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Zoning By-law Amendment and Site Plan Control Application

535 Legget Drive

Prepared for: Wesley Cover International Corporation

Engineering excellence.

Planning progress.

Liveable landscapes.

Zoning By-law Amendment
535 Legget Drive

Prepared By:

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Novatech File: 124045
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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Novatech has prepared this Planning Rationale on behalf of Wesley Cover International Corporation, the owner of 535 Legget Drive. It is proposed to convert the existing high-rise office building to 115 residential apartments, retaining 400m² of office use at ground floor. A Zoning By-law amendment is required to permit the high-rise apartment use and to reduce car parking provisions in line with Official Plan policy.

It is our assessment that the proposed development is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, conforms to the City of Ottawa's Official Plan and complies with the Zoning By-Law 2008-250.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Subject Site and Surrounding Area

The Subject Site is a portion of 535 Legget Drive on the east side of Legget Drive in the Kanata Research Park. The Subject Site will be created via a lot line adjustment, as a 7,722 m² (approx.) parcel containing the building and the front or western parking area. The rear part of the site which comprises the remaining area of the originally 1.24 ha parcel will be absorbed by 555 Legget Drive. It contains surface parking not required for the proposal.

A lot line adjustment application will be filed at the Committee of Adjustment during the ZBLA and SPA process.

The Subject Site is developed with an 11 storey office building also known as 'Tower C' and surface parking. Vehicular access to the parking on the Subject Site is currently across 555 Legget Drive, with the pedestrian entry on the north side of the building. Service entry is on the east side of the building, where there is also a loading dock.

The legal description of the Subject Site is:

CONSOLIDATION OF VARIOUS PROPERTIES: PART OF LOT 8, CONCESSION 4, BEING PARTS 5 AND 6 ON 4R16648 AND PARTS 4, 5 AND 9 ON 4R17106.

SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT IN FAVOUR OF KANATA HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION OVER PART 6 ON 4R16648 AS IN LT1248060. TOGETHER WITH AN EASEMENT OVER PARTS 2 AND 4 ON 4R16648 AND PARTS 6, 8, 10, 11, 13 AND 15 ON 4R17106 AS IN OC155462. SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT IN FAVOUR OF PARTS 2 AND 4 ON 4R16648 AND PARTS 6, 8, 10, 11, 13 AND 15 ON 4R17106 AS IN OC155463. SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT IN FAVOUR OF PARTS 1 AND 2 ON 4R14852 OVER PART 4 ON 4R17106 AS IN LT1242631.

North of the site is the rear portion of the current 535 Legget Drive that will be absorbed by 555 Legget Drive via a lot line adjustment and 555 Legget Drive itself which developed with two similar office towers (known as Towers A and B) and surface parking. To the **east** and **south** is the Brookstreet Hotel and a multi-storey parking garage. To the **west** across Legget Drive is 570 March Road, which contains the surface parking lot for the Nokia office building to the north at 600 March Road. It is proposed to redevelop 570 March Road for a new mixed use building.

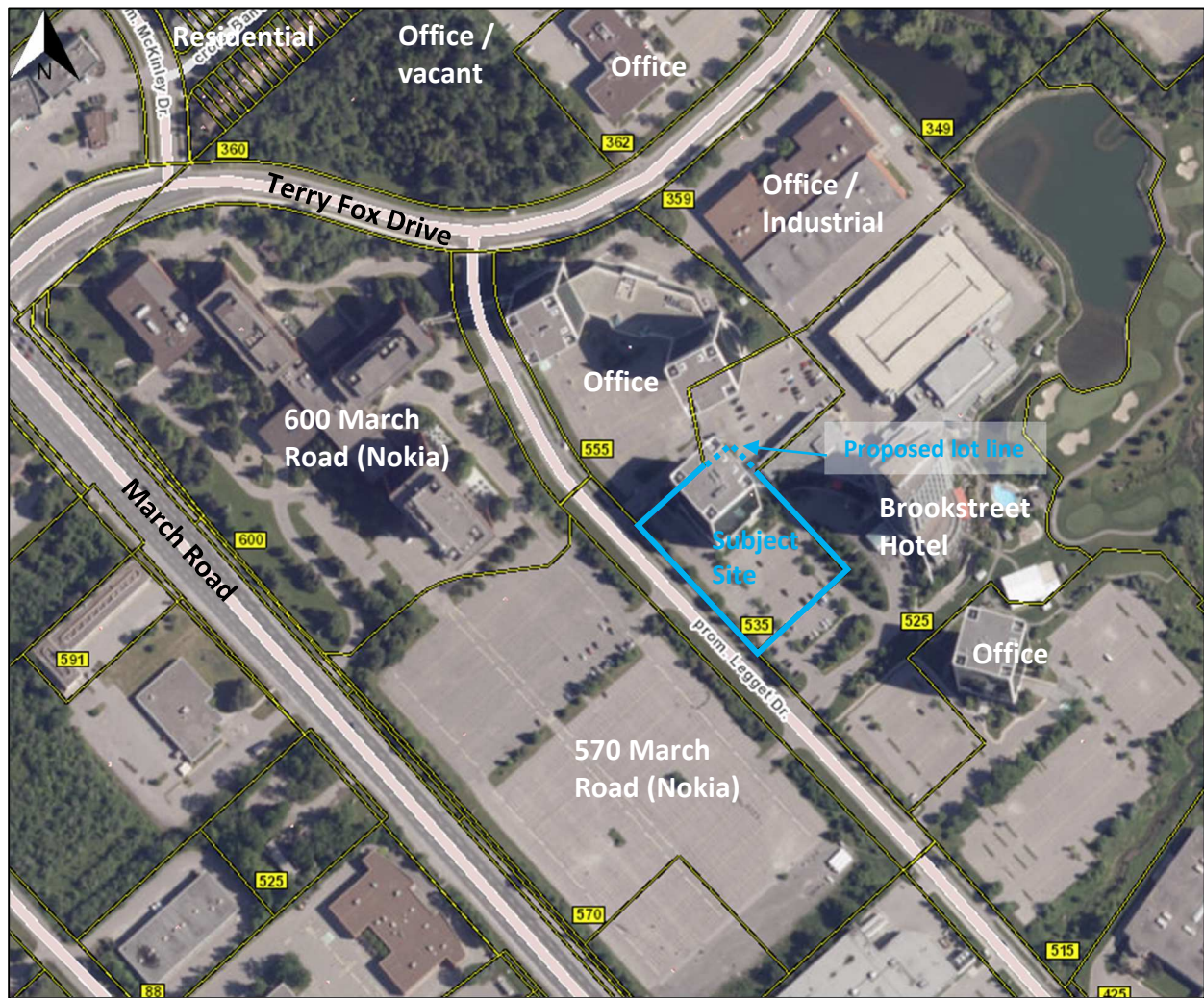


Figure 1: Subject site and surrounding area

2.2 Development Proposal and Statistics

It is proposed to convert the existing eleven storey office building to 115 residential apartments, which will be rental apartments. A 400m² portion of the ground floor will be retained as office use.

Several changes will be made to the existing building, the key external ones being a new residential entry at the southwest corner (the existing entry on the north side will be retained to access the office space and recladding including Juliette balconies. A new ground level canopy will be added. The back of house and move in/out loading space at the rear of the building will also be re-arranged. A connection to the Brookstreet Hotel will be provided and the facilities of the Brookstreet Hotel will be available to residents. These include restaurants, fitness facilities, spa, golf course and meeting and event spaces.

New vehicular and pedestrian accesses will be provided from Legget Drive. The office building is currently accessed via 555 Legget Drive and the intention is to visually and functionally separate the residential building from neighbouring office buildings. The access across 555 Legget will still serve as an exit from the drop-off area to Legget Drive, access to the move in/out space and for pedestrians. 108 car parking spaces will be provided. However, it is proposed to remove the requirement for resident and office parking from the zoning, in line with Official Plan policy and to just retain the visitor parking requirement. A total of 95 bicycles spaces will be provided, of which 89 will be in the basement and six near the building entry.



Figure 2: Proposal looking northeast

3.0 PLANNING ASSESSMENT

3.1 Provincial Planning Statement 2024

Section 3 of the *Planning Act* requires that decisions affecting planning matters “shall be consistent with” the policies of the *Provincial Policy Statement* (PPS). The relevant provisions of the PPS are assessed below.

Chapter 2: Building Homes, Sustaining Strong and Competitive Communities

2.1 Planning for People and Homes

Section 2.2 of the PPS provides policies on housing. The relevant policies are addressed below:

1. Planning authorities shall provide for an appropriate range and mix of housing options and densities to meet projected needs of current and future residents of the regional market area by:

The proposed development offers a range of apartments to accommodate various needs.

a) establishing and implementing minimum targets for the provision of housing that is affordable to low and moderate income households, and coordinating land use planning and planning for housing with Service Managers to address the full range of housing options including affordable housing needs;

b) permitting and facilitating:

1. all housing options required to meet the social, health, economic and wellbeing requirements of current and future residents, including additional needs housing and needs arising from demographic changes and employment opportunities; and

2. all types of residential intensification, including the development and redevelopment of underutilized commercial and institutional sites (e.g., shopping malls and plazas) for residential use, development and introduction of new housing options within previously developed areas, and redevelopment, which results in a net increase in residential units in accordance with policy 2.3.1.3;

c) promoting densities for new housing which efficiently use land, resources, infrastructure and public service facilities, and support the use of active transportation; and

The proposed development re-uses a compact building form which minimizes land consumption and servicing costs, diversifies the housing choice in the area to cater to people of all ages and life stages and does not create environmental or public health and safety concerns or prevent the efficient expansion of settlement areas.

d) requiring transit-supportive development and prioritizing intensification, including potential air rights development, in proximity to transit, including corridors and stations.

The proposed development efficiently uses land and existing infrastructure. The location is close to facilities and supports transit.

Section 2.9 of the PPS provides policies on Energy Conservation, Air Quality and Climate Change housing. The relevant policies are addressed below:

1. Planning authorities shall plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of a changing climate through approaches that:

- a) support the achievement of compact, transit-supportive, and complete communities;*
- b) incorporate climate change considerations in planning for and the development of infrastructure, including stormwater management systems, and public service facilities;*
- c) support energy conservation and efficiency;*
- d) promote green infrastructure, low impact development, and active transportation, protect the environment and improve air quality; and*
- e) take into consideration any additional approaches that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build community resilience to the impacts of a changing climate.*

A compact residential built form is proposed at a node within 600m of a future BRT station.

Chapter 3: Infrastructure and Facilities

3.1 General Policies for Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities

2. Before consideration is given to developing new infrastructure and public service facilities: a) the use of existing infrastructure and public service facilities should be optimized; and b) opportunities for adaptive re-use should be considered, wherever feasible.

A Serviceability Report prepared by Novatech and included in this submission details how the proposed development will utilize municipal sewage, water and stormwater services. Refer to the reports for details.

Chapter 4: Wise Use and Management of Resources

Section 4.2 of the PPS provides policies on Water.

2. Development and site alteration shall be restricted in or near sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features such that these features and their related hydrologic functions will be protected, improved or restored, which may require mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches.

Section 4.3 of the PPS provides policies on Agriculture.

4.3.1 General Policies for Agriculture

2. As part of the agricultural land base, prime agricultural areas, including specialty crop areas, shall be designated and protected for long-term use for agriculture.

Section 4.4 of the PPS provides policies on Minerals and Petroleum.

4.4.1 General Policies for Minerals and Petroleum

1. Minerals and petroleum resources shall be protected for long-term use.

Section 4.5 of the PPS provides policies on Mineral Aggregate Resources.

4.5.1 General Policies for Mineral Aggregate Resources

1. Mineral aggregate resources shall be protected for long-term use and, where provincial information is available, deposits of mineral aggregate resources shall be identified.

None of the above exist on or adjacent to the subject site.

Section 4.6 of the PPS provides policies on Cultural Heritage and Archaeology.

1. Protected heritage property, which may contain built heritage resources or cultural heritage landscapes, shall be conserved.

2. Planning authorities shall not permit development and site alteration on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless the significant archaeological resources have been conserved.

An Archaeological Resource Assessment was not required by City staff for this application.

Chapter 5: Protecting Public Health and Safety

5.1 General Policies for Natural and Human-Made Hazards

Protecting Public Health and Safety

Section 5.2 of the PPS provides policies on Natural Hazards.

2. Development shall generally be directed to areas outside of:

a) hazardous lands adjacent to the shorelines of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes which are impacted by flooding hazards, erosion hazards and/or dynamic beach hazards;

b) hazardous lands adjacent to river, stream and small inland lake systems which are impacted by flooding hazards and/or erosion hazards; and

c) hazardous sites.

The proposed development is not occurring within natural hazard lands or sites.

Section 3.2 of the PPS provides policies on Human-Made Hazards.

1. Development on, abutting or adjacent to lands affected by mine hazards; oil, gas and salt hazards; or former mineral mining operations, mineral aggregate operations or petroleum resource operations may be permitted only if rehabilitation or other measures to address and mitigate known or suspected hazards are under way or have been completed.

2. Sites with contaminants in land or water shall be assessed and remediated as necessary prior to any activity on the site associated with the proposed use such that there will be no adverse effects.

A Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment by Paterson dated September 16, 2024 forms part of this application. It concludes that a Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment is required and accordingly, a Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment by Paterson also forms part of this application.

3.2 City of Ottawa Official Plan

Strategic Directions and Growth Management

Section 2 (Strategic Directions) of the Official Plan outlines strategic directions for development within the City. In particular, the proposed development promotes strategic directions related to Intensification and Diversify Housing Options, Energy and Climate Change and Healthy and Inclusive Communities. Section 3 (Growth Management) of the Official Plan describes the City of Ottawa's Growth Management Framework to support growth and development to the year 2046.

The proposal is assessed below:

- The proposed development is located on lands designated for residential growth within the urban area of the City of Ottawa and with access to municipal services.
- The proposal re-uses an obsolete office building that otherwise has a long lifespan. The resources required to convert the building to residential are significantly less than constructing a new building. The proposal supports energy efficient modes of transportation by providing housing close to a future rapid transit corridor and connecting to pedestrian and cycling networks.
- The office to residential conversion proposes 115 new units within the urban boundary that will serve residents in different life stages. The proposed development contributes to the OP goal of introducing residential use into the Kanada North Economic District and supports the objectives of 15-minute neighbourhoods by providing additional housing near parks and greenspaces, active transportation routes and future bus rapid transit services.

Official Plan Designations

Schedule B5 - Suburban (West) Transect designates the subject site as part of the Kanata North Economic District (yellow):

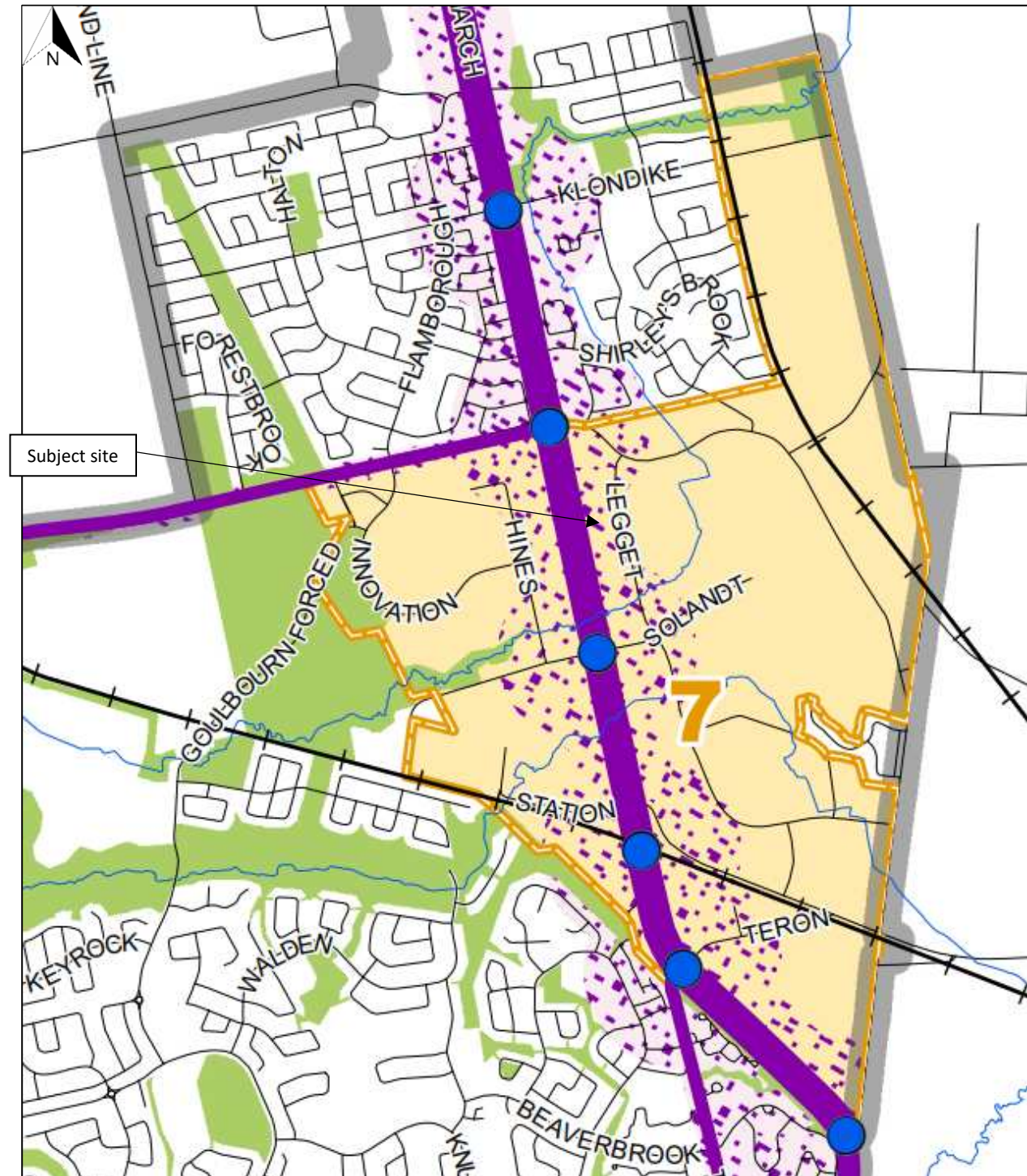


Figure 3: Schedule B5

Schedule C2 – Transit Network shows Transitway Stations (blue) at the intersections of March Road and Terry Fox Drive and Solandt Road:



Figure 4: Schedule C2

Schedule C3 - Active Transportation Network shows Major Pathways (red) on Terry Fox Drive to the west of March Road and to the south of the subject site:

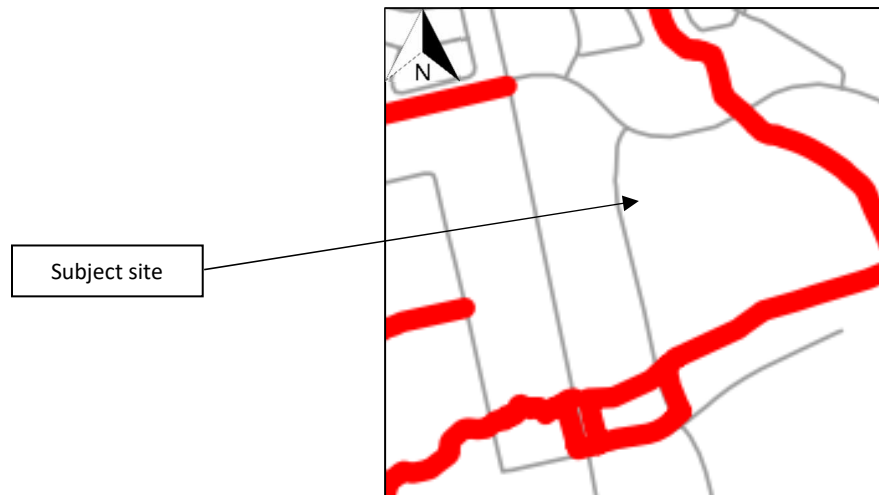


Figure 5: Schedule C3

Schedule C4 – Urban Road Network designates Legget Drive as a Minor Collector (green):



Figure 6: Schedule C4

Schedule C7-A - Design Priority Areas – Urban includes the subject site.

Schedule C11-A - Natural Heritage System (West) designates the subject site as urban area.

Schedule C12 - Urban Greenspace does not show any green space on or near the subject site.

Schedule C15 - Environmental Constraints shows unstable slopes on Shirley's Brook so the south of the site (these three schedules are not shown here)

Assessment against Section 6.6 Special Districts

The subject site is in one of two Special Economic Districts, entitled the Kanata North Economic District (KNED). The importance of the district and its planning challenges are at Section 6.6.3.2:

Kanata North Economic District is a globally significant technology innovation cluster and a major contributor to Canada and Ottawa's respective economies. As of 2020, it represents Canada's largest research and innovation cluster, with approximately 500 hectares of land and over 24,000 tech jobs and over 540 companies. It was developed in the 1970s and followed the leading planning concepts of the day for greenfield office parks.

Kanata North has sustained growth since its inception, but in order to maintain its competitiveness, a number of planning-related challenges require solutions. Enhancing mobility options, mixed-use development and urban design will contribute to the quality of life for those who live, work, learn and play in Kanata North and boost its ability to compete for talent. Allow for the potential consideration of pilot projects that promote the district as a living lab, such as autonomous vehicles. Designation as a Special District will provide opportunity, through land use planning, to maintain the district as an economic generator over the next 25 years.

Over-arching policy is at 1):

1) To promote growth and competitive position for talent, jobs and investment, the following goals and objectives will apply:

a) Transform over time from a car-oriented business park to a mixed-use innovation district with a broad range of uses focused around sustainable modes of transportation. Where public transit and active transportation becomes an attractive choice, it will reduce the need for a car for access and circulation;

b) In order to create a critical mass to support mixed uses, the highest densities shall be focused on two emerging activity centres located generally within 600 metres of the planned Transitway stations located at Terry Fox Drive and Station Road. The objective is to add dwelling units within a 600 metres radius walking distance of these stations to provide people and jobs to support retail and commercial;

c) Recognize the importance of both March Road and Legget Drive as major connectors, each with their role to play in mobility and in distinct character:

ii) Legget Drive shall evolve to support a more compact built-form, mid- and low-rise, pedestrian-oriented experience and a human scale place; and

d) Permit a wide range of uses within the district. These include residential, employment, commercial and institutional land uses. However, the land outside of the activity centres, March Road and Legget Drive should generally be focused on employment and ancillary uses; and

- e) Opportunities will be explored through development applications to create a finer grid block pattern and increase intersection density. Introducing new private or public streets and walkways on larger parcels will allow for improved connectivity and public realm. Where feasible, blocks should generally be one hectare in size with intersections about 150 to 180 metres apart.*
- **In relation to a) and b), parking on the Subject Site has been reduced from the existing condition and replaced with landscaping. The location is ideal to capitalize on the future BRT on March Road. In relation to c)ii), the building is existing, but the changes such as the Juliette balconies, ground floor canopy and landscaping make it more pedestrian oriented and human-scaled. In relation to d), residential and office uses are proposed. In relation to e), there is no opportunity to introduce new streets to this proposal. Notwithstanding, the Subject Site has a narrow frontage compared to neighbouring sites, at 105.74 metres.**

Policy sets out two Activity Centres in the District. The subject site is in the northern one, defined as within 600m of the future BRT station at the intersection of Terry Fox Drive and March Road.

Objective 4 focuses on the Activity Centres:

The planned function of the activity centres is to concentrate a diversity of uses, a higher density of development, and a greater degree of mixed uses near the rapid transit. The goal of encouraging these complete communities is to invite residents of all income levels, to have places to live, work, learn and play and to access daily needs without a car. The following policies apply to activity centres:

- a) Each of the activity centres includes the area generally within 600 metres of the planned Transitway stations at Terry Fox Drive and Station Road. These areas shall develop high densities of jobs and housing and permit up to high-rise buildings consistent with applicable Urban Design Guidelines. Residential and mixed-use buildings should generally have a minimum height of four storeys;*
- b) Each of the activity centres should include a signature urban plaza which may be a privately-owned public space and will be framed by buildings with additional at grade private spaces for cafes, restaurants and other arts, entertainment and makerspaces. Through the development application process, the urban plazas will be planned, designed and programmed to celebrate the Kanata North Economic District. Locate the highest density and mixed uses as close as possible to signature urban plazas and within walking distance of transit stations;*
- c) Encourage a broad range of dwelling sizes, including market and affordable housing;*
- d) In addition to the establishment of urban plazas, as the number of residents increase through development, additional public parks as part of parkland dedication may be required. Their design shall suit the scale of development and include amenities that reflect the culture of the Kanata North Economic District and meet recreation needs of residential developments;*
- e) Development shall not require minimum parking, and:*

f) Prohibit new non transit-supportive land uses that are oriented primarily to the automobile such as automotive parts, repair and service, car dealerships, car washes, drive-through facilities, gas/service stations.

- **The proposal is an excellent example of what the above policies are trying to achieve in the Activity Centres and more broadly in the Special District. It is a high density mixed use development. The proposal is close to future transit and existing facilities such as the Brookstreet Hotel and the small commercial cluster at 555 Legget Drive Blackwood Business Centre. It will also capitalise on the approximately 2,120m² of retail proposed for the development across Legget Drive at 570 March. Due to the proximity of existing and proposed retail, it is not proposed to provide retail in the proposal.**

Policy 5 expands on the role of March Road and Legget Drive:

5) March Road and Legget Drive are important streets that define the character of the Kanata North Economic District. The following should apply to development on March Road and Legget Drive:

b) On Legget Drive, outside of the activity centre areas and if included in the development, small scale retail, cafés, restaurants and other services are desirable at grade level and should be oriented to the street level. Create a complete street where every user feels safe and is accommodated with sidewalks, street trees, cycle tracks and streetscaping. On-street parking should be facilitated;

- **The new apartment entry and the ground level amenity area address and activate Legget Drive.**

Kanata North Economic District

The subject site is in one of two Special Economic Districts, entitled the Kanata North Economic District. The importance of the district and its planning challenges are at Section 6.6.3.2:

Kanata North Economic District is a globally significant technology innovation cluster and a major contributor to Canada and Ottawa's respective economies. As of 2020, it represents Canada's largest research and innovation cluster, with approximately 500 hectares of land and over 24,000 tech jobs and over 540 companies. It was developed in the 1970s and followed the leading planning concepts of the day for greenfield office parks.

Kanata North has sustained growth since its inception, but in order to maintain its competitiveness, a number of planning-related challenges require solutions. Enhancing mobility options, mixed-use development and urban design will contribute to the quality of life for those who live, work, learn and play in Kanata North and boost its ability to compete for talent. Allow for the potential consideration of pilot projects that promote the district as a living lab, such as autonomous vehicles. Designation as a Special District will provide opportunity, through land use planning, to maintain the district as an economic generator over the next 25 years.

Policy sets out two Activity Centres in the District. The subject site is in the northern one, defined as within 600m of the future BRT station at the intersection of Terry Fox Drive and March Road.

Objective 1 d) supports residential use in the Activity Centres:

Permit a wide range of uses within the district. These include residential, employment, commercial and institutional land uses. However, the land outside of the activity centres, March Road and Legget Drive should generally be focused on employment and ancillary uses

Objective 2 outlines how the Zoning By-law should achieve this:

The intent is that wherever possible, land use changes that support the district's economic role will not require an Official Plan amendment. The Zoning By-law will broaden land use permissions, reduce required setbacks, reduce on-site parking requirements and establish minimum/maximum floor space index ratios.

Objective 4 focuses on the Activity Centres:

The planned function of the activity centres is to concentrate a diversity of uses, a higher density of development, and a greater degree of mixed uses near the rapid transit. The goal of encouraging these complete communities is to invite residents of all income levels, to have places to live, work, learn and play and to access daily needs without a car. The following policies apply to activity centres:

a) Each of the activity centres includes the area generally within 600 metres of the planned Transitway stations at Terry Fox Drive and Station Road. These areas shall develop high densities of jobs and housing and permit up to high-rise buildings consistent with applicable Urban Design Guidelines. Residential and mixed-use buildings should generally have a minimum height of four storeys;

b) Each of the activity centres should include a signature urban plaza which may be a privately-owned public space and will be framed by buildings with additional at grade private spaces for cafes, restaurants and other arts, entertainment and makerspaces. Through the development application process, the urban plazas will be planned, designed and programmed to celebrate the Kanata North Economic District. Locate the highest density and mixed uses as close as possible to signature urban plazas and within walking distance of transit stations;

c) Encourage a broad range of dwelling sizes, including market and affordable housing;

d) In addition to the establishment of urban plazas, as the number of residents increase through development, additional public parks as part of parkland dedication may be required. Their design shall suit the scale of development and include amenities that reflect the culture of the Kanata North Economic District and meet recreation needs of residential developments;

e) Development shall not require minimum parking, and:

f) Prohibit new non transit-supportive land uses that are oriented primarily to the automobile such as automotive parts, repair and service, car dealerships, car washes, drive-through facilities, gas/service stations.

The proposal is an excellent example of what the above policies are trying to achieve in the Activity Centres and more broadly in the Special District. It represents high density housing at a location that could be considered infill. It is close to future transit and existing facilities such as the Brookstreet Hotel and the small commercial cluster at 555 Legget Drive Blackwood Business Centre. It will also capitalise on the approximately 2,120m² of retail proposed for the development across Legget Drive at 570 March. Due to the proximity of existing and proposed retail, it is not

proposed to provide retail in the proposal. It will also contribute to a catchment area of residents that will encourage additional retail and services. It is likely that many of the residents of the building will work in the Kanata North Business Park and will be able to walk or cycle to work. Rental apartments are generally considered more affordable compared with like condominiums. A broad range of apartment sizes caters to a wide range of people and budgets.

Section 4 of the Draft OP sets out City Wide Policies. Section 4.6 covers Urban Design. Relevant policies are addressed below:

4.6.1 Promote design excellence in Design Priority Areas

The proposal is in a Design Priority Area. A Design Brief forms part of the application. Attendance at Urban Design Review Panel (UDRP) is optional for the Subject Site and will not be taken up. It would be of limited utility as the building is existing.

4.6.6 Enable the sensitive integration of new development of Low-rise, Mid-rise and High-rise buildings to ensure Ottawa meets its considering liveability

1) To minimize impacts on neighbouring properties and on the public realm, transition in building heights shall be designed in accordance with applicable design guidelines. In addition, the Zoning By-law shall include transition requirements for Mid-rise and High-rise buildings, as follows:

- a) Between existing buildings of different heights;*
- b) Where the planned context anticipates the adjacency of buildings of different heights;*
 - I. Within a designation that is the target for intensification, specifically: Built form transition between a Hub and a surrounding Low-rise area should occur within the Hub; and*
 - II. Built form transition between a Corridor and a surrounding Low-rise area should occur within the Corridor.*

2) Transitions between Mid-rise and High-rise buildings, and adjacent properties designated as Neighbourhood on the B-series of schedules, will be achieved by providing a gradual change in height and massing, through the stepping down of buildings, and setbacks from the Low-rise properties, generally guided by the application of an angular plane as may be set in the Zoning By-law or by other means in accordance with Council-approved Plans and design guidelines.

10) Development proposals that include High-rise buildings shall demonstrate the potential for future High-rise buildings or High-rise 41+ buildings on adjacent lots or nearby lots in accordance with the relevant policies of this Plan.

Although the building is high-rise, it is existing and therefore the relevance of these policies is limited.

3.3 Kanata North Economic District Urban Design Framework and Guidelines

The Kanata North Economic District Urban Design Framework and Guidelines were approved by Council on September 18, 2024. An assessment against the relevant sections of the guidelines is provided below.

Building Form Guidelines

1. Land Use

1.1 Activity Centres: Mixed-use, residential, employment, commercial, leisure, entertainment, and institutional uses and outdoor and indoor community amenity areas. Residential uses of three to four storeys are not permitted as standalone buildings, but may be permitted provided they are located at the base of, and are designed and physically connected to, a mid- or high-rise building.

The Subject Site is in an Activity Centre. A mixed-use building with residential and office uses is proposed.

Note that as the proposal is a conversion of an existing building, Sections 2, and 3 are not applicable.

Parking

4.2 Locate parking underground or in above ground parking structures that are lined with active land uses to camouflage the parking use.

The proposal makes use of existing surface parking. It is not feasible to construct underground parking or a parking garage in this location.

4.3. Limited surface parking spaces may be considered for emergency services access, as well as for the accommodation of people with disabilities, but these should be located interior to a site near building side or rear entries.

The proposal makes use of existing surface parking. It is not feasible to construct underground parking or a parking garage in this location. Most of the parking is located alongside the building and less than the required parking will be provided.

11. Architectural Materials and Details

11.1 Building Materials: Primary building materials should be high-quality and durable, including brick, granite, stone, metal, and glass. Flexibility should be provided for the specification of materials outside of these materials to allow for creativity and expression for the innovation ecosystem in the KNED.

11.2 Façade Projections: Main entrances should have canopies that project at least 2 m to provide weather protection for passersby. At entrances and along building façades, canopy projections with details such as metal hangers or support brackets, free-standing signage, and decorative light fixtures are encouraged.

11.3 Windows: When feasible, buildings should provide openings and windows that overlook public streets and open spaces to establish a human connection.

The design approach focuses on modernizing the building's exterior while enhancing its functionality as a residential space. A key feature of the design is the introduction of a continuous canopy around the ground floor, which will provide a sense of elegance and create a visually striking floating effect. The canopy, along with distinctive cladding

on the ground floor, will establish a strong visual identity, ensuring the building stands out within the Kanata landscape.

To further enhance the building's exterior, the proposal includes replacing the existing window wall system with a new, more dynamic façade. This updated system will allow for the integration of Juliette balconies and textured spandrel panels, offering each unit a greater connection to the outdoors and increasing interior privacy.

11.3.a Views into commercial spaces should not be obscured by signage or partitions.

Complies.

11.4 Lighting: Building lighting should encourage pedestrian activity and safety at all hours while respecting residential uses.

11.4.a Entryways and areas of high activity should be appropriately illuminated while minimizing potential light glare, spill, and light pollution.

11.4.b Outdoor building sconces are required to add interest to building façades and additional light on the street. This is required for all commercial, office, mixed-use and residential development.

Lighting design is to be confirmed but will comply.

Public Realm and Connectivity Guidelines

3. Building and site access

3.1 Implement the City's Accessibility Design Standards.

3.2 Locate the main pedestrian entrance at the street with a seamless connection to the sidewalk.

A new pedestrian entry has been added to the building facing the street. It connects seamlessly to the street.

3.3 Where the main pedestrian entrance is located away from the sidewalk provide a direct, clearly defined pedestrian connection such as a walkway or a pedestrian plaza, between the main pedestrian entrance and the sidewalk.

A walkway is provided between the main pedestrian entrance and the sidewalk.

3.4 Pedestrian entrances should be located at the edge of the sidewalk or along open space for buildings located in Activity Centres.

This is not possible as the building is existing.

4. Loading, servicing, and utilities

4.1 Entrances and access for servicing and utilities should be located on private internal drives where feasible

Complies.

4.1.a Private access located on Legget Drive or Solandt Road east of March Road is discouraged.

Complies.

4.2 Access for servicing and utilities in the District shall be provided from the rear of buildings, a public lane, or a shared driveway to minimize the visual impacts and interference with the pedestrian realm.

Complies.

4.3 Internalize and integrate servicing and other required utilities into the design of the base of the building.

Complies

4.5 Recess, screen, and minimize the size of garage doors and service openings visible from streets and other public spaces.

Not applicable as no parking garage and service openings are at the rear.

4.6 Service and garage openings should be screened or designed as integral parts of the building and high quality finishings should be used.

The service entry is currently integrated into the existing building. High quality finishings will be used.

4.7 Ventilation shaft, grates, and other above-grade site servicing equipment must be oriented away from public sidewalks and communal spaces and must be integrated into the building and landscape design.

Servicing is existing and mostly located on the roof. Some existing transformers will be integrated into the landscape design.

4.8 Coordinate, and where possible integrate, public transit stop elements such as benches and shelters within the site and building design.

There are no transit stops adjacent to the Subject Site – there are bus stops with shelters 60m north and 200m south of the Subject Site.

5. Streetscape and Landscaping

5.1 Street Trees

5.1.a A mix of native species is recommended to encourage biodiversity. Street trees should maintain like varieties on the same block.

Three Autumn Radiance Red Maples will be planted, adding to the existing trees.

5.1.b The street-tree pattern should be spaced consistently at an approximate distance not to exceed 8 m. A closer spacing distance of 6 m should be considered for Legget Drive and other highly-trafficked pedestrian areas including the lifestyle street.

Spacing has been dictated by existing trees.

5.1.c The District includes a number mature tree stands, both in natural settings as well as adjacent to buildings and streets. The preservation of mature trees is desired, and should be addressed during the review process and integrated into future development. Buildings adjacent to March Road and Legget Drive may be setback to preserve mature stands of trees provided those that are preserved are used as the basis for an urban pocket park or other public realm amenity, with street furniture, wayfinding signs and similar that will work seamlessly with the urban fabric necessary to transform the park from a suburban to urban environment.

The building is existing. Refer to the TCR for tree retention details.

5.1.d Plant trees in permeable surfaces with approximately 10 m² of soil area per tree to allow for successful growth over time.

Refer to Landscape Plan.

5.2 Lighting

5.2.a Street lights should be located at

the outer edge of all sidewalks, should be 4-5 m tall, and should be spaced regularly at least every 15 m.

Streetlights on Legget Drive are existing.

5.2.b Lighting should be compatible with, and not conflict with the tree canopy, should be aimed away from the windows of residential uses and should be Dark Skies compliant.

Lighting design is to be confirmed, but will comply.

5.3 Street Furniture

No street furniture is proposed. Refer to Landscape Plan for details within the site.

5.4 Special Landmark Features

5.4.a Special landmark features should be included and repeated along Legget Drive and along the lifestyle street that are unique to the KNED and act as identifiers of the distinct nature of the District's innovation businesses. Special landmark features could include distinct light stands and sconces, unique street furniture, unique signage or hard landscaped features such as stone posts, repeating banners, public art, as well as interactive placards that present interesting facts about the District or area within the District.

The existing distinct features in this section of Leggett Drive (light stands, street furniture and signage) will be retained.

5.5 Special Conditions

5.5.a Legget Drive:

Provide consistent curbside landscaping that complements street tree plantings without interfering with on-street parking access and street furniture. Outdoor planters at various levels should be used to augment landscape treatments.

Planting in the boulevard is limited. Refer to Landscape Plan.

6. Public Realm Activation

6.1 The Kanata North Economic District is set within a unique natural environment. The District's public realm should be equally unique and support formal and informal programming during all four seasons to provide an active and lively setting.

6.2 Provide ground-level activities within buildings that enhance the public realm and serve as a public amenity throughout the year. Examples include a public indoor garden, museum, library, or other passive or active recreational amenity that serves to enrich the cultural and/or ecological experience of employees, residents, students and visitors

Ground floor office use will continue in the building.

6.3 Consider a wide range of recreational activities geared towards students and young professionals including mini skate parks, rollerblade tracks, rock climbing walls, indoor space for ping pong, billiards or cards, board game and trivia nights in addition to other amenities for all ages and genders.

The building has extensive indoor amenity areas including a screening room, gym, yoga room and lounges where some of these activities could take place.

6.4 Introduce outdoor elements into the open space and public realm network that provide an engaging environment throughout all four seasons. Examples include the ability to support an ice-skating rink in the signature urban plaza (that doubles as a splash pad or outdoor performance venue in warmer months), park areas set aside for ice sculptures or winter play, a structure or natural ice-skating ribbon, a cross-country ski trail, or other outdoor amenities that provide year-round interest.

There is not sufficient space on the Subject Site for these, but some of these are available in the immediate area. For example, ice skating is offered at the Brookstreet Hotel.

6.5 In addition to the following guidelines, a broader winter city design approach should be developed and used as a guide for the buildout of the public realm network.

6.5.a Plan for smaller distributed snow storage areas with solar access to melt snow more quickly. Storage area placement should consider site drainage and be located to not create a waterflow issue on impervious surfaces. Snow storage shall not interfere with walkability and access.

The parking lot is existing, with existing snow removal arrangements.

6.5.b Consider solar access in the placement of buildings and outdoor spaces. The mass of buildings should maximize shade in the summer and sunlight in the winter onto open spaces.

The building is existing, but the new amenity area is on the south side of the building.

6.5.d Roofs of buildings and awnings should be designed to prevent falling snow and ice.

The building is existing but changes to it will comply.

6.5.f Use colorful awnings, canopies, and streetscape treatments to provide visual interest throughout the year.

The building is existing, but a prominent ground level awning feature has been introduced, distinguishing the building and guiding people to the entry.

7. Active Street Frontages

7.1 Active street frontages play an important role in animating the District's public realm and ensuring a variety of activities and levels of pedestrian interest. While these guidelines pertain primarily to mixed-use buildings within the Activity Centres, should any multi-family residential buildings within the District be permitted, these should strive to provide an active and engaging street front that will complement the area's evolving mixed-use and pedestrian-friendly development pattern.

The location of recommended Active Street Frontages illustrated in Figure 4.9 provides the general location for the application of the following guidelines. In addition to these

locations, any lifestyle streets, public or private, should be lined with active frontages as specified in these guidelines.

7.2 Ensure that ground-floor uses are active and pedestrian-oriented within Active Street Frontage areas. Uses that have low propensity for walk-in traffic should be discouraged from locating in these locations.

The existing building is setback from the active frontage, but there will be some walk-in traffic to the apartments and the office use.

7.3 Ensure that primary building entrances are clearly visible and intuitively accessible from the street. For all buildings facing streets and green or open space, a primary access point on the public space should be provided.

A new entry to the building will be visible from and intuitively accessible from the street.

7.5 Provide frequent entries, transparency, and operable walls where possible to encourage visual and physical connections between the ground floor and the public sidewalk.

The existing building is setback approximately 30 m from the street. Notwithstanding, it will have two pedestrian entries and ground floor glazing.

7.6 Avoid blank walls greater than 4 m in length. If unavoidable, they should be landscaped or decorated in a manner that makes them visually interesting.

The existing building does not have blank walls greater than 4 m in length facing the street.

7.7 Orient private balconies and terraces toward the street to encourage an interface between the private and public realms and to create eyes on the street.

Juliette balconies and rooftop terraces are oriented towards the street.

7.8 Include elements such as textured materials, awnings, plantings, signage and eating to create a visually engaging and inviting building edge to frame the sidewalk and create stopping points to relax, gather, and socialize.

7.9 Standalone Residential Buildings:

Mid- and High-rise residential buildings should include active uses at the ground level for those façades that front public streets and public open spaces. Methods for activating these frontages may include:

7.9.a Providing transparent windows along street frontages and incorporate active resident uses such as resident workspaces, workout facilities, or community room.

The existing building has large glazed areas on the ground floor.

7.9.b Incorporating residential units 7.9.c Providing enhanced landscaping along frontages and include (i.e. closer street tree spacing, individual unit entryways, planting beds, additional plants amenities (i.e. seating and other street furniture, public art).

Individual entries are not possible in the existing building. Refer to the Landscape Plan for planting and furniture details.

7.9.d Incorporating pedestrian-scale lighting and wayfinding signage.

Lighting and signage design is to be confirmed but will be provided.

3.4 City of Ottawa Zoning By-law 2008-250

The Subject Site is currently zoned Business Park Industrial subzone six with an exception (IP6 [301]).

Exception 301 permits the following additional uses:

- *artist studio*
- *golf course*
- *hotel*
- *personal service business*
- *restaurant, full service*
- *restaurant, take out*
- *retail store*

And adds the following zoning provisions:

- *maximum building height for hotel: 60 m*
- *with the exception of hotel, all permitted uses are limited to a maximum of height of 44 m*
- *the uses listed in Column III (Additional Land Uses Permitted), except for a hotel and golf course, are permitted provided the combined gross floor area of these uses plus a medical facility does not exceed 3,716 square metres*

It is proposed to rezone the Subject Site to Mixed Use Centre (MC). See Section 3.5 below for details.

3.5 Zoning By-law Amendment

The proposed changes to the City of Ottawa Zoning By-law No. 2008-250 for the Subject Site are as follows:

1. Rezone the Subject Site to Mixed Use Centre (MC).
2. Add a new exception [XXXX] to Section 239, Urban Exceptions, to add provisions similar in effect to the following:
 - a. In Column II, Applicable Zoning, add the text, "MC [XXXX]"
 - b. In Column V, Exception Provisions – Provisions, add the following text:

Parking and Loading

 - i. Section 101 does not apply.

As set out below, the proposal meets all the provisions of the proposed MC zone. Refer to the enclosed Zoning Confirmation Report for a detailed zoning assessment.

Zoning Provision	ZBL Ref.	By-law Requirement	Proposal	Complies
Principal Land Use(s)	S. 191	High-Rise Apartment and Office are permitted uses.	High-Rise Apartment and Office	Y
Minimum Lot Area	Table 191	No minimum	7,936 m ² (approx.)	Y
Minimum Lot Width		No minimum	105.74 m	Y
Minimum Front Yard (west)		No minimum	25.14 m	Y
Minimum Interior Side Yard Setback (north and south)		No minimum	8.04 m and 61.1 m	Y
Minimum Rear Yard Setback (east)		No minimum	0 m	Y
Maximum Floor Space Index (FSI)		No maximum	2.06	Y
Minimum Building Height		No minimum	44 m	
Maximum Building height		No maximum	44 m	Y
Minimum width of landscaped area		No minimum, except that where a yard is provided and not used for required driveways, aisles, parking, loading spaces or outdoor commercial patio, the whole yard must be landscaped	Provided yards not used for required driveways, aisles, parking or loading spaces are landscaped.	Y

3.6 Parkland Dedication

Parkland dedication will be provided as cash-in-lieu. The table below shows the parkland dedication calculation for the proposed mixed use building. If any parkland dedication has already been paid (to be confirmed), it would be credited against the below:

Gross Mixed Use Land Area	% Commercial / % Residential	Dedication Commercial (@ 2 % of gross land area)	Residential Cap (10 % of gross land area)	% reduction commercial	% reduction residential	Total Parkland Dedication Mixed Use
7,935m ²	2.45% / 97.55% 400m ² commercial / 15,939m ² residential Total GFA 16,339m ²	158.7m ²	793.5 m ²	2.25 % of 158.7m ² = 3.57m ²	97.55 % of 793.5m ² = 774.06m ²	3.57m ² + 774.06m ² = 777.63 m ²

3.7 Integrated Environmental Review

In accordance with the Planning Rationale Terms of Reference, an Integrated Environmental Review is not required as the project does not require an Environmental Impact Study.

4.0 CONCLUSION

It is our assessment that the proposed development is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms to the City of Ottawa's Official Plan. The proposed amendment to the Zoning By-Law 2008-250 to accommodate residential use and reduce the parking requirements can be approved as it is consistent with policy, diversifies the uses in the Kanata North Business Park, provides much needed housing within walking distance of major employers and reduces car dependence.

This planning rationale, along with the associated Design Brief and technical studies, supports the proposed development. The proposed development is an appropriate and desirable addition to the neighbourhood and represents good planning.

NOVATECH

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