### Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment

April 14, 2023

File: A/038/23

Address: 41 Galsworthy Drive, Markham

Applicant: 1000183958 Ontario Inc. (Grumeet Minhas)

Agent: Zero Degree Studio Inc. (Roy Chan)

Hearing Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023

The following comments are provided on behalf of the East District team:

The Applicant is requesting relief from the following "Single Family Detached Dwelling (R1)" zone requirements of By-law 1229, as amended, as it relates to a proposed two-storey single detached dwelling. The variance requested is to permit:

#### a) Amending By-law 99-90, Section 1.2 (i):

a maximum building height of 10.1 metres, whereas the By-law permits a maximum building height of 9.8 metres;

#### b) Amending By-law 99-90, Section 1.2 (ii):

a maximum depth of 20.68 metres, whereas the By-law permits a maximum depth of 16.8 metres;

#### c) Amending By-law 99-90, Section 1.2 (vi):

a maximum floor area ratio of 53.58 percent, whereas the By-law permits a maximum of 45 percent.

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Property Description**

The 1,043.53 m² (11,232.46 ft²) Subject Lands are located on the east side of Galsworthy Drive, north of Robinson Street, and south of Abercorn Road (refer to Appendix "A" – Aerial Photo). The Subject Lands are located within an established residential neighbourhood comprised of a mix of one and two-storey detached dwellings.

There is an existing 137.67 m² (1,481 ft²) one-storey detached dwelling on the Subject Lands which was constructed in 1957, according to assessment records. Mature vegetation exists on the property including several large mature trees within the front, side and rear yards.

#### **Proposal**

The Applicant is proposing to construct a new two-storey detached dwelling including a front and rear covered porch with approximately 443.86 m<sup>2</sup> (4,777.67 ft<sup>2</sup>) of gross floor area (refer to Appendix "B" – Plans).

#### Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24/17, and updated on April 9/18) The Subject Lands are designated "Residential Low Rise", which permits low rise housing forms including single detached dwellings. Section 8.2.3.5 of the Official Plan outlines development criteria for the "Residential Low Rise" designation with respect to height, massing and setbacks. This criterion is established to ensure that the development is appropriate for the site and generally consistent with the zoning

requirements for adjacent properties and properties along the same street. In considering applications for development approval in a "Residential Low Rise" area, which includes variances, infill development is required to meet the general intent of these development criteria. Regard shall also be had for retention of existing trees and vegetation, the width of proposed garages and driveways. Planning staff have had regard for the requirements of the infill development criteria in the preparation of the comments provided below.

#### Zoning By-Law 1229

The Subject Lands are zoned "Single Family Residential (R1)" under By-law 1229, as amended, which permits a single detached dwelling.

#### Residential Infill Zoning By-law 99-90

The Subject Lands are also subject to the Residential Infill Zoning By-law 99-90. The intent of this By-law is to ensure the built form of new residential construction will maintain the character of existing neighbourhoods. It specifies development standards for building depth, garage projection, garage width, net floor area ratio, height, yard setbacks and number of storeys. The proposed development does not comply with the infill By-law requirements with respect to maximum floor area ratio, maximum building height, and maximum building depth.

#### Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Undertaken

The Applicant has completed a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) to confirm the initial variances required for the proposed development. The Applicant submitted revised drawings on January 24, 2023. The Applicant has not conducted a Zoning Preliminary Review for the revised drawings. Consequently, it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the application has accurately identified all the variances to the Zoning By-law required for the proposed development. If the variance request in this application contains errors, or if the need for additional variances is identified during the Building Permit review process, further variance application(s) may be required to address the non-compliance.

#### **COMMENTS**

The *Planning Act* states that four tests must be met in order for a variance to be granted by the Committee of Adjustment:

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee of Adjustment, for the appropriate development or use of land, building or structure;
- c) The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law must be maintained; and
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

#### Increase in Maximum Floor Area Ratio

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a floor area ratio of 53.58 percent, whereas the By-law permits a maximum floor area ratio of 45 percent. The variance will facilitate the construction of a two-storey detached dwelling including a front and rear covered porch with approximately 443.86 m² (4,777.67 ft²) of total gross floor area, whereas the By-law permits a dwelling with a maximum floor area of 372.75 m² (4,012.31 ft²). This represents an increase of approximately 71.11 m² (765.42 ft²).

Floor Area Ratio is a measure of the interior square footage of the dwelling as a percentage of the net lot area however; it is not a definitive measure of the mass of the dwelling.

The building layout meets all other zoning provisions (such as setbacks and lot coverage) that establish the prescribed building envelope, which ensures the proposed dwelling will be in keeping with the intended scale of residential infill developments for the neighbourhood. The proposed gross floor area is also consistent with the recent infill development trend, including a number of nearby infill homes in the surrounding area that have obtained variance approval for similar increase in floor area ratio ranging between 49.0 percent and 53.40 percent.

Staff are of the opinion that the proposed maximum floor area ratio is compatible with development on the street and have no concern with the requested variance.

#### **Increase in Maximum Building Height**

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a maximum building height of 10.10 metres (33.14 ft), whereas the By-law permits a maximum building height of 9.80 m (32.15 ft). This represents an increase of 0.30 m (0.98 ft).

Staff are of the opinion that the proposed maximum building height is minor in nature and will not impact the streetscape and have no concern with the requested variance.

#### **Increase in Maximum Building Depth**

The applicant is requesting relief to permit a maximum building depth of 20.68 m (67.84 ft), whereas the By-law permits a maximum building depth of 16.80 m (55.12 ft). This represents an increase of approximately 3.88 m (12.73 ft).

Building depth is measured based on the shortest distance between two lines, both parallel to the front lot line, one passing though the point on the dwelling which is the nearest and the other through the point on the dwelling which is the farthest from the front lot line.

The variance includes a porch and rear covered veranda which adds approximately 4.0 m (13.12 ft) to the overall depth of the building. The main component of the building, excluding the porch and rear covered veranda, has a depth of 16.68 m (54.72 ft) which complies with the by-law requirement.

Staff are of the opinion that the proposed maximum building depth is minor in nature and will have no impact and have no concern with the requested variance.

#### **EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

#### Metrolinx Comments

Metrolinx provided comments on March 27, 2023 (refer to Appendix "D"), requesting the Applicant enter into an agreement to grant Metrolinx an environmental easement for "Operational Emissions", registered on title against the subject residential dwelling in favour of Metrolinx, as the property is located within 300 m (984.25 ft) of the rail corridor right-of-way. Metrolinx has provided wording for the requested environmental easement which references details related to "Operational Emissions" as detailed in Appendix "D". Staff recommend that the proposed development be subject to the associated condition of approval provided in Appendix "C".

#### PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of April 13, 2023. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

#### CONCLUSION

Planning Staff have reviewed the application with respect to Section 45(1) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended, and are of the opinion that the variance request meets the four tests of the *Planning Act* and have no objection. Staff recommend that the Committee consider public input in reaching a decision.

The onus is ultimately on the applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the zoning by-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the Planning Act required for the granting of minor variances.

Please refer to Appendix "C" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

PREPARED BY:

Schannad

Hussnain Mohammad, Planner, Zoning and Special Projects

**REVIEWED BY:** 

Stacia Muradali, Development Manager, East District

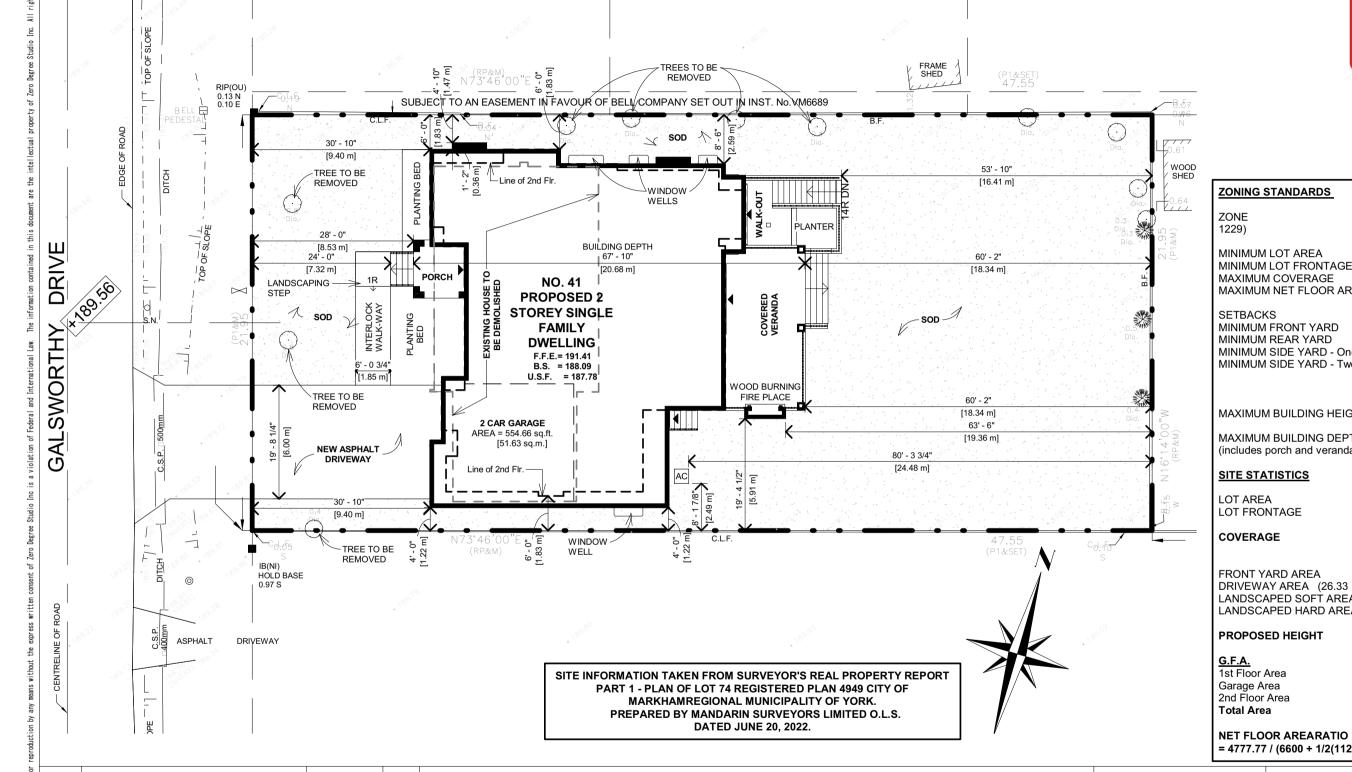
APPENDICES:

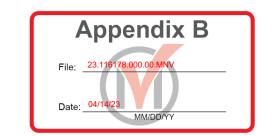
Appendix A – Aerial Photo

Appendix B – Plans

Appendix C – Conditions

Appendix D – Metrolinx





ZONING STANDARDS			
ZONE 1229)		R1 - Res	idential (By-law
MINIMUM LOT AREA MINIMUM LOT FRONTAGE MAXIMUM COVERAGE MAXIMUM NET FLOOR AREA RATIO		6,600 sq 60 ft 35 % 45 %	.ft.
SETBACKS MINIMUM FRONT YARD MINIMUM REAR YARD MINIMUM SIDE YARD - One Storey Po MINIMUM SIDE YARD - Two Storey Po		25 ft 25 ft 4 ft 6 ft	
MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT	9.8 m	[32.15 ft]	
MAXIMUM BUILDING DEPTH (includes porch and veranda)	16.8 m	[65.62 ft]	
SITE STATISTICS			
LOT AREA LOT FRONTAGE	1,043.53 21.95	sq.m. m	[11,232.49 sq.ft.] [72.01 ft]
COVERAGE	<b>29.59 %</b> 308.79 s	q.m.	[3,323.76 sq.ft.]
FRONT YARD AREA DRIVEWAY AREA (26.33 %) LANDSCAPED SOFT AREA (63.38%) LANDSCAPED HARD AREA (10.28%)	139.99 s	q.m. q.m.	[2,377.30 sq.ft.] [ 625.97 sq.ft.] [1,506.91 sq.ft.] [ 244.42 sq.ft.]
PROPOSED HEIGHT	10.10m		[33.14 ft]

215.02 sq.m.

180.03 sq.m.

443.86 sq.m.

48.81 sq.m.

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SITE PLAN

= 4777.77 / (6600 + 1/2(11232.49 - 6600.00)) = 53.58 %

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**A1** 

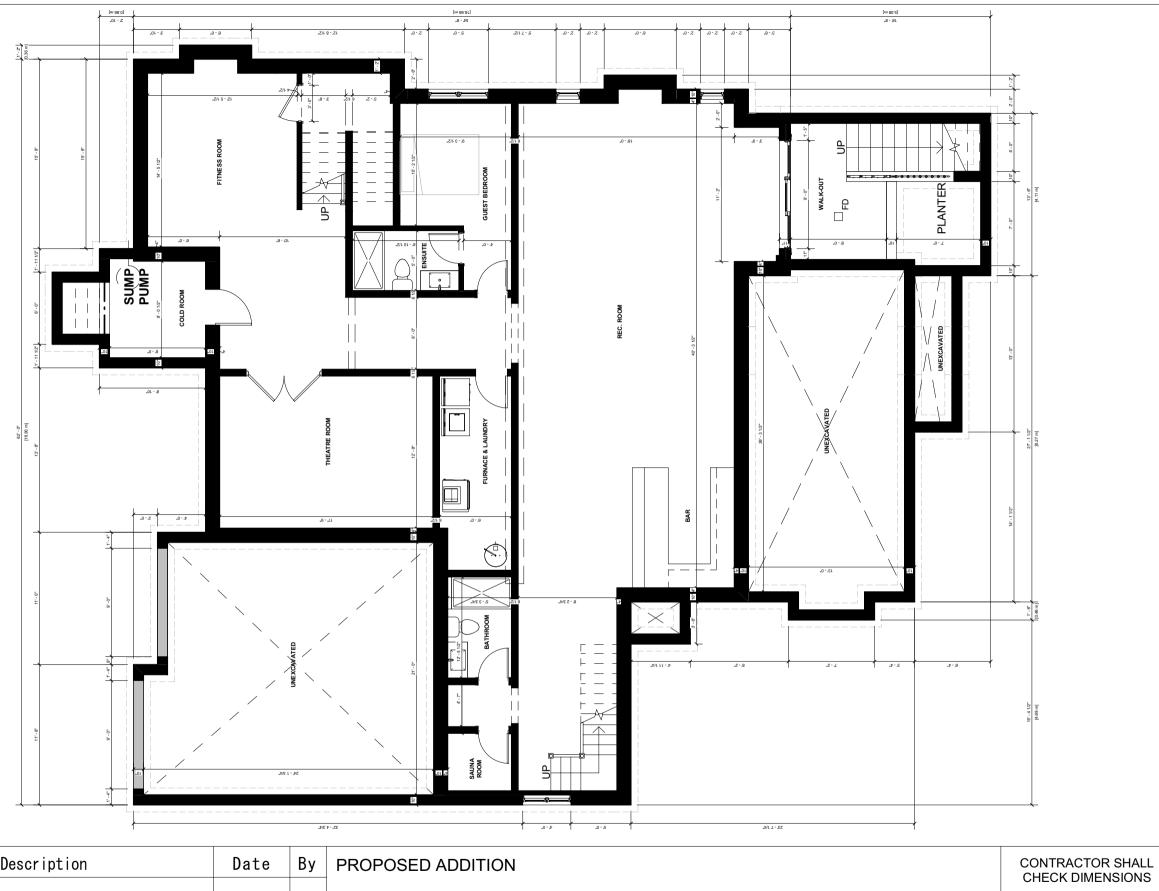


[2,314.48 sq.ft.]

525.40 sq.ft.]

[1,937.89 sq.ft.]

[4,777.77 sq.ft.]



Appendix B

No.	Description	Date	Ву	PROPOS
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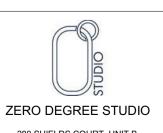
# **Galsworthy Drive**

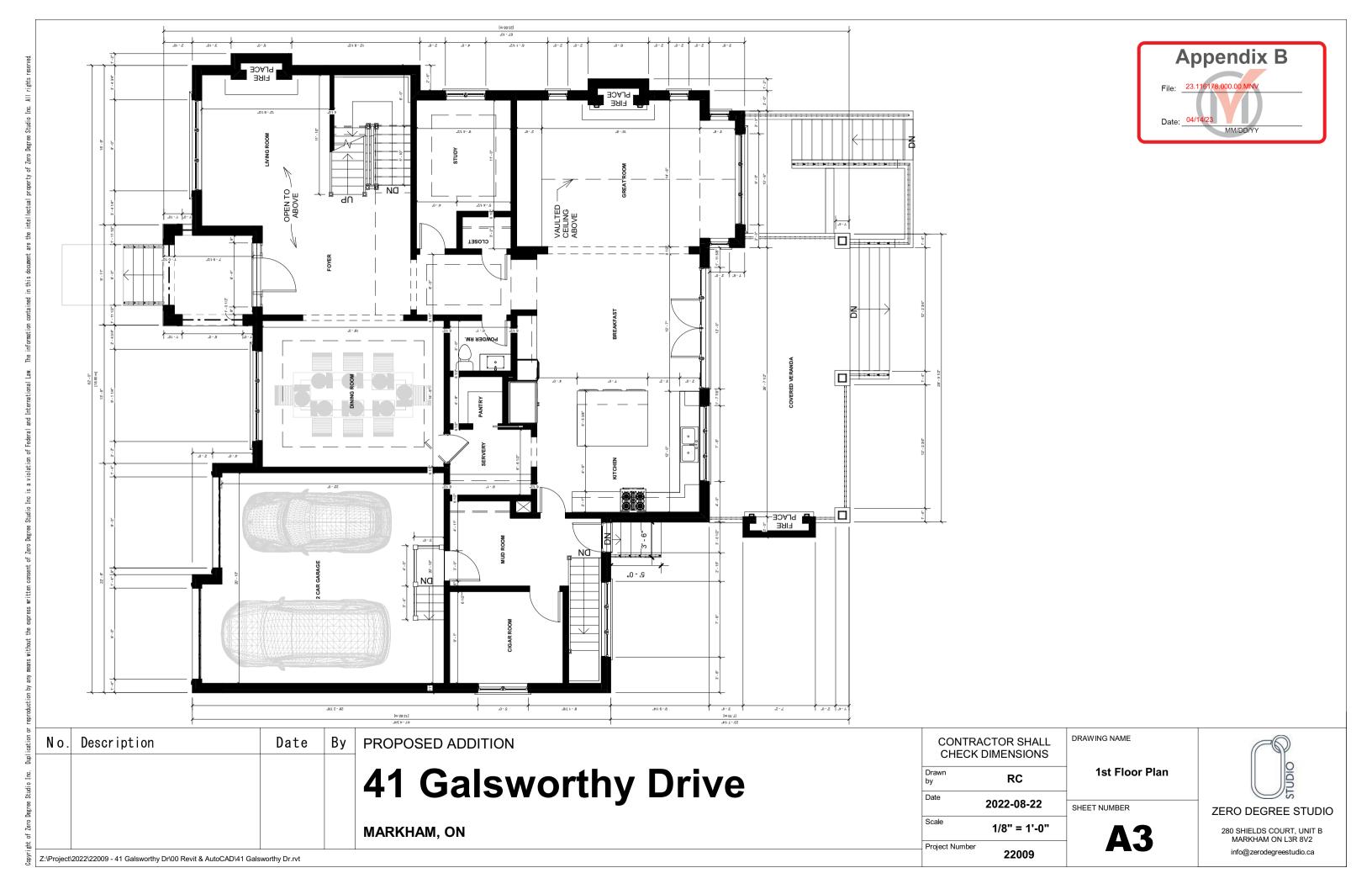
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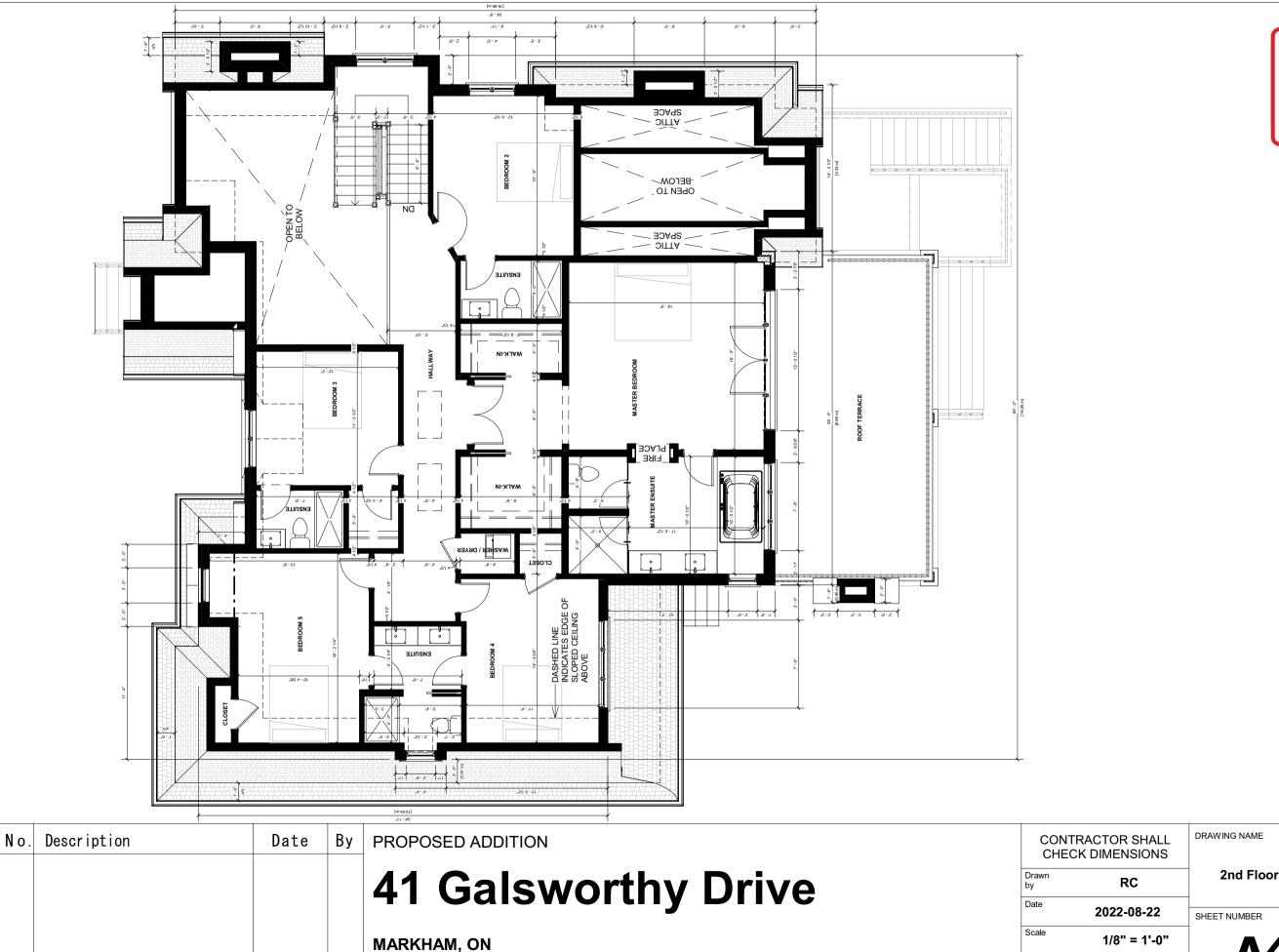
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**Basement Plan** 

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Appendix B

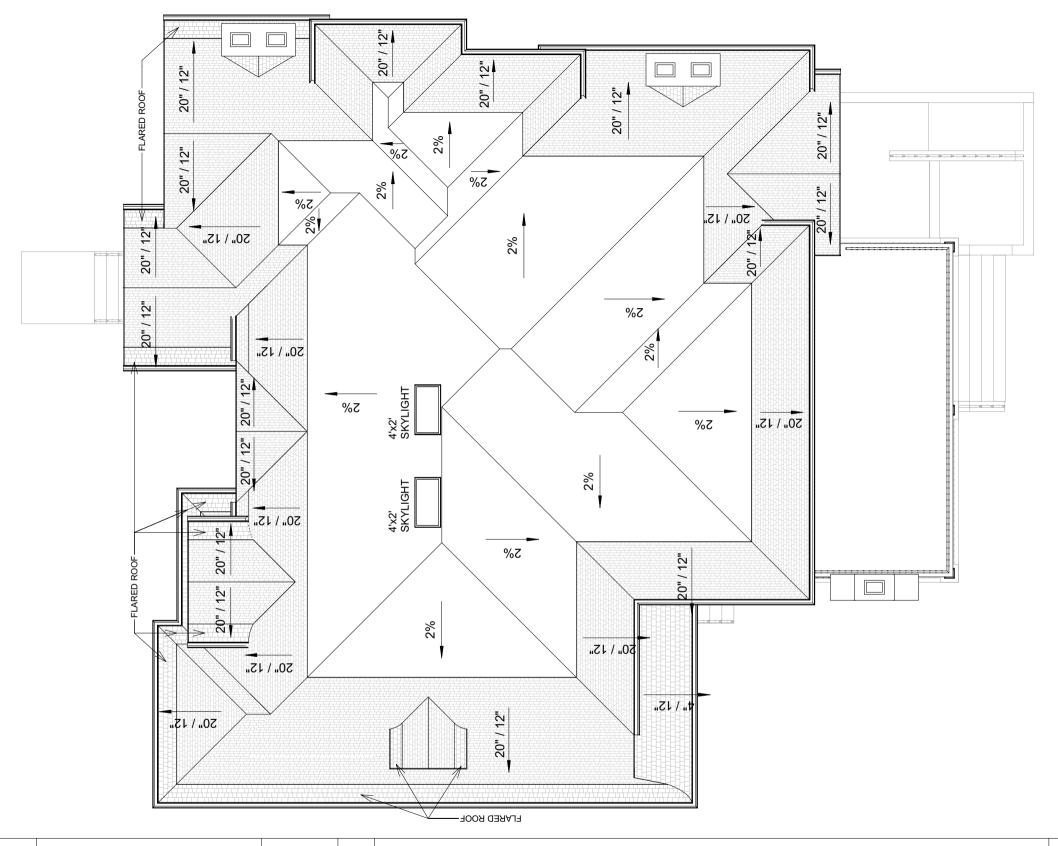
2nd Floor Plan

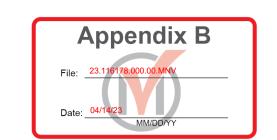
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MARKHAM ON L3R 8V2 info@zerodegreestudio.ca





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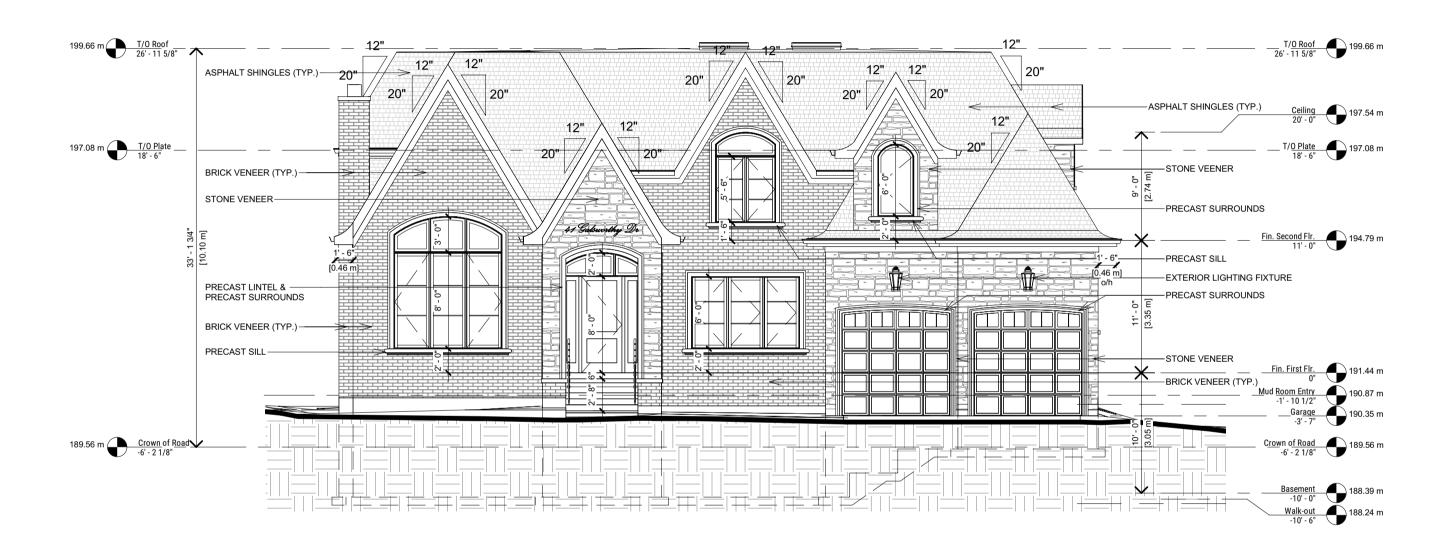
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Roof Plan

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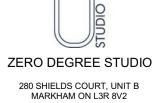




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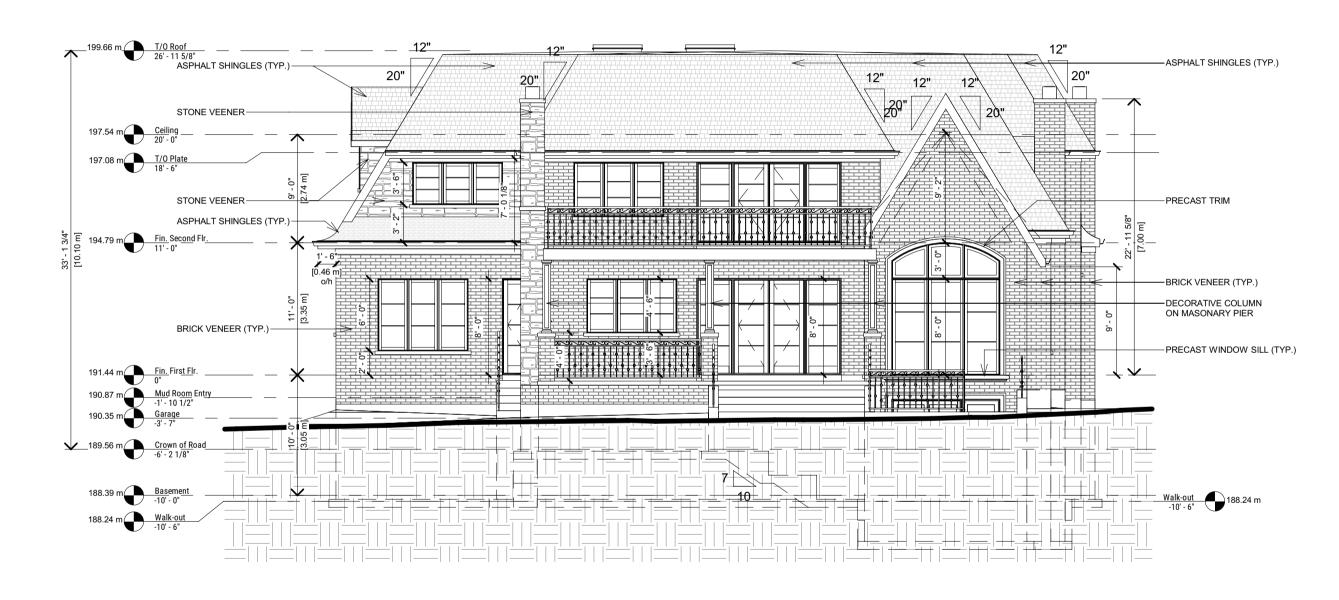
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NG NAME South 'Front' **Elevation** NUMBER



info@zerodegreestudio.ca

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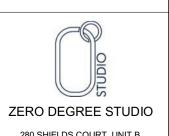
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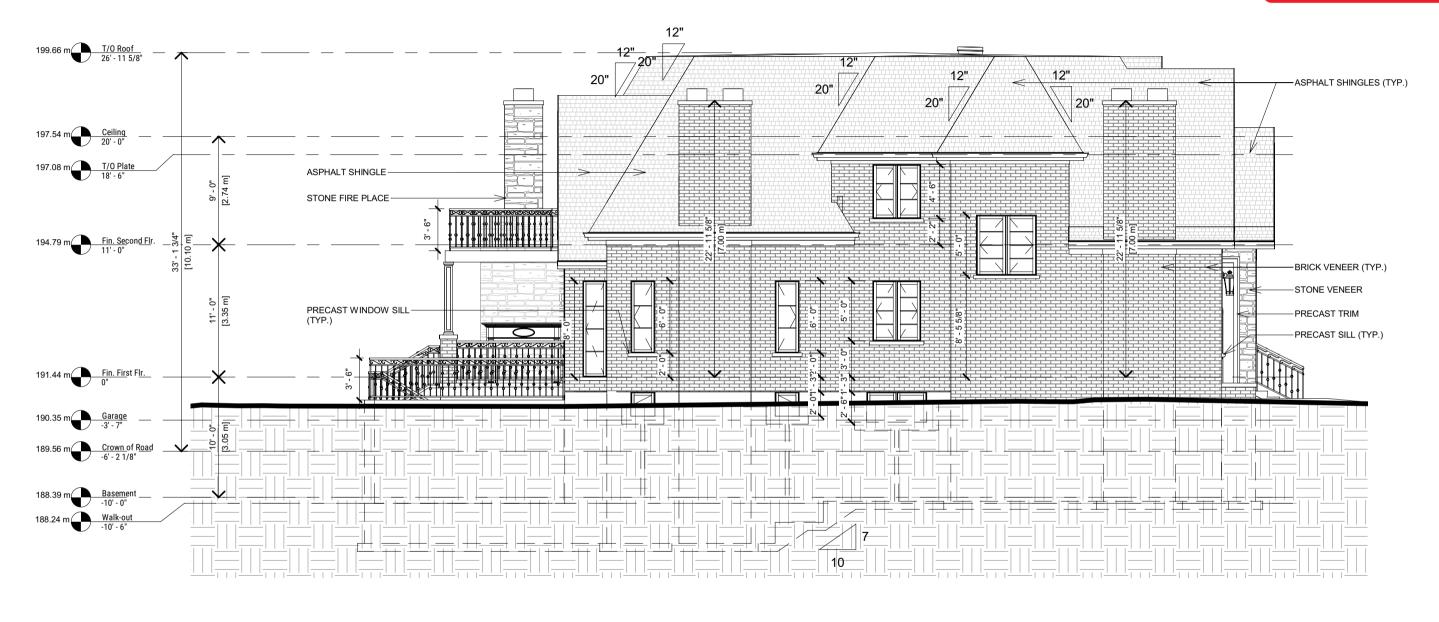
North 'Rear' Elevation

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DRAWING NAME

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East Elevation

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280

ZERO DEGREE STUDIO

280 SHIELDS COURT, UNIT B
MARKHAM ON L3R 8V2
info@zerodegreestudio.ca

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				41 Galsworthy Drive
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**Front Perspective** 

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SK1



280 SHIELDS COURT, UNIT B MARKHAM ON L3R 8V2 info@zerodegreestudio.ca

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**Rear Perspective** 

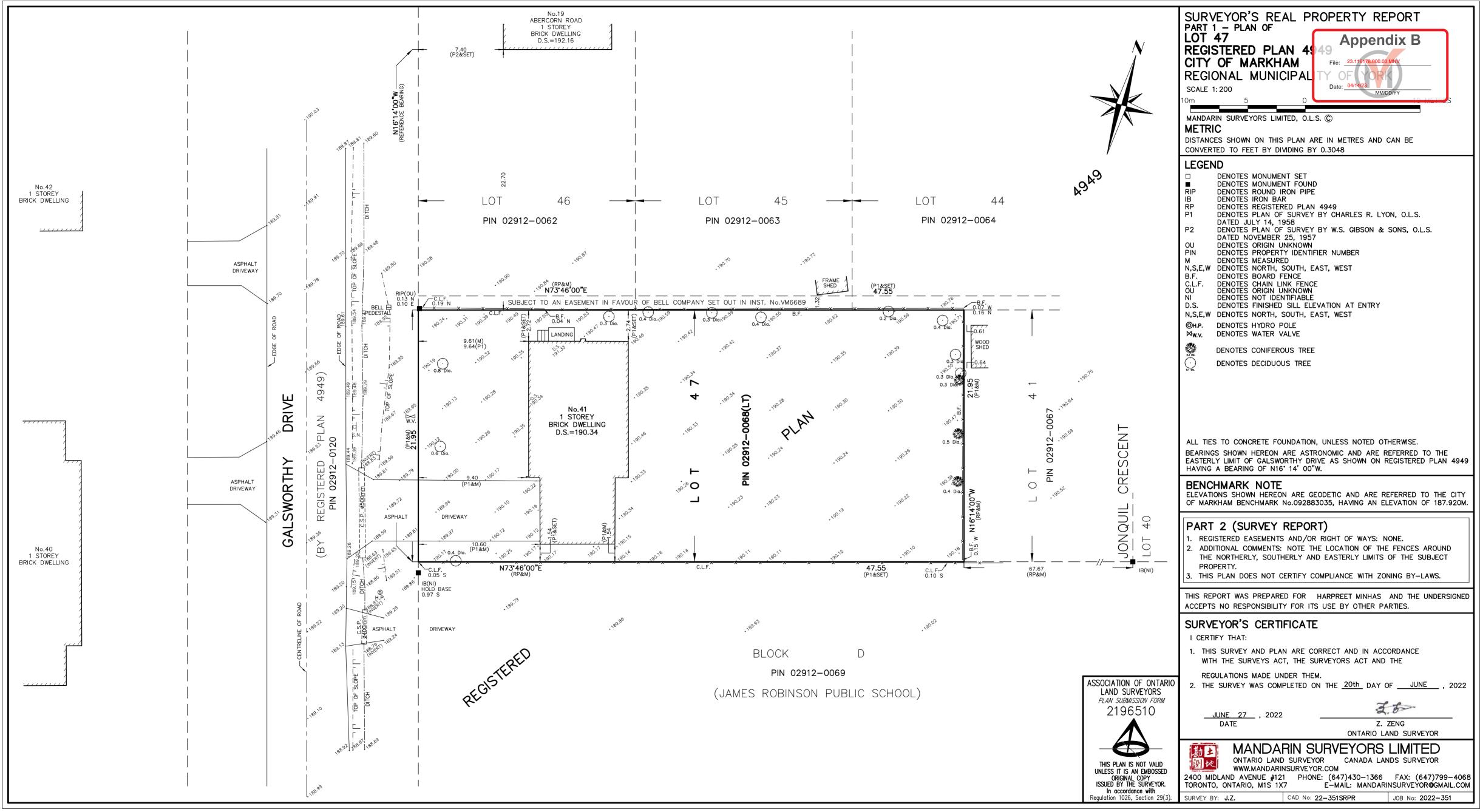
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280 SHIELDS COURT, UNIT B MARKHAM ON L3R 8V2 info@zerodegreestudio.ca

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## APPENDIX "C" CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/038/23

- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains;
- 2. That the variances apply only to the subject development, in substantial conformity with the plan(s) attached as Appendix "B" to this Staff Report, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Director of Planning and Urban Design or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction:
- 3. Submission of a Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan, prepared by a qualified arborist in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual (2009), as amended, to be reviewed and approved by the City, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from Tree Preservation Technician or Manager of By-law Enforcement & Regulatory Services Division that this condition has been fulfilled to his/her satisfaction, and that any detailed Siting, Lot Grading and Servicing Plan required as a condition of approval reflects the Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan;
- 4. That the Applicant satisfies the requirements of Metrolinx, as indicated in their letter to the Secretary-Treasurer attached as Appendix "D" to this Staff Report, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receives written confirmation that this conditions has been fulfilled to the satisfaction of Metrolinx.

**CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:** 

Mohammad

Hussnain Mohammad, Planner, Zoning and Special Projects

APPENDIX "D" METROLINX COMMENTS: March 28, 2023



#### Form of Easement

WHEREAS the Transferor is the owner of those lands legally described in the Properties section of the Transfer Easement to which this Schedule is attached (the "Easement Lands");

IN CONSIDERATION OF the sum of TWO DOLLARS (\$2.00) and such other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged by the Transferor, the Transferor transfers to the Transferee, and its successors and assigns, a permanent and perpetual non-exclusive easement or right and interest in the nature of a permanent and perpetual non-exclusive easement over, under, along and upon the whole of the Easement Lands and every part thereof for the purposes of discharging, emitting, releasing or venting thereon or otherwise affecting the Easement Lands at any time during the day or night with noise, vibration and other sounds and emissions of every nature and kind whatsoever, including fumes, odours, dust, smoke, gaseous and particulate matter, electromagnetic interference and stray current but excluding spills, arising from or out of, or in connection with, any and all present and future railway or other transit facilities and operations upon the lands of the Transferee and including, without limitation, all such facilities and operations presently existing and all future renovations, additions, expansions and other changes to such facilities and all future expansions, extensions, increases, enlargement and other changes to such operations (herein collectively called the "Operational Emissions").

THIS Easement and all rights and obligations arising from same shall extend to, be binding upon and enure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective officers, directors, shareholders, agents, employees, servants, tenants, sub-tenants, customers, licensees and other operators, occupants and invitees and each of its or their respective heirs, executors, legal personal representatives, successors and assigns. The covenants and obligations of each party hereto, if more than one person, shall be joint and several.

Easement in gross.