

## 2.0. DEVELOPMENT PERMIT AREA 1: NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL

### 2.1 PURPOSE OF DESIGNATION CATEGORY

Pursuant to subsection 919.1(f) of the Local Government Act, the purpose of this designation is to establish objectives for the form and character of commercial, industrial or multi-family residential development.

### 2.2 JUSTIFICATION

Much of the developable land in the City is devoted to residential neighbourhoods comprised of a range of single and multi-family housing, as well as small-scale commercial uses, and community facilities such as schools, churches and public recreation facilities. Although these neighbourhoods differ in age, character, and rate of development, there are a number of common objectives for all neighbourhoods of Port Moody.

These common objectives are:

- to ensure that developments are compatible in scale, form and character with existing development, or with the desired future development plans for the particular neighbourhood
- to encourage developments to preserve and enhance the special natural, historical or aesthetic features which help define the identity of the area
- to provide ease of access for all Port Moody residents, regardless of physical capabilities
- to ensure that, where necessary, the design of development creates a suitable transition between adjacent differing land uses or residential densities
- to ensure that multi-family development is designed so as to provide the features and amenities suitable for the needs of residents expected to reside in these developments.

These objectives provide the basis for a set of design guidelines to be applied to all multi-family residential, commercial, and community/public uses within DPA 1. As shown in Schedule 1, DPA 1 includes all the existing and planned residential neighbourhoods in the City, except for several residential areas within Moody Centre (which fall within DPA 2), Inlet Centre (DPA 3) and those areas under the jurisdiction of the North Shore Development Authorization (NSDA). It is intended that the areas lying within DPA 1 remain or are developed predominantly for residential use. In addition to residential development, complementary land uses traditionally found in local residential neighbourhoods will appear in these areas.

## 2.3 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL USES

### 2.3.1 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Specific standards for development have been established in the City of Port Moody Zoning and Subdivision Bylaws, and through other pertinent development controls. Reference should be made to City bylaws in all cases.

### 2.3.2 FORM AND CHARACTER OF DEVELOPMENT

#### **(a) Building materials**

Building materials should be residential in character, including materials for siding, roofs, and other external details. Exterior materials which are considered acceptable include wood, standard dimension brick, stone, smooth finish stucco with wood highlights, and siding which simulates a wood appearance.

Materials such as reflective glass, metal sheeting and fiberglass are not acceptable.

Roof materials should be limited to wood shingles, architectural asphalt shingles, similar in colour to wood, or other materials which accomplish the same objectives of colour and texture. Terra cotta or clay may be used as a roof material in smaller residential developments, where it can be demonstrated that the roof style is compatible with the building and also with the character of the area for which it is proposed.

Concrete block of any type is not to be used as a primary exterior building material, although it is acceptable for building foundations and retaining walls when it is finished with stucco (or another suitable finishing material), or when textured concrete blocks are used. Lock blocks are not acceptable under any circumstances.

Exposed concrete foundation and retaining walls should be finished with:

- brick
- paint
- sandblasting
- applied stucco
- reveals
- exposed aggregate finish, and/or
- camouflaged with adequate landscaping.

#### **(b) Building colours**

Building colours should reflect the common colour palette of the surrounding area. Traditional tones such as muted tones of green, brown, gray, beige, sepia, ochre and yellow are encouraged. Bright, acid, or strong primary colours are not acceptable. The number of exterior building colours on any one building should be limited to no more than three (3). Additional colours should be used only as accents or trim.

Where a number of buildings comprise a single development, any variation in colour among the buildings should contribute to an integrated appearance for the development.

Other site improvements such as accessory buildings, fencing, signage, and railings should be compatible with the colour scheme of the site's principal building(s).

#### **(c) Compatible elevations**

Any building elevations which are visible from an adjacent public roadway should have their building face remain compatible with the front elevation. This includes foundations, building walls, roof materials and roof lines.

#### **(d) Rooflines**

Buildings with a pitched roofline will have a minimum slope of 5 in 12. The pitched roof should extend for the full length of the building, and may include false mansards or parapets. Flat rooflines should be embellished with accents, cornices/dentils, decorative bands, or special treatment of eaves in order to relieve the visual monotony of a flat roofline.

Larger residential buildings should achieve a varied roofline which complements surrounding rooflines and any natural backdrop, and be designed so as to break up massing blocks into individual components by means of, for example, hipped and gable roof forms, mansards, and turrets.

#### **(e) Facades**

Building faces should provide visual interest by means of articulation of surfaces, fenestration, vertical elements, changes in material/colours, and creative design of balconies.

#### **(f) Bird friendly design**

Light pollution reduction techniques should be used to reduce light trespass from buildings and sites and its impact on the nocturnal environment. Examples of such techniques include the installation of lighting which projects downward thereby reducing spill lighting; treating glass with a visual marker to reduce glass reflection; and employing bird friendly site ventilation grates. For a comprehensive listing of bird friendly design guidelines, please see City of Toronto Green Development Standard, Bird Friendly Design Guidelines, March 2007.

#### **(g) Incorporating natural systems**

Where possible, buildings should be designed to incorporate natural systems in place of mechanical equipment e.g. sunlight and wind patterns could be used to improve internal illumination and ventilation for occupants while reducing energy consumption. Existing vegetation should be preserved and landscape features incorporated to moderate temperature extremes and maintain or enhance the natural drainage pattern.

#### **(h) Children's play area**

Residential developments which include family-oriented housing are encouraged to provide an outdoor play area on-site for children. This area should be located so that it receives surveillance from several units, and where possible is a safe distance from areas of vehicle parking or circulation, or where this is not possible, fenced.

Children's play areas should be designed so as to provide:

- seating for supervising adults
- play activity equipment
- for separation of play areas for pre-school and older children, if possible.

#### **(h) Parking areas**

Where required off-street parking is provided at grade, it should be located to the rear of the building(s), wherever possible, and preferably enclosed within a structure. Surface parking may not be accommodated between the property line and the front face of the building where a pedestrian environment is intended. When it is necessary that surface parking be located along a pedestrian walkway, or roadway, it should be adequately screened by solid fencing or landscaping, or a combination of the two.

#### **(i) Surface parking**

Surface parking areas should be paved, appropriately marked, and drained. The use of a variety of paving materials is encouraged for internal roadways and pedestrian pathways. Large expanses of pavement using a single paving material are to be avoided, and to this end, will require landscaping and/or other treatment (e.g., pavers, stamped concrete, concrete bands). Materials and treatments such as grasscrete and paving stones are encouraged to increase permeability and reduce the impact of surface parking.

#### **(j) Screening of utility/garbage areas**

Garbage/recycling containers, utility boxes, fans, vents and unenclosed outdoor storage areas should be located at the rear of buildings and screened from public view. This can be accomplished by a solid or lattice wood fence which features landscaping along its perimeter.

#### **(k) Fencing**

Any fencing on site should be wood, standard dimension brick, ornamental metal work, or a combination of these materials. Chain-link fencing is not generally acceptable as perimeter fencing for any residential site. However, residential sites abutting a public pathway, ravine, or greenbelt area may use chain-link perimeter fencing, or bollard fencing, when such fencing is appropriately coloured, and of a design that is compatible with a residential context.

During a construction phase, any chain-link fencing used should be camouflaged with wood panels if the construction period is to exceed six (6) months.

**(l) Transition areas**

Multi-family residential developments abutting single-family houses should strive to achieve a “soft edge” transition between the two uses, where it is anticipated that the single-family housing will remain over time. This can be accomplished by a variety of means such as rooflines, building heights, and building materials.

**(m) Design repetition**

The foregoing guidelines are intended, in part, to ensure visual interest and diversity along the block fronts in multi-family residential areas. To this same end, designs for multi-family residential buildings which demonstrate identical or fundamentally similar building elevations should not appear within two (2) standard-size blocks of one another within this DPA. To be different means to demonstrate a significant change in features such as roof slopes, size and location of windows and doors, colours and finish materials. A change of colours or materials alone, or reversing the plan layout, is not sufficient.

2.3.3 LANDSCAPING

**(a) Natural landscape areas**

Residential development which occurs adjacent, or in proximity, to areas of natural landscape should reflect a combination of both natural and urban treatments. Wherever possible, pockets of natural landscaping reflecting the vegetation heritage of the area should be maintained or installed in appropriate locations so as to provide visual relief in the surrounding built environment. Compliance with the City’s Naturescape Policy is required.

**(b) Landscape groundcovers**

Areas of a multi-family site not developed with hard surfaces should be landscaped with solid landscaping of ground covers, shrubs and similar planting. Extensive use of mulches, gravel, artificial turf or other similar types of soft materials as the primary ground cover is not acceptable.

**(c) Interplanting for expanses of paved areas**

Areas of a multi-family site which are paved should have clusters of trees and/or other landscaping installed or use alternate materials such as stamped concrete or unit pavers, in order to break the image of any extensive hard surface. Such landscaping is required for large outdoor parking areas, or paved outdoor recreation/amenity areas.

**(d) Conservation of mature vegetation**

The retention of mature vegetation on site is encouraged for all new development and redevelopment. Where retention cannot be achieved, replanting with appropriate tree species and other vegetation will be required. All plantings will be of a quality and specifications acceptable to the City.

**(e) Buffering**

Landscaped screening should be provided between all multi-family development and adjacent single-family houses which share a common property line.

**(f) Landscape screening and fencing**

All residential areas should be screened with landscaping, fencing, berming, or a combination thereof, from arterial roads and other major transportation corridors. The screening will be designed to restrict traffic noise and prevent vehicle headlight intrusion into residential units, as well as to prevent visual intrusion from passing vehicles.

**(g) Amenities**

All common outdoor areas on-site should be landscaped and provided with seating.

**(h) Landscaping materials**

Where wood is used for landscaping, squared or rounded timber ties of a minimum dimension of 4 x 4 inches in size should be used.

**(i) Signage**

Signage should be structurally integrated into the design of buildings. The location of signage should be shown at the time of the Development Permit application. Signage design submitted later for municipal review should clearly demonstrate all signage as being architecturally compatible with the building(s), and with the surrounding area for which it is proposed.

Building and site signage should be of a type which is compatible with a residential area. Indirect illumination of signs is acceptable, but the signage should be softly lit, and integrated into the overall design of the building and site.

Free-standing signage will be limited to a height of approximately 1.8m (6 ft.). The base of the sign should be surrounded by landscaping such as grass, shrubs or flowers.

2.3.4 LIVABILITY

**(a) Siting**

All buildings should be located or configured so as to:

- maximize natural light penetration into dwelling units and corridors/stairwells
- minimize shadow impacts upon adjacent sites and upon common outdoor areas of the subject site
- create or maintain view corridors from the subject site
- maintain a spatial separation that maximizes privacy for all dwelling units on the site.

**(b) Balconies/Decks**

All multi-family dwelling units should be provided with private outdoor space in the form of decks, patios, and/or balconies. Wherever possible, balconies should be a minimum dimension of 1.8m (6 ft.) by 2.4m (8 ft.). Ground-level private outdoor areas should exceed this minimum, wherever possible.

Screening by means of fencing, landscaping, or both, will be provided between ground-level private outdoor spaces.

Balconies sharing a common flank will be provided with a separation of some screening material which provides each balcony with visual privacy.

**(c) Dwelling unit entranceways**

Outdoor private entrances to multi-family townhouse units should be screened/landscaped in a way that will provide privacy while still allowing sufficient visibility for security considerations.

Within a development, privacy conflicts are to be reduced by means of careful orientation of windows and balconies, and the use of privacy screening to prevent unnecessary visual intrusion.

**(d) Bicycle Storage**

Appropriately located secured storage areas for bicycles are encouraged.

**(e) Lighting**

Lighting of walkways and common entrances on-site will be sufficient to provide residents and visitors with a sense of personal safety and ease.

**(f) Crime prevention**

Guidelines for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) should be followed.

2.3.5 CIRCULATION AND ACCESS

**(a) Treatment of internal circulation routes**

Surface materials and landscaping are to be used for both vehicular and pedestrian circulation on-site in such a manner that entranceways to the site, and important site elements are highlighted, and that public circulation areas are clearly differentiated from private and semi-private areas.

**(b) Universal accessibility**

Wherever possible, all common areas of a multi-family development site are to be accessible to persons with physical disabilities. To this end, all site furnishings such as lighting, bollards, signage, guardrails and seating are to be located so as to not impede easy passage for persons in a wheelchair or persons who are visually impaired.

**(c) Access to natural amenity areas**

Wherever development occurs adjacent to a public greenbelt, ravine, watercourse or other natural amenity, a pathway or other means of access from the subject site to these areas should be provided. Bollard fencing should be used to delineate the public green areas from private development.

**(d) Lighting**

On site lighting of walkways, parking lots, common areas, and public entranceways should be accomplished by means of lamp standards or light bollards which contribute to a consistency in design character throughout the site, and with the adjacent public street lighting, wherever possible.

Site lighting shall be of a design which prevents “light-spill” onto adjacent properties, and into the bedroom areas of dwelling units on the site.

**(e) Vehicular access**

Vehicular access to underground parking, loading, and service areas should be provided from the rear. If this is not possible, any entrance from the street should minimize interruption to pedestrian movement, and to the building face on the street.

**(f) Pedestrian pathways**

Interference between pedestrian movement and vehicle access should be minimized. Wherever pedestrian pathways on site intersect with areas of vehicular access to parking, the pedestrian right-of-way will be emphasized by means of painted road lines, raised pavers or some such other design feature intended to alert motorists to the pedestrian crossing.

2.4 TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS

2.4.1 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Specific standards for development have been established in the City of Port Moody zoning and subdivision bylaws, and through other pertinent development controls. Reference should be made to City bylaws in all cases.