









Site Plan Review – Accessibility

Prepared by Planning and Building Services Department and Infrastructure and Engineering Services Department

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting - November 2, 2023

Site Plan Control

Pursuant to Section 41 of the *Planning Act*, Site Plan Control applies to specific areas and/or types of development that are required to be reviewed through the City's Site Plan or Site Plan Amendment application process.

In accordance with the *Planning Act*, development includes:

- Constructing, erecting or placing one or more buildings or structures on land, subject to certain exclusions for residential development proposals;
- Additions or alterations to a building or structure that significantly increases the size or usability of it;
- Establishing a commercial parking lot or making changes to one; and,
- All new construction and/or additions/modifications to industrial, commercial, institutional, mixed-use and multi-residential developments.

*Site Plan Control does not include the review of the interior design, floor plans and layout of buildings

Changes to Site Plan Control

Most recently the Province has introduced Bill 23, the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* and subsequently Bill 97, *the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023* which now changes the scope of the City's Site Plan Control, including but not limited to the following:

- Removal of Site Plan Control for residential development proposals up to 10 units, except for development that is in proximity to a shoreline or a railway line;
- Removal of a municipality's power to regulate exterior design with the exception of specific matters as outlined within the legislation; and,
- The City's Site Plan Control By-law has since been amended to recognize these legislative changes.

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City's Site Plan Review and Approval Process

In response to Bills 109, 23 and 97, the City has implemented a new Development Application Review and Approval Process, as endorsed by Council on July 5, 2023.

- Bill 109 Implements an application fee refund policy if approvals are not granted within a certain time period. For Site Plan applications, approvals must be granted within 60 days or refunds will need to be issued.
- > In July of 2023, Council endorsed the **Collaborative Application Process (CAP)**
- > **CAP** is a 3 phase development application review and approval process.
- > The Site Plan Review and Approval Process is subject to CAP and the 3 phases.

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Phase 1 – Pre-Submission Meeting

- > This is a current requirement under the *Planning Act* for most *Planning Act* applications;
- Applicant formally requests a Pre-Submission meeting with staff to present their proposal;
- Planning Staff present the proposal to an internal Development Application Review Committee (DARC) made up of City Departments, Divisions and some external agencies such as York Region and TRCA; and,
- A Pre-Submission Response Letter is issued to the applicant which includes all the preliminary comments received from DARC and outlines the submission requirements for the applicable development applications.

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Phase 2 – Pre-Application Submission

- The applicant prepares the submission of plans, studies and reports to support their development proposal in accordance with the Pre-Submission Response Letter from Phase 1;
- Staff review the submission for quality and once deemed acceptable and complete, the submission and material is circulated to internal and external departments for comments;
- This part of the process is the most vigorous and can include up to 3 revised submissions (there are some exceptions);
- Phase 2 is when most of the design and site organization is finalized, including but not limited to development limits, building envelope, vehicular and pedestrian accesses, connections and parking requirements; and,
- There are no statutory time limits to the review of a development proposal through this phase of CAP.

Site Plan Review Process – Circulation*

Site Plan Submissions are circulated to all applicable City departments and external agencies. This includes, but is not limited to, the following pertinent reviewers:

City Departments/Divisions

- Planning and Building Services Department
 - Development Planning Division
 - Building Services Division Building and Zoning Sections
 - Urban Design and Heritage Planning Division
 - Park and Natural Heritage Planning Division
- Infrastructure and Engineering Services Department
 - Infrastructure Planning and Development Engineering
 - Transportation and Traffic
 - Engineering Subdivisions and Infrastructure Planning
 - Site Plans and Site Alterations

External Agencies

- York Region
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

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Phase 3 – Submission of Site Plan and/or Site Plan Amendment Application

- > To be submitted following approval in principal of the CAP Phase 2 proposal;
- > All requirements pursuant to the *Planning Act* are implemented through Phase 3;
- Subject to Planning Act timelines (Site Plan approval must be issued within 60 days or the fees will be refunded);
- The applicant is required to enter into a Site Plan Agreement which is registered on title and binds them to the approved plans and drawings attached to the Agreement;
- Letter of Credit is also secured to ensure the works are completed to the City's satisfaction; and,
- Prior to the release of any LC's, City Inspectors conduct site visit to ensure the works are in accordance with the approved plans.

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Key Accessibility Elements

- Exterior Paths of Travel:
 - Clear Widths
 - Headroom Clearance
 - Slopes
 - Ramps and Handrails
 - Curb Depressions and Tactile Indicators





Key Accessibility Elements

- Accessible Parking Spaces:
 - Location
 - Quantity
 - Dimensions
 - ➤ Types A and B
 - Signage and Pavement Markings





12270 Yonge Street (Farm Boy)



Richmond Hill

12270 Yonge Street (Farm Boy)

