

January 8, 2024

City of Kelowna **Urban Planning Department**1435 Water Street,
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4

Rezoning Application from RU1 – Large Lot Housing to RU2 – Medium Lot Housing in Conjunction with a 2-Lot Subdivision at 436 Eldorado Rd.

Introduction

Dear Planning Staff,

As the need to create housing in BC increases, we intend to densify the subject property to its highest-and-best use. The purpose of this application is to rezone the eastern portion of the property from RU1 – Large Lot Housing to RU2 – Medium Lot Housing. Application for 2-Lot Subdivision is currently in-stream (S23-0036). The intent of the project is to construct 4 dwellings on each resulting property with a shared drive aisle down the middle. An Easement will be registered for the drive aisle at the time of subdivision approval. The existing dwelling will be removed. It is anticipated that a Development Permit will be submitted in early 2025.

Proposed Site Layout

The lot area of each resulting property meets the requirement of the RU2 zone at 716.8m² (Proposed Lot A) and 663.0m² (Proposed Lot B) and can easily support four-dwelling housing. A shared drive aisle will be accessed from Walker Road to avoid the safety concern of 2 accesses next to each other on the corner of Eldorado and Walker Road. Although the road classification is the same, Walker Road tends to be a quieter street and therefore provides better access. As shown on the attached Zoning Table, all rules and regulations under the RU2 zone will be met as part of the development process.

Infrastructure and Neighbourhood

The neighbouring properties are predominantly single-family housing. However, the property across the street at 442 Eldorado was recently subdivided and rezoned to RU2 – Medium Lot Housing. A Development Permit was submitted for 6 units between the 2 properties. The proposed subdivision will reflect the lot sizes of neighbouring properties on Eldorado Road, to the east. Services are available to the property from each road frontage, and the entire property is flat with no elevation changes.

It is anticipated that the proposal will conform to the existing character of the neighbourhood, while utilizing the highest-and-best use for the site. Increasing the unit count allows for new residents to join the neighbourhood.

Official Community Plan Conformance

This proposal conforms to the 2040 OCP – Future Land Use direction of *Suburban Residential*, as two-dwelling residential is a supported use. In addition, the following pillars are met:

1. Stop planning new suburban neighbourhoods.

Creating sensitive infill within existing neighbourhoods reduces the desire for new suburban neighbourhoods to be planned. In turn, those who wish to rent or purchase a new dwelling can do so without constructing a new single-family home in a new neighbourhood. In addition, new construction within existing neighbourhoods eliminates the need to create new service mains which are expensive to build and maintain.

2. Promote more housing diversity.

The Suburban Residential Future Land Use designation allows for a range of housing forms within existing suburban neighbourhoods. Four-dwelling housing is a great way to utilize the existing property and services to create a diverse housing option in a neighbourhood which is located nearby to amenities such as schools and parks.

3. Protect our environment.

Constructing two-dwelling and single-detached housing within an existing building envelope reduces the need for environmental impacts such as blasting, substantial site grading, and tree removal on undeveloped lots.

4. Prioritize sustainable transportation and shared mobility.

The subject property is located a half-kilometer from the Lakeshore Road Recreation Corridor which contains a bicycle network. In addition, Lakeshore Road is a BC Transit bus route; therefore, residents of the subject property have the opportunity to access public transit or a bike lane within a short distance of their doorstep.

Project Benefits

In the immediate neighbourhood within a 300m radius, there are 8 properties which are zoned RU2. We believe the application is beneficial to the community for multiple reasons.

Firstly, the application will allow for upgrades in a neighbourhood which has experienced sensitive redevelopment in recent years and will continue to see development with the adoption of the 2040 OCP. Secondly, the property is situated near amenities such as the Eldorado Road Beach Access. Lakeshore Road is the nearest arterial road which contains a BC Transit bus route and associated bus stops. The Lakeshore Road Recreation Corridor was also recently constructed for walking and biking access. Lastly, the subject property is located nearby elementary and secondary schools, making the subject property an excellent location for growing families.

We believe this project creates sensitive infill in a desirable area of Kelowna. For any questions regarding the application, please contact Urban Options Planning Corp. at the undersigned.

Regards,

Urban Options Planning Corp. by its authorized signatory, Birte Decloux, RPP MCIP

