

**PEDESTRIAN LEVEL
WIND STUDY**

1971 & 1975 St. Laurent Boulevard
Ottawa, Ontario

Report: 21-328-PLW



February 4, 2022

DRAFT

PREPARED FOR
Starlight Group Property Holdings Inc.
1971 St. Laurent Boulevard
Ottawa, ON K1G 3P8

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes a pedestrian level wind (PLW) study undertaken to satisfy Site Plan Control application submission requirements for the proposed residential intensification development located at 1971 & 1975 St. Laurent Boulevard in Ottawa, Ontario (hereinafter referred to as “subject site” or “proposed development”). Our mandate within this study is to investigate pedestrian wind comfort and safety within and surrounding the subject site, and to identify areas where wind conditions may interfere with certain pedestrian activities so that mitigation measures may be considered.

The study involves simulation of wind speeds for selected wind directions in a three-dimensional (3D) computer model using the computational fluid dynamics (CFD) technique, combined with meteorological data integration, to assess pedestrian wind comfort and safety within and surrounding the subject site according to City of Ottawa wind comfort and safety criteria. The results and recommendations derived from these considerations are detailed in the main body of the report (Section 5), illustrated in Figures 3A-8, and summarized as follows:

- 1) All grade-level areas within and surrounding the subject site are predicted to experience conditions that are considered acceptable for the intended pedestrian uses throughout the year. Specifically, conditions over surrounding sidewalks, walkways, bus stops, parking spaces, outdoor amenities, and in the vicinity of building access points, are considered acceptable. One exception is noted below.
 - a. Conditions over the proposed parkland dedication space are predicted to be mostly suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn, with the southeast corner being suitable for standing. Depending on the programming of the space, the noted conditions may be considered acceptable. If necessary, sitting conditions may be extended at the southeast with landscaping features, such as tall wind barriers, topographical depressions or berms, or dense coniferous plantings.
- 2) Regarding the elevated amenity terraces serving Buildings A, B, and C and the parkade, wind conditions are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period, which is considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.



- 3) The foregoing statements and conclusions apply to common weather systems, during which no dangerous wind conditions, as defined in Section 4.4, are expected anywhere over the subject site. During extreme weather events, (e.g., thunderstorms, tornadoes, and downbursts), pedestrian safety is the main concern. However, these events are generally short-lived and infrequent and there is often sufficient warning for pedestrians to take appropriate cover.

Addendum: The detailed PLW study was performed based on architectural drawings received in January 2022. An update from Petroff Partnership Architects on February 4, 2022, indicated that the heights of the buildings have changed. Specifically, in the update, Building A is 17 storeys (down from 18 storeys), Building B is unchanged at 17 storeys, and Building C is 17 storeys (up from 16 storeys). For the wind study, while the changes in the update are expected to have a minor effect, including a small beneficial effect over the parkland dedication, the main conclusions of the study are not expected to change.



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1. INTRODUCTION

Gradient Wind Engineering Inc. (Gradient Wind) was retained by Starlight Group Property Holdings Inc. to undertake a pedestrian level wind (PLW) study to satisfy Site Plan Control application submission requirements for the proposed residential intensification development located at 1971 & 1975 St. Laurent Boulevard in Ottawa, Ontario (hereinafter referred to as “subject site” or “proposed development”). Our mandate within this study is to investigate pedestrian wind comfort and safety within and surrounding the subject site, and to identify areas where wind conditions may interfere with certain pedestrian activities so that mitigation measures may be considered, where required.

Our work is based on industry standard computer simulations using the computational fluid dynamics (CFD) technique and data analysis procedures, City of Ottawa wind comfort and safety criteria, architectural drawings prepared by Petroff Partnership Architects, in January 2022, surrounding street layouts and existing and approved future building massing information obtained from the City of Ottawa, as well as recent satellite imagery.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The subject site is located on a nominally triangular parcel of land bounded by St. Laurent Boulevard to the northwest and west, Russell Road to the northeast, and residential buildings to the south. The planned intensification project comprises two existing 18-storey buildings (hereinafter referred to as 1971 St. Laurent and 1975 St. Laurent), and three new proposed buildings (hereinafter referred to as Buildings A, B, and C) and a parkade.

Building A is an 18-storey building located at the north of the site. For Building A, the St. Laurent Boulevard elevation is considered as project north. Above the basement level, the ground floor comprises residential units along the north and east elevations, a fitness centre at the northeast corner, a residential lobby at the south elevation, and shared building support spaces throughout the remainder of the level. There is an outdoor amenity space at grade at the northwest corner. Level 2 comprises an indoor amenity at the northwest corner, and residential units along the north, east, and south elevations. At level 3, the building steps back from the east elevation and the northwest corner to accommodate outdoor amenities. From Level 3 to 18, the building includes residential space.



Building B is a 17-storey building located at the northwest of the site, along St. Laurent Boulevard and between Buildings A and C. For Building B, the St. Laurent Boulevard elevation is considered as project north. Above the basement level, the ground floor includes residential units along the north and east elevations, a residential lobby at the southeast corner, a fitness centre along the west elevation, and shared support spaces throughout the remainder of the level. There is an outdoor amenity space at grade at the southwest corner. Level 2 includes residential units along the north and east elevations and a social room along the west elevation. At Level 3, the building steps back from the west elevation to accommodate an outdoor amenity. From level 3 to 17, the building includes residential space.

Building C is a 16-storey building located at the southwest corner of the site. For Building C, the St. Laurent Boulevard elevation is considered as project west. Above the basement level, the ground level includes residential units along the west and south elevations, a residential lobby at the southeast corner, a fitness centre along the north elevation, and shared support spaces throughout the remainder of the level. There is an outdoor amenity space at grade at the northeast corner. Level 2 includes residential units along the west and south elevations and a social room along the north elevation. At Level 3, the building steps back from the north elevation to accommodate an outdoor amenity. From level 3 to 16, the building includes residential space.

The parkade is a 4-storey parking structure with an outdoor amenity serving the roof. The parkade is located along the south elevation of the subject site to the east of the existing 1971 St. Laurent building and the south of the existing 1975 St. Laurent building.

The near-field surroundings (defined as an area within 200 m of the subject site) include mostly low-rise massing from the north clockwise to the east and from the southeast clockwise to the south, and a mix of low- and mid-rise massing in the remaining compass directions. Notably, the future buildings of Elmvale Acres secondary plan are located across St. Laurent Blvd to the west. The far-field surroundings (defined as an area beyond the near-field but within a 2-kilometre (km) radius of the subject site) are characterized by a mix of mostly low-rise buildings and green space from the northeast clockwise to the southeast and from the south-southwest clockwise to the west, and by mostly low-rise massing for the remaining compass directions. Highway 417 runs southeast-northwest approximately 1.9 km to the northeast.



Figures 1A and 1B illustrate the subject site and surrounding context, representing the proposed and existing massing scenarios, respectively. Figures 2A-2H illustrate the computational models used to conduct the study. The existing massing scenario includes the existing massing and any changes which have been approved by the City of Ottawa.

3. OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of this study are to (i) determine pedestrian level wind comfort and safety conditions at key areas within and surrounding the development site; (ii) identify areas where wind conditions may interfere with the intended uses of outdoor spaces; and (iii) recommend suitable mitigation measures, where required.

4. METHODOLOGY

The approach followed to quantify pedestrian wind conditions over the site is based on CFD simulations of wind speeds across the study site within a virtual environment, meteorological analysis of the Ottawa area wind climate, and synthesis of computational data with City of Ottawa wind comfort and safety criteria¹. The following sections describe the analysis procedures, including a discussion of the noted pedestrian wind criteria.

4.1 Computer-Based Context Modelling

A computer based PLW study was performed to determine the influence of the wind environment on pedestrian comfort over the proposed development site. Pedestrian comfort predictions, based on the mechanical effects of wind, were determined by combining measured wind speed data from CFD simulations with statistical weather data obtained from Ottawa Macdonald-Cartier International Airport. The general concept and approach to CFD modelling is to represent building and topographic details in the immediate vicinity of the study site on the surrounding model, and to create suitable atmospheric wind profiles at the model boundary. The wind profiles are designed to have similar mean and turbulent wind properties consistent with actual site exposures.

¹ City of Ottawa Terms of References: Wind Analysis
https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/default/files/torwindanalysis_en.pdf

An industry standard practice is to omit trees, vegetation, and other existing and planned landscape elements from the model due to the difficulty of providing accurate seasonal representation of vegetation. The omission of trees and other landscaping elements produces slightly more conservative (i.e., windier) wind speed values.

4.2 Wind Speed Measurements

The PLW analysis was performed by simulating wind flows and gathering velocity data over a CFD model of the site for 12 wind directions. The CFD simulation model was centered on the study building, complete with surrounding massing within a radius of 580 m.

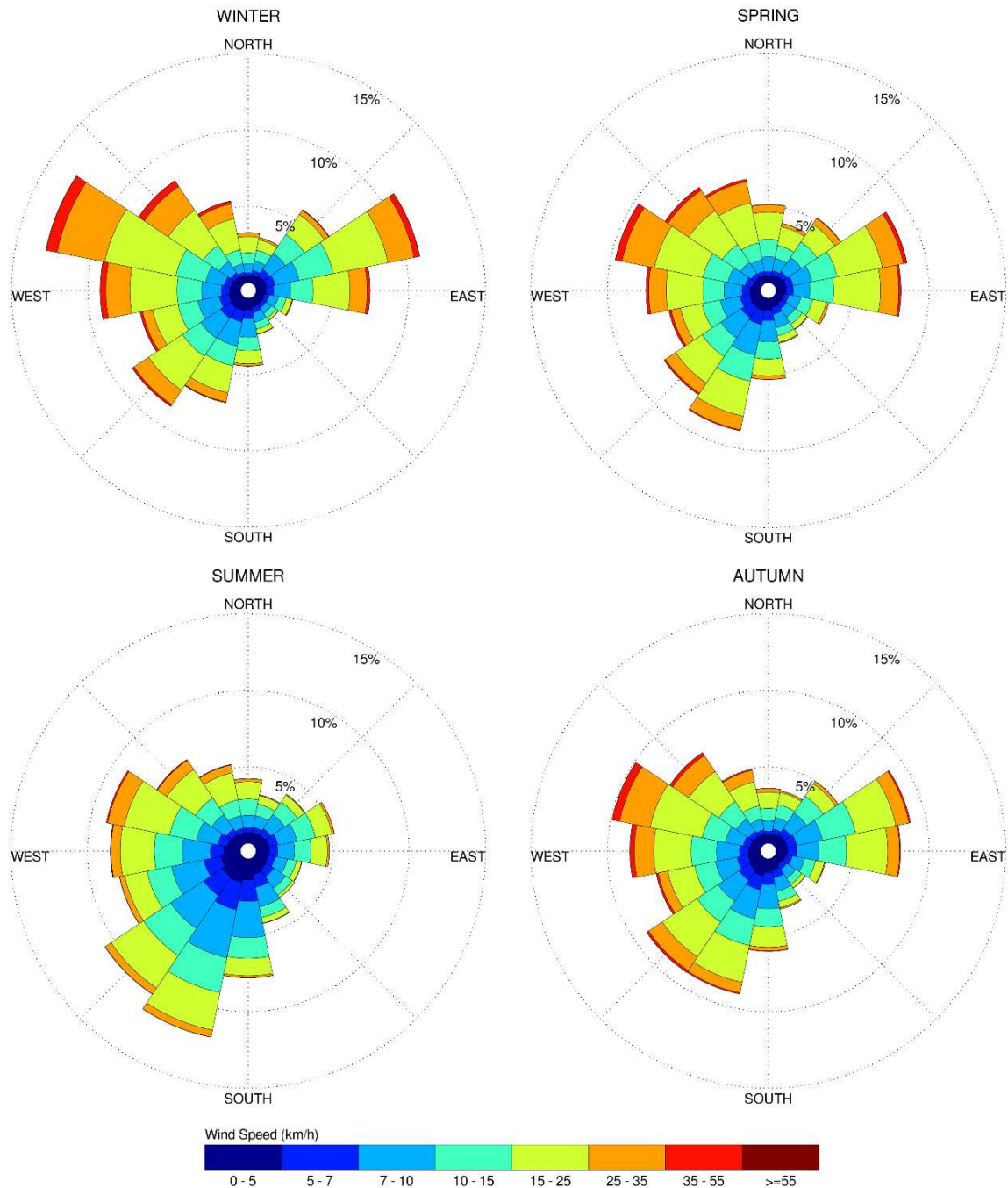
Mean and peak wind speed data obtained over the study site for each wind direction were interpolated to 36 wind directions at 10° intervals, representing the full compass azimuth. Measured wind speeds approximately 1.5 m above local grade and the common amenity terraces were referenced to the wind speed at gradient height to generate mean and peak velocity ratios, which were used to calculate full-scale values. Gradient height represents the theoretical depth of the boundary layer of the earth's atmosphere, above which the mean wind speed remains constant. Further details of the wind flow simulation technique are presented in Appendix A.

4.3 Historical Wind Speed and Direction Data

A statistical model for winds in Ottawa was developed from approximately 40 years of hourly meteorological wind data recorded at Ottawa Macdonald-Cartier International Airport and obtained from Environment and Climate Change Canada. Wind speed and direction data were analyzed for each month of the year to determine the statistically prominent wind directions and corresponding speeds, and to characterize similarities between monthly weather patterns.

The statistical model of the Ottawa area wind climate, which indicates the directional character of local winds on a seasonal basis, is illustrated on the following page. The plots illustrate seasonal distribution of measured wind speeds and directions in kilometers per hour (km/h). Probabilities of occurrence of different wind speeds are represented as stacked polar bars in sixteen azimuth divisions. The radial direction represents the percentage of time for various wind speed ranges per wind direction during the measurement period. The preferred wind speeds and directions can be identified by the longer length of the bars. For Ottawa, the most common winds occur for westerly wind directions, followed by those from the east, while the most common wind speeds are below 36 km/h. The directional preference and relative magnitude of wind speed changes somewhat from season to season.

SEASONAL DISTRIBUTION OF WIND OTTAWA MACDONALD-CARTIER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Notes:

1. Radial distances indicate percentage of time of wind events.
2. Wind speeds are mean hourly in km/h, measured at 10 m above the ground.

4.4 Pedestrian Comfort and Safety Criteria – City of Ottawa

Pedestrian comfort and safety criteria are based on the mechanical effects of wind without consideration of other meteorological conditions (i.e., temperature, relative humidity). The comfort criteria assume that pedestrians are appropriately dressed for a specified outdoor activity during any given season. Five pedestrian comfort classes are based on 20% non-exceedance mean wind speed ranges, which include (1) Sitting; (2) Standing; (3) Strolling; (4) Walking; and (5) Uncomfortable. More specifically, the comfort classes and associated mean wind speed ranges are summarized as follows:

- 1) **Sitting:** Mean wind speeds no greater than 10 km/h occurring at least 80% of the time. The equivalent gust wind speed is approximately 16 km/h.
- 2) **Standing:** Mean wind speeds no greater than 14 km/h occurring at least 80% of the time. The equivalent gust wind speed is approximately 22 km/h.
- 3) **Strolling:** Mean wind speeds no greater than 17 km/h occurring at least 80% of the time. The equivalent gust wind speed is approximately 27 km/h.
- 4) **Walking:** Mean wind speeds no greater than 20 km/h occurring at least 80% of the time. The equivalent gust wind speed is approximately 32 km/h.
- 5) **Uncomfortable:** Uncomfortable conditions are characterized by predicted values that fall below the 80% target for walking. Brisk walking and exercise, such as jogging, would be acceptable for moderate excesses of this criterion.

The pedestrian safety wind speed criterion is based on the approximate threshold that would cause a vulnerable member of the population to fall. A 0.1% exceedance gust wind speed of 90 km/h is classified as dangerous. The gust speeds, and equivalent mean speeds, are selected based on 'The Beaufort Scale', presented on the following page, which describes the effects of forces produced by varying wind speed levels on objects. Gust speeds are included because pedestrians tend to be more sensitive to wind gusts than to steady winds for lower wind speed ranges. For strong winds approaching dangerous levels, this effect is less important because the mean wind can also create problems for pedestrians.



THE BEAUFORT SCALE

Number	Description	Gust Wind Speed (km/h)	Description
2	Light Breeze	9-17	Wind felt on faces
3	Gentle Breeze	18-29	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flags
4	Moderate Breeze	30-42	Wind raises dust and loose paper; small branches are moved
5	Fresh Breeze	43-57	Small trees in leaf begin to sway
6	Strong Breeze	58-74	Large branches in motion; Whistling heard in electrical wires; umbrellas used with difficulty
7	Moderate Gale	75-92	Whole trees in motion; inconvenient walking against wind
8	Gale	93-111	Breaks twigs off trees; generally impedes progress

Experience and research on people’s perception of mechanical wind effects has shown that if the wind speed levels are exceeded for more than 20% of the time, the activity level would be judged to be uncomfortable by most people. For instance, if a mean wind speed of 10 km/h (equivalent gust wind speed of approximately 16 km/h) were exceeded for more than 20% of the time most pedestrians would judge that location to be too windy for sitting. Similarly, if mean wind speed of 20 km/h (equivalent gust wind speed of approximately 30 km/h) at a location were exceeded for more than 20% of the time, walking or less vigorous activities would be considered uncomfortable. As these criteria are based on subjective reactions of a population to wind forces, their application is partly based on experience and judgment.

Once the pedestrian wind speed predictions have been established throughout the site, the assessment of pedestrian comfort involves determining the suitability of the predicted wind conditions for discrete regions within and surrounding the subject site. This step involves comparing the predicted comfort classes to the desired comfort classes, which are dictated by the location type for each region (i.e., a sidewalk, building entrance, amenity space, or other). An overview of common pedestrian location types and their typical windiest acceptable comfort classes are summarized on the following page. Depending on the programming of a space, the acceptable comfort class may differ from this table.

ACCEPTABLE PEDESTRIAN COMFORT CLASSES FOR VARIOUS LOCATION TYPES

Location Types	Acceptable Comfort Classes
Primary Building Entrance	Standing
Secondary Building Access Point	Walking
Public Sidewalk / Bicycle Path	Walking
Outdoor Amenity Space	Sitting / Standing
Café / Patio / Bench / Garden	Sitting (Summer)
Transit Stop (Without Shelter)	Standing
Transit Stop (With Shelter)	Walking
Public Park / Plaza	Sitting (Summer)
Garage / Service Entrance	Walking
Parking Lot	Walking
Vehicular Drop-Off Zone	Strolling

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following discussion of the predicted pedestrian wind conditions for the subject site is accompanied by Figures 3A-6B, illustrating wind conditions at grade level for the proposed and existing massing scenarios, and Figures 7A-7D, illustrating wind conditions over the elevated amenity terraces serving the proposed development. Conditions are presented as continuous contours of wind comfort within and surrounding the subject site and correspond to the various comfort classes noted in Section 4.4. Wind conditions suitable for sitting are represented by the colour blue, standing by green, strolling by yellow, and walking by orange; uncomfortable conditions are represented by the colour magenta.

Wind conditions are also reported for the typical use period, which is defined as May to October, inclusive. Figure 8 illustrates wind comfort conditions over the elevated amenity terraces serving Buildings A, B, and C and the parkade, consistent with the comfort classes in Section 4.4. The details of these conditions are summarized in the following pages for each area of interest.

5.1 Wind Comfort Conditions – Grade Level

Sidewalk along St. Laurent Boulevard: Following the introduction of the proposed development, the sidewalk along St. Laurent Boulevard, inclusive of the bus stop at the southwest corner of the subject site, is predicted to be suitable for mostly sitting during the summer, becoming mostly suitable for a mix of sitting and standing throughout the remainder of the year. Conditions near the northeast corner of Building A are predicted to be suitable for standing during the summer and autumn, becoming suitable for strolling during the spring and winter. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Conditions over the sidewalk with the existing massing are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the summer, becoming suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the autumn, and suitable for standing, or better, during the spring and winter. While the introduction of the proposed development results in slightly windier conditions over the noted area, in comparison to existing conditions, wind conditions with the proposed development are considered acceptable.

Sidewalk along Russel Road: Following the introduction of the proposed development, the sidewalk along Russel Road is predicted to be suitable for sitting during the summer, becoming suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the autumn, and suitable for standing during the spring and winter. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Conditions over the sidewalk with the existing massing are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the summer, becoming suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the autumn, and suitable for standing during the spring and winter. The introduction of the proposed development results in mostly similar conditions over the noted area, in comparison to existing conditions, and wind conditions with the proposed development are considered acceptable.

Walkways within Subject Site: Following the introduction of the proposed development, the walkways within the subject site, inclusive of the existing walkways around the 1971 and 1975 St. Laurent buildings, are predicted to be suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the summer and autumn, becoming suitable for a mix of sitting, standing, and strolling during the spring and winter. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.



Conditions over the existing walkways around the 1971 and 1975 St. Laurent buildings with the existing massing are predicted to be suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the summer, becoming suitable for a mix of sitting, standing, and strolling during the spring and autumn, and suitable for a mix of standing, strolling, and walking during the winter. During the winter, the walking conditions are located in the region between the 1971 and 1975 St. Laurent buildings. Notably, the introduction of the proposed development results in somewhat calmer conditions over the noted area, in comparison to existing conditions, and wind conditions with the proposed development are considered acceptable.

Building Access Points: Conditions in the vicinity of building access points within the subject site are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the summer and autumn, becoming suitable for standing, or better, during the spring and winter. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Proposed Parkland Dedication Space between Buildings A and B: Conditions over the proposed parkland dedication space between Buildings A and B are predicted to be mostly suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn, with a region towards the southeast corner being suitable for standing. Depending on the programming of the space, the noted conditions may be considered acceptable. If necessary, sitting conditions may be extended over sensitive areas at the southeast with landscaping features, such as tall wind barriers, topographical depressions or berms, or dense arrangements of coniferous plantings.

Outdoor Amenity Area along West Elevation of Building A: Conditions over the amenity area at the west elevation of Building A are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Outdoor Amenity Area at Southwest Corner of Building B: Conditions over the amenity area at the southwest corner of Building B are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.



Outdoor Amenity Area at Northeast Corner of Building C: Conditions over the amenity area at the northeast corner of Building C are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Surface Parking: Following the introduction of the proposed development, the surface parking within the subject site, inclusive of the existing parking lots, are predicted to be suitable for mostly sitting during the summer, becoming suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the spring and autumn, and suitable for a mix of sitting, standing, and strolling during the winter. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Conditions over the existing parking lots around the 1971 and 1975 St. Laurent buildings with the existing massing are predicted to be suitable for a mix of sitting and standing during the summer and autumn, becoming suitable for a mix of standing and strolling during the spring and winter. The introduction of the proposed development results in similar or somewhat calmer conditions over the noted areas, in comparison to existing conditions.

5.2 Wind Comfort Conditions – Common Amenity Terraces

Level 3 Common Amenity Terraces (Buildings A, B, and C): Conditions over the common amenity terraces serving Buildings A, B, and C at Level 3 are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

Rooftop Common Amenity Terrace (Parkade): Conditions over the common amenity terrace serving the rooftop of the proposed parkade are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn. The noted conditions are considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.

5.3 Wind Safety

Within the context of typical weather patterns, which exclude anomalous localized storm events such as tornadoes and downbursts, no pedestrian areas within and surrounding the subject site were found to experience conditions that could be considered dangerous, as defined in Section 4.4.



5.4 Applicability of Results

Wind conditions over surrounding sidewalks beyond the subject site, as well as at nearby primary building entrances, will be acceptable for their intended pedestrian uses during each seasonal period upon the introduction of the subject site. Pedestrian wind comfort and safety have been quantified for the specific configuration of existing and foreseeable construction around the study site. Future changes (i.e., construction or demolition) of these surroundings may cause changes to the wind effects in two ways, namely: (i) changes beyond the immediate vicinity of the site would alter the wind profile approaching the site; and (ii) development in proximity to the site would cause changes to local flow patterns.

Regarding primary and secondary building access points, wind conditions predicted in this study are only applicable to pedestrian comfort and safety. As such, the results should not be construed to indicate wind loading on doors and associated hardware.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A complete summary of the predicted wind conditions is provided in Section 5 and illustrated in Figures 3A-8. Based on computer simulations using the CFD technique, meteorological data analysis of the Ottawa wind climate, City of Ottawa wind comfort and safety criteria, and experience with numerous similar developments, the study concludes the following:

- 1) All grade-level areas within and surrounding the subject site are predicted to experience conditions that are considered acceptable for the intended pedestrian uses throughout the year. Specifically, conditions over surrounding sidewalks, walkways, bus stops, parking spaces, outdoor amenities, and in the vicinity of building access points, are considered acceptable. One exception is noted below.
 - a. Conditions over the proposed parkland dedication space are predicted to be mostly suitable for sitting during the typical use period of late spring through early autumn, with the southeast corner being suitable for standing. Depending on the programming of the space, the noted conditions may be considered acceptable. If necessary, sitting conditions may be extended at the southeast with landscaping features, such as tall wind barriers, topographical depressions or berms, or dense coniferous plantings.



- 2) Regarding the elevated amenity terraces serving Buildings A, B, and C and the parkade, wind conditions are predicted to be suitable for sitting during the typical use period, which is considered acceptable according to the City of Ottawa wind criteria.
- 3) The foregoing statements and conclusions apply to common weather systems, during which no dangerous wind conditions, as defined in Section 4.4, are expected anywhere over the subject site. During extreme weather events, (e.g., thunderstorms, tornadoes, and downbursts), pedestrian safety is the main concern. However, these events are generally short-lived and infrequent and there is often sufficient warning for pedestrians to take appropriate cover.

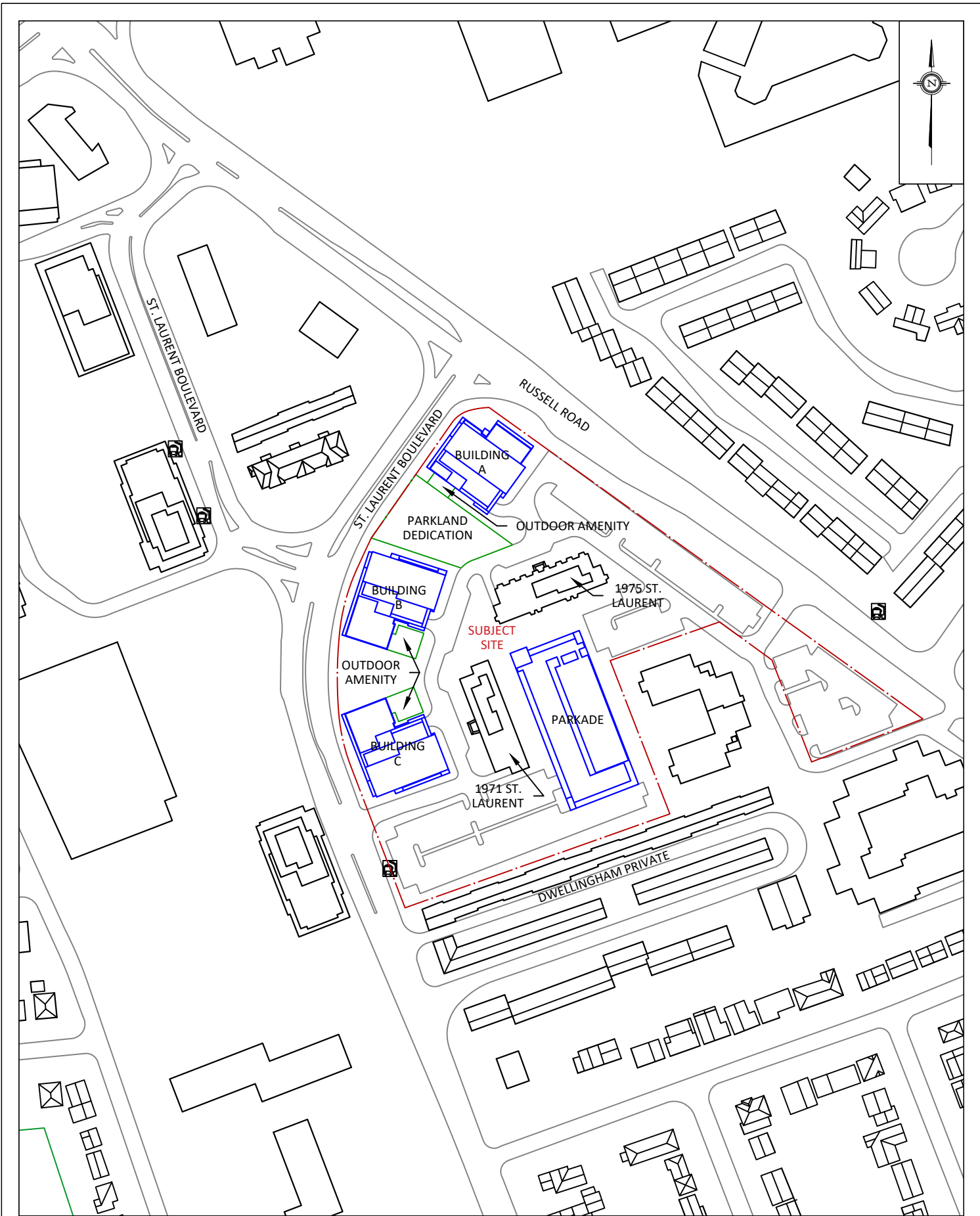
Sincerely,

Gradient Wind Engineering Inc.

DRAFT

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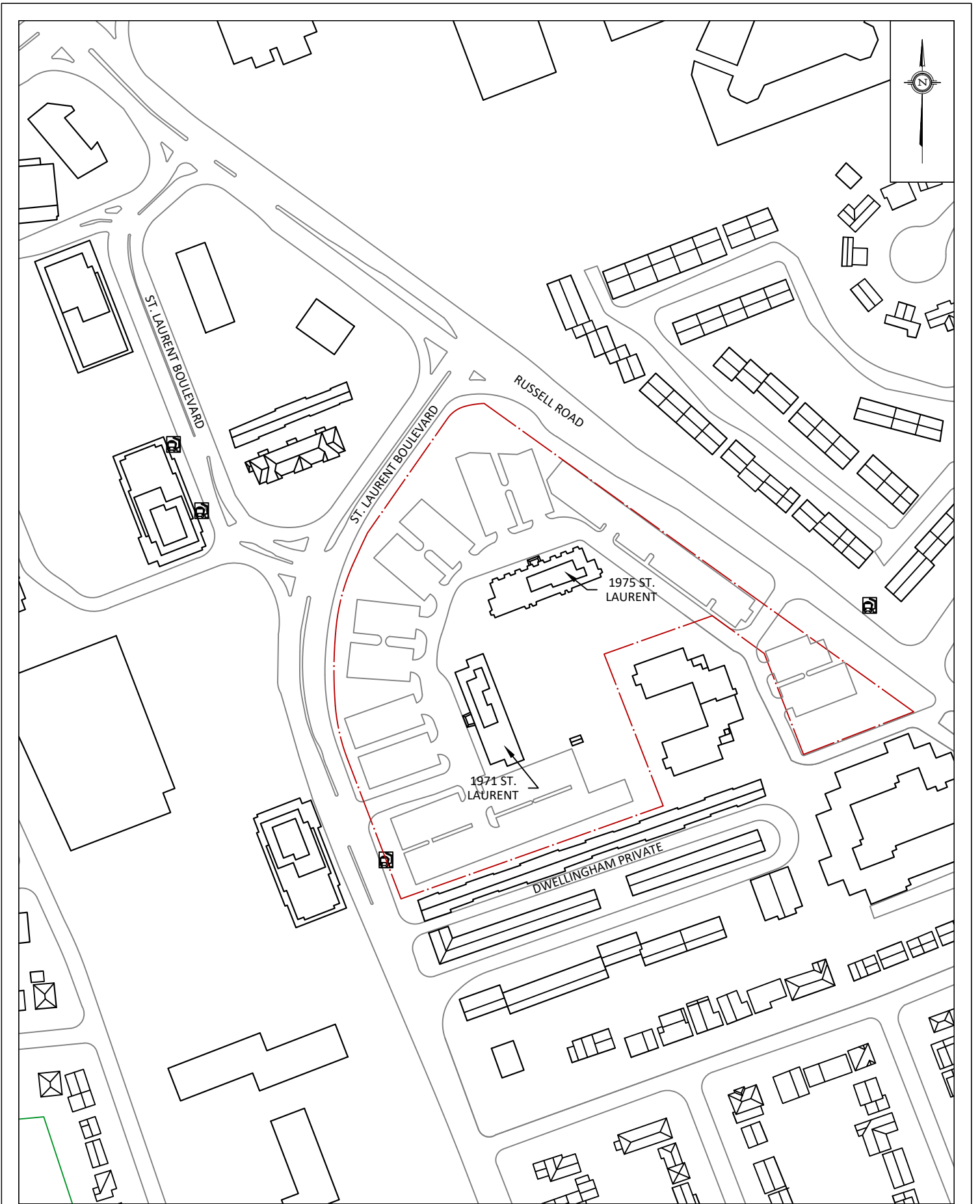
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PROJECT	1971 & 1975 ST. LAURENT BOULEVARD, OTTAWA PEDESTRIAN LEVEL WIND STUDY	
SCALE	1:2500	DRAWING NO. 21-328-PLW-1A
DATE	FEBRUARY 4, 2022	DRAWN BY S.K.

DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 1A: PROPOSED SITE PLAN AND SURROUNDING CONTEXT
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PROJECT	1971 & 1975 ST. LAURENT BOULEVARD, OTTAWA PEDESTRIAN LEVEL WIND STUDY	
SCALE	1:2500	DRAWING NO. 21-328-PLW-1B
DATE	FEBRUARY 4, 2022	DRAWN BY S.K.

DESCRIPTION	FIGURE 1B: EXISTING SITE PLAN AND SURROUNDING CONTEXT
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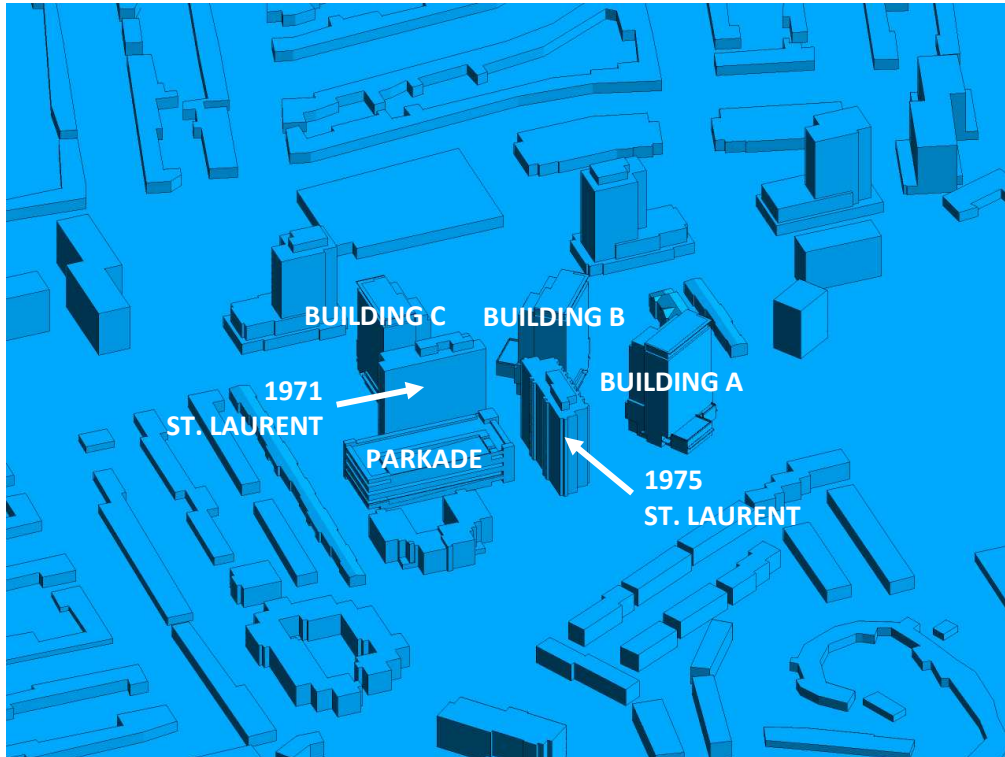


FIGURE 2A: COMPUTATIONAL MODEL, PROPOSED MASSING, EAST PERSPECTIVE

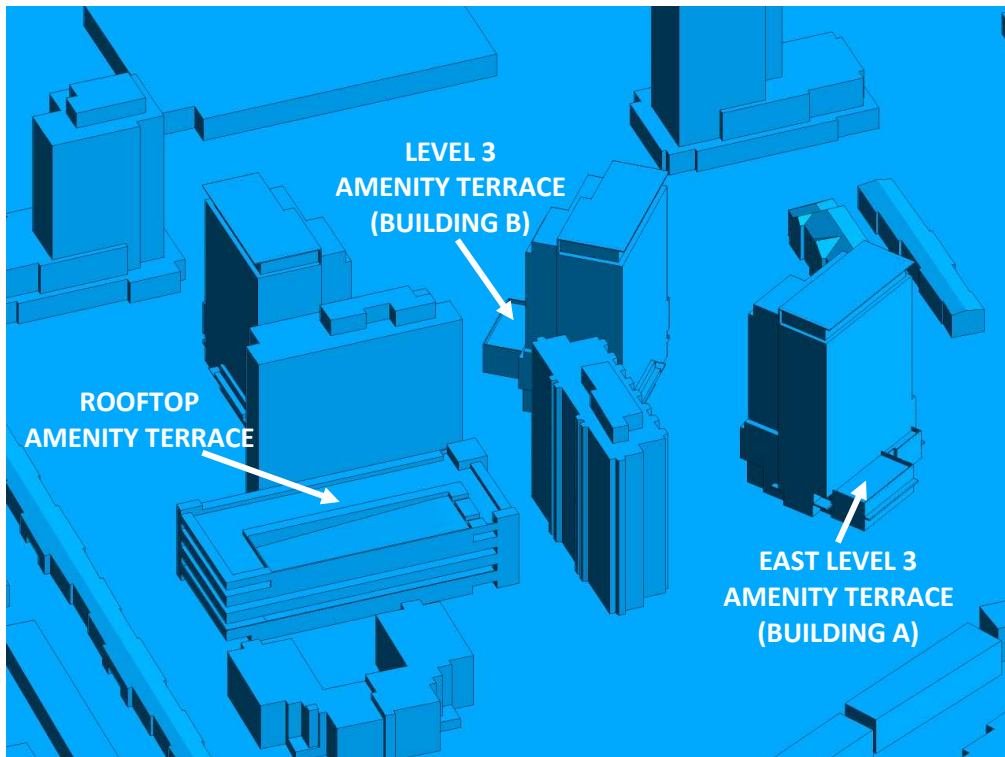


FIGURE 2B: CLOSE UP OF FIGURE 2A



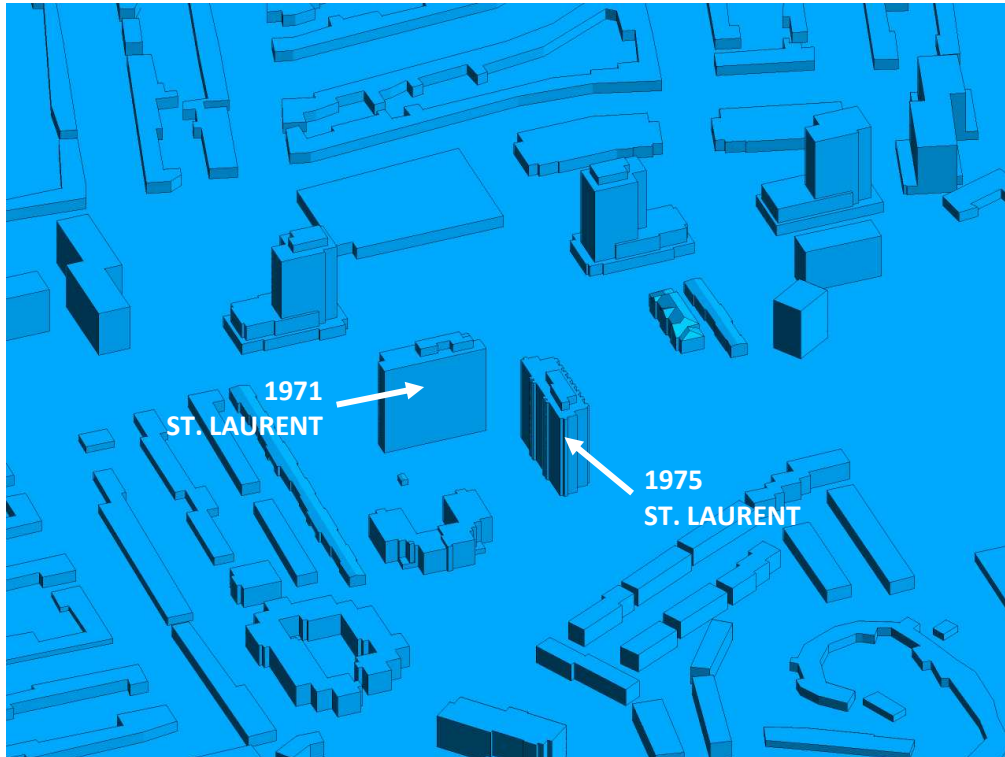


FIGURE 2C: COMPUTATIONAL MODEL, EXISTING MASSING, EAST PERSPECTIVE

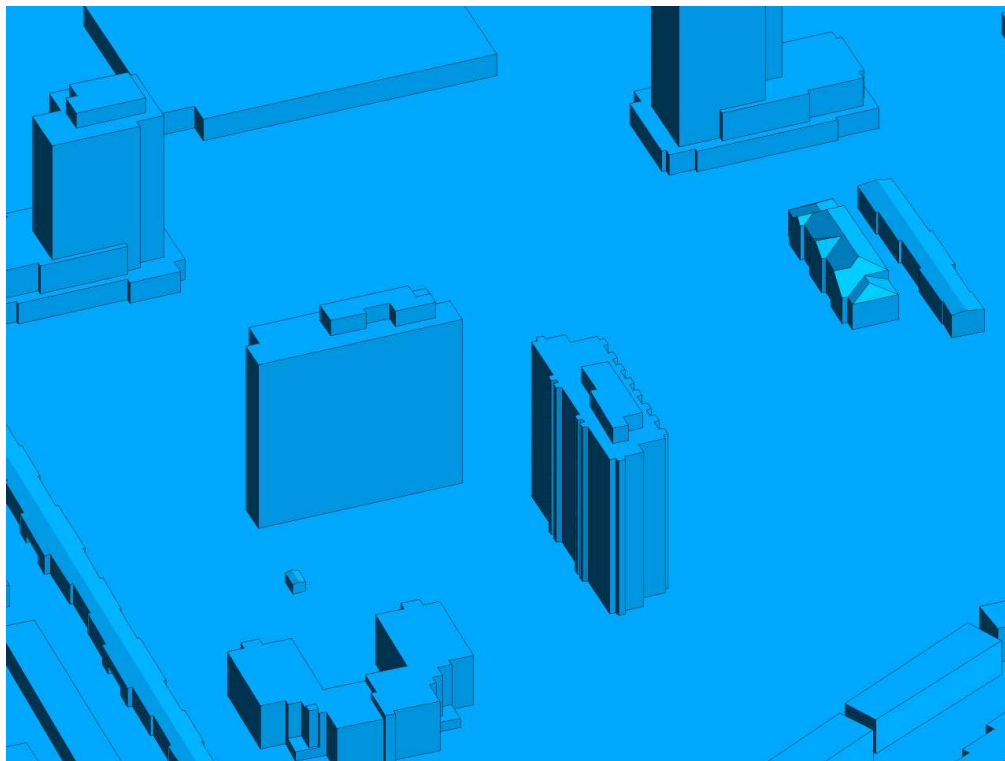


FIGURE 2D: CLOSE UP OF FIGURE 2C



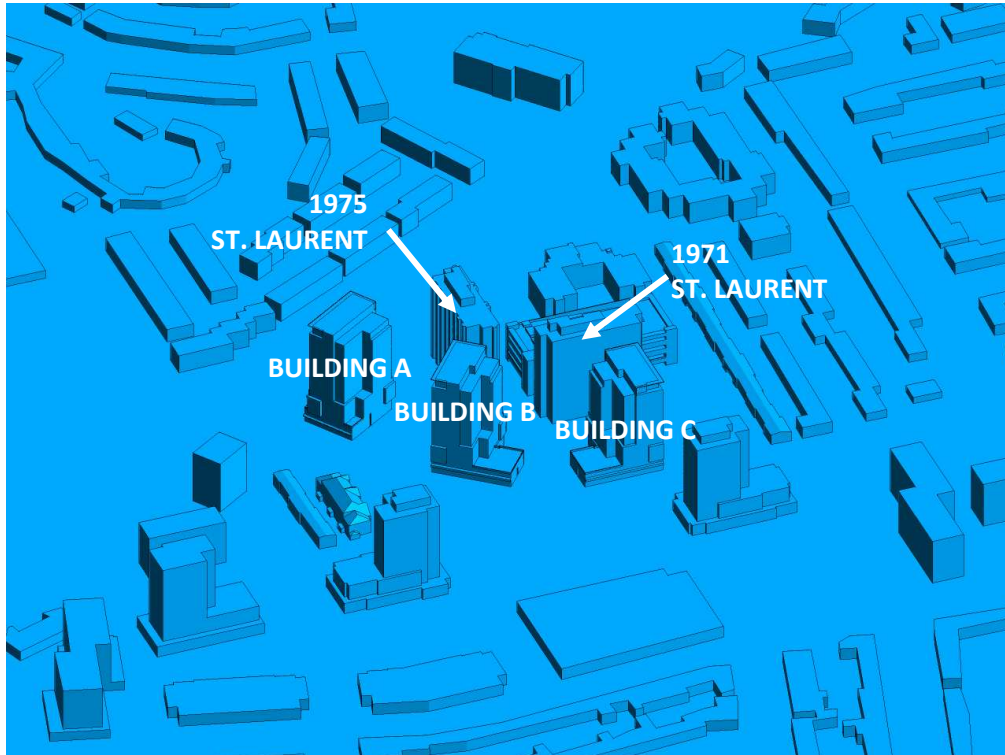


FIGURE 2E: COMPUTATIONAL MODEL, PROPOSED MASSING, WEST PERSPECTIVE

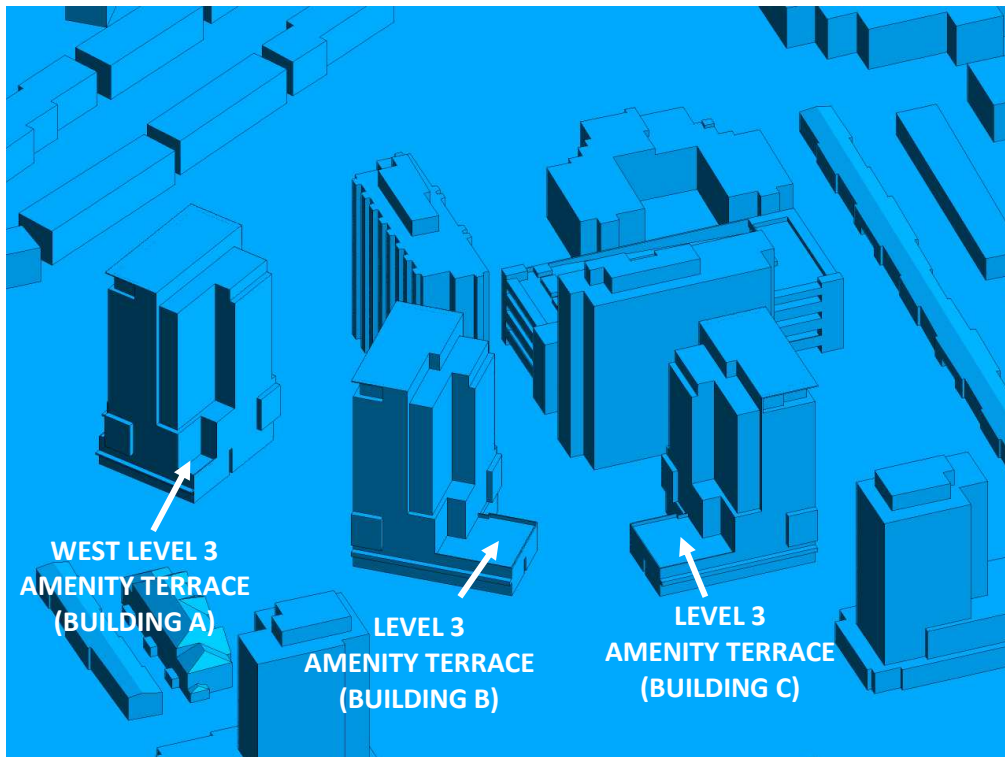
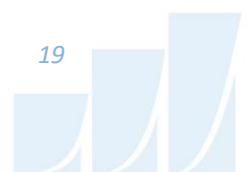


FIGURE 2F: CLOSE UP OF FIGURE 2E



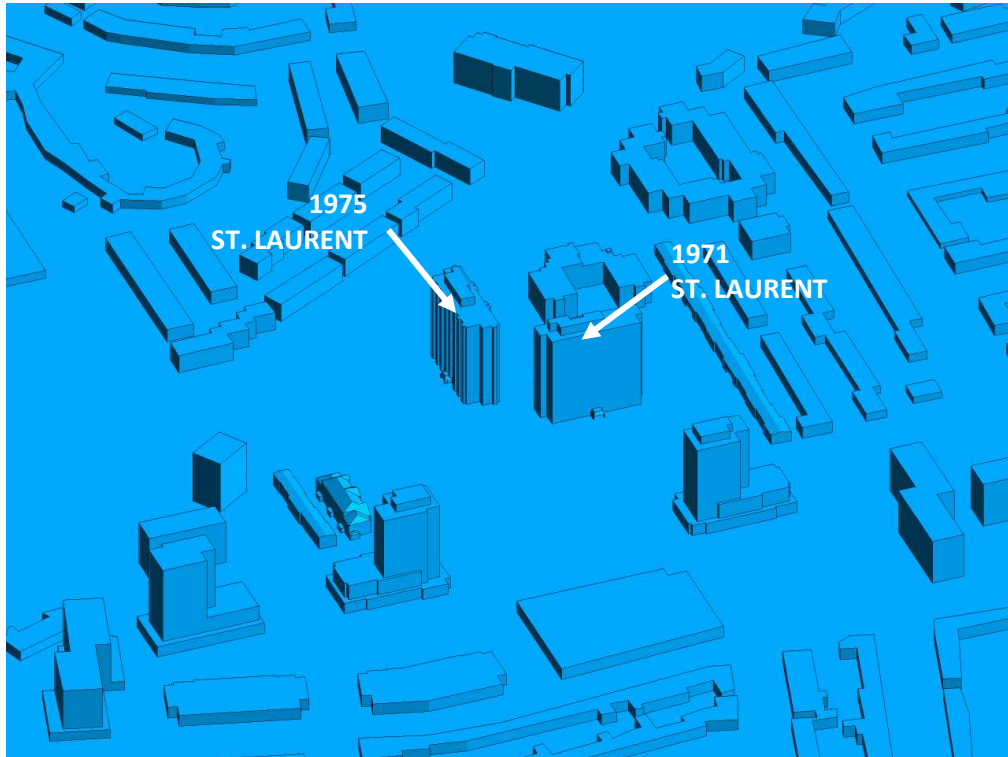


FIGURE 2G: COMPUTATIONAL MODEL, EXISTING MASSING, WEST PERSPECTIVE

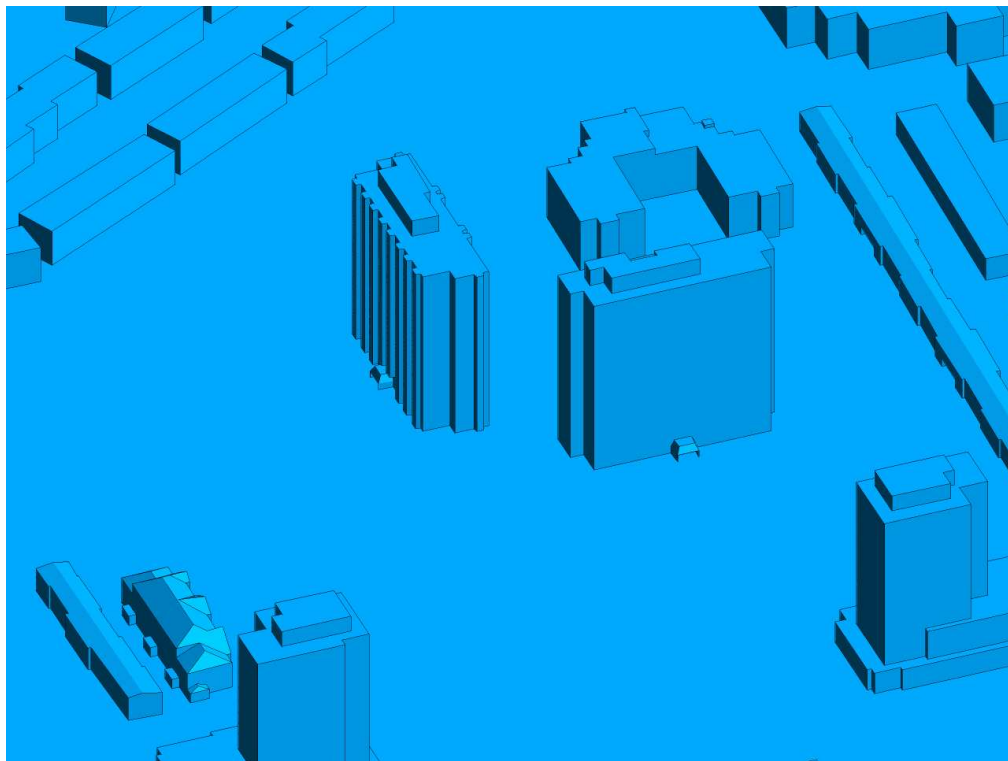


FIGURE 2H: CLOSE UP OF FIGURE 2G



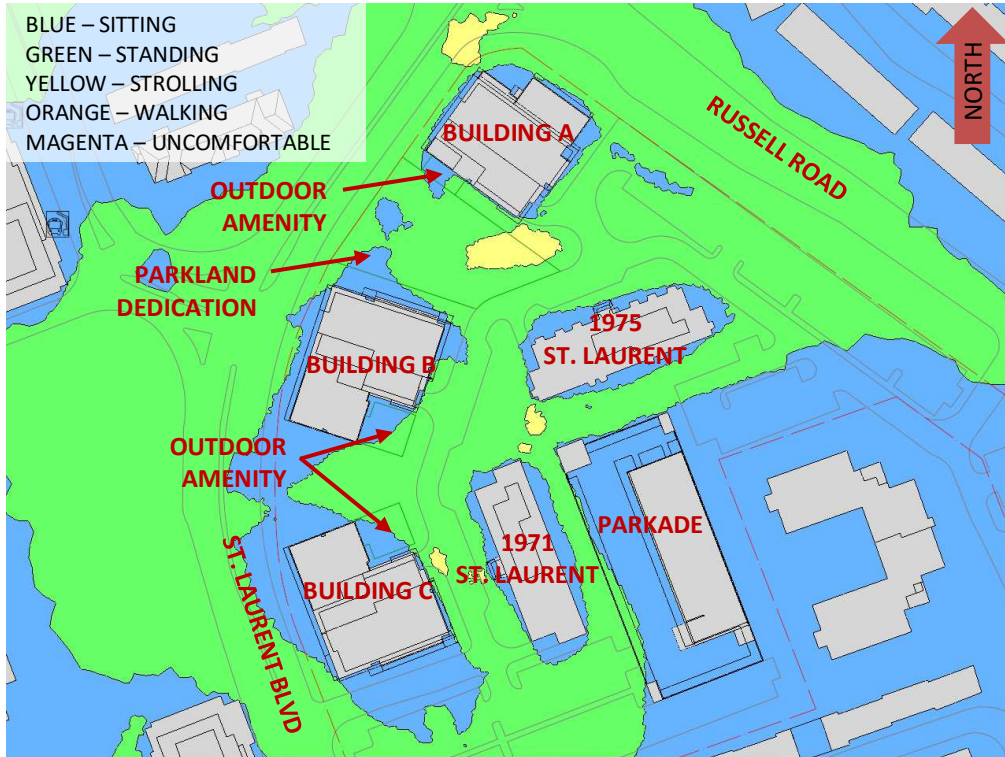


FIGURE 3A: SPRING – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – PROPOSED MASSING

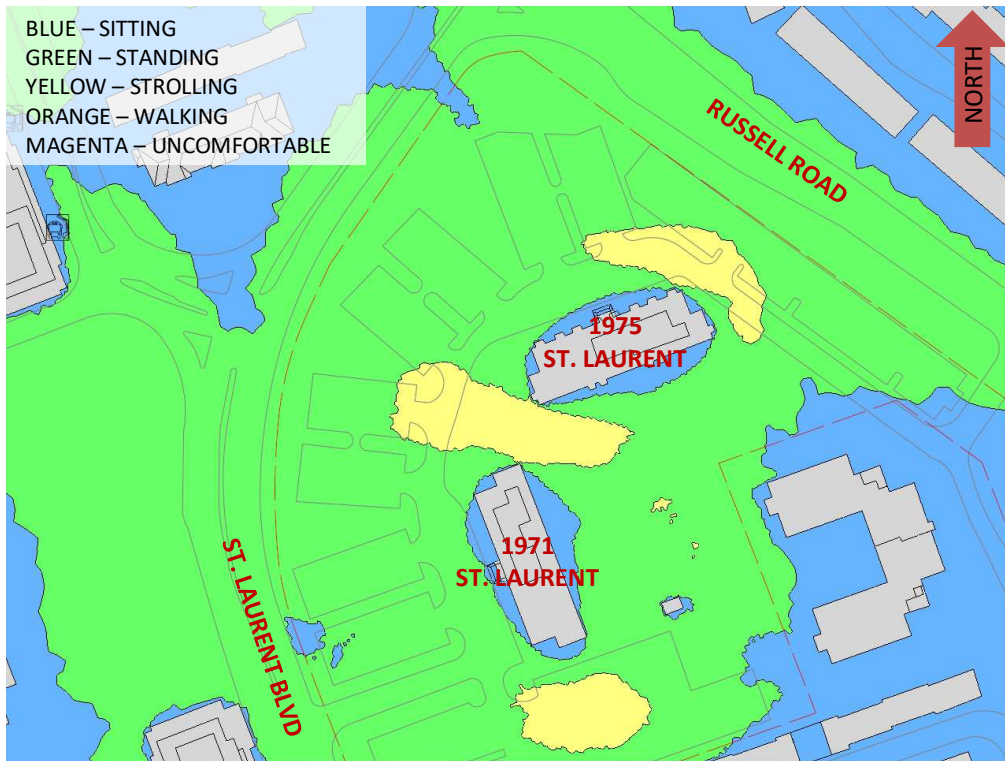


FIGURE 3B: SPRING – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – EXISTING MASSING



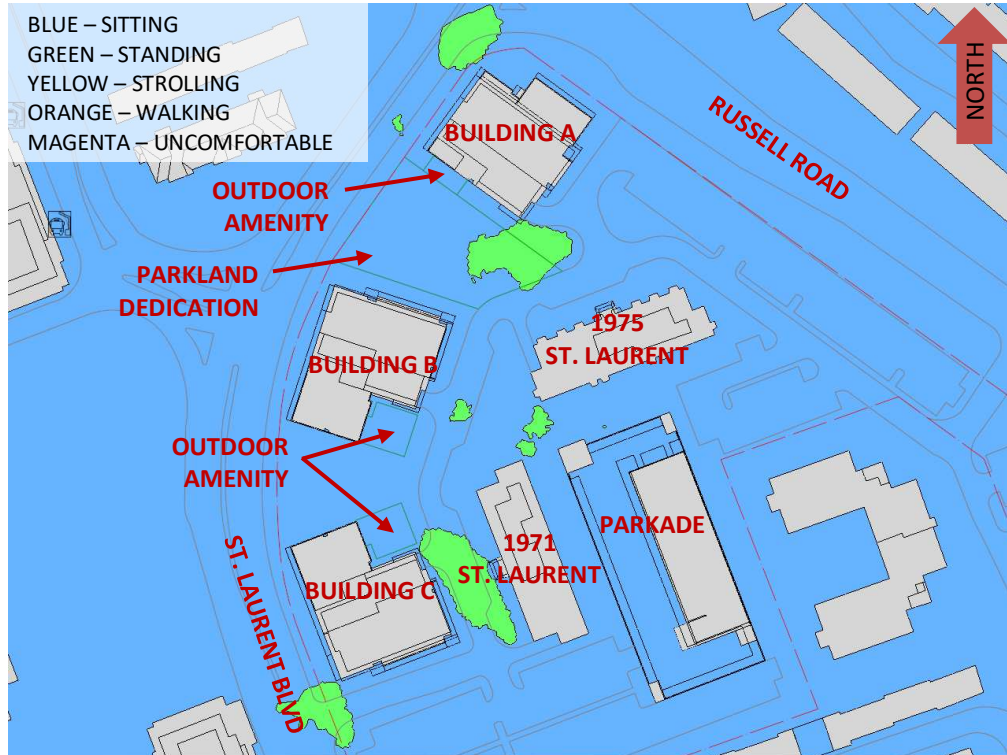


FIGURE 4A: SUMMER – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – PROPOSED MASSING

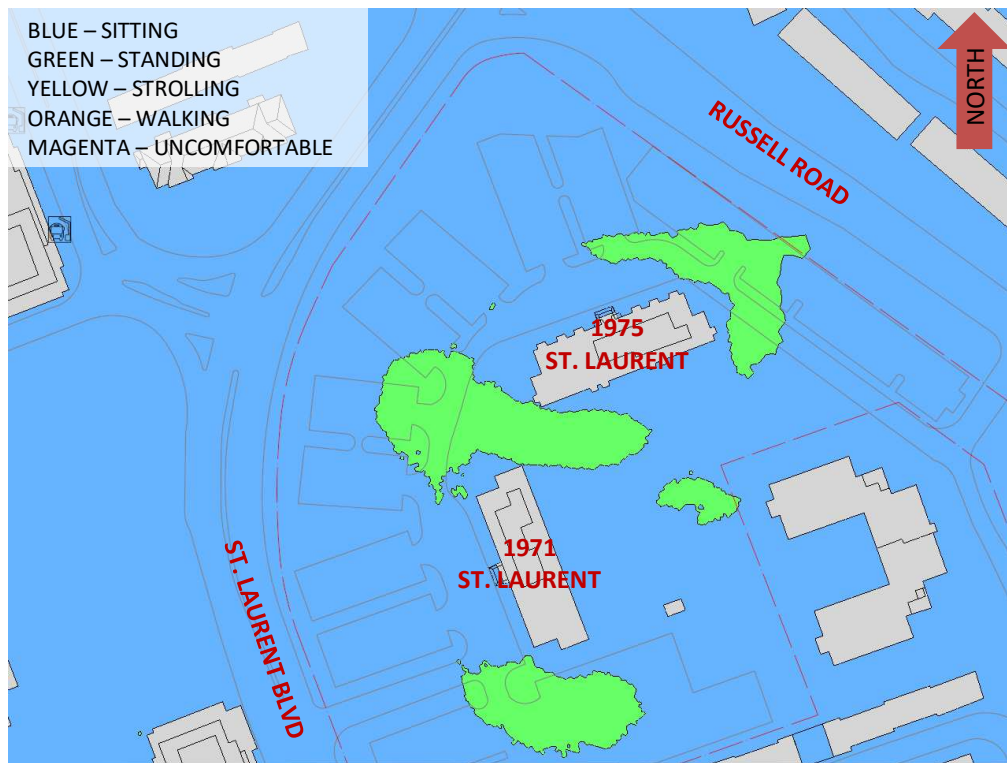


FIGURE 4B: SUMMER – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – EXISTING MASSING





FIGURE 5A: AUTUMN – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – PROPOSED MASSING

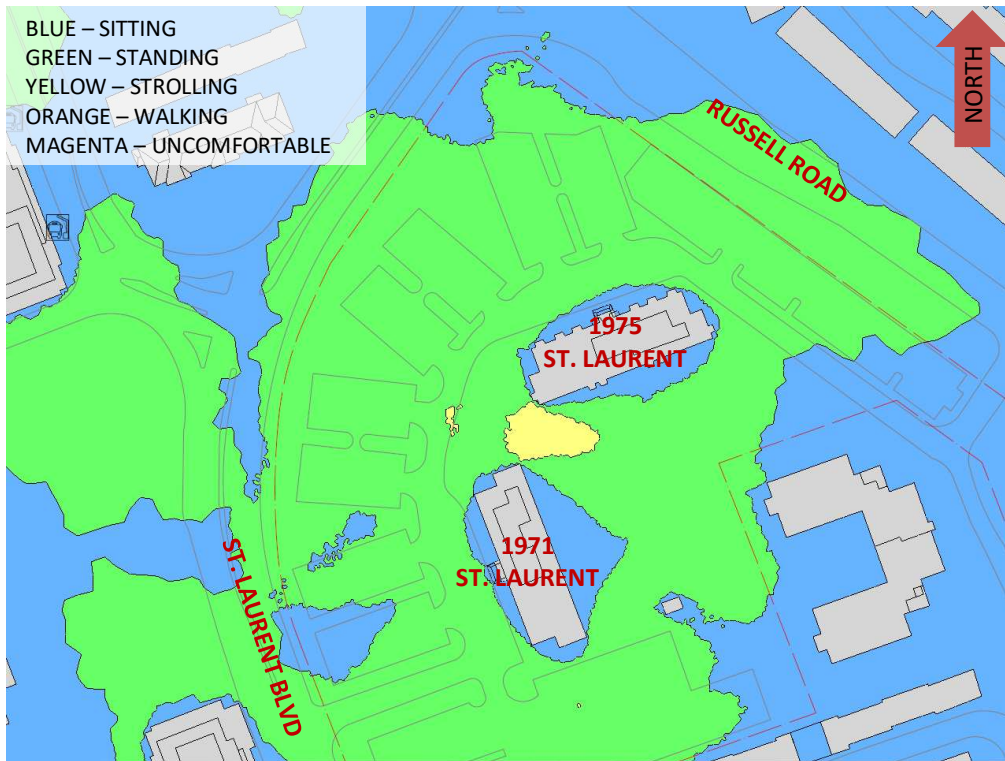


FIGURE 5B: AUTUMN – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL– EXISTING MASSING



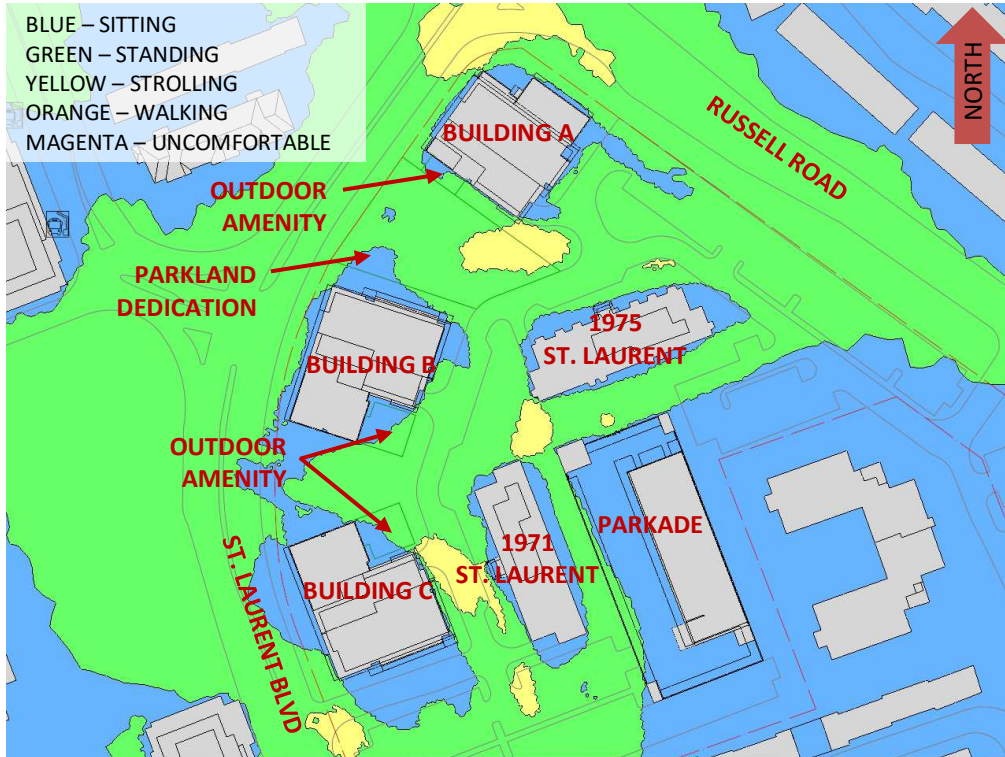


FIGURE 6A: WINTER – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – PROPOSED MASSING

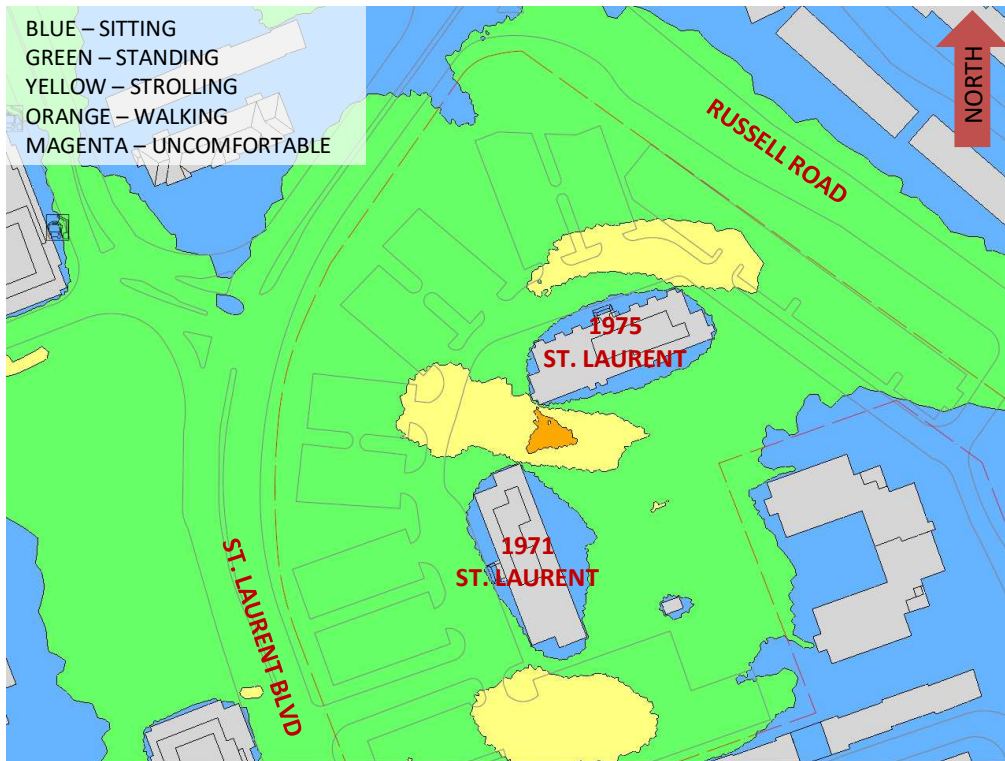


FIGURE 6B: WINTER – WIND COMFORT, GRADE LEVEL – EXISTING MASSING



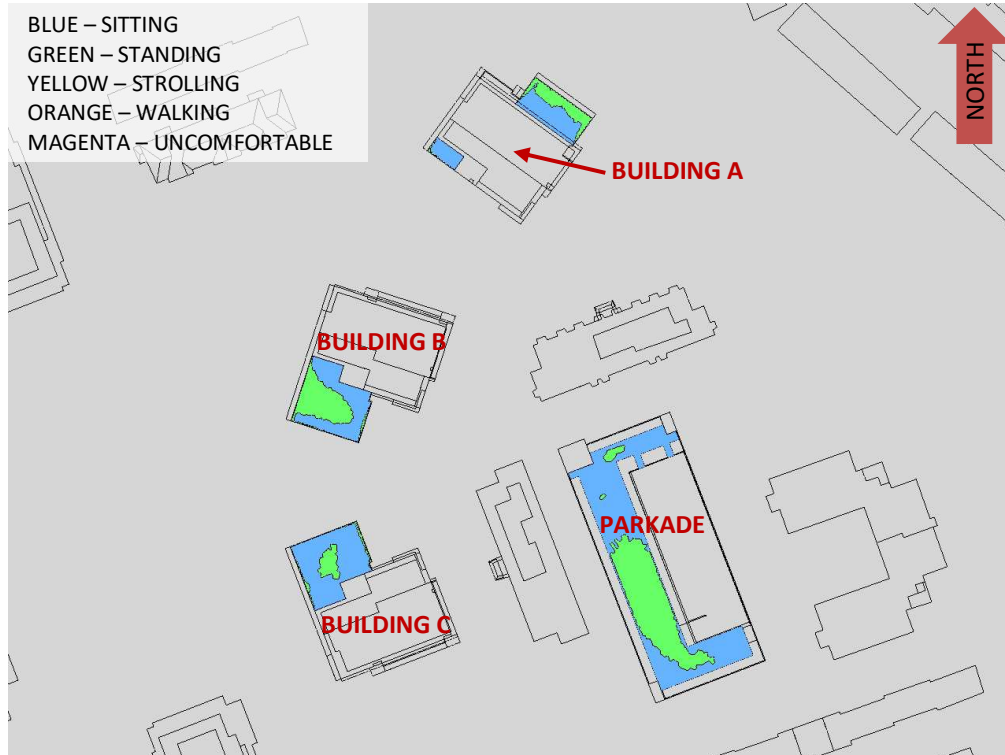


FIGURE 7A: SPRING – WIND COMFORT, AMENITY TERRACES

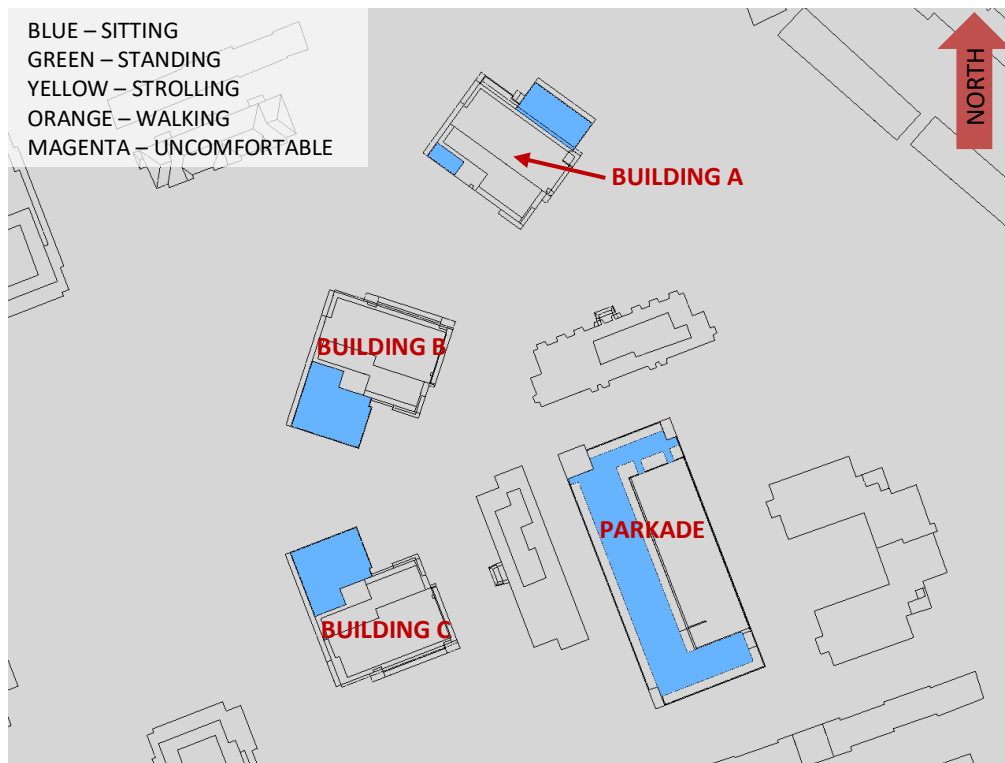


FIGURE 7B: SUMMER – WIND COMFORT, AMENITY TERRACES



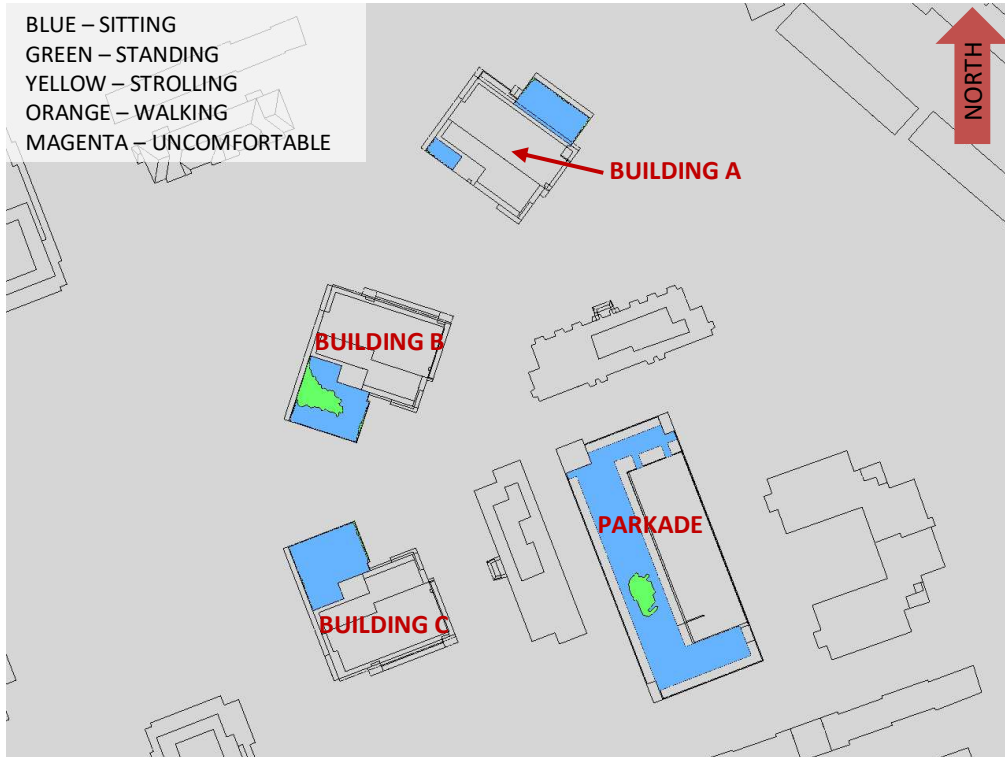


FIGURE 7C: AUTUMN – WIND COMFORT, AMENITY TERRACES

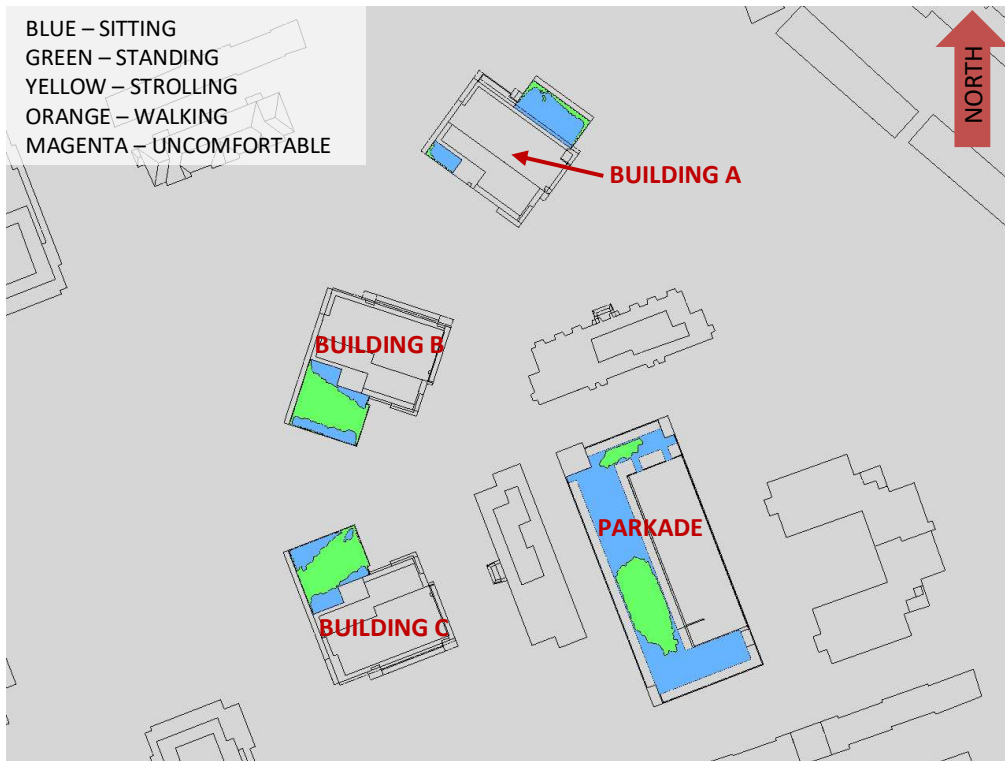


FIGURE 7D: WINTER – WIND COMFORT, AMENITY TERRACES



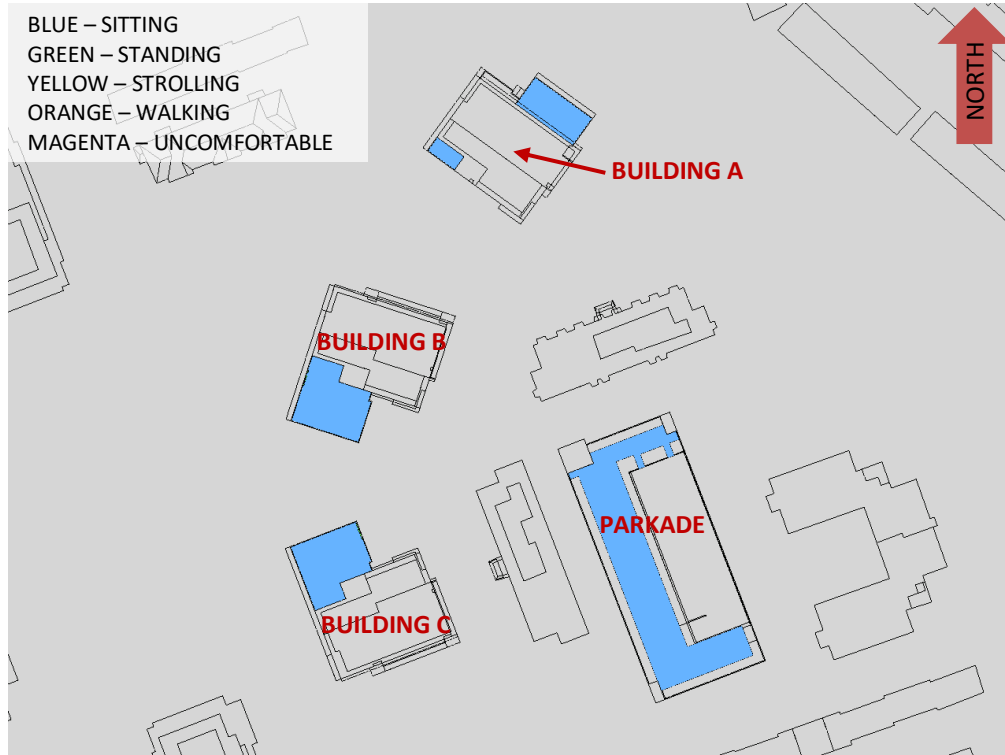


FIGURE 8: TYPICAL USE PERIOD–WIND COMFORT, AMENITY TERRACES

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APPENDIX A

SIMULATION OF THE ATMOSPHERIC BOUNDARY LAYER

SIMULATION OF THE ATMOSPHERIC BOUNDARY LAYER

The atmospheric boundary layer (ABL) is defined by the velocity and turbulence profiles according to industry standard practices. The mean wind profile can be represented, to a good approximation, by a power law relation, Equation (1), giving height above ground versus wind speed (1), (2).

$$U = U_g \left(\frac{Z}{Z_g} \right)^\alpha \quad \text{Equation (1)}$$

where, U = mean wind speed, U_g = gradient wind speed, Z = height above ground, Z_g = depth of the boundary layer (gradient height), and α is the power law exponent.

For the model, U_g is set to 6.5 metres per second (m/s), which approximately corresponds to the 60% mean wind speed for Ottawa based on historical climate data and statistical analyses. When the results are normalized by this velocity, they are relatively insensitive to the selection of gradient wind speed.

Z_g is set to 540 m. The selection of gradient height is relatively unimportant, so long as it exceeds the building heights surrounding the subject site. The value has been selected to correspond to our physical wind tunnel reference value.

α is determined based on the upstream exposure of the far-field surroundings (i.e., the area that it not captured within the simulation model).

Table 1 presents the values of α used in this study, while Table 2 presents several reference values of α . When the upstream exposure of the far-field surroundings is a mixture of multiple types of terrain, the α values are a weighted average with terrain that is closer to the subject site given greater weight.

TABLE 1: UPSTREAM EXPOSURE (ALPHA VALUE) VS TRUE WIND DIRECTION

Wind Direction (Degrees True)	Alpha Value (α)
0	0.24
49	0.22
74	0.20
103	0.21
167	0.23
197	0.23
217	0.24
237	0.24
262	0.24
282	0.24
302	0.24
324	0.23

TABLE 2: DEFINITION OF UPSTREAM EXPOSURE (ALPHA VALUE)

Upstream Exposure Type	Alpha Value (α)
Open Water	0.14-0.15
Open Field	0.16-0.19
Light Suburban	0.21-0.24
Heavy Suburban	0.24-0.27
Light Urban	0.28-0.30
Heavy Urban	0.31-0.33

The turbulence model in the computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations is a two-equation shear-stress transport (SST) model, and thus the ABL turbulence profile requires that two parameters be defined at the inlet of the domain. The turbulence profile is defined following the recommendations of the Architectural Institute of Japan for flat terrain (3).

$$I(Z) = \begin{cases} 0.1 \left(\frac{Z}{Z_g} \right)^{-\alpha-0.05}, & Z > 10 \text{ m} \\ 0.1 \left(\frac{10}{Z_g} \right)^{-\alpha-0.05}, & Z \leq 10 \text{ m} \end{cases} \quad \text{Equation (2)}$$

$$L_t(Z) = \begin{cases} 100 \text{ m} \sqrt{\frac{Z}{30}}, & Z > 30 \text{ m} \\ 100 \text{ m}, & Z \leq 30 \text{ m} \end{cases} \quad \text{Equation (3)}$$

where, I = turbulence intensity, L_t = turbulence length scale, Z = height above ground, and α is the power law exponent used for the velocity profile in Equation (1).

Boundary conditions on all other domain boundaries are defined as follows: the ground is a no-slip surface; the side walls of the domain have a symmetry boundary condition; the top of the domain has a specified shear, which maintains a constant wind speed at gradient height; and the outlet has a static pressure boundary condition.

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- [3] Y. Tamura, H. Kawai, Y. Uematsu, K. Kondo and T. Okhuma, "Revision of AIJ Recommendations for Wind Loads on Buildings," in *The International Wind Engineering Symposium, IWES 2003*, Taiwan, 2003.