# DISTRICT OF SAANICH MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE

# **MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2012 AT 7:30 PM**

Present: Chair: Mayor Leonard

Council: Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Derman, Gerrard, Murdock, Sanders, Wade

and Wergeland

Staff: Paul Murray, Administrator; Colin Doyle, Director of Engineering; Sharon

Hvozdanski, Director of Planning; Donna Dupas, Legislative Manager; and

Maura Jones, Senior Committee Clerk

1090-20 Environmental Awards

#### PRESENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Mayor Leonard and Councillor Sanders, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee, presented the 2012 Environmental Awards on behalf of Council to the following recipients:

#### Individual Citizen – Judith Carder

- For more than 10 years, Judith Carder has maintained her Garry Oak Restoration Site at Chatterton Hill each month by removing invasive plants, planting and caring for native species, and monitoring this natural area with incredible care to detail. She has mentored many young people and inspired other volunteers with her knowledge and care of this threatened place.
- Judith works closely with Rithet's Bog Conservation Area volunteers, is often engaged in research on restoration, enjoys sharing her experience as a Garry Oak Restoration Project (GORP) Site Steward and is always happy to lead educational visits.

# Honourable Mention - Colleen O'Brien

 Colleen is receiving an honorable mention for her achievements as a longstanding volunteer restoring Garry Oak ecosystems, specifically in Playfair Park.

# Volunteer Organization – Konukson Park Weedy Whackers

- This team of 15 members of Saanich's Pulling Together Volunteer Program has been working over the last 6 years to remove invasive plants from Konukson Park. Under the leadership of Harry Drage, Project Steward, they have developed restoration plans and impact studies and have received community grants as part of their program.
- They meet 2 mornings a week with the goal of restoring this 10 hectare urban forest to a more natural state. An impressive mountain of broom, holly, ivy and daphne has been removed and the return of native species is very rewarding to see. The members of the group are also having a great deal of fun while they work.

#### <u>Business/Commercial Industry – Heritage Office Furnishings Victoria Ltd.</u>

 Heritage Office Furnishings is a Saanich based company that is leading the way in sustainable business practices and was verified by the Pacific Carbon Trust as a Carbon Neutral Company earlier this year.

They have a full waste management system for all their goods and packaging and have introduced cutting edge technology in their own office to reduce resource consumption. They also work with their clients to ensure that the products they supply are durable and repairable.

 In addition, Heritage contributes to many local community environmental projects such as Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary and Emerging Green Builder's Group. Heritage is truly committed to operating an economically, environmentally and socially responsible business.

# Honourable Mention - Cathy Carolsfeld

 Cathy Carolsfeld is receiving an honourable mention for her achievements creating the 'Seaquaria in Schools' program and her dedication and enthusiasm to bringing the wonders of the marine world to schools and community events.

#### Youth/School Group - Ecole Marigold

- The environmental team at Ecole Marigold has implemented a new system for dealing with waste at the school. They promoted waste-less lunches at assemblies to encourage students to bring less garbage to school and established a recycling system for drink containers, hard and soft plastics, foil-lined bags, styrofoam and metal containers. Each classroom is also collecting compost.
- Through their efforts, Marigold was able to reduce the waste to Hartland Landfill by at least one half. Marigold students and staff deserve recognition for their environmental stewardship efforts and make us proud to have them as members of our Saanich community.

# <u>Biodiversity Conservation – Chris Bos, Barrie Goodwin and Dorothy Chambers</u>

- These three individuals give many hours of their own time on the Colquitz River and in Cuthbert Holmes Park monitoring the Coho salmon returns in the fall for Fisheries and Oceans Canada.
- Barrie and Chris have been managing the fish fence on the Colquitz for over 10 years, sometimes visiting several times a day to count and release the adult salmon. Dorothy joined them more recently and led educational tours for students through the park to see the salmon being counted by Chris and Barrie each day during the fall.
- Chris, Barrie and Dorothy are advocates for the health of our urban watersheds and the aquatic life they support. They are helping make others more aware of this precious resource.

#### Honourable Mention - Dr. Jackie Lee, Capital Cat Clinic

 Jackie Lee is receiving an honourable mention for her achievements creating habitat for the rare Western Painted Turtle at the site of the newly built Capital Cat Clinic.

#### Long Term Achievement - Rex Welland

 Rex Welland was a long term member of the Friends of Knockan Hill Park Society who, until his passing in 2008, contributed in many ways towards the environment in Saanich.

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Some of his many contributions included: serving as an enthusiastic and capable park steward; researching Knockan Hill's ecology and history, including photographs and records of natural events; constructing interpretation boards and signs for the park; posting natural history notices; organizing and participating in many invasive plant removal sessions; and conducting research and making presentations on the behaviour and significance of native bees as pollinators.

 Rex has left a lasting legacy of concern and caring for the natural environment.

#### Sustainability - Copperfield Village

- This group of homeowners organized a complete retrofit of their stormwater management system to change from an open water pond system into future wetlands. With professional advice, they installed aeration and planted native riparian plants around the three ponds.
- The retrofit has resulted in greatly improved aesthetics and water quality and has increased the available habitat and biodiversity in an urban area of the Colquitz watershed. This stormwater management system has created environmental and economic benefits for the Copperfield Village subdivision, as well as the surrounding community.

#### <u>Honourable Mention – Times Colonist</u>

 The Times Colonist is receiving an Honourable Mention for their publication of Living Green, which raises awareness and promotes sustainability in our region.

#### Minutes

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Brownoff and Seconded by Councillor Wade: "That Council adopt the minutes of the June 11, 2012 Council Meeting."

CARRIED

#### APPEALS UNDER COMMUNITY CHARTER

#### 1610-50 Tattersall Drive

# 999 TATTERSALL DRIVE - REMEDIAL ACTION ORDER - PORTABLE SHELTER

Appeal of the May 14, 2012 Council decision to impose remedial action requirements pursuant to Sections 72 and 73 of the Community Charter directing the owner to remove the portable shelter from the property.

The applicant, Mr. J. Nash of 999 Tattersall Drive stated:

- Since there are 3 shelters at the Saanich Public Works Yard similar to the shelter on his property, Saanich Council must endorse their use.
- If the municipality is allowed to use these shelters, he should be treated equally.
- At the May 14, 2012 meeting, members of Council noted that portable shelters are becoming more common.
- The response to his June 7, 2012 correspondence regarding the outcome of the May 14, 2012 meeting was insufficient.
- He has seen no opposition to this shelter in his neighbourhood.

 The 3 neighbours immediately adjacent to his property have provided letters supporting the retention of his shelter.

 A decision has not been made by an independent body whether the shelter should be identified as a structure and therefore subject to the BC Building Code.

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Gerrard: "That Council reaffirm its previous motion of May 14, 2012 to impose remedial action requirements pursuant to Sections 72 and 73 of the Community Charter to direct the owner to remove the portable shelter located in the rear yard of the lands located at 999 Tattersall Drive."

#### Councillor Derman stated:

- As mentioned at the May 14, 2012 meeting, the structure has been in fundamentally the same location for the last few years.
- An appropriate process still needs to be followed, regardless of the fact that the shelter was built from a kit and includes fabric building materials.
- The shelter does not meet setback requirements and several letters in opposition to the retention of this shelter have been received.

#### Councillor Wade stated:

- She supports the motion.
- She would expect that the structures at the Public Works Yard meet the setback and permitting requirements.

#### Councillor Gerrard stated:

- The shelter was constructed with insufficient setbacks and without any needed permits.
- He supports the motion.

#### Councillor Sanders stated:

- It would not be possible to issue a building permit for the shelter.
- She has received correspondence on the issue of portable shelters for over 2 years.
- She supports the motion.

# The Motion was then Put and CARRIED

#### **RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION**

5400-30 MFA Borrowing

# MUNICIPAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (MFA) BORROWING - 2012 FALL ISSUE

Report of the Director of Finance dated June 5, 2012 recommending Council adopt a resolution to authorize long-term borrowing through the Municipal Finance Authority for the 2012 Fall Issue.

MOVED by Councillor Wade and Seconded by Councillor Brice: "That Council approve borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia as part of their 2012 Fall Issue, \$750,000 as authorized through the following Loan Authorization Bylaw for the projects specified and that the Capital Regional District be requested to consent to our borrowing over a 15 year term and include the borrowing in their security issuing bylaw:

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Remaining Term of **Bylaw** <u>Purpose</u> <u>Authorized</u> <u>Already</u> Amt. of <u>Issue</u> <u>Issue</u> Borrowed Issue 9001 Sewer Construction \$1,500,000 \$750,000 \$750,000 \$750,000 15

CARRIED

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE

# 2200-35 Craigflower Bridge Public Art

#### CRAIGFLOWER BRIDGE PUBLIC ART

Recommendation from the April 26, 2012 Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting recommending Council approve the concept to incorporate an element of public art as part of the Craigflower Bridge project.

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Gerrard: "That Saanich Council approve in principle the concept to incorporate an element of public art as part of the Craigflower Bridge project and request that staff provide a report on the details of the funding and concept process."

#### Councillor Derman stated:

- Saanich has a policy whereby 1% of a project's budget is committed to public art; however, given that the Craigflower Bridge is a joint project with the Town of View Royal that is partially funded through a regional grant application, both the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee and the Gorge Tillicum Community Association were unsure if the usual public art process would apply to this project.
- The community would be interested in participating in establishing the parameters for the proposed public art project, given the location's significance to First Nations, to local history, and as an entrance to the municipality.
- Public art in this area will help make drivers aware that they are travelling through a neighbourhood.

# Councillor Gerrard stated:

- This area is a special gateway into Saanich and the Gorge Tillicum community.
- There is very little substantial signage at the entrance points to Saanich, while the entrance to View Royal has an attractive sign and a substantial rock wall.

#### Councillor Brownoff stated:

- She is supportive of an element of public art to the Craigflower Bridge Project. The concrete wall separating cyclists and pedestrians from vehicle traffic has great potential for public art.
- She needs clarification on the public art funding process, the projects currently identified for funding, and the uncommitted funds currently available.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Planning stated:

 The municipality has established 2 funding sources for public art; allocation from 1% of the budget for buildings and parks; and allocation of an annual amount equal to 1% of the capital budget.

 Currently, there is approximately \$90,000 in uncommitted funds available for public art.

Mayor Leonard stated that if Council approves the motion, staff would need to report back on the logistics and details of the concept.

Councillor Sanders stated:

- She too wanted clarification on the funding aspects of the concept.
- This could be a good opportunity for Planning staff to provide Council with an update on other potential public art projects.

#### The Motion was then Put and CARRIED

1410-20 Council meeting minutes	CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT (CRD) ACTIVITIES UPDATE  Council members provided updates on a variety of Capital Regional District initiatives.
Adjournment	On a motion from Councillor Brownoff, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.  The Meeting reconvened at 10:55 pm.
In Camera Motion	MOVED by Councillor Wade and Seconded by Councillor Brownoff: "That the following meeting be closed to the public as the subject matters being discussed relate to: the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the District and levels of government; labour relations; and personal information about an individual who holds or is being considered for an award."  CARRIED
Adjournment	On a motion from Councillor Murdock, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 pm.
	MAYOR
	I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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MUNICIPAL CLERK

# DISTRICT OF SAANICH MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE

**MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2012 AT 7:35 PM** 

Present: Chair: Councillor Sanders

Council: Mayor Leonard, Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Derman, Gerrard,

Murdock, Wade and Wergeland

Staff: Paul Murray, Administrator; Colin Doyle, Director of Engineering;

Sharon Hvozdanski, Director of Planning; Donna Dupas, Legislative

Manager; and Maura Jones, Senior Committee Clerk

2870-30 Oak Crest Drive

# 1535 OAK CREST DRIVE - REZONING APPLICATION - ROBERT BERNHARDT

Report of the Director of Planning dated May 16, 2012 recommending Council approve the rezoning from RS-6 to RD-1 and Development Permit DPR00500; and that prior to final reading a covenant be registered to secure the construction of the duplex to Canadian Passive House Institute Standards.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Planning stated:

- The dwelling previously located on the subject property is being relocated for reuse instead of deconstruction.
- The passive house features of the proposed dwelling would be guaranteed through the development permit and a restrictive covenant.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Engineering stated:

- The specifics of the proposed variance for the sewer and drain connection would need to be reviewed prior to approval.
- Staff members have undertaken a preliminary review of the stormwater management for the application and are satisfied that the proposal meets the requirements for treatment and attenuation.
- The BC Plumbing Code requires all buildings to be connected to an approved stormwater system; though pumping is permitted, a gravity-fed connection is preferable.

The applicant, Mr. R. Bernhardt made a presentation to Council on the reasons for this proposal, highlighting the following:

- Proximity of subject property within walking and cycling distance to neighbourhood centres;
- Stormwater management measures, including reuse of grey water:
- Support for the proposal received from many residents, though he understands the concerns that were also expressed;
- Current design responds to concerns from residents;
- Rezoning is necessary due to size restrictions on secondary suites and to permit separate finances between the owners of the potential duplex;
- Proposal will not increase traffic in the area and is not a significant increase from the size of dwelling currently permitted;

 Proposal would be the first dwelling in Greater Victoria constructed to Canadian Passive House Institute Standards;

- Passive house standards result in a significant reduction in energy use; and
- The overall cost of a passive house is competitive with conventional construction.

The architect, Mr. G. Damant made a presentation to Council highlighting the following:

- Construction standards for passive house design;
- Context of the subject property and proximity to various amenities;
- Zoning of surrounding properties;
- Subject property is almost 19,000 square feet, 3 times larger than the minimum size for an RS-6 lot;
- Design of the proposed duplex with regards to sloping terrain of subject property;
- 2 car garage and additional on-site parking provided;
- Measures for stormwater management including infiltration zones, cisterns and pumps;
- Size and layout of the proposed duplex units; and
- Context elevation drawings showing the design and appearance of the proposed duplex.

# In response to questions from Council, Mr. Damant

- If the garage is included, the RS-6 zone allows for a maximum of 360 square metres. The proposed duplex is 420 square metres in size, a difference of 60 square metres.
- Though consideration was given to constructing a single family dwelling with a secondary suite, the Building Code restricts the size of the suite to 90 square metres which will not meet the family's requirements.
- Without the wall thickness required for passive house design, the overall size of the proposed duplex could be reduced to 360 square metres.
- The measures proposed for stormwater management were meant to strike a balance between the infiltration needs of the existing Garry Oaks and the concerns expressed by neighbouring residents.
- Detention for stormwater on the front section of the property can be considered if the application proceeds to Public Hearing.

#### The owners, Mr. M. Bernhardt and Ms. J. Bernhardt stated:

- A public consultation meeting was held with the Camosun Community Association on January 6, 2012, to which residents within 100 metres of the subject property were invited.
- The response to the initial meeting was mostly positive with some concerns raised regarding the zoning process.
- The community association's February 10, 2012 correspondence indicated their support for the project.
- A survey of 62 residents conducted by the community association found that only 14 residents expressed concerns with the proposal.

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 Of the 14 concerned survey respondents, 9 were concerned that the rezoning would set a precedent supporting future duplexes on Oak Crest Drive; however, it is his understanding that each rezoning application is to be considered on an individual basis.

- The second most common concern was with traffic and parking. The proposed duplex will not produce additional traffic beyond what is already permitted under the zoning and the proposal includes on-site parking.
- The residents' petition in opposition to the proposal appears to be based on misinformation. After circulating Saanich's planning report on the application, the number of concerns was greatly reduced.
- A rezoning application was the best way to address the issues of internal space allocation and separate finances.

#### Mr. L. Netter, 1541 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- Many of the residents in the neighbourhood oppose the rezoning.
- The opposition is to the duplex, not the passive house or multigenerational family environment.
- The neighbourhood character includes small houses with well-kept gardens and lots of community spirit.
- There is an array of generations living together in this neighbourhood; seniors and children use the streets as pedestrians.
- There has been a noticeable increase in traffic over the last 2 years and there is a concern that the duplex would create more traffic and parking issues.
- Sustainability is an important issue, but he does not see why it is necessary to have a duplex in order to construct a passive house. A duplex is not necessary to have multi-generational family environment.
- This duplex is not in keeping with the neighbourhood character and quality, as identified in the Shelbourne Local Area Plan.
- Oak Crest Drive is not located within the major centres identified in the Shelbourne Valley for increased density.

# In response to questions from Council, Mr. Netter stated:

- The suites in this area typically are used by single individuals, most of whom do not have vehicles.
- If there are problems with a suite, the neighbouring residents can easily contact the owner; a duplex would result in twice the potential for conflict over rental issues.

# Mr. J. Reynolds, 1516 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- Both he and his wife are opposed to the rezoning.
- Oak Crest Drive is a narrow street with no sidewalks or curbs, which is well used by both children and seniors.
- He is concerned that the proposal will increase traffic and parking issues in the area, especially since the subject property has a relatively narrow frontage.
- This application does not fit the standards and quality of life already established in this neighbourhood.

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- The existing dwellings in this area are well kept; redevelopment is not necessary.
- The location and shape of the site make it problematic for a duplex.

#### Ms. H. Henderson, owner of 1547 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- She vehemently opposes the rezoning.
- A duplex is not appropriate for a narrow street like Oak Crest Drive.
- When moving to a new area, it is best to try and fit in with the existing neighbourhood.
- The passive home design could work within the existing size constraints of the current zoning.

#### Mr. T. Henderson, to be resident at 1547 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- He is looking forward to moving to a friendly and youthful community.
- The application could lead to more rezonings in the area, which would impact the neighbourhood and diminish that sense of community.

# Mr. T. Ely stated:

- As a civil engineer, he has undertaken many energy assessments.
- He is excited with the possibility that Saanich could have a passive house.
- This project could be used as an example of how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- The proposed duplex has the appearance of a single family dwelling.
- Each rezoning application should be considered separately, so precedent should not be a concern.

#### Mr. J. Ho, geography student at the University of Victoria, stated:

- He supports the rezoning.
- The application would benefit the surrounding community and highlight the need for sustainable housing within the entire region.
- The architecture and design of the proposal exceeds the current neighbourhood sustainability standards, and could encourage the use of alternative transportation.
- Rezoning is necessary to fulfill the design specifications of this project.
- Considering the size of the subject property, a relatively small increase in size is supportable.
- The garage and additional parking are out of view of neighbouring properties.
- This project poses no threat to neighbourhood character and density and it is in keeping with Saanich's Official Community Plan.
- Saanich has the opportunity to become a leader in residential sustainable development within the region.

# Mr. P. Henderson, to be resident at 1547 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- He opposes the application.
- The passive house concept is not a problem, but the rezoning to a duplex is a concern.

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 Though increasing density can be beneficial, the existing roads in this neighbourhood could not accommodate an increase in traffic.

#### Reverend W. Perry, 3811 Synod Road stated:

- There are many supportable elements to this application.
- Multi-generational living helps create a greater sense of community.
- This application is an opportunity for Saanich to be a leader in environmental sustainability and community-building.
- It is very challenging to afford a home in this region and this application is an example of how that can be achieved.

# Mr. W. Lloyd, 1506 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- He strongly values cycling in this neighbourhood.
- The project has not sufficiently addressed parking issues. Oak Crest Drive is very challenging to navigate if there are any vehicles parking on the street.
- As a result of a neighbouring resident installing a cistern, his property required \$25,000 of remediation to address the subsequent issues; if infiltration does not work, the results can be problematic.

Mr. R. Walker, speaking on behalf of his parents, Mr. R. Walker and Ms. L. Walker at 1583 Sonria Place, stated:

- Drainage at 1583 Sonria Place has been very problematic and needs to be addressed.
- Cisterns and rain gardens could be supportable if they sufficiently address the current drainage issues.

#### Ms. N. Issenman, 1539 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- Oak Crest Drive is a very narrow road.
- She is not concerned with the passive house concept or the multigenerational living proposed.
- The proposed rezoning could set a precedent for future duplexes and there is a potential for suites within the duplex units as well.
- She questions what will prevent future owners of the subject property from constructing an even larger duplex.
- Consideration should be given to a compromise such as a variance that would provide sufficient space for the upper unit to be identified as a secondary suite within a single family dwelling.

Ms. M. Coil, speaking on behalf of her mother, Ms. E. Williams of 1560 Knight Avenue, stated:

- Her mother loves this community and supports environmental sustainability.
- This issue has been very divisive to the neighbourhood.
- The reasoning for this application is not acceptable and is out of keeping with the character of the neighbourhood.
- Her mother sees this application as precedent-setting and "block busting"; safety for pedestrians is also an issue.
- The consultation process has not been transparent or professional.
- The comments and minutes from the Camosun Community Association did not accurately reflect the residents' strong concerns to the application.

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#### Mr. C. Johnston, 1531 Oak Crest Drive stated:

He is very impressed with the proposed design.

 He has a respectful and cordial relationship with the owners of subject property; however, if the property is sold, he will have different neighbours and will still be located beside a rezoned lot.

# Ms. C. Bohne, 1541 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- She and her partner share the Bernhardts' passion for sustainability and energy conservation.
- The average dwelling on Oak Crest Drive is approximately 1500 square feet and any secondary suites are typically used by students, which impacts the number of vehicles using the street.
- Though the correspondence from the Bernhardts dated April 15, 2012 indicated that the duplex would be 100 square feet larger than permitted under existing zoning, figures from the planning report indicate that the difference would be approximately 650 square feet.
- It is unclear if the rezoning request is based on the sustainable design or the desire for a dwelling that is 20% larger than the current zoning allows.
- She is concerned with the potential precedent set by this application.
- Of the 38 properties on Oak Crest Drive, 28 exceed the minimum size requirements for RS-6 zoning.
- The application is consistent with Saanich's parking requirements, but traffic on Oak Crest Drive is much less than in other areas of the municipality. If this property was sold, it could result in an increase of vehicle parking in the area.
- The subject property has a very narrow frontage and is located in the curve of the road.
- She can understand the argument for affordable housing, but believes that there is a commercial element to this proposal.

#### Ms. S. Bellingham, 1526 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- She likes the proposed design and can understand the need for a substantial secondary suite.
- A rezoning should not be necessary in order to construct a substantial suite for a multi-generational dwelling.
- It is not clear why the proponents cannot construct a dwelling within the parameters of the existing zoning.
- She has concerns that the current design could be altered after the rezoning was approved.

#### Ms. B. Stenning, 1520 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- Her husband is not opposed to the application.
- She is not opposed to the design, which is in context with the neighbourhood.
- She spoke to the applicants in regards to her concerns with the potential impact on pedestrians from an increase in traffic.
- She understands the value of a multi-generational household.
- She is concerned that rezoning to a duplex will reduce surrounding property values and could set a precedent.

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#### Mr. N. Thomas, 1518 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- He is not opposed to the energy efficient design, but he is concerned with the proposed duplex.
- Drainage is an issue for both his and the neighbouring properties.

# Mr. C. Lynch, 1546 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- He does not oppose the rezoning, just the potential increase in traffic.
- There are no sightlines around the curve in Oak Crest Drive.
- It is very appealing to have a new and ground-breaking development, but he hopes that would not be sufficient reason to support a rezoning application.
- Most of the enthusiastic support for this application comes from speakers that do not reside in the neighbourhood.
- Due consideration needs to be given to the safety issues with respect to this application.

# Mr. A. Fox, 3319 Fircrest Place stated:

- Traffic is very problematic in his area.
- The owners should be able to build a dwelling that meets the requirements of the RS-6 zone.

#### Mr. D. Weinberger, 1545 Oak Crest Drive stated:

- He has concerns with the proposed rezoning of the subject property to a duplex.
- A variance or change to the appropriate bylaws should be considered to allow the applicants to construct the proposed dwelling.

In response to questions from the public and Council, the Director of Planning stated:

- The maximum dwelling size permitted under RS-6 is 310 square metres.
- The form and character of the proposed duplex would be secured through the requirements of the development permit. A restrictive covenant is registered on the title and would remain with the title unless a formal Council process with neighbourhood consultation is undertaken.
- Secondary suites are not permitted in duplexes.

#### MOTION

MOVED by Councillor Derman and Seconded by Councillor Wergeland: "That a Public Hearing be called to further consider the rezoning application on Parcel A of Lot 14, Block 1, Section 36, Victoria District, Plan 7977 (1535 Oak Crest Drive)."

#### Councillor Derman stated:

- This is obviously a contentious issue, as residents are concerned with neighbourhood character.
- The current zoning for this and most other properties in this area would allow for construction of a dwelling twice the average size of the existing houses, without any input from Council.

 The rezoning process allows for greater input from Council with respect to the form and character of a proposed dwelling.

Calming measures can best address traffic issues.

# Councillor Wergeland stated:

- Most speakers were not concerned with the increased size of the proposed duplex, but rather with the proposed rezoning. The current zoning has the potential to cause greater change to the neighbourhood than the rezoning process.
- He cannot see how the proposed duplex would have a greater impact than a single family dwelling with a suite. Height, traffic, number of residents, and parking would all be comparable.
- The frontage of the subject property is similar to many other lots in the area and the proposed driveway provides for additional parking.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Engineering stated:

- Traffic calming has not yet been considered for this area.
- Though consideration could be given to traffic calming measures, the street is already very narrow.
- It is his understanding that stormwater overflowing the infiltration areas would be pumped into the storm drain system.

In response to questions from Council, the Director of Planning stated:

- A minimum lot size of 728 square metres is required to even consider a rezoning application from RS-6 to duplex use.
- If the application proceeds to Public Hearing, she can provide information with respect to the number of lots in this neighbourhood that meet the minimum size requirements for a duplex.

#### Councillor Gerrard stated:

- A fairly substantial dwelling could be constructed under the existing RS-6 zoning to accommodate 2 families.
- Most successful duplexes are located on a corner or intersection which allows for 2 separate entrances while giving an appearance of a single family dwelling. The subject property is located in the sharp bend of a narrow street with no sidewalks, which could present safety issues.
- All of the signatories of the petition in opposition to the proposed duplex were in close proximity to the subject property.

#### Councillor Brice stated:

- Though she generally supports duplexes as a means to densify and maintain ownership, the subject property is too narrow and is located on a bend in the road which makes it unsuitable for a duplex.
- At tonight's meeting, the public has already shared their concerns with respect to the application and the majority of speakers were in opposition.
- The multi-generational and financial concerns of the applicants are not relevant to the land use issue.

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#### Councillor Wade stated:

 A passive house would be a great addition to Saanich and multigenerational households are of course excellent; however, it is not clear why a duplex is necessary to accomplish these goals.

- Many of the arguments in support of this rezoning are to permit 2 families to share the duplex, but this may not be the case in the future.
- Sufficient rational has not been presented for rezoning, especially as the community is not in support.

#### Councillor Murdock stated:

- It has been to Council's benefit to hear from the public on this application, given that there are many apparent benefits to the proposal such as additional affordable housing stock and proximity to various amenities.
- Though he is very enthusiastic about the concept of a passive house, the subject property is not in an ideal location for a duplex; corner lots are preferable as they have less impact on the existing neighbourhood.

#### Councillor Brownoff stated:

- Though the passive house is a great concept, she has concerns with the sightlines from the subject property which is located at a curve in the road. Other duplexes have only been constructed on the periphery of this area.
- The proposed design does give the appearance of a single family home instead of a duplex.
- Under the current zoning, a single family dwelling could be constructed that would result in more vehicles.

#### Mayor Leonard stated:

- A mid-block duplex which has opposition from the immediate neighbours is unlikely to succeed.
- The environmental and social issues discussed with respect to the application are typically addressed once the land use has been determined.
- The proposed duplex is larger than permitted under the current zoning; separating the units vertically instead of horizontally might cause issues in the future.

The Motion was then Put and DEFEATED Mayor Leonard and Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Gerrard, Murdock, and Wade opposed

MOVED by Mayor Leonard and Seconded by Councillor Gerrard: "That the rezoning application on Parcel A of Lot 14, Block 1, Section 36, Victoria District, Plan 7977 (1535 Oak Crest Drive) be rejected."

**CARRIED** 

**Councillors Derman and Wergeland opposed** 

Adjournment On a motion from Coun	cillor Wade, the meeting adjourned at 10:54 pm.
	CHAIR
	I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate