Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment

February 12, 2024

File: A/208/23

Address: 4 Strathroy Crescent, Markham

Owner: Ru Hong Zhao

Agent: Frank Rotundo Architect inc. (Frank Rotundo)

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

The following comments are provided on behalf of the East District Team.

The Applicant is requesting relief from the following "Residential One - (R1)" zone requirement under Zoning By-law 1229, as amended, as it relates to a proposed shed. The variance requested is to permit:

a) By-law 1229, Section Table 11.1:

a lot coverage of 38.99 percent, whereas the by-law permits a maximum lot coverage of 35 percent;

BACKGROUND

Property Description

The 690.36 m² (7,431 ft²) Subject Lands are located on the west side of Strathroy Crescent, north of Parkway Avenue and generally east of Paramount Road (refer to Appendix "A" – Aerial Photo). The Subject Lands are located within an established residential neighbourhood comprised of two-storey detached dwellings. Mature vegetation exists across the property with one mature tree in the front yard.

There is an existing 217.76 m² (2,344 ft²) two-storey detached dwelling on the Subject Lands which was constructed in 2015, according to assessment records.

Proposal

The Applicant is proposing to construct a new shed with a gross floor area of 31.66 m² (341 ft²), as shown in Appendix "B".

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 criteria 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 Residential One - (R1) under By-law 1229, as amended, which permits single detached dwellings. The proposed development does not comply with the By-law requirements with respect to the lot coverage.

Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken

The Applicant has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has <u>not</u> been conducted. However, the Applicant has received comments from the building department through their permit process (HP 23 140430) to confirm the variances required for the proposed development.

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;
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

Increase in Maximum Lot Coverage

The Applicant is requesting relief for a maximum lot coverage of 38.99 percent (2,897 ft²), whereas the By-law permits a maximum lot coverage of 35 percent (2,600 ft²). The proposed lot coverage includes the proposed shed which adds approximately 31.66 m² (341 ft²) to the overall building area. Excluding the proposed shed the proposed development has a lot coverage of 34.40 percent which is below the maximum permitted lot coverage. The proposed shed meets all other setbacks and height requirements.

Staff are of the opinion that the proposed increase in lot coverage is minor in nature and will not impact the adjacent properties.

Tree Protection and Compensation

As noted previously, the Subject Lands contain mature vegetation and large mature trees. During the review of the application, the City's Tree Preservation Technician indicated concern with potential injury to the mature neighbouring trees at 4 Strathroy Crescent. Staff recommend that the tree related conditions, as outlined in Appendix "C", be adopted by the Committee to ensure the Applicant installs the appropriate tree protection barriers, if necessary. Staff note the Applicant is required to apply for and obtain a tree permit from the City for any proposed injury to, or removal of any trees that have a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 20.0 cm (7.87 in) or more on the subject property or neighbouring properties. Further mitigation through these processes may also be required to ensure the protection of certain trees is achieved.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of February 13, 2024. 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 request variances meet 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:

Hussnain Mohammad, Planner 1, Development Facilitation Office

REVIEWED BY:

Stacia Muradali, Development Manager, East District

APPENDICES

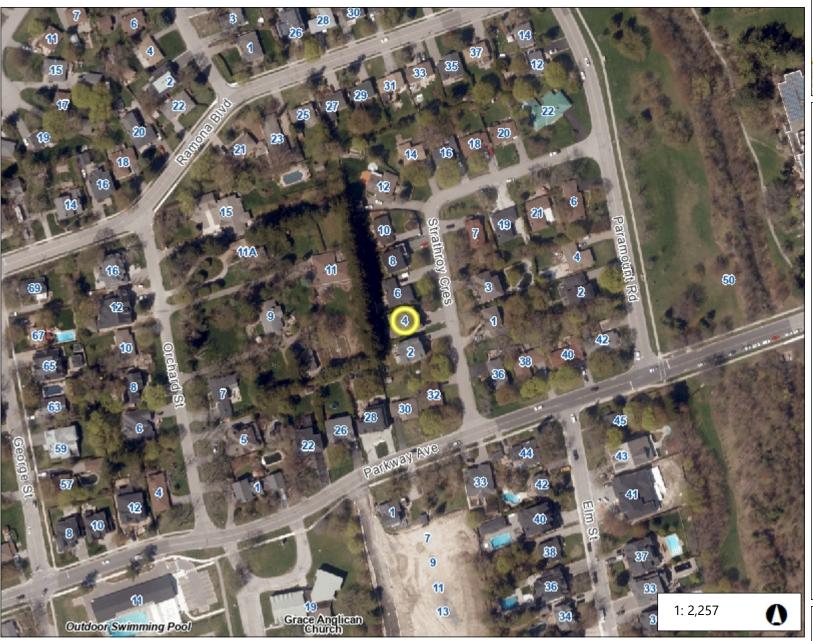
Appendix "A" – Aerial Context Photo

Appendix "B" - Plans

Appendix "C" - A/208/23 Conditions of Approval



Appendix 'A' - Aerial Photo (4 Strathroy Crescent)





Legend

Aerial 2023

Red: Band_1

Green: Band_2

Blue: Band_3

Parcel

Park Facility

Parks

Under Development

<all other values>

Notes

NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_17N

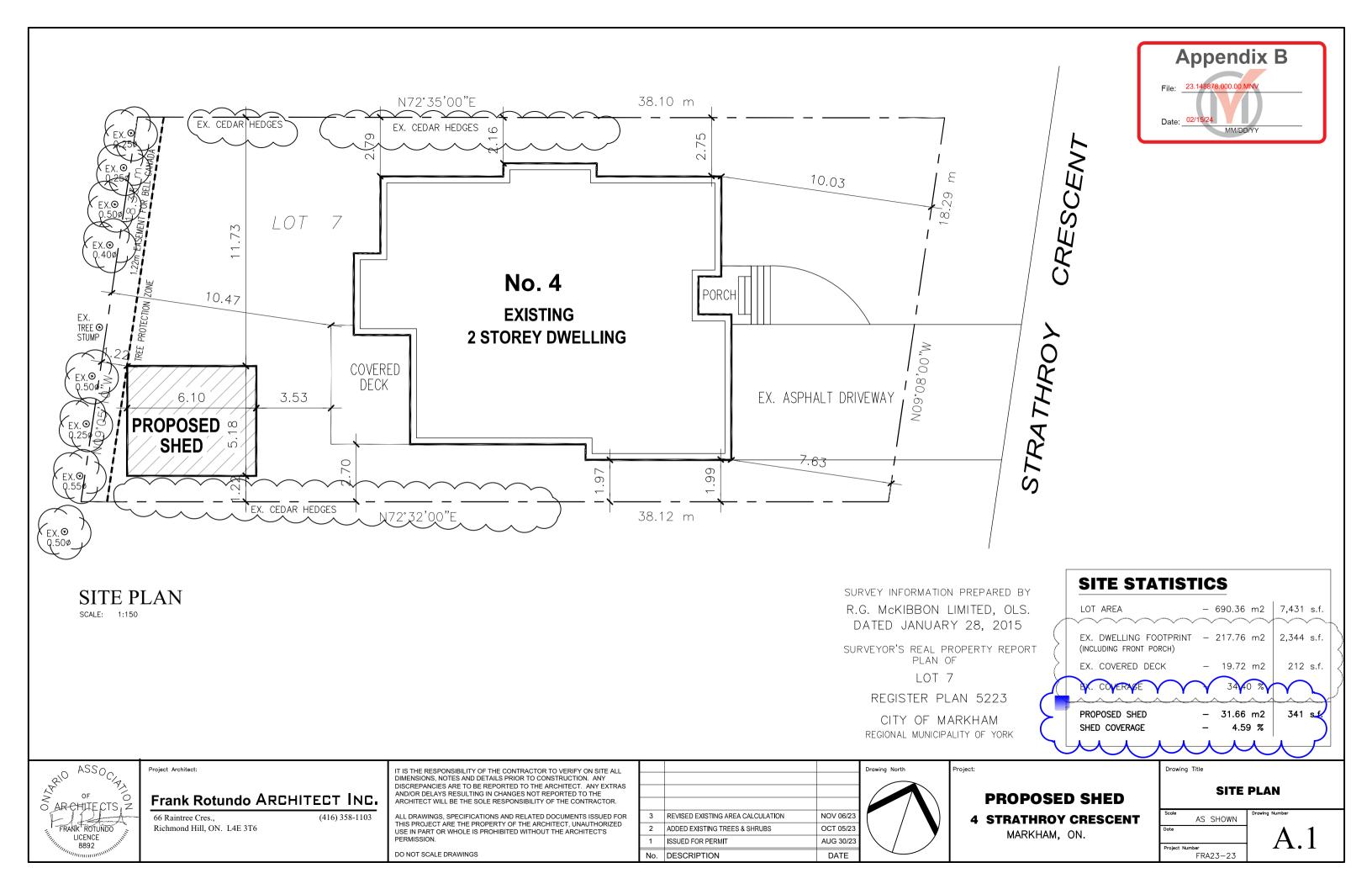
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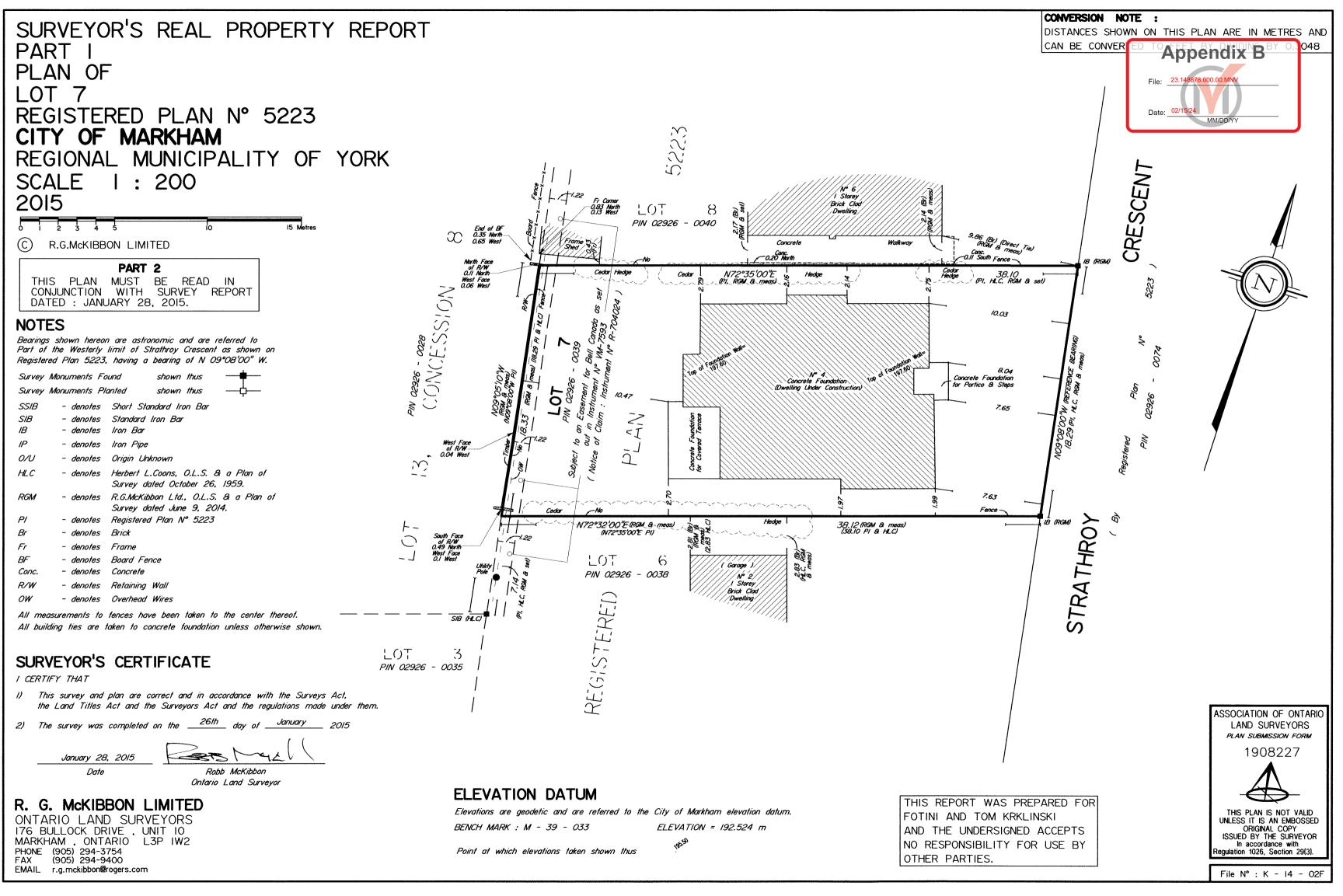
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DISCLAIMER: The information is presented on a best-efforts basis, and should not be relied upon for making financial, survey, legal or other commitments. If you have questions or comments regarding the data displayed on this map, please email cgis@markham.ca and you will be directed to the appropriate department.

114.7 Meters

57.33





APPENDIX "C" - A/208/23 Conditions of Approval

CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/208/23

- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains.
- That the variance 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 Director of Operations 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 prior to the commencement of construction or demolition, tree protection be erected and maintained around all trees on site in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual, including street trees, in accordance with the City's Streetscape Manual (2009) as amended, and inspected by City Staff to the satisfaction of the Tree Preservation Technician or Director of Operations; and

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Mohammad

Hussnain Mohammad, Planner 1, Development Facilitation Office