

# City of Surrey PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REPORT File: 7916-0182-00

Planning Report Date: July 25, 2016

### PROPOSAL:

# • Development Variance Permit

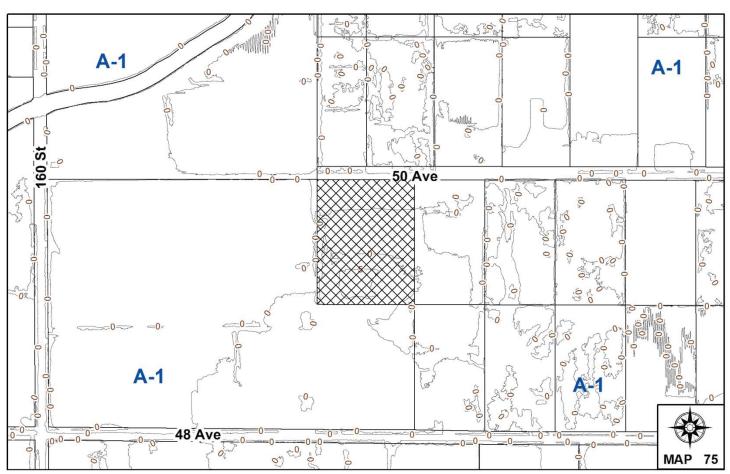
to reduce the minimum rear yard setback of an agricultural building in the A-1 Zone to permit the construction of an addition to an existing farm storage building.

LOCATION: 16236 - 50 Avenue

OWNER: Avtar S Sihota

**ZONING:** A-1

**OCP DESIGNATION:** Agricultural



## **RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY**

• Approval for Development Variance Permit to proceed to Public Notification.

### **DEVIATION FROM PLANS, POLICIES OR REGULATIONS**

• The applicant is seeking to vary the General Agriculture Zone (A-1) to reduce the minimum rear yard setback of an agricultural building from 15 metres (50 feet) to 11.18 metres (37 ft.) to permit the construction of an addition to an existing farm produce storage building.

# **RATIONALE OF RECOMMENDATION**

- The location of the proposed farm building addition is not currently used for agricultural production.
- The proposal limits the overall impact on farmable land by clustering the farm buildings in a contiguous area.
- The proposed location of the farm building addition is more in keeping with the intent of the BC Ministry of Agriculture's "Guide for Bylaw Development in Farming Areas" (2015) with respect to rear yard setback requirements.
- The Agriculture and Food Security Advisory Committee supports the proposal.

# **RECOMMENDATION**

The Planning & Development Department recommends that Council approve Development Variance Permit No. 7916-0182-00 (Appendix IV) to reduce the minimum rear yard setback of an addition to an agricultural (farm produce storage) building in the A-1 Zone, from 15 metres (50 ft.) to 11.18 metres (37 ft.), to proceed to Public Notification.

### **REFERRALS**

Engineering: The Engineering Department has no objections to the project.

Agriculture and Food Security Advisory Committee (AFSAC):

The project was reviewed at the July 7, 2016 AFSAC meeting wherein the committee made a recommendation of support for the

proposal (Appendix III).

# **SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

<u>Existing Land Use:</u> There is an existing one-storey residential building on the subject

lot as well as the subject one-storey manufactured steel farm building used for the bulk storage of carrots, which are to remain. A

portion of the site is also used for the production of carrots.

# **Adjacent Area:**

Direction	<b>Existing Use</b>	OCP Designation	Existing Zone
North (Across 50 Avenue):	House and farm	Agricultural	A-1
	buildings		
East:	House and farm	Agricultural	A-1
	buildings		
South:	Active farm and	Agricultural	A-1
	processing facility		
West:	Active farmland	Agricultural	A-1
	(carrots)		

#### **DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- The 2.8-hectare (6.9-acre) subject lot is located at 16236 50 Avenue in Cloverdale.
- The lot is designated "Agricultural" in the Official Community Plan (OCP) and is zoned "General Agriculture Zone (A-1)".
- The lot is located within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) as well as within the 200-year flood plain of the Serpentine River.

• The applicant owns 25 agricultural parcels totaling approximately 200 acres as part of a large farm operation spread throughout Surrey and the Fraser Valley.

- The 18.12-hectrare (45-acre) property at 16225 48 Avenue, to the immediate south and west of the subject property, is also owned by the applicant and forms a contiguous farm operation with the subject lot. The adjacent property contains a residential farm homeplate, active farm production (carrots) as well as a gravel loading area and product processing facility used as part of the larger farm operation.
- A 1,129-square metre (12,152 sq.ft.) farm storage building, used for the bulk storage of carrots, was constructed at the rear of the subject lot in 2013 which included permitted pre-load and structural fill soil deposits.
- The gravel loading area and works yard on the adjacent lot to the south of the subject property currently extends beyond the shared property line and connects the bulk storage building with the adjoining processing and packing operations.
- The applicant recently submitted a building permit to enlarge the existing farm storage building with the intention of preserving the active farmland located at the centre of the property. The proposed addition does not comply with the Zoning By-law, with respect to the minimum rear yard setback, and therefore the applicant has applied for the subject Development Variance Permit (DVP).

# **BY-LAW VARIANCE AND JUSTIFICATION**

# (a) Requested Variance:

• To reduce the minimum rear yard setback in the A-1 Zone from 15 metres (50 feet) to 11.18 metres (37 feet) to permit the construction of an addition to an existing agricultural (farm produce storage) building.

## Applicant's Reasons:

- The proposed addition to the existing farm building would allow for the consolidation of certain components of the larger farming operation, specifically produce storage, resulting in reduced impact on ALR lands.
- The proposed variance would allow the owner to maximize the use of farmland currently used on the subject property.
- The proposal will not require any additional structural fill to be added to the subject property.
- The proposed location of the farm building addition is not currently being used for agricultural production.

#### **Staff Comments:**

• The proposed variance to the rear yard setback, from 15 metres (50 feet) to 11.18 metres (37 feet), is more in keeping with the intent of the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture's "Guide for By-law Development in Farming Areas" (2015) as the report recommends a maximum rear yard setback of 4.5 metres (15 ft.) for farm storage buildings.

- The proposal fulfills the intent of OCP Policy E<sub>3</sub>.8 which seeks to maximize the productive utilization of agricultural land through such means as amending by-laws, policies and other regulations, as appropriate, to support agricultural production.
- The proposal limits the overall impact on farmable land by clustering the farm buildings in a contiguous area.
- The proposed location of the addition to the existing bulk storage facility is away from farming activity on adjacent lots and will not disrupt the neighbours' agricultural production.
- The proposed variance was reviewed at the July 7, 2016 Agriculture and Food Security Advisory Committee (AFSAC) meeting and AFSAC recommended support.
- Staff support the requested variance.

### **INFORMATION ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT**

The following information is attached to this Report:

Appendix I. Lot Owner and Action Summary

Appendix II. Site Plan (Proposed)

Appendix III. Draft Minutes of July 7, 2016 Agriculture and Food Security Advisory

**Committee Meeting** 

Appendix IV. Development Variance Permit No. 7916-0182-00

original signed by Ron Hintsche

Jean Lamontagne General Manager Planning and Development

# Information for City Clerk

Legal Description and Owners of all lots that form part of the application:

1. (a) Agent: Name: Doug Birch

Krahn Engineering Ltd.

Address: Unit 210 - 1311 Kootenay Street

Vancouver, BC V5K 4Y3

Tel: 604-294-6662

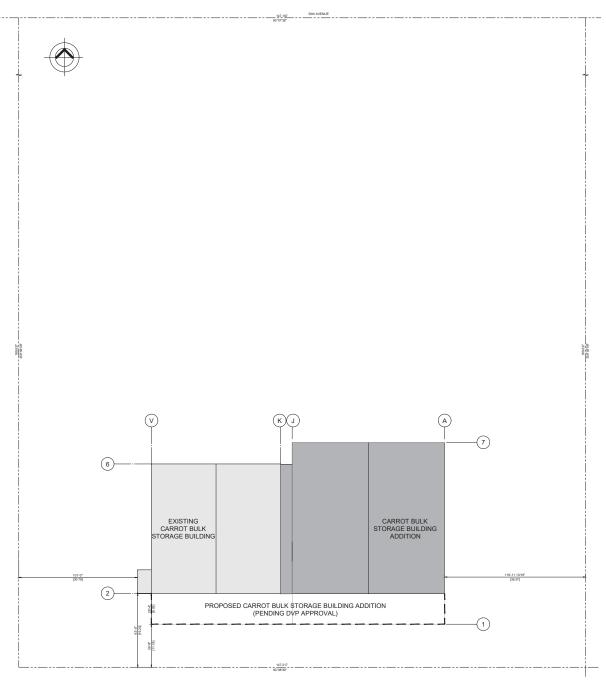
2. Properties involved in the Application

(a) Civic Address: 16236 - 50 Avenue

(b) Civic Address: 16236 - 50 Avenue Owner: Avtar S Sihota PID: 007-119-607

Lot 6 Block 3 District Lot 365 Group 2 New Westminster District Plan 1143.

- 3. Summary of Actions for City Clerk's Office
  - (f) Proceed with Public Notification for Development Variance Permit No. 7916-0182-00 and bring the Development Variance Permit forward for issuance and execution by the Mayor and City Clerk.





OVERALL SITE KEY PLAN

# NATIONAL FARM BUILDING CODE OF CANADA 1995 VALUES BASED ON PROPOSED FINAL CONSTRUCTION AFTER OVER APPROVAL

OUR BUILDINGS ARE ALL ONE STOREY MAXIMUM COMPARTMENT - 4 800 sq. m.

THEREFORE NO SEPARATION OF COMPARTMENTS REQUIRED

SPACIAL SEPERATION - BCBC 2012 - 9.10.14					
ACUTAL LIMITING DISTANCE	AREA OF UNPROTECTED OPENINGS				
	ALLOWED	ACTUAL			
11.00 m	21.00%	-			
11.00 m	+19.33%	14.24%			
11.00 m	15.00%	-			
	ACUTAL LIMITING DISTANCE 11.00 m 11.00 m	ACUTAL LIMITING DISTANCE ALLOWED  11.00 m 21.00% 11.00 m +19.33%			

EXIT DOORS HAVE BEEN LOCATED SUCH THAT BOTH TRAVEL DISTANCE INSIDE AS WELL AS PERIMETER DISTANCE MEET OR EXCEED THE REQUIREMENTS.

ENLARGED SITE PLAN











# AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2016

#### D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Development Variance Permit 7916-0182-00

Christopher Lumsden, Planning Technician File: 6880-75; 7916-0182-00

The following comments were made:

- The subject property is 2.79 hectares (6.89 acres) in size and located at 16236 50 Avenue. The property is designated Agricultural in the Official Community Plan (OCP), zoned General Agriculture Zone (A-1), and located within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). The site currently produces carrots and is classified as farmland under the Assessment Act.
- The applicant is requesting to relax the required rear yard setback for a farm building, permitted under Section B.1 and B.9(C) in the General Agriculture Zone (A-1), from 15 metres (50 ft.) to 11.18 metres (37 ft.) to accommodate the construction of an addition to an existing farm building.
- The proposed addition is located in an area of the property already subject to the application of pre-fill soils from the construction of the existing farm building under Permit No. 11-024004. A 1,129 square metre (12,152 sq. ft.) farm accessory building, used for the bulk storage of carrots, was constructed on the site under Permit No. 13-022022-01.

Member have no issues with allowing the setback but would prefer to see the properties consolidated as it appears to be used as one.

It was Moved by S. VanKeulen Seconded by M. Bose

That the Agriculture and Food Security

Advisory Committee recommend to the General Manager of Planning and Development to support Development Application No. 7916-0182-00.

Carried

## **CITY OF SURREY**

(the "City")

# **DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT**

NO.: 7916-0182-00

Issued To: AVTAR SINGH SIHOTA

("the Owner")

Address of Owner: 16236 - 50 Avenue

Surrey BC V<sub>3</sub>Z <sub>1</sub>E<sub>2</sub>

- 1. This development variance permit is issued subject to compliance by the Owner with all statutes, by-laws, orders, regulations or agreements, except as specifically varied by this development variance permit.
- 2. This development variance permit applies to that real property including land with or without improvements located within the City of Surrey, with the legal description and civic address as follows:

Parcel Identifier: 007-119-607 Lot 6 Block 3 District Lot 365 Group 2 New Westminster District Plan 1143

16236 - 50 Avenue

(the "Land")

- 4. Surrey Zoning By-law, 1993, No. 12000, as amended is varied as follows:
  - (a) In Section F.1 (a) Yards and Setbacks of Part 10 "General Agriculture Zone (A-1)" the minimum rear yard setback to an agricultural building is reduced from 15 metres (50 ft.) to 11.18 metres (37 ft.).
- 5. This development variance permit applies to only that portion of the buildings and structures on the Land shown on Schedule A which is attached hereto and forms part of this development variance permit.

6.	The Land shall be developed strictly in accordance with the terms and conditions and provisions of this development variance permit.				
7-	This development variance permit shall lapse if the Owner does not substantially start any construction with respect to which this development variance permit is issued, within two (2) years after the date this development variance permit is issued.				
8.	The terms of this development variance permit or any amendment to it, are binding on all persons who acquire an interest in the Land.				
9.	This development variance permit is not a building permit.				
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE COUNCIL, THE DAY OF , 20 . ISSUED THIS DAY OF , 20 .					
		Mayor – Linda Hepner			
		City Clerk – Jane Sullivan			

