

# **Serenity Lodge: MPS and LUB Amendments and Substantial Development Agreement Amendment**

Public Hearing

October 29, 2025  
Planning & Development



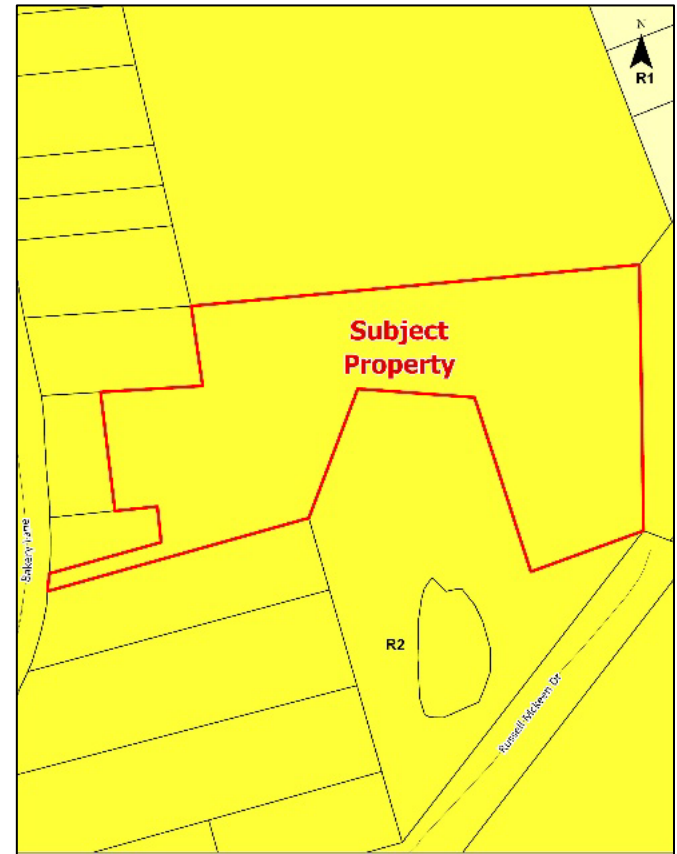
**EAST HANTS**

## Background

- On March 26, 2025, Council passed Motion C25(95) to “...direct staff to find a way forward to assist Ms. MacAskill to separate her business and dwelling (two PIDs) through Development Agreement or an alternative. (Re: Serenity Lodge).”
- Under the current Land Use Bylaw regulations, the subdivision of land cannot take place on a right-of-way easement in the Growth Management Areas serviced by Municipal water and wastewater.

## Subject Property

- The subject site is shown on the map to the right and is identified as PID 45287638. There are two civic points on the subject lands, 53 Bakery Lane, which is a single unit dwelling, and 39 Russell McKeen Drive, which is Serenity Lodge.
- The total area of the subject property is 1.44 hectares. The lot has 6 m of frontage on Bakery Lane.
- The subject property is zoned Two Dwelling Unit Residential (R2) Zone. Adjoining properties are also zoned R2.
- There is an existing development agreement on the subject lands that permits Serenity Lodge, which is a seniors care facility and considered an institutional use.
- Bakery Lane is owned by the provincial government and Russell McKeen Drive is a private right-of-way easement owned by the McKeen and extended family.









Serenity Lodge



Looking across the street



Looking south Russell McKeen Drive



Looking north Russell McKeen Drive



## Development Proposal

- In order to permit the subdivision of land to take place, the following items have to be completed:
  1. Amendments to the MPS and LUB are required. A new policy and regulation are proposed to be added to the Planning documents to permit Council to consider the subdivision of land for an Institutional Use (IU) Zone use on an existing right-of-way easement, in the Growth Management Areas on land that is zoned Two Dwelling Unit Residential (R2) Zone.
  2. The existing development agreement, which currently permits Serenity Lodge, is proposed to be substantially amended so that the proposal can be considered under Council's new policy.
  3. After the policies and regulations are in place, and the development agreement has been approved and registered, the property owner can proceed with subdividing the land.

DATED DECEMBER 1, 1982  
APPROVED DECEMBER 1, 1982  
(L.R.O. PLAN NO. 183)

PID 45078987  
LOT E  
Now or Formerly  
JONATHAN E. CONROD  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 108891239)

PID 45078979  
LOT D  
Now or Formerly  
DOUGLAS GARDEN  
(BOOK 741 PAGE 88)

PID 45078953  
LOT 1  
Now or Formerly  
ADAM E.L. DAVID  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 122058903)

PID 45078946  
LOT 2  
Now or Formerly  
LUCAS R. DE SOUZA  
& SHAWN STONE  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 124133027)

PID 45078938  
LOT A  
Now or Formerly  
REGINALD D. PURCELL  
& DAWN D. JOSEY  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 115747595)  
SEE PLAN BY J. J. MCKENZIE, P.L.S.  
DATED NOVEMBER 5, 1980, APPROVED NOVEMBER 8, 1982  
(ATTACHED TO BOOK 236, PAGE 299)

PID 45287638  
LOT FA-1  
Lands Conveyed to  
CHRISTINE A. MACASKILL  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 112348728)

SEE PLAN BY MICHAEL G. WILLIAMS, N.S.L.S.,  
DATED AUGUST 8, 2016,  
APPROVED SEPTEMBER 27, 2016,  
(L.R.O. PLAN NO. 109559947)

PID 45078912  
LOT K-2A-1  
Lands Conveyed to  
KEVIN R. SHAW &  
KAREN L. SHAW  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 109758319)

SEE PLAN BY MICHAEL G. WILLIAMS, N.S.L.S.,  
DATED AUGUST 8, 2016,  
APPROVED SEPTEMBER 27, 2016,  
(L.R.O. PLAN NO. 109559947)

LOT K-2A-1Y  
AREA = 9,319 SQ.M.±

PARCEL X  
AREA = 6,074 SQ.M.±

LOT XY  
AREA = 6,720 SQ.M.±

PARCEL Y  
AREA = 845.6 SQ.M.±

PID 45336849  
LOT KW-1B  
Now or Formerly  
STACI M. BILLARD &  
KENDALL W. MACASKILL  
(L.R.O. DOC. NO. 92899052)

SEE PLAN BY HAROLD S. LVELY, N.S.L.S.,  
DATED JUNE 19, 2001,  
APPROVED NOVEMBER 20, 2001  
(L.R.O. PLAN NO. 8593)

PID 45336831  
LOT AM-AC  
Now or Formerly  
LOUISE B. MCKEEN  
and ALAN J. MCKEEN  
(BOOK 538 PAGE 427)  
(BOOK 538 PAGE 588)

SEE PLAN BY HAROLD S. LVELY, N.S.L.S.,  
DATED NOVEMBER 20, 2001,  
APPROVED NOVEMBER 20, 2001  
(L.R.O. PLAN NO. 8593)

EXISTING DWELLING (CIVIC 37)

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EXISTING DWELLING (CIVIC 37)



## Development Proposal

- The proposal does not enable other lots to be subdivided with frontage on Russell Mckeen Drive for other purposes.
- If the existing land owners are interested in developing their lands in the future, Russell Mckeen Drive will have to be upgraded to a public road so that it may be taken over by the Municipality.
- The amendments to the Planning documents and the substantial development agreement amendment can run concurrently; however, the MPS amendments will have to be in effect prior to the development agreement being entered into and registered on the subject lands.



# Proposed Amendments

- The following amendments are proposed to be added to Policy RD23 of the Municipal Planning Strategy:
- RD23. Council shall consider the following by development agreement in the Two Dwelling unit Residential (R2) Zone:
  - a) Accessory buildings in excess of the applicable zone requirements.
  - b) Institutional Use (IU) Zone uses
  - c) Zero Lot Line Developments subject to the requirements of the Municipal Planning Strategy.
  - d) *The subdivision of land on an existing right-of-way easement in a Growth Management Area to permit an Institutional Use (IU) Zone use.*
- The following amendment is proposed to be added to the Section 6.6 of the Land Use Bylaw:
- R2 Zone: Conditional Uses by Development Agreement
  - Accessory buildings in excess of the applicable zone requirements.
  - Institutional Use (IU) Zone uses
  - *The subdivision of land on an existing right-of-way easement in a Growth Management Area to permit an Institutional Use (IU) Zone use.*
  - Zero Lot Line Developments subject to the requirements of the Municipal Planning Strategy.



## Citizen Engagement

- An advertisement outlining the proposal was placed in the *Chronicle Herald* in May 2025.
- A Public Information Meeting for the proposed amendments was held on July 14, 2025. Notes from the meeting have been attached as Appendix C.
- A questionnaire was sent to property owners and residents within 300 m of the subject property. A total of 179 questionnaires were mailed, with 12 responses received. The results have been shared with members of the Planning Advisory Committee for their review.
- Overall, the feedback was varied. Some residents viewed the proposed changes positively, others were opposed, and some commented on matters unrelated to the proposal.



## Conclusion

- Planning staff have responded to Council Motion C25(95) and have proposed amendments that will permit Serenity Lodge to create a new lot with frontage on Russell McKeen Drive by development agreement.