

September 15, 2023

City of Ottawa Planning, Real Estate, and Economic Development Department 110 Laurier Avenue West, 4th Floor Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1

Attention: Kieran Watson – Planner II

Reference: Shea Village Subdivision

5957 and 5969 Fernbank Road

Planning Rationale Addendum in Support of an Application for Zoning By-law

Amendment (Minor)

Approved City File No.: D07-16-18-0009 and D02-02-18-0042

Our File No.: 123133

INTRODUCTION

Novatech has been retained by 1384341 Ontario Ltd. (the owner) to prepare this Planning Rationale Addendum in support of an application for *Zoning By-law Amendment (Minor)* for their properties municipally known as 5957 and 5969 Fernbank Road in Ward 6 – Stittsville, Ottawa, Ontario. The herein will be referred to as the 'Subject Site'.

A pre-application consultation meeting was held on August 23, 2023 with City of Ottawa staff to discuss the suggested minor amendment to the zoning currently in force and effect for the Subject Site. Previous *Plan of Subdivision (City File No.: D07-16-18-0009)* and *Zoning By-law Amendment (City File No.: D02-02-18-0042)* applications were filed and approved by the City of Ottawa for the Subject Site. The Subject Site received Draft Plan Approval on April 29, 2021 with the rezoning approved by Planning Committee on March 10, 2022 and then subsequently approved by City Council on March 30, 2022. The approved zoning for the Subject Site was enacted as *By-law 2022-67*.

A minor rezoning is required to amend the *Residential Third Density, Subzone* Z-R3Z provisions to permit a reduced minimum lot area for the back-to-back townhouse dwellings. The suggested minimum lot area will not result in any changes or impacts to the approved detailed design engineering for the development. No new land uses, or other revisions are being proposed to the approved development as part of this minor rezoning.

This Planning Rationale Addendum should be read in conjunction with the previously approved Planning Rationale Report prepared by Stantec dated April 16, 2018 for the Subject Site.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND REQUESTED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

The approved Draft Plan of Subdivision features ninety-eight (98) single detached dwellings, one hundred eighty-seven (187) townhouse dwellings, one hundred eighty-four (184) back-to-back



townhouse dwellings, one (1) school block, one (1) park block, and one (1) stormwater management facility as shown in **Appendix A**. An enhanced version of the Site Plans for the approved back-to-back townhouse dwellings is shown in **Appendix B**. The back-to-back townhouse dwellings were always shown as part of the proposed development for the *Plan of Subdivision* application. Upon applying for building permits, the zoning review identified that the lot areas for the back-to-back townhouse dwellings did not comply with the *Residential Third Density*, *Subzone Z – R3Z* minimum lot area requirements.

Accordingly, a new site-specific zoning exception to permit a minimum lot area of $85 \, \text{m}^2$ for the back-to-back townhouse dwellings is being requested for the Subject Site to address a technical oversight from the previous rezoning. The minimum lot area requirement for townhouse dwellings in a Residential Third Density, Subzone Z - R3Z zone is $150 \, \text{m}^2$. Back-to-back townhouse dwellings do not have rear yards and, as a result, require smaller lot areas. Permitting a reduced minimum lot area will enable the construction of the back-to-back townhouse dwellings as approved by the City of Ottawa. All other zoning provisions for townhouse dwellings will apply.

PLANNING POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

The *Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) 2020* provides policy direction on land use planning and development matters of provincial interest by setting the policy foundation for regulating the development and use of land as set out in *Section 2* of the *Planning Act*. The decisions that affect all planning matters "shall be consistent with" relevant policy statements under the authority of *Section 3* of the *Planning Act*.

• The suggested rezoning has been reviewed in conjunction with the *PPS* and is consistent with the applicable policies pertaining to building strong healthy communities, the wise use and management of resources, and protecting public health and safety.

City of Ottawa Official Plan

Under the Official Plan (2022), the Subject Site is primarily designated as Neighbourhood with the portion along Fernbank Road designated as Minor Corridor with an Evolving Neighbourhood Overlay as per Schedule B5 – Suburban (West) Transect as shown on **Figure 1**.

- The Neighbourhood designation applies to urban areas that form the basis of communities which permit a mix of building forms and densities and are planned for gradual, integrated, sustainable, and context-sensitive development.
- The Minor Corridor designation applies to specified streets that have a planned function consisting of higher density development, greater mix of land uses, and higher level of street transit than Neighbourhoods.
- The rezoning has been reviewed in conjunction with the Official Plan designations and conforms with the applicable policies, goals, and objectives. No new land uses, or other revisions are being proposed to the approved development as part of this minor rezoning.
- The rezoning will enable the construction of the back-to-back townhouse dwellings as approved by the City of Ottawa while contributing to a greater range of housing typologies within the Stittsville community.



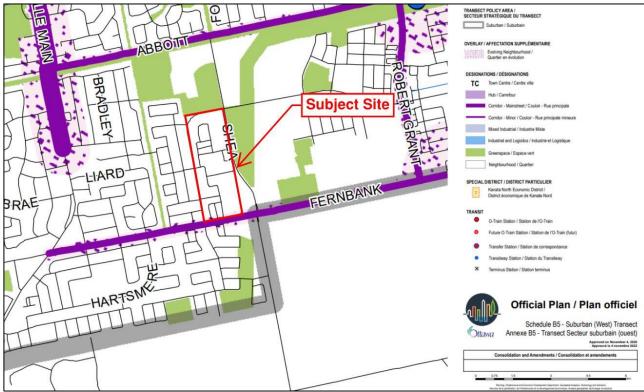


Figure 1: Excerpt from City of Ottawa Official Plan Schedule B5 – Suburban (West) Transect with the Subject Site added by Novatech.

Fernbank Community Design Plan (2009)

The Subject Site is designated as Low Density Residential and Medium Density Residential as per the Fernbank Community Design Plan (2009) as shown on Figure 2.

- The Low Density Residential and Medium Density Residential designations permit a range
 of housing typologies including detached, semi-detached, link-detached, multipleattached, triplexes, low-rise apartments, and stacked dwellings.
- The rezoning has been reviewed in conjunction with the Fernbank Community Design Plan
 designations and conforms with the applicable policies, goals, and objectives. No new
 land uses, or other revisions are being proposed to the approved development as part of
 this minor rezoning.
- The rezoning will enable the construction of the back-to-back townhouse dwellings as approved by the City of Ottawa while contributing to a greater range of housing typologies within the Stittsville community.



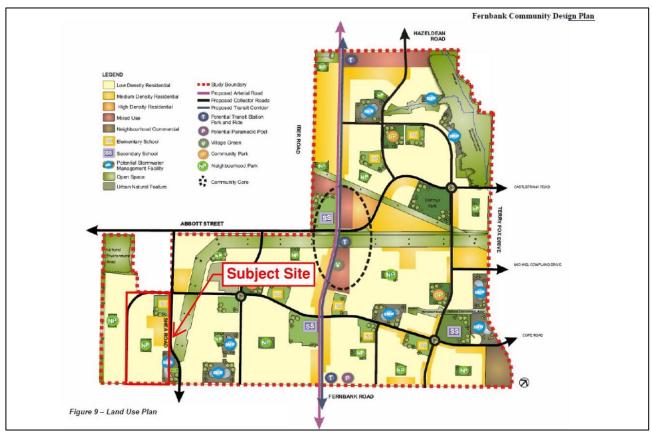


Figure 2: Excerpt from Fernbank Community Design Plan – Land Use Plan with the Subject Site added by Novatech.

City of Ottawa Zoning By-law 2008-250

The Subject Site is currently zoned as Residential Third Density, Subzone Z-R3Z, Parks and Open Space - O1, and Minor Institutional, Subzone B-I1B/Residential Third Density, Subzone Z-R3Z as shown on **Figure 3**.

- It is requested to add a new site-specific zoning exception to the R3Z[XXXX] and I1B/R3Z[XXXX] zones to permit a minimum lot area of 85 m² for the back-to-back townhouse dwellings. The minimum lot area requirement for townhouse dwellings in an R3Z zone is 150 m².
- The requested minor rezoning is required to address a technical oversight from the previous rezoning of the Subject Site and will not result in any changes to the approved development or impacts to the approved detailed design engineering.
- It has been Novatech's experience that these site-specific zoning exceptions are becoming required for R3Z zones in new greenfield residential subdivisions to reflect new housing typologies that were not in place when Zoning By-law 2008-250 was adopted. As such, it is necessary to create a site-specific zoning exception.
- Novatech's clients have successfully applied and received approval for similar sitespecific zoning exceptions for back-to-back units on other local greenfield residential subdivisions.





Figure 3: Excerpt of the Subject Site's existing zoning from GeoOttawa.

CONCLUSION

This Planning Rationale Addendum demonstrates how the proposed rezoning remains consistent with the *Provincial Policy Statement (2020)*, conforms to the *City of Ottawa Official Plan (2022)* and *Fernbank Community Design Plan (2009)*, and generally complies with the provisions of *Zoning Bylaw 2008-250*.

The requested minor rezoning as part of the proposed development is an appropriate and desirable addition to the Stittsville community and represent good planning.

Yours truly,

NOVATECH

Prepared by:

Robert Tran, M.Pl.

Planner, Planning & Development

Reviewed by:

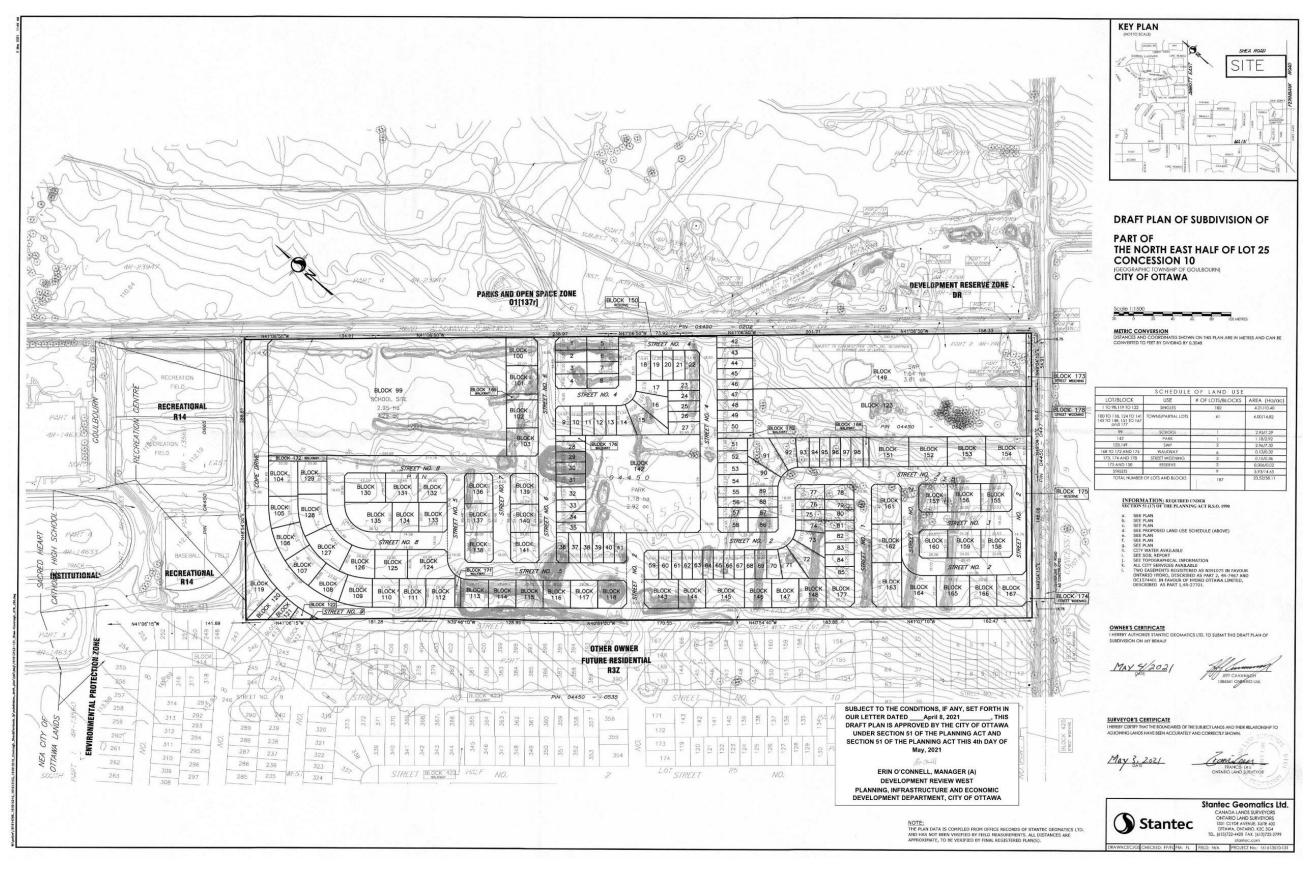
Greg Winters, MCIP, RPP

Director, Planning & Development



Appendix A Approved Draft Plan of Subdivision Dated May 4, 2021







Appendix B Back-to-Back Townhouse Dwelling Site Plans Prepared by Stantec



