle in August and updated in September 2019, surrounding street layouts

and existing and approved future building massing information obtained from the City of Ottawa, as well

as recent site imagery.

A complete summary of the predicted wind conditions is provided in Section 5 of this report and illustrated

in Figures 3A-6B following the main text. Based on CFD test results, interpretation, experience with similar

developments, and reference to City of Ottawa pedestrian wind speed criteria, we conclude that wind

conditions over most pedestrian sensitive grade-level locations within and surrounding the study site will

be acceptable for the intended uses on a seasonal basis. The exceptions are the retail entrance near the

southwest corner of the site, the patio area at the northwest corner of the site, and sidewalk areas near

the northeast corner of the building. Mitigation is recommended in the form of recessed entrance

locations, wind barriers and/or canopies, as described in Section 5.

The outdoor amenity areas at Level 6 and the mechanical penthouse level will not achieve sitting

conditions over the full area during the summer. Mitigation is recommended in the form of wind barriers

and/or canopies, as described in Section 5.

Within the context of typical weather patterns, which exclude anomalous localized storm events such as

tornadoes and downbursts, no areas over the study site were found to experience conditions that could

be considered unsafe.

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Gradient Wind Engineering Inc. (Gradient Wind) was retained by Stantec on behalf of Azure Urban Developments Inc. to undertake a computer-based pedestrian level wind study for a proposed mixed-use development to be located at 2070 Scott Street in Ottawa, Ontario. Our mandate within this study, as outlined in GWE proposal #19-120P, dated May 9, 2019, is to investigate pedestrian wind comfort and safety within and surrounding the development site, and to identify any areas where wind conditions may interfere with certain pedestrian activities so that mitigation measures may be considered, where necessary.

Our work is based on industry standard computer simulations using the Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) technique and data analysis procedures, architectural drawings provided by Quadrangle Architects Limited in August and updated in September 2019, surrounding street layouts and existing and approved future building massing information obtained from the City of Ottawa, as well as recent site imagery.

#### 2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The focus of this detailed pedestrian level wind study is a proposed mixed-use development at 2070 Scott Street in Ottawa, Ontario. The study site is located on a parcel of land bounded by Scott Street to the north, Churchill Avenue North to the west, Winona Avenue to the east, and existing low-rise buildings to the south.

The proposed development is a 23-storey building with a stepped 5-storey podium. The building planform at grade is nearly rectangular with rectangular insets. Ground floor comprises retail use in the west side of the building, townhouse units along the east perimeter, a residential lobby and a lounge/co-work room centrally located at the north side, and building support function rooms in the remaining space. An outdoor seating area is located adjacent to the retail use at the northwest corner of the site. A loading area and covered ramp to three levels of underground parking are located at the southeast corner of the site, accessed from Winona Avenue. Residential use occupies the floors above. At Level 2, the floorplate sets back at the southeast corner. At Level 6, the floorplate sets back from all sides to create a neatly rectangular building planform, an outdoor amenity area at the southwest corner, and private terraces over the remaining rooftop. At the mechanical penthouse level, the floorplate sets back from the east,



west and north sides to create an outdoor amenity area, adjacent to a party room at the west side of the floor.

Following the completion of testing, changes have been made to the building form that are not reflected in the figures of this report. Notably, the covered ramp to underground parking at the southeast corner of the site no longer extends south past the southwest building corner. The existing low-rise building nearest to the southeast building corner will also be retained. A brief commentary is provided for Tags F and G in Section 5 to address the influence of these changes to pedestrian comfort.

Key areas under consideration for pedestrian wind comfort include surrounding sidewalks, walkways, building access points, nearby transit stops, the grade-level seating area, and rooftop outdoor amenity areas. Figure 1 illustrates the study site and surrounding context. Figures 2A and 2B illustrate the computational model used to conduct the study.

#### 3. OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of this study are to (i) determine pedestrian level wind comfort and safety conditions at key areas within and surrounding the development site; (ii) identify areas where wind conditions may interfere with the intended uses of outdoor spaces; and (iii) recommend suitable mitigation measures, where required.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

The approach followed to quantify pedestrian wind conditions over the site is based on CFD simulations of wind speeds across the study site within a virtual environment, meteorological analysis of the Ottawa area wind climate, and synthesis of computational data with City of Ottawa wind comfort and safety criteria<sup>1</sup>. The following sections describe the analysis procedures, including a discussion of the noted pedestrian wind criteria.

#### 4.1 Computer-Based Context Modelling

A computer-based PLW study was performed to determine the influence of the wind environment on pedestrian comfort over the proposed development site. Pedestrian comfort predictions, based on the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> City of Ottawa Terms of References: Wind Analysis [Undated]

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mechanical effects of wind, were determined by combining measured wind speed data from CFD

simulations with statistical weather data obtained from Ottawa's Macdonald-Cartier International

Airport.

The general concept and approach to CFD modelling is to represent building and topographic details in

the immediate vicinity of the study site on the surrounding model, and to create suitable atmospheric

wind profiles at the model boundary. The wind profiles are designed to have similar mean and turbulent

wind properties consistent with actual site exposures.

An industry standard practice is to omit trees, vegetation, and other existing and planned landscape

elements from the model due to the difficulty of providing accurate seasonal representation of

vegetation. The omission of trees and other landscaping elements produces slightly more conservative

wind speed values.

4.2 Wind Speed Measurements

The PLW analysis was performed by simulating wind flows and gathering velocity data over a CFD model

of the site for 12 wind directions. The CFD simulation model was centered on the study building, complete

with surrounding massing within a diameter of approximately 840 metres.

Mean and peak wind speed data obtained over the study site for each wind direction were interpolated

to 36 wind directions at 10° intervals, representing the full compass azimuth. Measured wind speeds

approximately 1.5 metres above local grade were referenced to the wind speed at gradient height to

generate mean and peak velocity ratios, which were used to calculate full-scale values. The gradient height

represents the theoretical depth of the boundary layer of the Earth's atmosphere, above which the mean

wind speed remains constant. Appendices A and B provide greater detail of the theory behind wind speed

measurements.

4.3 Meteorological Data Analysis

A statistical model for winds in Ottawa was developed from approximately 40-years of hourly

meteorological wind data recorded at Macdonald-Cartier International Airport and obtained from the

local branch of Atmospheric Environment Services of Environment Canada. Wind speed and direction data

were analyzed for each month of the year in order to determine the statistically prominent wind directions

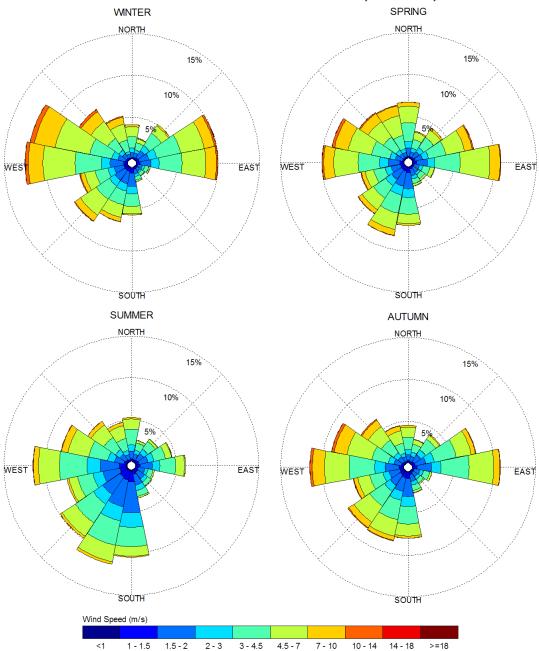


and corresponding speeds, and to characterize similarities between monthly weather patterns. Based on this portion of analysis, the four seasons are represented by grouping data from consecutive months based on similarity of weather patterns, and not according to the traditional calendar method.

The statistical model of the Ottawa area wind climate, which indicates the directional character of local winds on a seasonal basis, is illustrated on the following page. The plots illustrate seasonal distribution of measured wind speeds and directions in m/s. Probabilities of occurrence of different wind speeds are represented as stacked polar bars in sixteen azimuth divisions. The radial direction represents the percentage of time for various wind speed ranges per wind direction during the measurement period. The preferred wind speeds and directions can be identified by the longer length of the bars. For Ottawa, the most common winds occur for westerly wind directions, followed by those from the east, while the most common wind speeds are below 10 metres per second (m/s). The directional preference and relative magnitude of wind speed changes somewhat from season to season. By convention in microclimate studies, wind direction refers to the wind origin (e.g., a north wind blows from north to south).



# SEASONAL DISTRIBUTION OF WINDS FOR VARIOUS PROBABILITIES MACDONALD-CARTIER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, OTTAWA, ONTARIO



#### Notes:

- 1. Radial distances indicate percentage of time of wind events.
- 2. Wind speeds are mean hourly in m/s, measured at 10 m above the ground.
- 3. Apply a factor of 3.6 to convert m/s to kilometers per hour (km/h).



#### 4.4 Pedestrian Comfort and Safety Criteria – City of Ottawa

Pedestrian comfort and safety criteria are based on the mechanical effects of wind without consideration of other meteorological conditions (i.e. temperature, relative humidity). The comfort criteria assume that pedestrians are appropriately dressed for a specified outdoor activity during any given season. Five pedestrian comfort classes are based on 80% non-exceedance gust wind speed ranges, which include (i) Sitting; (ii) Standing; (iii) Strolling; (iv) Walking; and (v) Uncomfortable. More specifically, the comfort classes and associated mean wind speed ranges are summarized as follows:

- (i) Sitting: Mean wind speeds less than or equal to 10 kilometers per hour (km/h).
- (ii) Standing: Mean wind speeds less than or equal to 14 km/h (i.e. 10-14 km/h).
- (iii) Strolling: Mean wind speeds less than or equal to 17 km/h (i.e. 14-17 km/h).
- (iv) Walking: Mean wind speeds less than or equal to 20 km/h (i.e. 16-20 km/h).
- (v) **Uncomfortable**: Uncomfortable conditions are characterized by predicted values that fall below the 80% target for walking. Brisk walking and exercise, such as jogging, would be acceptable for moderate excesses of this criterion.

The pedestrian safety wind speed criterion is based on the approximate threshold that would cause a vulnerable member of the population to fall. A 0.1% exceedance gust wind speed of greater than 90 km/h is classified as dangerous.

The gust speed, and equivalent mean speed, ranges are selected based on 'The Beaufort Scale', presented on the following page, which describes the effects of forces produced by varying wind speed levels on objects.



#### THE BEAUFORT SCALE

| NUMBER | DESCRIPTION     | WIND SPEED (KM/H) | DESCRIPTION                                                                                   |
|--------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2      | Light Breeze    | 4-8               | Wind felt on faces                                                                            |
| 3      | Gentle Breeze   | 8-15              | Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; Wind extends light flags                           |
| 4      | Moderate Breeze | 15-22             | Wind raises dust and loose paper; Small branches are moved                                    |
| 5      | Fresh Breeze    | 22-30             | Small trees in leaf begin to sway                                                             |
| 6      | Strong Breeze   | 30-40             | Large branches in motion; Whistling heard in electrical wires; Umbrellas used with difficulty |
| 7      | Moderate Gale   | 40-50             | Whole trees in motion; Inconvenient walking against wind                                      |
| 8      | Gale            | 50-60             | Breaks twigs off trees; Generally impedes progress                                            |

Experience and research on people's perception of mechanical wind effects has shown that if the wind speed levels are exceeded for more than 80% of the time, the activity level would be judged to be uncomfortable by most people. For instance, if wind speeds of 10 km/h were exceeded for more than 20% of the time most pedestrians would judge that location to be too windy for sitting or more sedentary activities. Similarly, if 20 km/h at a location were exceeded for more than 20% of the time, walking or less vigorous activities would be considered uncomfortable. As most of these criteria are based on subjective reactions of a population to wind forces, their application is partly based on experience and judgment.

Once the pedestrian wind speed predictions have been established at tested locations, the assessment of pedestrian comfort involves determining the suitability of the predicted wind conditions for their associated spaces. This step involves comparing the predicted comfort class to the desired comfort class, which is dictated by the location type represented by the sensor (i.e. a sidewalk, building entrance, amenity space, or other). An overview of common pedestrian location types and their desired comfort classes are summarized on the following page.



#### DESIRED PEDESTRIAN COMFORT CLASSES FOR VARIOUS LOCATION TYPES

| Location Types                             | Desired Comfort Classes |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Major Building Entrances                   | Standing                |
| Secondary Building Access Points           | Walking                 |
| Primary Public Sidewalks                   | Strolling               |
| Secondary Public Sidewalks / Bicycle Paths | Walking                 |
| Outdoor Amenity Spaces                     | Sitting                 |
| Cafés / Patios / Benches / Gardens         | Sitting                 |
| Transit Shelters                           | Standing                |
| Public Parks / Plazas                      | Strolling               |
| Garage / Service Entrances                 | Walking                 |
| Parking Lots                               | Walking                 |
| Vehicular Drop-Off Zones                   | Walking                 |

#### 5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The foregoing discussion of predicted pedestrian wind conditions is accompanied by Figures 3A through 6B (following the main text) illustrating the seasonal wind conditions at grade level and elevated terraces. The colour contours indicate various comfort classes predicted for certain regions. Wind conditions comfortable for sitting or more sedentary activities are represented by the colour green, standing are represented by yellow, strolling by salmon and conditions suitable for walking are represented by blue. The colour magenta indicates wind conditions considered uncomfortable for walking.

Churchill Avenue Sidewalk, Including Adjacent Retail Entrances (Tags A & B): The sidewalk along the west side of the building (Tag A) will be comfortable for sitting or standing during the summer, strolling or better during the autumn, and walking or better for the remainder of the year. These conditions are acceptable for the intended uses. Most adjacent retail entrances (Tag B) will experience calmer conditions comfortable for standing, or better, year-round. The exception is the south-most retail entrance, which will transition to include strolling conditions during the spring and winter. For this entrance, it is recommended to either recess the doorway into the building façade or flank the doorway with vertical wind barriers.



Scott Street Sidewalk, Including Adjacent (Tags C & D): The sidewalk along the north side of the building

(Tag C) will be comfortable for strolling or better during the summer and walking or better for the spring

and autumn, transitioning to include wind conditions that are safe but uncomfortable for walking at the

northeast corner of the study building during the winter. To improve wind conditions over windier

sidewalk areas near the northeast corner of the site, as well as at potential doorway locations within five

metres of the building corner, it is recommended to incorporate clusters of wind barriers into the

landscape plan at the northeast corner of the site. Barriers may take the form of dense coniferous

plantings, high solidity wind barriers, or a combination thereof, and should rise at least 2.0 metres at the

time of installation.

The adjacent entrances along the north elevation (Tag D) will experience wind conditions comfortable for

standing or better throughout the year immediately at doorway locations. Although strolling conditions

will be experienced in proximity to doorways nearest to the north building corners, these entrances are

either recessed into the building façade or located at least 5 metres away from the building corners.

Therefore, these conditions are considered acceptable and no additional mitigation measures are

required.

Winona Avenue Sidewalk and Adjacent Building Access Points (Tags E & F): The sidewalk along the east

side of the study building (Tag E) will largely experience acceptable wind conditions comfortable for

strolling or better during the summer and walking or better during the spring and autumn, with the

windier conditions occurring at the northeast building corner. Sidewalk areas near the northeast building

corner and over a section of roadway east of the building will experience wind conditions that are safe

but uncomfortable for walking during the winter. The mitigation recommended for Tag C will improve

wind speeds over these windier sidewalk and roadway locations near the northeast corner at no

additional effort.

The adjacent townhouse entrances will experience calmer conditions comfortable for standing or better

throughout the year. The vehicle access point at the southeast corner of the site (Tag F) will also

experience calmer conditions comfortable for standing or better year-round, which is acceptable.

Although the entrance to underground parking has relocated further north as part of the design change

described in Section 2, conditions at the revised vehicle access point location are expected to experience



similar or improved conditions suitable for sitting or standing, due to added protection provided by the

northeast townhouse units, which is acceptable.

Walkway South of Building, Including Adjacent Stairwell Exit (Tag G): The walkway along the south

elevation near the southwest corner of the study building will be comfortable for sitting during the

summer and standing or better for the remainder of the year. The adjacent stairwell exit will experience

wind conditions comfortable for sitting year-round. These conditions are acceptable for the intended

uses.

Following completion of testing, the covered ramp to underground parking at the southeast corner of the

site has been revised to set back from the south side. However, conditions over walkways south of the

site are largely expected to be similar to tested conditions due to the sheltering provided by the existing

low-rise building at the southeast corner of the site, which will be retained in place of the previous ramp

extension. Although standing conditions may further extend over limited sections of the walkway, these

conditions remain acceptable for the intended uses.

Grade-level Retail Seating Area (Tag H): The retail seating area at the northwest corner of the building

will be comfortable for sitting or standing during the summer and strolling or better for the remainder of

the year, with the calmer conditions occurring toward the building façade. To ensure the full space will

achieve the desired sitting conditions during the summer, it is recommended to install wind barriers along

the north and west perimeter of the space. Barriers may take the form of high-solidity wind barriers, dense

coniferous plantings, or a combination thereof, and should rise at least 1.8 metres tall at the time of

installation. Additionally, it may be necessary to install a wraparound canopy extending at least 2.0 metres

over the seating area at the northwest corner of the building to deflect downwash flows. The exact

placement and configuration of mitigation can be confirmed at a later date as the landscape plan

progresses.

Nearby Transit Stops (Tag I): Overall, the nearby transit stops will experience acceptable wind conditions

comfortable for standing or better throughout the year, transitioning to include strolling conditions for

the stop near the northwest corner of the site. As this location is equipped with a three-walled transit

shelter, which will allow pedestrians to take cover during limited windy periods, these conditions are

considered acceptable.

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Level 6 Outdoor Amenity Area (Tag J): The Level 6 outdoor amenity area will largely be suitable for sitting

or standing during the summer and walking or better for the remainder of the year. To achieve conditions

comfortable for sitting over the full area during the summer, it is recommended to raise the perimeter

guard to 1.8 metres above the walking surface at the west side of the terrace. As well, a wraparound

canopy or pergola extending at least 2.0 metres from the southwest corner of the building should be

provided. The exact placement and configuration of mitigation can be confirmed at a later date as the

landscape plan develops.

Rooftop Amenity Area (Tag K): The rooftop amenity area will be suitable for sitting or standing during the

summer and strolling or better for the remainder of the year. To ensure the full terrace is suitable for

sitting or more sedentary activities during the summer, it is recommended to raise the perimeter guard

to 1.8 metres above the walking surface along the west and north sides.

Influence of the Proposed Development on Existing Wind Conditions near the Study Site: Wind

conditions over surrounding sidewalks beyond the development site, as well as at nearby building

entrances, will be comfortable for their intended pedestrian uses during each seasonal period upon the

introduction of the proposed development.

Wind Safety: Within the context of typical weather patterns, which exclude anomalous localized storm

events such as tornadoes and downbursts, no areas over the study site were found to experience wind

conditions that are considered unsafe.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report summarizes the methodology, results, and recommendations related to a pedestrian level

wind study for the proposed residential development located at 2070 Scott Street in Ottawa, Ontario. The

study was performed in accordance with the scope of work described in GWE proposal #19-120P, dated

May 9, 2019, as well as industry standard CFD simulation and data analysis procedures.

A complete summary of the predicted wind conditions is provided in Section 5 of this report and illustrated

in Figures 3A-6B following the main text. Based on CFD test results, meteorological data analysis, and

experience with similar developments in Ottawa, we conclude that wind conditions over most pedestrian

sensitive grade-level locations within and surrounding the study site will be acceptable for the intended



uses on a seasonal basis. The exceptions are the retail entrance near the southwest corner of the site, the patio area at the northwest corner of the site, and sidewalk areas near the northeast corner of the building. Mitigation is recommended in the form of recessed entrance locations, wind barriers and/or canopies, as described in Section 5.

The outdoor amenity areas at Level 6 and the mechanical penthouse level will not achieve sitting conditions over the full area during the summer. Mitigation is recommended in the form of wind barriers and/or canopies, as described in Section 5.

Within the context of typical weather patterns, which exclude anomalous localized storm events such as tornadoes and downbursts, no areas over the study site were found to experience conditions that could be considered unsafe.

This concludes our pedestrian level wind study and report. Please advise the undersigned of any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

**Gradient Wind Engineering Inc.** 

Megan Prescott, MESc., Project Manager

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Andrew Sliasas, M.A.Sc., P.Eng., Principal



## GRADIENTWIND

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|   | PROJECT | 2070 SCOTT STREET, OTTAWA PEDESTRIAN LEVEL WIND STUDY |                 |  |  |  |
|---|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| ) |         |                                                       |                 |  |  |  |
|   | SCALE   | 1:2500 (APPROX.)                                      | GWE19-156-PLW-1 |  |  |  |
|   | DATE    | SEPTEMBER 25, 2019                                    | DRAWN BY K.A.   |  |  |  |

FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN AND SURROUNDING CONTEXT



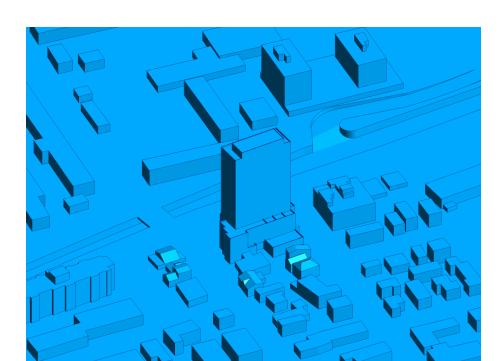


FIGURE 2A: COMPUTATIONAL MODEL, SOUTH PERSPECTIVE

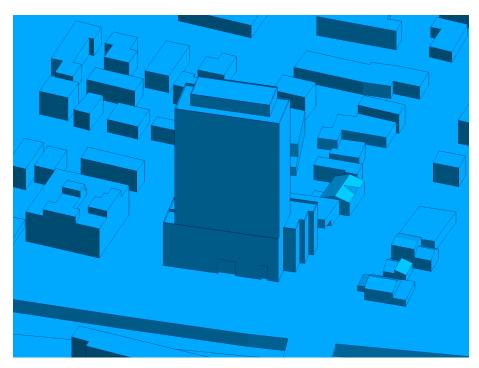


FIGURE 2B: STUDY BUILDING, NORTHWEST PERSPECTIVE



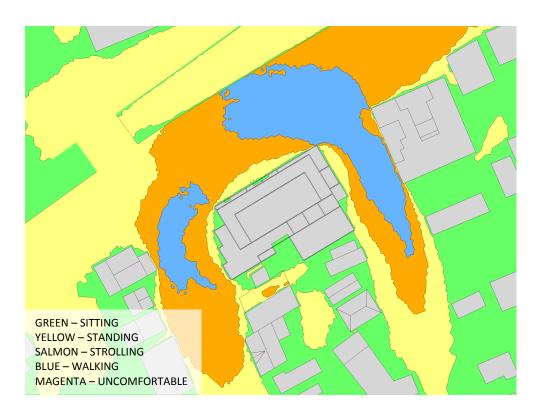


FIGURE 3A: SPRING – GRADE-LEVEL PEDESTRIAN WIND CONDITIONS

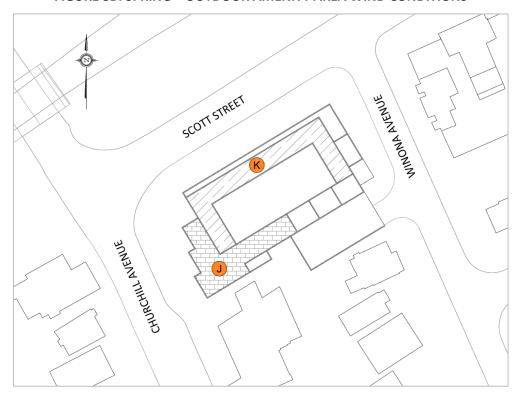


2070 SCOTT STREET - GRADE REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS





FIGURE 3B: SPRING - OUTDOOR AMENITY AREA WIND CONDITIONS

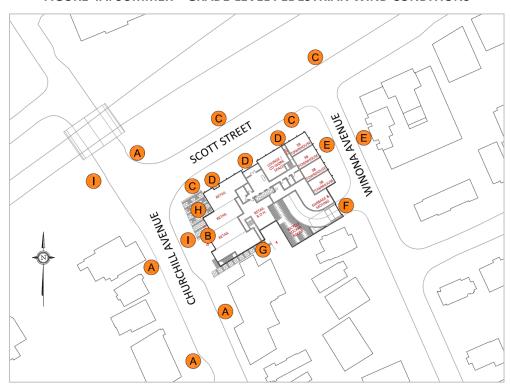


**2070 SCOTT STREET – REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS** 





FIGURE 4A: SUMMER – GRADE-LEVEL PEDESTRIAN WIND CONDITIONS

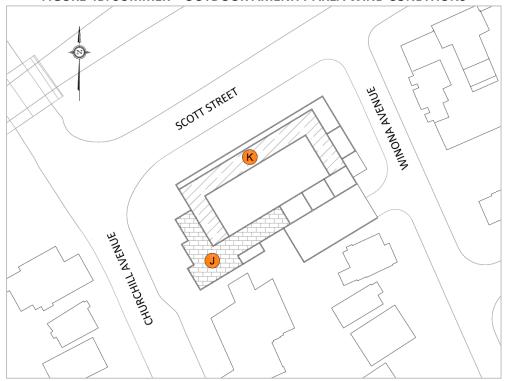


2070 SCOTT STREET - GRADE REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS





FIGURE 4B: SUMMER – OUTDOOR AMENITY AREA WIND CONDITIONS



**2070 SCOTT STREET – REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS** 



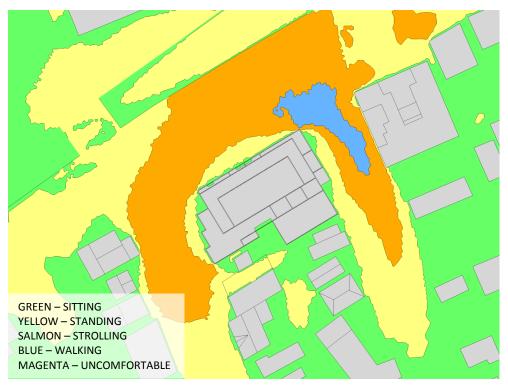
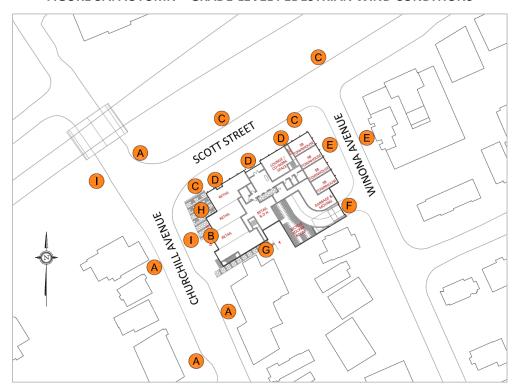


FIGURE 5A: AUTUMN – GRADE-LEVEL PEDESTRIAN WIND CONDITIONS

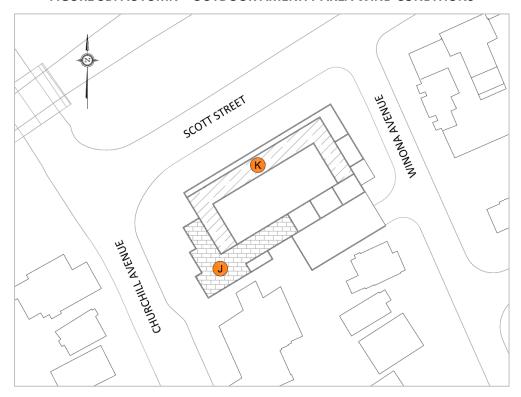


2070 SCOTT STREET - GRADE REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS





FIGURE 5B: AUTUMN – OUTDOOR AMENITY AREA WIND CONDITIONS



**2070 SCOTT STREET - REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS** 



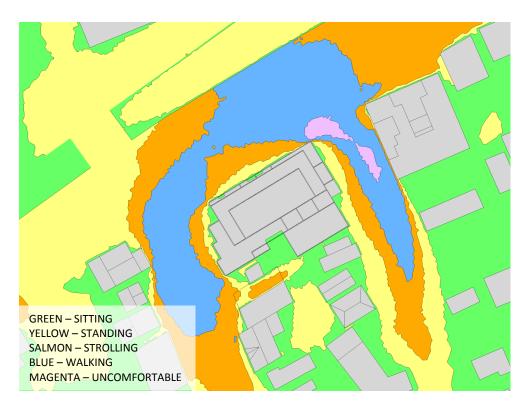
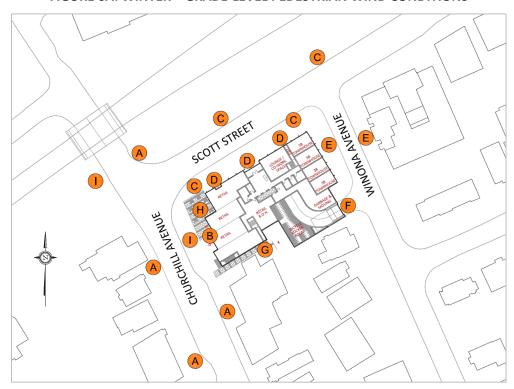


FIGURE 6A: WINTER - GRADE-LEVEL PEDESTRIAN WIND CONDITIONS

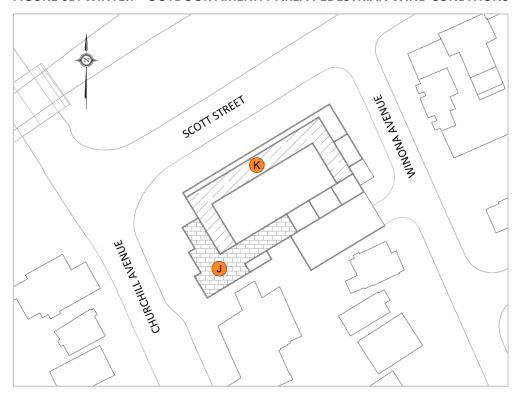


2070 SCOTT STREET - GRADE REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS





FIGURE 6B: WINTER - OUTDOOR AMENITY AREA PEDESTRIAN WIND CONDITIONS



2070 SCOTT STREET - GRADE REFERENCE MARKER LOCATIONS



#### **APPENDIX A**

WIND TUNNEL SIMULATION OF THE NATURAL WIND



#### WIND TUNNEL SIMULATION OF THE NATURAL WIND

Wind flowing over the surface of the earth develops a boundary layer due to the drag produced by surface features such as vegetation and man-made structures. Within this boundary layer, the mean wind speed varies from zero at the surface to the gradient wind speed at the top of the layer. The height of the top of the boundary layer is referred to as the gradient height, above which the velocity remains more-or-less constant for a given synoptic weather system. The mean wind speed is taken to be the average value over one hour. Superimposed on the mean wind speed are fluctuating (or turbulent) components in the longitudinal (i.e. along wind), vertical and lateral directions. Although turbulence varies according to the roughness of the surface, the turbulence level generally increases from nearly zero (smooth flow) at gradient height to maximum values near the ground. While for a calm ocean the maximum could be 20%, the maximum for a very rough surface such as the center of a city could be 100%, or equal to the local mean wind speed. The height of the boundary layer varies in time and over different terrain roughness within the range of 400 metres (m) to 600 m.

Simulating real wind behaviour in a wind tunnel requires simulating the variation of mean wind speed with height, simulating the turbulence intensity, and matching the typical length scales of turbulence. It is the ratio between wind tunnel turbulence length scales and turbulence scales in the atmosphere that determines the geometric scales that models can assume in a wind tunnel. Hence, when a 1:200 scale model is quoted, this implies that the turbulence scales in the wind tunnel and the atmosphere have the same ratios. Some flexibility in this requirement has been shown to produce reasonable wind tunnel predictions compared to full scale. In model scale the mean and turbulence characteristics of the wind are obtained with the use of spires at one end of the tunnel and roughness elements along the floor of the tunnel. The fan is located at the model end and wind is pulled over the spires, roughness elements and model. It has been found that, to a good approximation, the mean wind profile can be represented by a power law relation, shown below, giving height above ground versus wind speed.

$$U = U_g \left(\frac{Z}{Z_g}\right)^{\alpha}$$



Where; U = mean wind speed,  $U_g$  = gradient wind speed, Z = height above ground,  $Z_g$  = depth of the boundary layer (gradient height) and  $\alpha$  is the power law exponent.

Figure B1 on the following page plots three velocity profiles for open country, and suburban and urban exposures.

The exponent  $\alpha$  varies according to the type of upwind terrain;  $\alpha$  ranges from 0.14 for open country to 0.33 for an urban exposure. Figure B2 illustrates the theoretical variation of turbulence for open country, suburban and urban exposures.

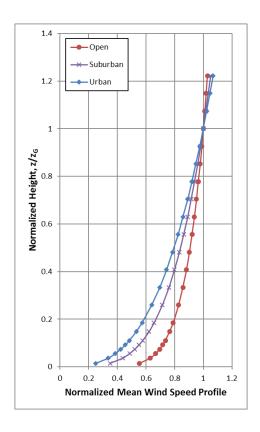
The integral length scale of turbulence can be thought of as an average size of gust in the atmosphere. Although it varies with height and ground roughness, it has been found to generally be in the range of 100 m to 200 m in the upper half of the boundary layer. Thus, for a 1:300 scale, the model value should be between 1/3 and 2/3 of a metre. Integral length scales are derived from power spectra, which describe the energy content of wind as a function of frequency. There are several ways of determining integral length scales of turbulence. One way is by comparison of a measured power spectrum in model scale to a non-dimensional theoretical spectrum such as the Davenport spectrum of longitudinal turbulence. Using the Davenport spectrum, which agrees well with full-scale spectra, one can estimate the integral scale by plotting the theoretical spectrum with varying L until it matches as closely as possible the measured spectrum:

$$f \times S(f) = \frac{\frac{4(Lf)^2}{U_{10}^2}}{\left[1 + \frac{4(Lf)^2}{U_{10}^2}\right]^{\frac{4}{3}}}$$

Where, f is frequency, S(f) is the spectrum value at frequency f, U10 is the wind speed 10 m above ground level, and L is the characteristic length of turbulence.



Once the wind simulation is correct, the model, constructed to a suitable scale, is installed at the center of the working section of the wind tunnel. Different wind directions are represented by rotating the model to align with the wind tunnel center-line axis.



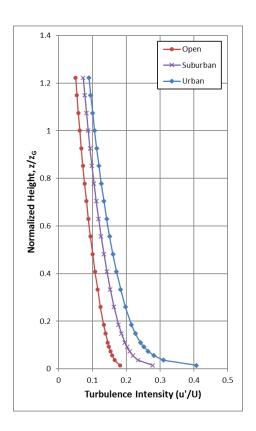


FIGURE A1 (LEFT): MEAN WIND SPEED PROFILES; FIGURE A2 (RIGHT): TURBULENCE INTENSITY PROFILES



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#### **APPENDIX B**

#### PEDESTRIAN LEVEL WIND MEASUREMENT METHODOLOGY

The information contained within this appendix is offered to provide a greater understanding of the relationship between the physical wind tunnel testing method and virtual computer-based simulations



#### PEDESTRIAN LEVEL WIND MEASUREMENT METHODOLOGY

Pedestrian level wind studies are performed in a wind tunnel on a physical model of the study buildings at a suitable scale. Instantaneous wind speed measurements are recorded at a model height corresponding to 1.5 m full scale using either a hot wire anemometer or a pressure-based transducer. Measurements are performed at any number of locations on the model and usually for 36 wind directions. For each wind direction, the roughness of the upwind terrain is matched in the wind tunnel to generate the correct mean and turbulent wind profiles approaching the model.

The hot wire anemometer is an instrument consisting of a thin metallic wire conducting an electric current. It is an omni-directional device equally sensitive to wind approaching from any direction in the horizontal plane. By compensating for the cooling effect of wind flowing over the wire, the associated electronics produce an analog voltage signal that can be calibrated against velocity of the air stream. For all measurements, the wire is oriented vertically so as to be sensitive to wind approaching from all directions in a horizontal plane.

The pressure sensor is a small cylindrical device that measures instantaneous pressure differences over a small area. The sensor is connected via tubing to a transducer that translates the pressure to a voltage signal that is recorded by computer. With appropriately designed tubing, the sensor is sensitive to a suitable range of fluctuating velocities.

For a given wind direction and location on the model, a time history of the wind speed is recorded for a period of time equal to one hour in full-scale. The analog signal produced by the hot wire or pressure sensor is digitized at a rate of 400 samples per second. A sample recording for several seconds is illustrated in Figure B1. This data is analyzed to extract the mean, root-mean-square (rms) and the peak of the signal. The peak value, or gust wind speed, is formed by averaging a number of peaks obtained from sub-intervals of the sampling period. The mean and gust speeds are then normalized by the wind tunnel gradient wind speed, which is the speed at the top of the model boundary layer, to obtain mean and gust ratios. At each location, the measurements are repeated for 36 wind directions to produce normalized polar plots, which will be provided upon request.



In order to determine the duration of various wind speeds at full scale for a given measurement location the gust ratios are combined with a statistical (mathematical) model of the wind climate for the project site. This mathematical model is based on hourly wind data obtained from one or more meteorological stations (usually airports) close to the project location. The probability model used to represent the data is the Weibull distribution expressed as:

$$P(>U_g) = A_\theta \cdot \exp\left[\left(-\frac{U_g}{C_\theta}\right)^{K_\theta}\right]$$

Where,

P (>  $U_g$ ) is the probability, fraction of time, that the gradient wind speed  $U_g$  is exceeded;  $\theta$  is the wind direction measured clockwise from true north, A, C, K are the Weibull coefficients, (Units: A - dimensionless, C - wind speed units [km/h] for instance, K - dimensionless).  $A_{\theta}$  is the fraction of time wind blows from a 10° sector centered on  $\theta$ .

Analysis of the hourly wind data recorded for a length of time, on the order of 10 to 30 years, yields the  $A_{\theta}$ ,  $C_{\theta}$  and  $K_{\theta}$  values. The probability of exceeding a chosen wind speed level, say 20 km/h, at sensor N is given by the following expression:

$$P_{N}(>20) = \Sigma_{\theta} P \left[ \frac{(>20)}{\left(\frac{U_{N}}{U_{g}}\right)} \right]$$

$$P_N(>20) = \Sigma_{\theta} P\{>20/(U_N/U_g)\}$$

Where,  $U_N/U_g$  is the gust velocity ratios, where the summation is taken over all 36 wind directions at 10° intervals.



If there are significant seasonal variations in the weather data, as determined by inspection of the  $C_{\theta}$  and  $K_{\theta}$  values, then the analysis is performed separately for two or more times corresponding to the groupings of seasonal wind data. Wind speed levels of interest for predicting pedestrian comfort are based on the comfort guidelines chosen to represent various pedestrian activity levels as discussed in the main text.

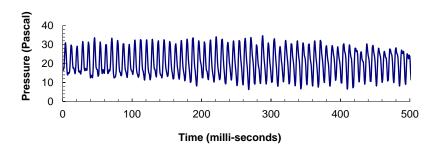


FIGURE B1: TIME VERSUS VELOCITY TRACE FOR A TYPICAL WIND SENSOR

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