Toronto Local Appeal Body

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Telephone: 416-392-4697 Fax: 416-696-4307 Email: tlab@toronto.ca Website: www.toronto.ca/tlab

DECISION AND ORDER

Decision Issue Date Wednesday, June 22, 2022

PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER Section 53, subsection 53(19), section 45(12), subsection 45(1) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended (the "Act")

Appellant(s): ABTIN RAHIM

Applicant: ARCICA INC

Property Address/Description: 338 HORSHAM AVE

Committee of Adjustment Case File Number: 20 200896 NNY 18 CO, 20 200910 NNY

18 MV, 20 200911 NNY 18 MV

TLAB Case File Number: 21 122509 S53 18 TLAB, 21 122510 S45 18 TLAB, 21

122511 S45 18 TLAB

Hearing date: August 18, 2021, October 28, 2021, November 25, 2021,

March 7, 2022, May 25, 2022

Deadline Date for Closing Submissions/Undertakings:

DECISION DELIVERED BY: TLAB PANEL MEMBER S. MAKUCH

REGISTERED PARTIES AND PARTICIPANT

APPELLANT ABTIN RAHIM

APPELLANT LEGAL REP AMBER STEWART

APPLICANT ARCICA INC

PARTY CITY OF TORONTO

PARTY LEGAL REP CITY OF TORONTO (DERIN ABIMBOLA)

PARTY LEGAL REP CITY OF TORONTO (BEN BAENA)

EXPERT WITNESS MICHAEL ROMERO

EXPERT WITNESS FRANCO ROMANO

INTRODUCTION

This is an appeal of: (1) the refusal to approve a consent to create two undersized lots and of (2) the refusal of variances to permit the construction of a single detached dwelling on each of the proposed lots at 338 Horsham (the property) which is in the West Willowdale area of North York. The variances are set out in Appendix 1. They relate to lot frontage, area, and coverage; building and wall height; side yard set backs; and height of the first floor elevation. The only party in opposition was the City. There were no participants and no neighbours who appeared at the hearing.

BACKGROUND AND MATTERS IN ISSUE

Although the obligation on the applicant on this appeal is to demonstrate that all the variances and the consent meet the requirements of the Planning Act and the provincial requirements, -all set out below, the issues on this appeal are fundamentally the following: (1) did the reduced lot frontage and size meet the general intent and purpose of the Official Plan in that they respected and reinforced the physical character of the neighbourhood or were they out of character because they were so small; (2) did the reduction in side yard set backs meet the general intent and purpose of the official plan or did they adversely affect the rhythm of the street and thus did not respect and reinforce the physical character of the area. There was virtually no significant concern raised the regarding building and wall height and the elevation of the first floor. There was evidence supporting these variances and evidence that the proposal conformed with provincial requirements. If the variances for frontage, lot size and set backs are approved, then the proposed consent could be approved and no plan of subdivision would be required, although certain standard conditions are recommended if the appeal were granted.

JURISDICTION

Minor Variance - S. 45(1)

In considering the applications for variances form the Zoning By-laws, the TLAB Panel must be satisfied that the applications meet all of the four tests under s. 45(1) of the Act. The tests are whether the variances:

- maintain the general intent and purpose of the Official Plan:
- maintain the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-laws;
- are desirable for the appropriate development or use of the land; and
- are minor.

Provincial Policy – S. 3

A decision of the Toronto Local Appeal Body ('TLAB') must be consistent with the 2020 Provincial Policy Statement ('PPS') and conform to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe for the subject area ('Growth Plan').

Consent - S. 53

TLAB must be satisfied that a plan of subdivision is not necessary for the orderly development of the municipality pursuant to s. 53(1) of the Act and that the application for consent to sever meets the criteria set out in s. 51(24) of the Act. These criteria require that " regard shall be had, among other matters, to the health, safety, convenience, accessibility for persons with disabilities and welfare of the present and future inhabitants of the municipality and to,

- (a) the effect of development of the proposed subdivision on matters of provincial interest as referred to in section 2 of the Planning Act;
- (b) whether the proposed subdivision is premature or in the public interest;
- (c) whether the plan conforms to the official plan and adjacent plans of subdivision, if any;
- (d) the suitability of the land for the purposes for which it is to be subdivided;
- (d.1) if any affordable housing units are being proposed, the suitability of the proposed units for affordable housing;
- (e) the number, width, location and proposed grades and elevations of highways, and the adequacy of them, and the highways linking the highways in the proposed subdivision with the established highway system in the vicinity and the adequacy of them;
- (f) the dimensions and shapes of the proposed lots;
- (g) the restrictions or proposed restrictions, if any, on the land proposed to be subdivided or the buildings and structures proposed to be erected on it and the restrictions, if any, on adjoining land;
- (h) conservation of natural resources and flood control;
- (i) the adequacy of utilities and municipal services;
- (j) the adequacy of school sites;

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- (k) the area of land, if any, within the proposed subdivision that, exclusive of highways, is to be conveyed or dedicated for public purposes;
- (I) the extent to which the plan's design optimizes the available supply, means of supplying, efficient use and conservation of energy; and
- (m) the interrelationship between the design of the proposed plan of subdivision and site plan control matters relating to any development on the land, if the land is also located within a site plan control area designated under subsection 41 (2) of this Act or subsection 114 (2) of the City of Toronto Act, 2006. 1994, c. 23, s. 30; 2001, c. 32, s. 31 (2); 2006, c. 23, s. 22 (3, 4); 2016, c. 25, Sched. 4, s. 8 (2).

EVIDENCE

Two planners presented the evidence. Both were eminently qualified and experienced and provided detailed evidence in witness statements on file with TLAB which reached opposite conclusions. The evidence for the applicant /appellant was provided by Mr. Romano; that of the City by Mr. Romero. It was clear on the evidence that if the consent were granted, although the current property frontage is among of the largest in the area, the proposed lot frontage variance would result in lots with frontages among the smallest in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Romano's relevant evidence may be summarized as follows.- The proposed development meet the general intent of the Official Plan as the dwellings respected and reinforced the character of the area as it is a two story detached dwelling in an area of similar dwellings. His evidence was that the proposed lot frontage of 9.905m versus the 15m required, and the resulting proposed lot size of 397.5 versus the 550 required, are not out of keeping with the character of the street on which they are to be located as it is a street with a mix of lot frontages. The street includes frontages of a similar size, and indeed smaller. The proposed smaller lot size is a function of the frontage and will not be noticeable as the small size will be largely only to the rear of the dwelling and there are no rear yard set backs being sought. While there were large areas of the neighbourhood which had uniformly larger lot frontages this was not the case on Horsham Ave. There had been approvals of smaller frontages on the street and thus the physical character of the street is one of a mixture of lot frontages and lot sizes including modest sizes as those proposed. In his opinion smaller frontages had caused no instability in the neighbourhood.

He also gave evidence that there are existing dwellings on Horsham Ave. with side yard set backs similar to those proposed. His evidence was that the variance in side yard setbacks would not stand out and thus not fail to respect and reinforce the character of the area.

Mr Romero's evidence did not contradict that of Mr. Romano in a meaningful way, since the two planners agreed on the existing lot frontages and sizes on a lot by lot basis. However, Mr. Romearo, I find, focused on a larger area and the prevailing character of that area. When one considers the larger areas that Mr. Romano and Mr. Romaro studied, although they were somewhat different in size and shape, their physical character, as Mr. Romearo pointed out, was significantly different from Horsham Ave. itself. The prevailing character of the wider neighbourhood was one of larger lots with larger frontages than those proposed, with certain limited exceptions. In addition he pointed out that Amendment 320 to the Official Plan required a consideration of the prevailing character of the wider area. Moreover, the prevailing character could not be one of a mixture of lot sizes as such a description would negate the obligation to determine the prevailing character. In addition it was his opinion that the proposed reduced side yard set backs from 1.8m to .9m, a 50% reduction, would disrupt the rhythm of Horsham Ave. with most dwellings having wider set backs which provided a more open space feel. The proposed set back variances would therefore be an overdevelopment of the site as they would be noticeable and would result in a stark departure from the existing pattern of development on Horsham Ave. and would not be appropriate for the development of the property.

ANALYSIS, FINDINGS, REASONS

I find that the variances should be allowed. The Planning Act requires that I consider the general intent of the Official Plan not merely its specific provisions. I find and the planners agree that the general intent is to ensure the proposed variances and proposed development respect and reinforces the physical character of the area. I find the question to be determined in evaluating the general intent is not detailed numerical calculations of the number of lots with certain frontages in a large area but rather whether this particular development will fit where it is proposed to be located in the area or neighbourhood. Therefore, the question before me can be put as follows: will the proposed development fit, or will someone, when walking down the street be struck by it as being out of place or inappropriately standing out.

I find that the smaller lot size will not be noticeable as it will be hidden to the rear of the dwellings and that the narrow frontages will not stand out as there are similar frontages nearby on the same street. I reach a a similar conclusion regarding the side yard setbacks and find that the reduction of less than a metre on a street where there are similar setbacks will not appear out of place, or to be overdevelopment; especially where lot coverage is only 2% above the bylaw limit. For these reasons I find that that lot frontage size and sideyard setbacks variances do respect and reinforce the physical character of the area, being Horsham Ave.

The remaining evidence does not call into question the conclusion that the other variances also meet this general intent. All the variances, I conclude, cumulatively and individually meet the four tests for variances as not only do they meet the general intent of the Official Plan but they also meet the general intent of the zoning bylaw which is to implement the Official Plan. Moreover, since they have no demonstrated adverse

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impact on any other properties and no neighbours or residents group appeared to oppose them they are desirable for the appropriate development of the land for detached two story residential dwellings. It is clear on the evidence and the above conclusions that no plan of subdivision is required in this developed area and that the consent should be granted. Both variances and consent should be subject to the recommended conditions.

I wish to note, however, that although these narrow frontages and small lot sizes are approved in this location I find Mr. Romero's concerns regarding them valid if they were sought for lots in other areas of the neighbourhood where there is a uniformity of wider frontages and larger lots.

DECISION AND ORDER

The appeal is allowed and variances in Appendix I are approved, the consent in Appendix 2 is granted, subject to the conditions in Appendix 3

S. Makuch

Panel Chair, Toronto Local Appeal

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APPENDIX 1

1. Chapter 10.20.30.20, By-law No. 569-2013

The minimum required lot frontage is 15m.

The proposed lot frontage is 9.905m.

2. Chapter 10.20.30.10, By-law No. 569-2013

The minimum required lot area is 550m².

The proposed lot are is 397.5m²

3. Chapter 10.20.40.70 Exception RD5, By-law No. 569-2013

The minimum required side yard setback is 1.8m.

The proposed east side yard setback is 1.2m.

4. Chapter 10.20.40.70 Exception RD5, By-law No. 569-2013

The minimum required side yard setback is 1.8m.

The proposed west side yard setback is 0.9m.

5. Chapter 10.5.40.60(1), By-law No. 569-2013

The front porch is required to be a minimum of 1.8m from the side lot line.

The proposed front porch is 1.2m from the side lot line.

6. Chapter 10.5.40.60(2), By-law No. 569-2013

The rear deck is required to be a minimum of 1.8m from the side lot line.

The proposed rear deck is 1.2m from the side lot line.

7. Chapter 10.20.30.40, By-law No. 569-2013

The maximum permitted lot coverage is 30% of the lot area.

The proposed lot coverage is 32% of the lot area.

8. Chapter 10.20.40.10, By-law No. 569-2013

The maximum permitted wall height is 7.5m.

The proposed wall height is 7.81m for the pair of side walls.

9. Section 13.2.6, By-law No. 7625

The maximum permitted building height is 8.8m.

The proposed building height is 9.27m.

10. Section 13.2.6, By-law No. 7625

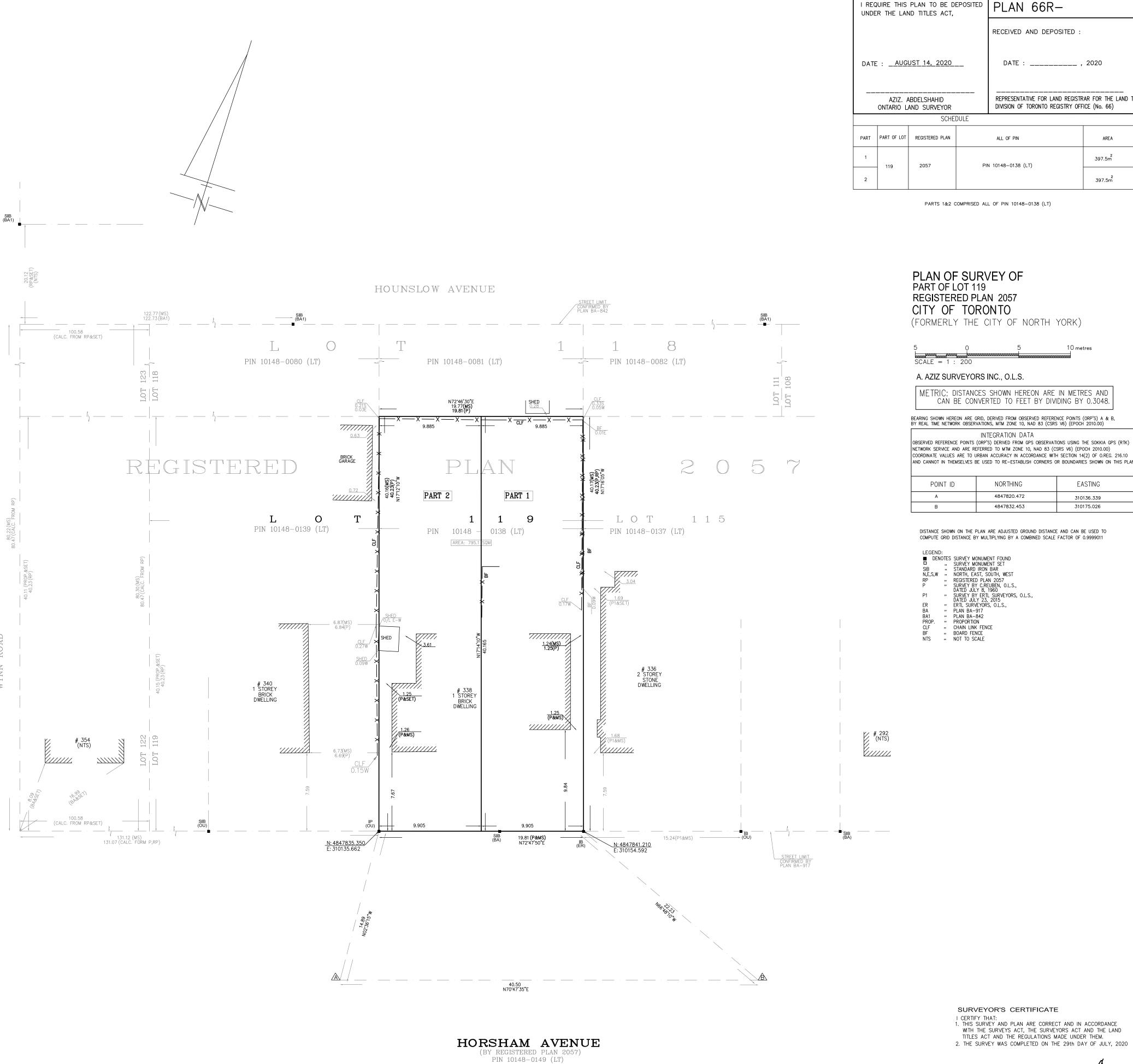
The maximum permitted first floor elevation is 1.5m above established grade.

The proposed first floor elevation is 1.9m above established grad

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APPENDIX 2

Attach R plans from CofA Decision filed with TLAB on September 30, 2020



SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE I CERTIFY THAT:

1. THIS SURVEY AND PLAN ARE CORRECT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SURVEYS ACT, THE SURVEYORS ACT AND THE LAND TITLES ACT AND THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THEM. 2. THE SURVEY WAS COMPLETED ON THE 29th DAY OF JULY, 2020

PLAN 66R-

ALL OF PIN

PIN 10148-0138 (LT)

INTEGRATION DATA

NORTHING

4847820.472

4847832.453

RECEIVED AND DEPOSITED :

DATE : ______ , 2020

DIVISION OF TORONTO REGISTRY OFFICE (No. 66)

REPRESENTATIVE FOR LAND REGISTRAR FOR THE LAND TITLES

10 metres

EASTING

310136.339

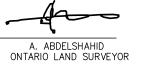
310175.026

AREA

397.5m

397.5m²

AUGUST 14, 2020



A. AZIZ SURVEYORS INC. ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS 120 NEWKIRK ROAD- #31, RICHMOND HILL, ONT. L4C-9S7 Tel. (905) 237-8224 Fax: (416) 477-5465 Wébsite : M-Azizsurveyors.ca

E-Mail: aziz@m-azizsurveyors.ca PROJECT NUMBER PROJECT 338 HORSHAM AVENUE (RP) 20-187 DRAWN BY CH CHECKED BY

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APPENDIX 3

Variance Conditions

1. Construction to be substantially in accordance with the following plans:

Attach site plan p. 65 of Franco Romano Witness Statement filed with TLAB May 17, 2021

Attach elevations only from Tab 10 of Franco Romano Documents Disclosure filed May 17 2021

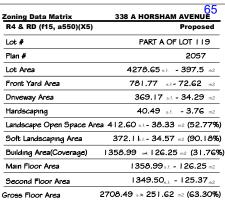
- 2. Submission of a complete application for a permit to injure or remove a City owned tree(s), as per City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 813, Trees Article II Trees on City Streets
- 3. Where there is no existing street tree, the owner shall provide payment in lieu of planting of one street tree on the City road allowance abutting each of the sites involved in the application. The current cash-in-lieu payment is \$583/tree.

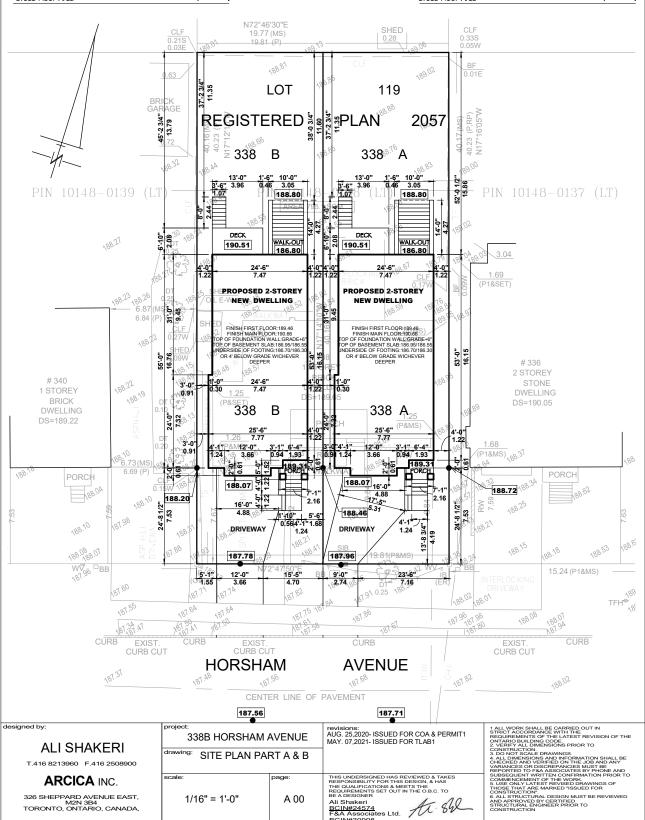
Zoning Data Matrix R4 & RD (f15, a550)(X5)	338 B HORSHAM AVENUE Proposed
Lot #	PART B OF LOT 119
Plan #	2057
Lot Area	4278.65 s.f 397.5 m2
Front Yard Area	781.77 s.f 72.62 m2
Driveway Area	367.89 s.f 34.18 m2
Hardscaping	40.49 s.f 3.76 m2
Landscape Open Space Ar	rea 413.88 s.t 38.45 m2 (52.94%)
Soft Landscaping Area	373.39 s.f 34.69 m2 (90.22%)
Building Area(Coverage)	1358.99 srt. 126.25 m2 (31.76%
Main Floor Area	1358.99 s.f 126.25 m2
Second Floor Area	1349.50 _{s.f.} - 125.37 _{m2}
Gross Floor Area	2708.49 s.t 251.62 m2 (63.30%)
/	CLF 0.21S 0.03E

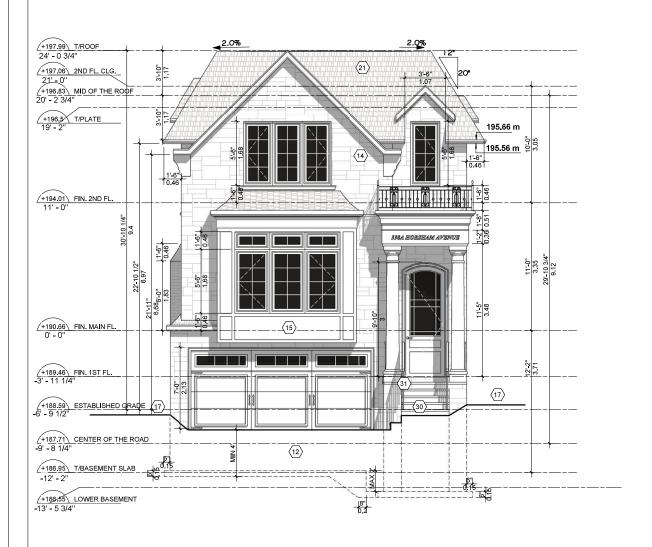
326 SHEPPARD AVENUE EAST, M2N 3B4 TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA,

1/16" = 1'-0"

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ALI SHAKERI

designed by:

T.416 8213960 F.416 2508900

ARCICA INC.

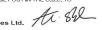
326 SHEPPARD AVENUE EAST, M2N 3B4 TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA,

338A HORSHAM AVENUE drawing: MAIN ELEVATION(SOUTH)

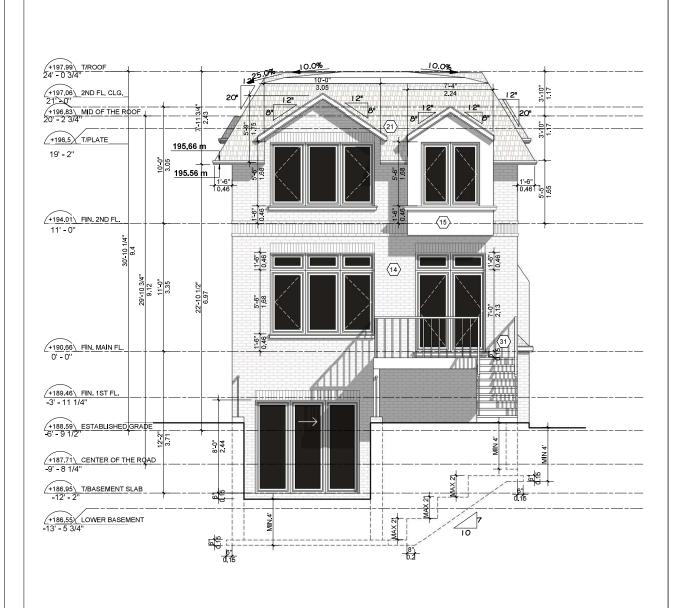
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designed by:

ALI SHAKERI

T.416 8213960 F.416 2508900

ARCICA INC.

326 SHEPPARD AVENUE EAST, M2N 3B4 TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA,

338A HORSHAM AVENUE

drawing: REAR ELEVATION(NORTH)

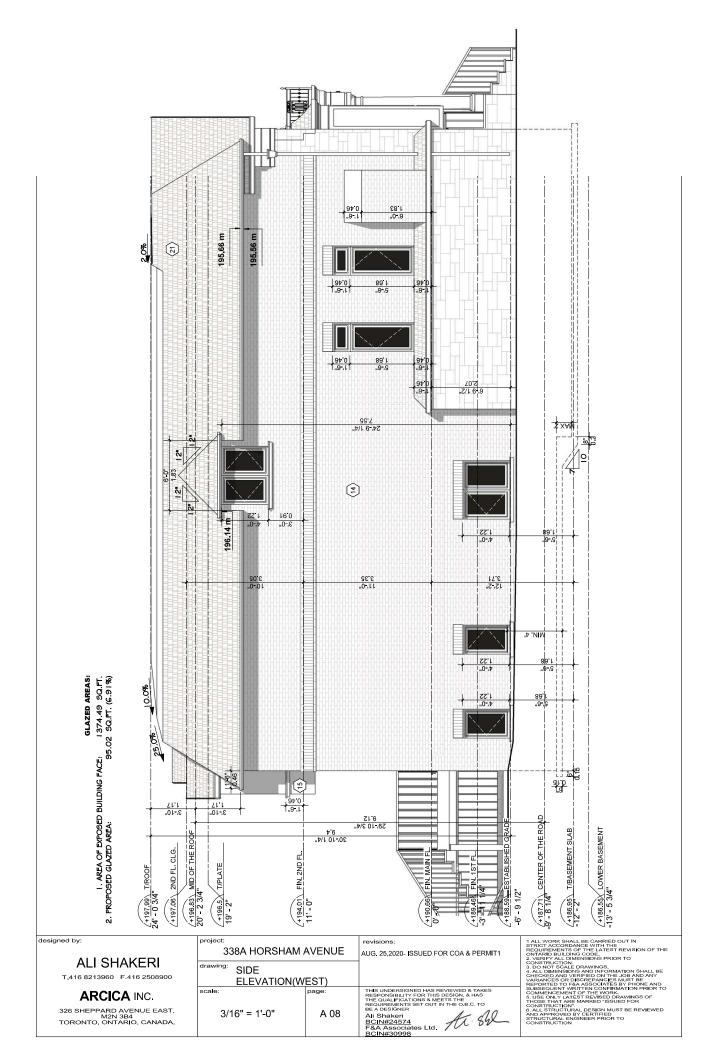
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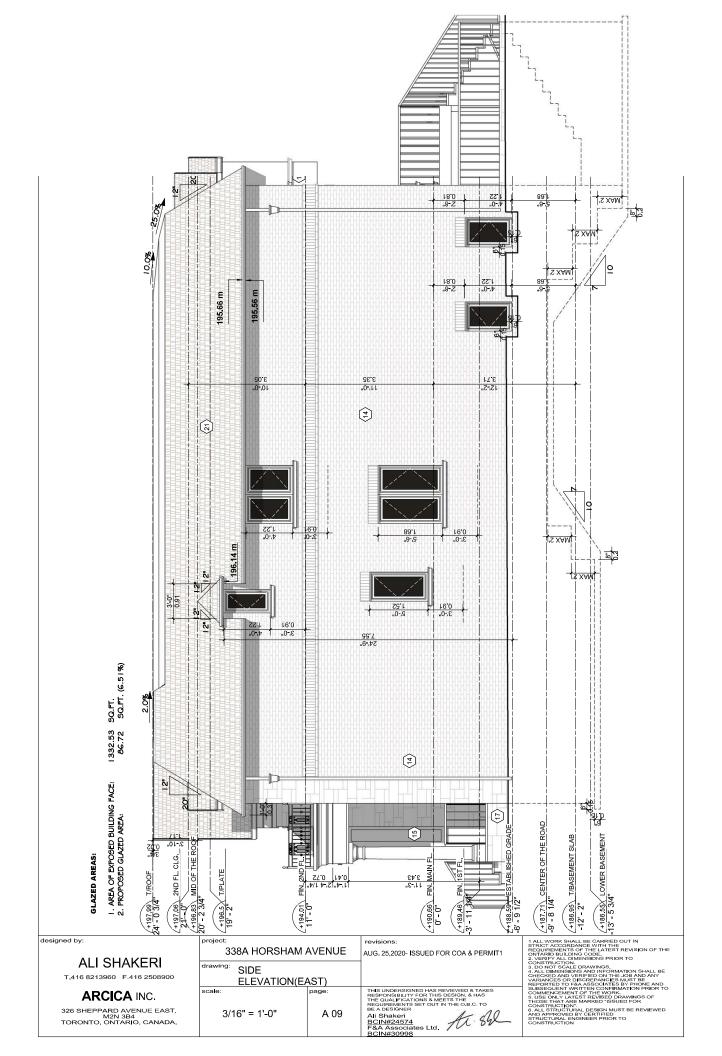
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CONSTRUCTION

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Standard Consent Conditions

The Consent Application is approved on Condition

The TLAB therefore consents to the transaction as shown on the plan filed with the TLAB or as otherwise specified by this Decision and Order, on the condition that before a Certificate of Official is issued, as required by Section 53(42) of the Planning Act, the applicant is to fulfill the following conditions to the satisfaction of the Deputy Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

- (1) Confirmation of payment of outstanding taxes to the satisfaction of the Revenue Services Division, in the form of a statement of tax account current to within 30 days of an applicant's request to the Deputy Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment to issue the Certificate of Official as outlined in Condition 6.
- (2) Municipal numbers for the subject lots, blocks, parts, or otherwise indicated on the applicable registered reference plan of survey shall be assigned to the satisfaction of the Supervisor, Surveys, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services.
- (3) One electronic copy of the registered reference plan of survey integrated to NAD 83 CSRS (3 degree Modified Transverse Mercator projection), delineating by separate Parts the lands and their respective areas, shall be filed with, and to the satisfaction of, the Manager, Land and Property Surveys, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services.
- (4) One electronic copy of the registered reference plan of survey satisfying the requirements of the Manager, Land and Property Surveys, Engineering Support Services, Engineering and Construction Services shall be filed with the Deputy Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment.
- (5) Prepare and submit a digital draft of the Certificate of Official, Form 2 or 4, O. Reg. 197/96, referencing either subsection 50(3) or (5) of the Planning Act if applicable as it pertains to the conveyed land and/or consent transaction to the satisfaction of the Deputy Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment.
- (6) Once all of the other conditions have been satisfied, the applicant shall request, in writing, that the Deputy Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment issue the Certificate of Official.
- (7) Within TWO YEARS of the date of the giving of this notice of decision, the applicant shall comply with the above-noted conditions.

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