

# **Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment**

October 11, 2023

**File:** A/159/23  
**Address:** Enterprise Boulevard  
**Applicant:** Gatzios Planning + Development Consultants Inc. (James Koutsovitis)  
**Agent:** Gatzios Planning + Development Consultants Inc. (James Koutsovitis)  
**Hearing Date:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023

The following comments are provided on behalf of the Central Team:

The Applicant is requesting relief from the following requirements of By-law 2004-196, as amended by By-law 2022-103 (MC-D2\*19(H) & MC-PS2), as it relates to a proposed high-rise mixed-use development. The variances requested are to permit:

**a) By-law 2022-103, Schedule H2:**

a maximum number of residential units of 1,360 units, whereas the By-law permits a maximum of 1,350 units;

**b) By-law 2022-103, Schedule H3:**

a minimum Canadian Geodetic Datum height of 176 metres in Area 1 on Schedule H3, whereas a minimum Canadian Geodetic Datum height of 180 metres is required within Area 1; and

**c) By-law 2004-196, Schedule H3:**

a minimum Canadian Geodetic Datum height of 176 metres in Area 2 on Schedule H3, whereas the minimum Canadian Geodetic Datum height in Area 2 is 191 metres.

This application is related to SPC 21 137365, which is currently under review.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Property Description**

The 5.12 acre (2.07 hectare) subject lands (the “Subject Lands”) are located on the north side of Enterprise Boulevard, west of the Stouffville-GO rail line and east of Bill Crothers Drive. The property is located within Markham Centre.

The property is vacant with the exception of a wooded area adjacent to the rail corridor and a woodland area along the northern portion.

### **Proposal**

The Applicant is proposing to construct three high-rise towers ranging in height from 36 to 44 storeys, with 1,360 residential units and approximately 200 square metres of commercial space on the ground-floor of one of the buildings. Vehicular parking is provided within one underground level and five levels of a parking structure, with approximately 1,027 parking spaces and a parking ratio of 0.75 parking spaces per unit

for residents and visitors combined. A vehicular driveway intersects Enterprise boulevard directly opposite University Boulevard.

### **Official Plan and Zoning**

#### Markham Centre Secondary Plan (1997)

The Subject Lands are designated Community Amenity Area – Major Urban Place and Open Space within the Markham Centre Secondary Plan. Official Plan Amendment 257, passed July 14, 2022, incorporated the Subject Lands into the Secondary Plan and will facilitate the redevelopment of the Subject Lands to permit a high density mixed use development.

#### Zoning By-Law 2004-196

The Subject Lands are zoned MC-D2\*19(H) & MC-PS2 under By-law 2004-196, as amended, by By-law 2022-13, which permits the proposed use.

The proposed development does not comply with the by-law as it related to the number of units and minimum Canadian Geodetic Height.

#### **Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken**

The Applicant has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has not been conducted. However, the applicant has received confirmation of the variances required through the ongoing Site Plan Application process. It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application has accurately identified all the variances to the Zoning By-law required for the proposed development. If the variance request in this application contains errors, or if the need for additional variances is identified during the Building Permit review process, further variance application(s) may be required to address the non-compliance.

### **COMMENTS**

The *Planning Act* states that four tests must be met in order for a variance to be granted by the Committee of Adjustment:

- a) The variance must be minor in nature;
- b) The variance must be desirable, in the opinion of the Committee of Adjustment, for the appropriate development or use of land, building or structure;
- c) The general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law must be maintained; and
- d) The general intent and purpose of the Official Plan must be maintained.

#### Increase in Maximum Building Height

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit a minimum Canadian Geodetic Datum (CGD) height of 176 metres as noted in Area 1 on Schedule H3 of the By-law, whereas a minimum CGD height of 190 metres is required within area 1.

The Applicant is also requesting relief to permit a minimum CGD height of 176 metres as noted in Area 2 on Schedule H3 of the By-law, whereas a minimum CGD height of 191 metres is required within Area 2.

The variance is technical in nature. It is to facilitate the construction of the underground parking garage which is partially above grade, which affects the minimum CGD height. Staff find this technical variance minor and nature and have no concerns with the request.

### **Increase in Maximum number of residential units**

The Applicant is requesting to increase the maximum number of residential units to 1,360 units, whereas the By-law permits a maximum of 1,350 units.

The Applicant has revised their plans to include the additional units without making changes to the building footprint or height. The City's Engineering department has commented that they have no concerns with providing water or wastewater services, and that they do not object to the proposed variance. The City's Transportation Engineer provided no comment or objection to the proposed increase. The increase in units is minor and Planning staff have no concerns with the proposed increase.

### **EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

#### **Metrolinx Requirements**

- The subject property is located directly adjacent to Metrolinx's Uxbridge Subdivision which carries Metrolinx's Stouffville GO Train service.
- The Proponent shall provide confirmation to Metrolinx, that the following warning clause will be inserted into all Development Agreements, Offers to Purchase, and Agreements of Purchase and Sale or Lease of each unit within 300 metres of the Railway Corridor:
  - Warning: Metrolinx and its assigns and successors in interest has or have a right-of-way within 300 metres from the subject land. There may be alterations to or expansions of the rail or other transit facilities on such right-of-way in the future including the possibility that Metrolinx or any railway entering into an agreement with Metrolinx to use the right-of-way or their assigns or successors as aforesaid may expand or alter their operations, which expansion or alteration may affect the environment of the occupants in the vicinity, notwithstanding the inclusion of any noise and vibration attenuating measures in the design of the development and individual lots, blocks or units.

Please note that Metrolinx is a stakeholder that has provided comments on the comprehensive application including the Site Plan Application and has been in engagement with the developer regarding this proposal. Any requirements set out in prior comments are still applicable.

### **PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY**

No written submissions were received as of October 10, 2023. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

### **CONCLUSION**

Planning Staff have reviewed the application with respect to Section 45(1) of The *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended, and are of the opinion that the variance request meets the four tests of the *Planning Act* and have no objection. Staff recommend that the Committee consider public input in reaching a decision.

The onus is ultimately on the applicant to demonstrate why they should be granted relief from the requirements of the zoning by-law, and how they satisfy the tests of the *Planning Act* required for the granting of minor variances.

Please refer to Appendix "C" for conditions to be attached to any approval of this application.

PREPARED BY:



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Elizabeth Martelluzzi, MCIP RPP, Senior Planner, Central District

REVIEWED BY:



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Deanna Schlosser, MCIP RPP, Senior Planner, Central District

APPENDICES

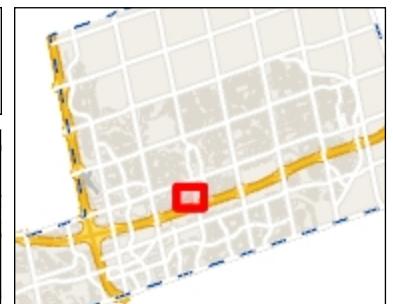
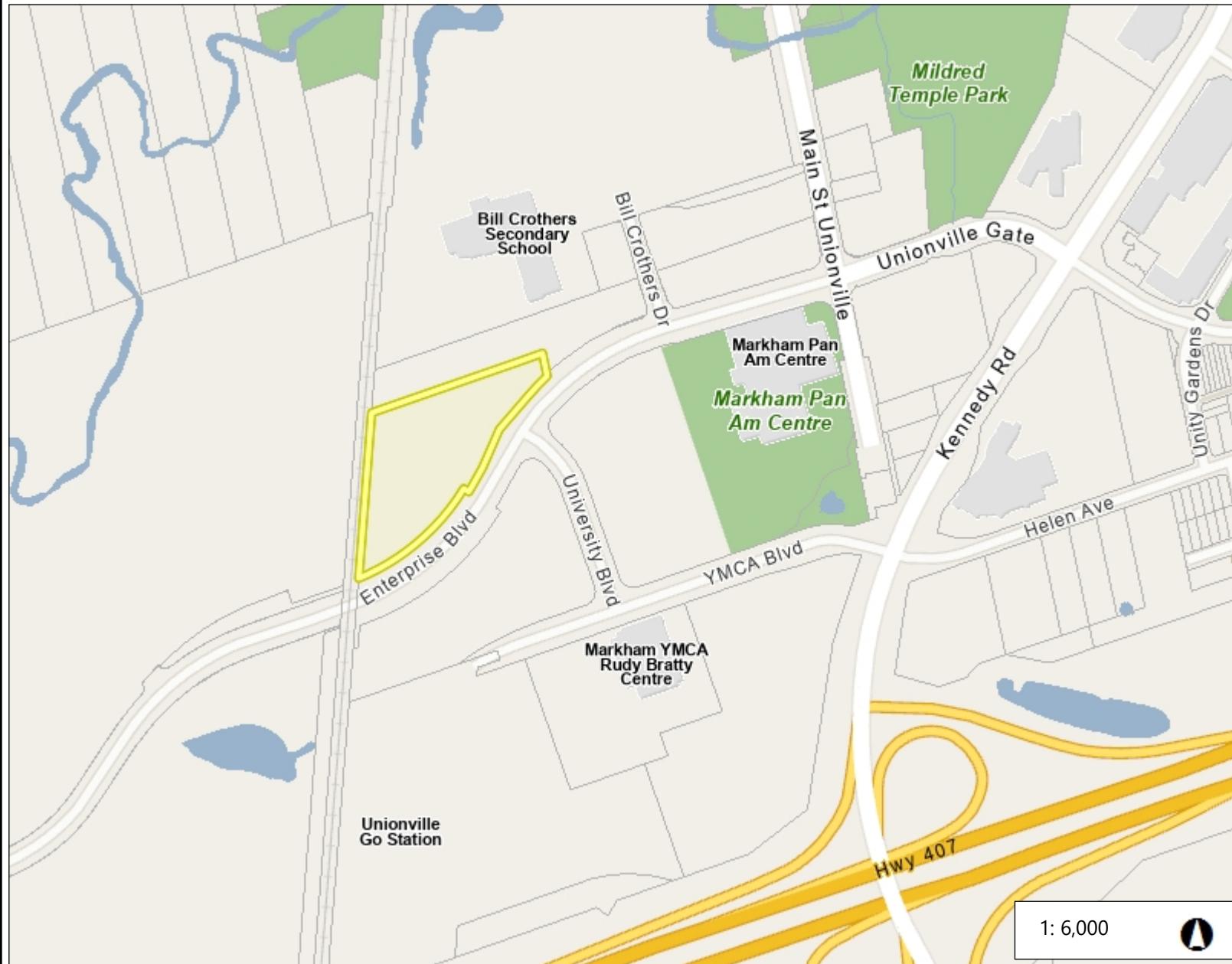
Appendix "A" – Location Map

Appendix "B" – Plans

Appendix "C" – A/159/23 Conditions of Approval



## Appendix "A" - Location Map



● Subject Lands

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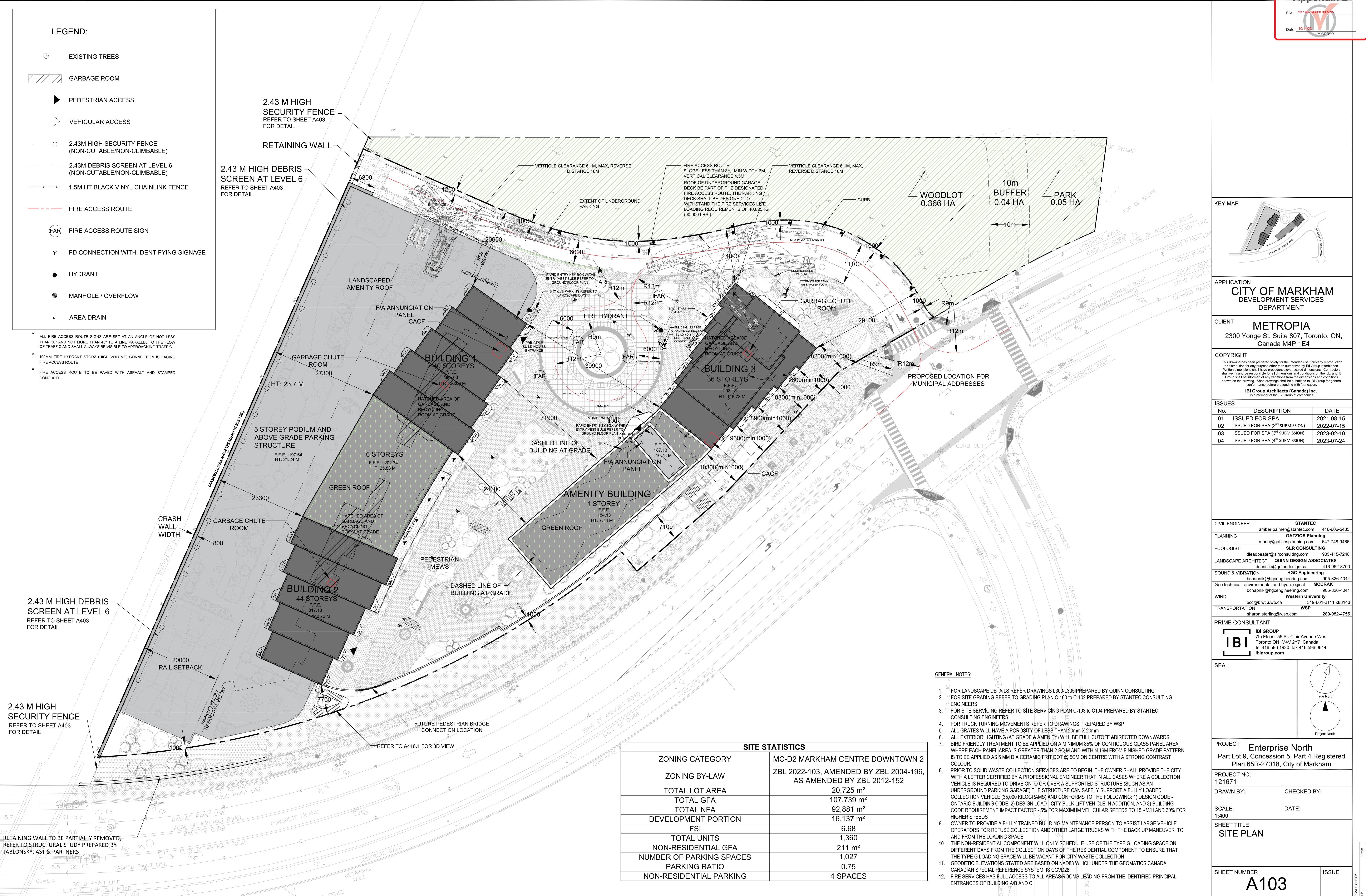
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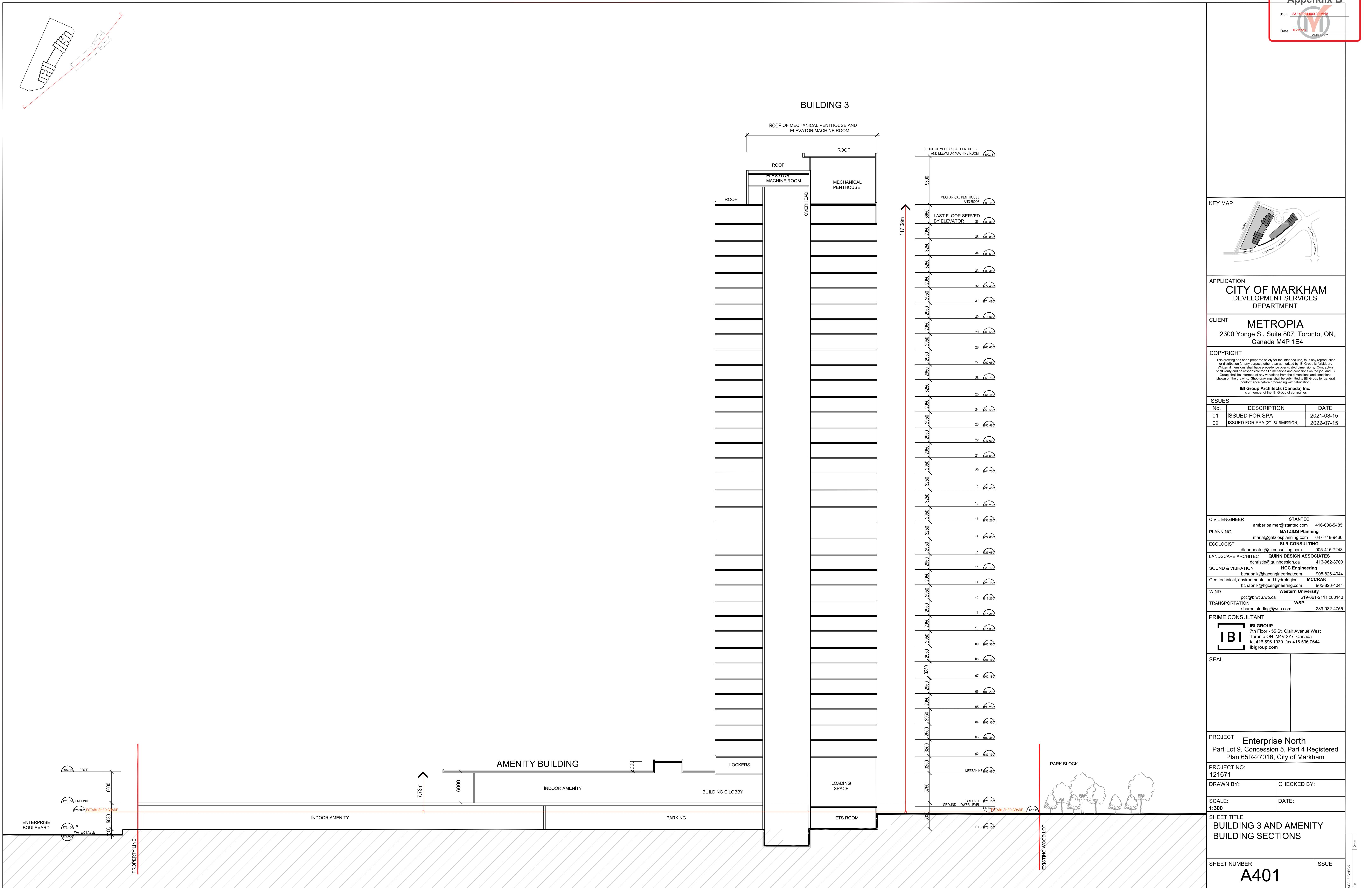
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NAD\_1983\_UTM\_Zone\_17N  
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DISCLAIMER: The information is presented on a best-efforts basis, and should not be relied upon for making financial, survey, legal or other commitments. If you have questions or comments regarding the data displayed on this map, please email [cgis@markham.ca](mailto:cgis@markham.ca) and you will be directed to the appropriate department.

Notes





## **APPENDIX “C” – A/159/23 Conditions of Approval**

1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains; and
2. That the variances apply only to the subject development, in substantial conformity with the plan(s) attached as Appendix “B” to this Staff Report; or further revised by any site plan ‘endorsed’ or ‘approved’ drawings under File SPC 21 137365, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Director of Planning and Urban Design or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to his or her satisfaction.

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:



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Elizabeth Martelluzzi, MCIP RPP, Senior Planner, Central District