LOC2023-0359 Viscount Bennett Submission August 29, 2024

Overall, we are opposed to the submission.

The submission itself is rather helter-skelter, lacking in detail and sufficient background information. The circulation package we received consists of 5 pages, one of which is an Outline Plan? As a result, we find it very difficult to properly evaluate and comment on the proposal at this time.

However, we offer the following comments regarding the key elements.

1 Engagement- woeful and inadequate. We have and continue to refer to the RB Bennett Project as a model of a proper process. We have communicated this to the File Manager and Minto (inwriting) regarding our expectations-

Also on engagement, the community organizes and hosted a planning workshop in June because Minto wouldn't do this. This was an all-day session attended by 35 members of the community several of whom were from neighbouring communities. The session resulted in producing 4 redevelopment options. It was conducted by 4 professional planners. We are in the final stages of preparing a report. We plan to follow-up with a second session the condense the 4 options into a single option in the near future.

- 2 Comprehensive Planning Site This project was identified in the Westbrook LAP as a Comprehensive Planning Site because of its importance and complexity. This designation requires that the planning process is done to a higher standard than what is normally required. It also a requirement that an Outline Plan/Master Plan be produced. The Planning Team determined that an Outline Plan must be done. The Outline Plan is one page which hardly meets the requirement.
- 3 Density far too much density for this site and location particularly given the site is effectively at a dead end with only one way in and one way out. The current proposal of 1500 plus units is approximately 150 Units Per Acre (UPA). What we're looking for is approximately 40 UPA (plus or minus). This is the level of density discussed in the MDP for an established neighborhood. See RB Bennett with a UPA range of 34 to 48 UPA

The unit counts needs to be capped and tied to land use designations. This is the number the city uses to evaluate the project and is the number for discussion. This can't be open to

major changes at the DP stage as there is no requirement for further evaluation by the city or discussion with the community. We have 2 current projects where a plan was submitted and now the applicant wants to significantly increase the unit count. The two are Rutland Park- 60% increase and Glenmore Landing – near doubling from 4200 units to 8,000 units.

There needs to be certainty in terms of what's being built and therefore evaluated. This can't be open ended and left to the DP stage where there are no requirements for evaluation and engagement. There is a lack of trust in the community that the developers will adhere to generalized density estimates if not strictly & explicitly limited at this stage.

4 Build Form- need to match and follow MDP- low rise, low density development with maximum height of 16 meters and buildings of 4 or 5 stories. We have attached the Proposed and Land Use Plan- Highlights from the RB Bennett Plan.

Link: RB_Bennett_Open_House_24x36_2024-06-19-For_Website__1-compressed.pdf

5 Green space- need large contiguous space fronting on 2 roadways. The proposed 1 acre park is not adequate and the location is bad-safety issues with traffic at a major intersection and significant elevation change in a north/south direction in the northwest. This site currently has approximately 9 acres of open space of which about 6 is green space. It is proposed that there be a space of approximately 4 acres (30+ percent of the site) be located in the south west corner of the site which is flat and easily accessible area which contains a hill which has been used for tobogganing. RB Bennett has exactly this form of green space which is 31% of the site. And yes, it is possible for the city to make this happen. The city could purchase 3 acres, probably at a cost of several million dollars. This amount is relatively insignificant when compared to the value of the project which will be many hundreds of millions of dollars. This would also comply with the metric of 2 Hectare per thousand people as stated in the MDP. It would provide less than half the open space that exists today and would be a huge benefit to both the community and the residents of the project. The SW location includes the extensively used hill (tobogganing) while the rest of the site could be used the way it is with little or no work. It is currently a football field, including goal posts. See RB Bennett slide.

6 Transportation -serious concerns regarding volumes, dated state of existing roadways, upgrades for significant increases in volumes, base level calculations, parking issues, traffic flow, etc. We have several pages of questions that were unanswered as of Aug 27 that we hope will be addressed in the next week.

7 Infrastructure Looking for a better understanding of the state and capacity of existing infrastructure, in particular water and sewer. We would like to know effective capacity of

the 75 year old pipes & their increased likelihood of failure when thousands of new residents begin using them. We have requested additional information on Aug 27.

In summary, we don't believe there has been good compliance with the requirements of the Feb 8, 2024 DTR and that the planning team needs insure that there is a proper response to all the questions that were raised.

There is work to be done before this can proceed to CPC.