# **Report to Planning and Environment Committee**

To: Chair and Members

**Planning & Environment Committee** 

From: George Kotsifas P. Eng.,

Managing Director, Development & Compliance Services and

**Chief Building Official** 

Subject: Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium, LOCO Ventures

(Adlersbrook) Ltd. for 1870 Aldersbrook Gate

Public Participation Meeting on: March 29, 2021

# Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Director, Development Services, the following actions be taken with respect to the application of LOCO Ventures (Aldersbrook) Ltd., relating to the property located at 1870 Aldersbrook Gate:

the Planning and Environment Committee **REPORT TO** the Approval Authority the issues, if any, raised at the public meeting with respect to the application for Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium relating to the property located at 1870 Aldersbrook Gate.

# **Executive Summary**

### **Summary of Request**

This is a request by LOCO Ventures (Aldersbrook) Ltd. to consider a proposed Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium. The plan consists of 27 dwelling units within multiple townhouses and a new private road providing access from Aldersbrook Gate. The applicant's intent is to register the development as one Condominium Corporation.

#### **Purpose and the Effect of Recommended Action**

The purpose and effect of the public meeting is to report to the Approval Authority any issues or concerns raised with respect to the application for Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium.

#### **Rationale of Recommended Action**

- The proposed Vacant Land Condominium is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, which directs new development to designated growth areas and areas adjacent to existing development;
- ii) The proposed Vacant Land Condominium conforms to the in-force policies of The London Plan including but not limited to Our Tools, Key Directions, and the Neighbourhoods Place Type policies;
- iii) The proposed Vacant Land Condominium conforms to the in-force policies of the 1989 Official Plan, including but not limited to the Multi-Family, Medium Density Residential Designation and will implement an appropriate form of residential development for the site.

# Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

Building a Sustainable City - London's growth and development is well planned and sustainable over the long term.

# **Analysis**

# 1.0 Background Information

### 1.1 Planning History

The subject lands are located within the Fox Hollow Community Planning Area which is generally bounded by Sunningdale Road West, Wonderland Road North, Fanshawe Park Road West and Hyde Park Road. The community plan and associated amendments to the Official Plan were adopted by City Council in March 1999.

In 2000, 943 Fanshawe Park Road West was created through consent and rezoned to a Convenience Commercial (CC5) and Urban Reserve (UR3) zoning. At that time, it was determined that the convenience commercial zone should only apply to the front one-hectare portion of this parcel to ensure that the future scale of development was for convenience commercial uses, with the rear portion being zoned to UR3 (1870 Aldersbrook Gate).

In 2019, a zoning by-law amendment application (Z-9108) along with a consent application (B.053/19) and site plan approval application (SPA-19-112) were submitted for the northerly portion of 943 Fanshawe Park Road West (lands zoned UR3).

On December 10, 2019, Municipal Council approved the zoning by-law amendment which implemented the current zoning on the subject site. The consent application (B.053/19) was approved on April 30, 2020 subject to conditions. Site Plan Approval was granted October 7, 2020 and Development Agreement was entered in to. These three applications created the current proposal and provided permissions to the support the proposed Vacant Land Condominium.

On November 17, 2020 a Vacant Land Condominium application was submitted to the City seeking approval for 5 townhouse buildings at 2.5-storeys in height with a total of 27 dwelling units and common elements for the internal driveway, services, walkway, and amenity areas, all with vehicular access from Aldersbrook Gate.

# 1.2 Property Description

The property is located on the north side of Fanshawe Park Road West on the southeast corner of Aldersbrook Gate and Tokala Trail. North of the site is Snake Creek open space corridor and developing residential subdivisions. To the west is a is an existing residential neighbourhood and a vacant block zoned for future medium density residential development. East of the site is a townhouse development and a stormwater management pond. South of the site is an existing personal service establishment.

### 1.3 Current Planning Information (see more detail in Appendix C)

- The London Plan Place Type Neighbourhoods
- Official Plan Designation Multi-Family, Medium Density Residential
- Existing Zoning R5-3(20)/R6-5(66)/R7\*H15\*D75

#### 1.4 Site Characteristics

- Current Land Use Vacant
- Frontage 102.3 metres (335.63 feet)
- Depth Varies
- Area 0.75ha (1.85 acres)
- Shape Irregular

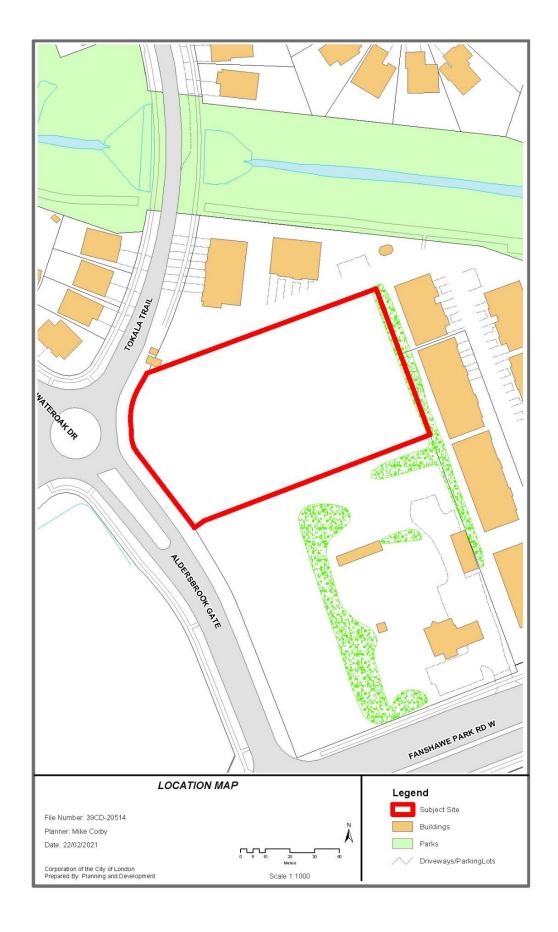
### 1.5 Surrounding Land Uses

- North –Residential
- East Residential
- South Commercial
- West Residential

# 1.6 Intensification (41 units)

• The 27-unit, cluster townhome development is located outside of the Built-Area Boundary and Primary Transit Area

# 1.7 LOCATION MAP



### 2.0 Discussion and Considerations

# 2.1 Development Proposal

The proposed development is a 27-unit, cluster townhouse development to be registered as a Vacant Land Condominium resulting in individual ownership for each unit. Landscaped areas, internal driveways, services, and visitor parking spaces will be located within a common element to be maintained and managed by one Condominium Corporation.

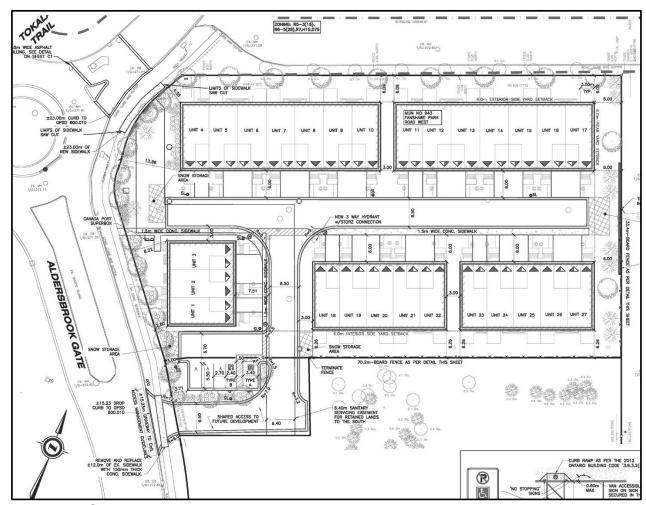


Figure 1 – Site Plan



Figure 2. Front Elevation



Figure 3. Elevation along Aldersbrook Gate

#### 2.2 Community Engagement

The requested amendment was circulated to the public on February 5, 2021 and advertised in the Londoner on February 11, 2021. Through the public circulation process no comments were received from the public.

# 3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

Through the completion of the works associated with this application fees, development charges and taxes will be collected. There are no direct financial expenditures associated with this application.

# 4.0 Key Issues and Considerations

### 4.1. Policy Review

### Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), 2020

The proposed development achieves objectives for efficient development and land use patterns. It represents new development taking place within the City's urban growth area, and within an area of the City that is currently building out. It also achieves objectives for compact form, mix of uses, and densities that allow for the efficient use of land, infrastructure and public service facilities, and maintains appropriate levels of public health and safety.

The subject lands were created through a consent application on lands that have been designated and intended for medium density residential uses over the long term. There are no natural heritage features present, and Provincial concerns for archaeological resource assessment and cultural heritage have been addressed through previous planning applications on the site. The proposed Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium is found to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement.

#### **The London Plan**

The London Plan is the new Official Plan for the City of London (Council adopted, approved by the Ministry with modifications, and the majority of which is in force and effect). The London Plan policies under appeal to the *Local Planning Appeals Tribunal* (Appeal PL170100) and not in force and effect are indicated with an asterisk (\*) throughout this report. The London Plan policies under appeal are included in this report for informative purposes indicating the intent of City Council but are not determinative for the purposes of this planning application.

These lands are within the "Neighbourhoods" Place Types at the intersection of two neighbourhood connectors which permits a range of residential uses from single detached dwellings to low-rise apartments at a maximum height of 3-storeys. The proposed cluster townhouse development at 2-storeys in height is in keeping with the

permitted uses and intensity of the Neighbourhood Place Type.

The City Building and Our Tools policies have also been applied in the review of this application. The proposed development is in keeping with the City Design policies regarding the site layout as it is designed in a manner that responds to its surrounding context. Front facades of the dwelling units along Aldersbrook Gate face the public road helping create a positive street-orientation. This orientation will create an appropriate response to the future developed on the opposite side of the street (252, 256). The site also promotes connectivity and safe pedestrian movement within the development through the use of internal sidewalks. These sidewalks will connect to Aldersbrook Gate, helping connect the future development to the surrounding community (255\*). As part of the site plan review process, the plans and building elevations were also reviewed for compliance with the City's Placemaking Guidelines and have been accepted as part of the Site Plan Approval process.

In the Our Tools section of The London Plan, Vacant Land Condominiums are considered based on the following (1709):

1. The same considerations and requirements for the evaluation of draft plans of subdivision shall apply to draft plans of vacant land condominium;

The proposed draft plan of vacant land condominium has been evaluated with regards to the review criteria for plans of subdivision. The proposed cluster townhouse dwelling units conform to the Official Plan and The London Plan policies, and have access to municipal services. The access and residential uses proposed are appropriate for the site, and there are no natural features or hazards associated with the site. There is sufficient open space/park space within the neighboruhood, and existing commercial uses in close proximity. Building elevation plans have been reviewed as part of the site plan submission. The size and style of townhouse dwellings are anticipated to contribute to housing choice and meet the community demand for housing type, tenure and affordability. Any outstanding grading and drainage issues that were not addressed through the plan of subdivision process have been addressed by the applicant's consulting engineer to the satisfaction of the City through the accepted engineering and servicing drawings, Development Agreement and Site Plan Approval process.

2. The applicant may be required to provide site development concepts and meet design requirement consistent with the Site Plan Control By-law as part of the consideration of a draft plan of vacant land condominium;

The draft plan of Vacant Land Condominium has been reviewed through the Site Plan approval process ensuring that the proposed site development concept meets the design requirements consistent with the Site Plan Control By-law. The various requirements of the Site Plan Control By-law have been implemented through a Development Agreement for the lands.

3. Proposals for vacant land condominiums which will result in units above or below any other unit will not be supported;

The proposed townhouse units do not result in unit boundaries below or above other units.

4. Only one dwelling will be permitted per unit;

There is only one townhouse dwelling proposed per unit.

5. At the time of registration, structures cannot cross unit boundaries;

A signed Development Agreement will be required prior to the final approval of the Vacant Land Condominium that will confirm both the location of strucures and unit boundaries.

6. The registration of a proposed development as more than one vacant land condominum corporation may be permitted if the proposal is supportive of comprehensive development and planning goals. The minimum number of units to be included in each condominum corporation will be adequate to allow for the reaonable independent operation of the condominum corporation.

The proposed cluster townouse development is to be developed as one condominium corporation.

### 1989 Official Plan

The 1989 Official Plan designation for these lands is Multi-Family, Medium Density Residential (MFMDR). The primary permitted uses in the Multi-Family, Medium Density Residential designation shall include multiple-attached dwellings, such as row houses or cluster houses; low-rise apartment buildings; rooming and boarding houses; emergency care facilities; converted dwellings; and small-scale nursing homes, rest homes and homes for the aged (3.3.1. Permitted Uses). The proposed vacant land condominium is in keeping with the range of permitted uses.

Developments within areas designated Multi-Family, Medium Density Residential shall have a low-rise form and a site coverage and density that could serve as a transition between low density residential areas and more intensive forms of development. The proposed townhouses take on a similar scale of development to what exists and is planned for in the area providing for a compatible form of development helping transition between the low-density residential land uses to the north and the higher order land uses and roads to the south. The development also provides a density of 36 uph which is less the 75 uph permitted in the MFMDR designation (3.3.3. Scale of Development).

# **Vacant Land Condominium Application**

The City of London Condominium Guidelines have been considered for the proposed Vacant Land Condominium which is comprised of various units and common elements. The City may require applicants to satisfy reasonable conditions prior to Final Approval and registration of the plan of condominium, as authorized under the provisions of subsection 51(25) of the *Planning Act*. In order to ensure that this Vacant Land Condominium development functions properly, the following may be required as conditions of draft approval:

- That site plan approval has been given and a Development Agreement has been entered into;
- Completion of site works in the common elements and the posting of security in addition to that held under the Development Agreement (if applicable), in the event these works are not completed prior to registration of the plan of condominium;
- Confirmation of addressing information and door point numbers;
- Payment of outstanding taxes or local improvement charges, if any;
- Provision of servicing easements for utility providers (such as London Hydro, Union Gas, Bell, etc.);
- The maintenance of any stormwater servicing works including on-site works;
- Arrangements be made dealing with rights of access to and use of joint facilities, and responsibility for and distribution of costs for maintenance of joint facilities; and,
- Ensuring that the Condominium Declaration to be registered on title adequately addresses the distribution of responsibilities between the unit owners and the condominium corporation for the maintenance of services, the internal driveway, amenity areas, and any other structures in the common elements.

### Z.-1 Zoning By-law

The existing zoning was approved by Council on December 10, 2019. The zoning is a Residential R5/R6/R7 (R5-3(20)/R6-5(66)/R7\*H15\*D75) Zone which permits a range of dwelling types, including the proposed cluster townhouse development. The proposed vacant land condominium and approved site plan are implemented through either the R5-3(20) or R6-5(66) zone variations which permit a maximum height of 12 metres and density of 40 uph. The proposed development is in keeping with the regulations of the existing zoning and no additional provisions or variances are required.

More information and detail is available in the appendices of this report.

# Conclusion

The proposed Vacant Land Condominium is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, and in conformity with The London Plan and the 1989 Official Plan. The proposed cluster townhouse dwelling units are appropriate for the site and permitted under the existing zoning. An application for Site Plan Approval has also been submitted and reviewed in conjunction with the application for Vacant Land Condominium.

Prepared by: Mike Corby, MCIP, RPP

Senior Planner, Development Services

Recommended by: Paul Yeoman, RPP, PLE

**Director, Development Services** 

Submitted by: George Kotsifas, P. Eng.

**Managing Director, Development and Compliance** 

**Services and Chief Building Official** 

CC: Matt Feldberg, Manager, Development Services (Subdivisions) Bruce Page, Manager, Development Planning Mike Pease, Manager, Development Planning

# **Appendix A – Community Engagement**

**Public liaison:** On February 5, 2021, Notice of Application was sent to 59 property owners in the surrounding area. Notice of Application was also published in the *Public Notices and Bidding Opportunities* section of *The Londoner* on February 11, 2021.

No replies were received.

**Nature of Liaison:** The purpose and effect of this application is to approve a Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium consisting of 5 townhouse buildings at 2.5-storeys in height with a total of 27 dwelling units. Common elements will be provided for private access driveway and services to be registered as one Condominium Corporation

### Responses to Public Liaison Letter and Publication in "The Londoner"

No comments were received from the Public

# **Agency/Departmental Comments**

Internal departments and external agencies were circulated for comment on December 2, 2020. The notice of application was for a 27-unit, Standard Draft plan of Condominium. On February 4, 2021 internal departments and external agencies were circulated the same application with the only change being the type of condominium being sought. The change was from a standard condominium to a vacant land condominium. Comments received are identified below:

#### Enbridge Gas – December 2, 2020/February 4, 2021

Thank you for your correspondence with regards to draft plan of approval for the above noted project.

It is (operating as Union Gas) requested that as a condition of final approval that the owner/developer provide to Union the necessary easements and/or agreements required by Union for the provision of gas services for this project, in a form satisfactory to Enbridge.

### London Hydro – December 2, 2020/February 4, 2021

Servicing the above proposal should present no foreseeable problems. Any new and/or relocation of existing infrastructure will be at the applicant's expense, maintaining safe clearances from L.H. infrastructure is mandatory. A blanket easement will be required. Note: Transformation lead times are minimum 16 weeks. Contact Engineering Dept. to confirm requirements & availability.

London Hydro has no objection to this proposal or possible official plan and/or zoning amendment. However, London Hydro will require a blanket easement.

# Hyrdo One - December 7, 2020/February 9, 2021

We are in receipt of Application 39CD-20514 dated December 2, 2020. We have reviewed the documents concerning the noted Plan and have no comments or concerns at this time. Our preliminary review considers issues affecting Hydro One's 'High Voltage Facilities and Corridor Lands' only.

### Stormwater Engineering Division – December 23, 2020

Please include the following condition from SWED for the above noted application.

"The Owner acknowledges that the subject lands are part of a Site Plan application which is being reviewed or has been accepted under the Site Plan Approvals Process (File # SPA19-112) and that the Owner agrees that the development of this site under Approval of Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium shall comply with all final approved

Site Plan conditions and approved engineering drawings for the current development application. Therefore, any conditions identified in the Development Agreement registered on title and any Private Permanent System(s) (PPS) that includes storm/drainage, Low Impact Development (LID) and SWM servicing works must be maintained and operated by the Owner in accordance with current applicable law."

### Bell Canada - December 3, 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have reviewed the circulation regarding the above noted application. The following paragraphs are to be included as a condition of approval:

"The Owner acknowledges and agrees to convey any easement(s) as deemed necessary by Bell Canada to service this new development. The Owner further agrees and acknowledges to convey such easements at no cost to Bell Canada.

The Owner agrees that should any conflict arise with existing Bell Canada facilities where a current and valid easement exists within the subject area, the Owner shall be responsible for the relocation of any such facilities or easements at their own cost."

The Owner is advised to contact Bell Canada at <a href="mailto:planninganddevelopment@bell.ca">planninganddevelopment@bell.ca</a> during the detailed utility design stage to confirm the provision of communication/telecommunication infrastructure needed to service the development.

It shall be noted that it is the responsibility of the Owner to provide entrance/service duct(s) from Bell Canada's existing network infrastructure to service this development. In the event that no such network infrastructure exists, in accordance with the Bell Canada Act, the Owner may be required to pay for the extension of such network infrastructure.

If the Owner elects not to pay for the above noted connection, Bell Canada may decide not to provide service to this development.

To ensure that we are able to continue to actively participate in the planning process and provide detailed provisioning comments, we note that we would be pleased to receive circulations on all applications received by the Municipality and/or recirculations.

We note that WSP operates Bell Canada's development tracking system, which includes the intake and processing of municipal circulations. However, all responses to circulations and requests for information, such as requests for clearance, will come directly from Bell Canada, and not from WSP. WSP is not responsible for the provision of comments or other responses.

# UTRCA - January 6, 2021

The UTRCA has no objections to this application and a Section 28 permit will not be required. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

