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North West Planning Advisory Committee – January 6, 2021

<u>Case 22980</u> - Amendment to an Existing Development Agreement for Amesbury Gate, West Bedford

Development Agreement Application Submitted Amendment Process HRM Internal Circulation & Review Public Information Meeting Planning Advisory **Committee Meeting** We are here Plan Revisions & Refinement Staff Report with Policy **Review & Recommendation Community Council** Hearing & Decision 14 Day Appeal Period

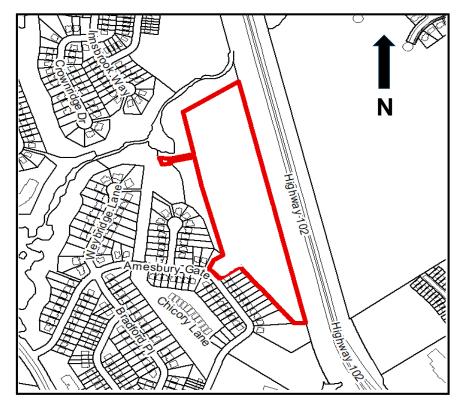
Applicant Proposal

<u>Applicant</u>: West Bedford Holdings Limited

Location: PID 41470741 (no civic address), Amesbury Gate, West Bedford

<u>Zone:</u> Bedford West Comprehensive Development District in the Bedford Plan Area

<u>Proposal</u>: Substitute 21 townhouses for an apartment building allowed by the existing development agreement



Subject site outlined in red



Site Context Amesbury Gate, West Bedford



General site location

Site boundaries in red



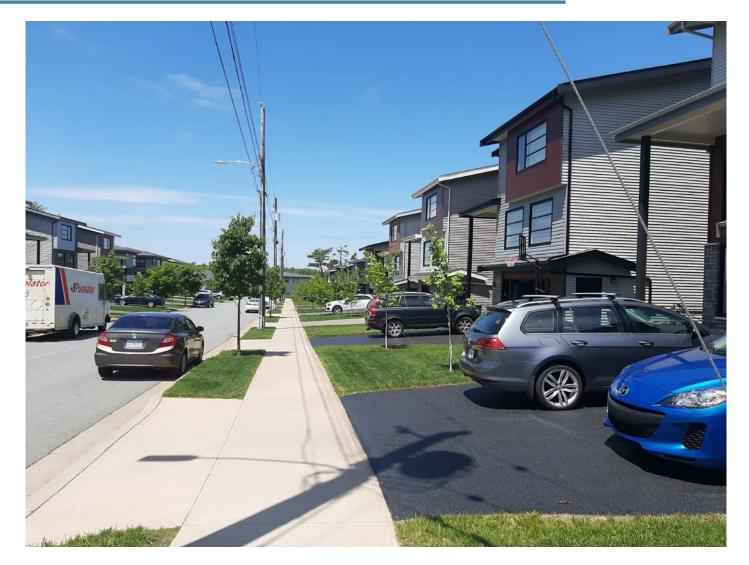
Site Context



Subject site seen from Amesbury Gate



Site Context



Neighbourhood context – Amesbury Gate

What is a Development Agreement?

- A binding legal contract between a property owner and HRM;
- Regulates permitted uses, site plan, architecture, landscaping, infrastructure and similar matters;
- Replaces the requirements of the Land Use By-law;
- There usually are separate development agreements for individual properties;
- Must be "enabled" by the Municipal Planning Strategy not always possible;
- Can be approved by Community Council if it is "reasonably consistent with the Municipal Planning Strategy";

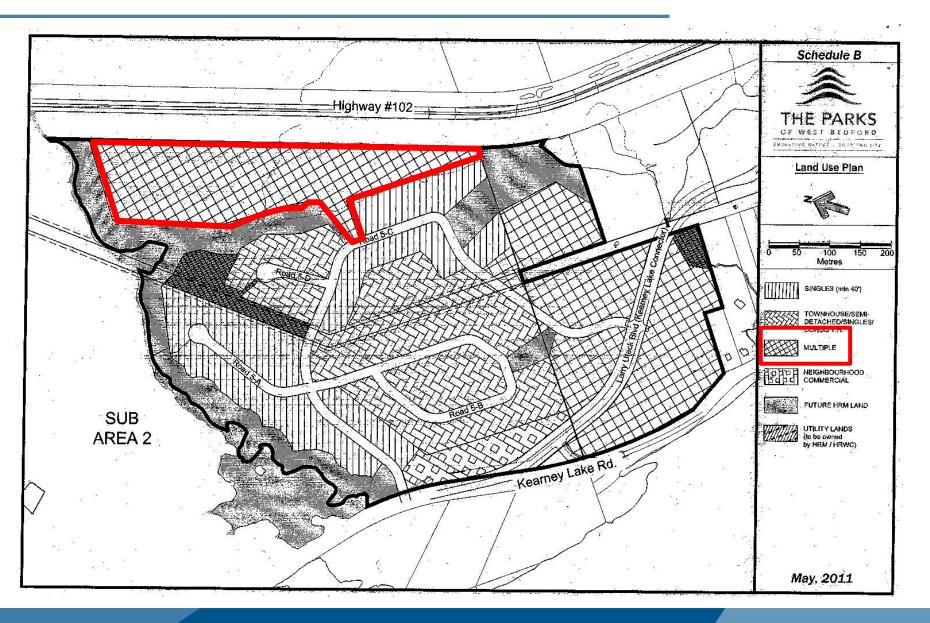
What is a Comprehensive Development District (CDD)?

- A CDD is a zone that requires planning at a neighbourhood level:
 - A development agreement is applied to an entire neighbourhood, not to an individual property;
 - The comprehensive development agreement is applied before any development takes place;
 - An approved CDA can be amended by community council, after a public process like this one;
- Several plan areas in HRM include CDDs;
- Subject site is within the Bedford West Comprehensive Development District;

Existing Development Agreement

- North West Community Council approved a comprehensive development agreement (CDA) for this neighbourhood in 2012;
- The 2012 CDA approved street layouts, the location of parkland and trails, and permitted land uses in this part of Bedford West (Sub Area 2);
- Permitted land uses include:
 - o Apartments;
 - Townhouses and condominium townhouses;
 - Single unit dwellings; and
 - Parks, trails and open spaces.
- Approved two 6-storey apartment buildings for the subject site;

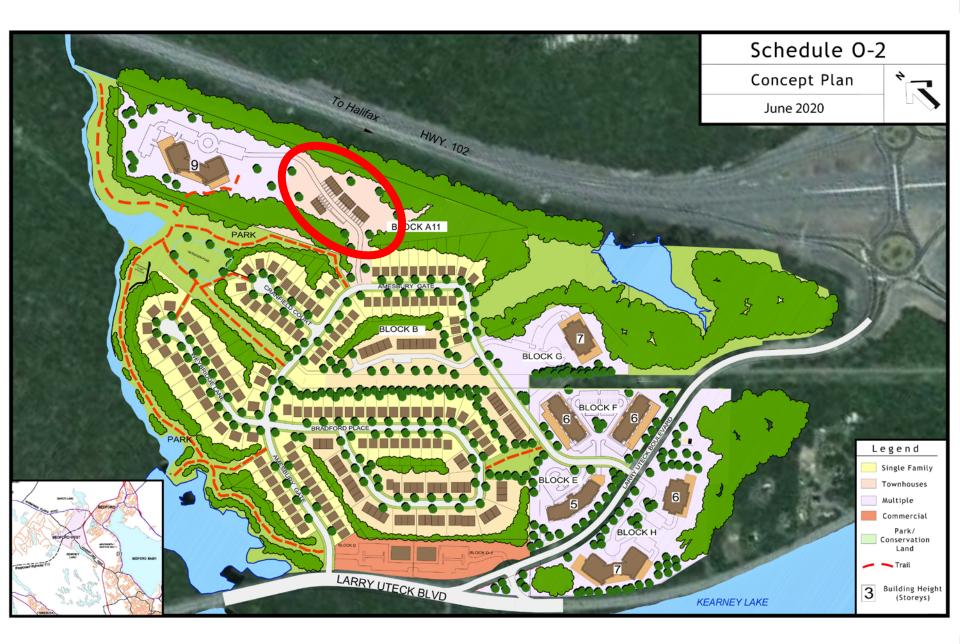
Existing Development Agreement (2012)



Proposed changes

- 1. Substitute 21 townhouses for one of the apartment buildings;
 - The second apartment building would not change;
- 2. Change some of the design requirements for the townhouses:
 - Remove the requirement for individual driveways and garages;
 - Reduce the minimum permitted width for each townhouse from 20 to 16 feet;





Policy & By-law Overview

Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy – Bedford Municipal Planning Strategy

• Zone

- Bedford West Comprehensive Development District (BWCDD)
- No development permitted without a development agreement
- Designation
 - Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy
- Existing Use
 - o Vacant
- Current Permitted Use
 - Two apartment buildings



Policy Considerations

The Bedford West Secondary Planning Strategy requires the NWCC to consider the following in making their decision on a development agreement or an amendment to an existing development agreement:

- Demand on municipal services (e.g. water, sanitary, streets);
- Facilitating a variety of housing types;
- That land uses are responsive to any unique characteristics in the subarea;
- That residential density is no more than 6 dwelling units per acre throughout the entire sub-area;
- That the street and trail networks facilitate pedestrian travel; and
- That land uses and community design promote a sense of community.

Public Engagement Feedback

- Level of engagement completed was consultation achieved through a mail out notification, newspaper ad and a virtual public information meeting held on December 10, 2020;
- Feedback from the community generally included the following:
 O Clarification on the process;
 - Concern that sufficient parking be provided on site;
 - Requests that trees on the site be maintained as much as possible;



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Thank You

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