Memorandum to the City of Markham Committee of Adjustment November 11, 2024

File:	A/094/24
Address:	3 Ritter Crescent, Markham
Applicant:	Tse-Kin Tong
Hearing Date:	Wednesday, November 20, 2024

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

The Applicant is requesting relief from the "Third Density – Single Family Residential (R3)" zone requirements under By-law 134-79, as amended, as it relates to a proposed detached cabana in the rear yard. The variance requested is to permit:

a) **By-law 134-79, Section 5.13:** an accessory building located 26.82 metres from the centre line of an arterial road (16th Avenue), whereas the By-law requires a minimum distance of 30 metres from the centre line of all arterial roads.

BACKGROUND

Property Description

The 765 m² (8,234 ft²) Subject Lands are located north of Ritter Crescent, west of Normandale Road, and south of 16th Avenue (refer to Appendix "A"). The property is located within an established residential neighbourhood comprised of two-storey detached dwellings. Mature vegetation exists on the property with several trees along the interior side yard, front yard, and rear yard. There is an existing two-storey detached dwelling on the Subject Lands, which according to assessment records was constructed in 1983.

Proposal

The Applicant is proposing to construct a new one-storey detached cabana in the rear yard with a gross floor area of 19.30 m² (208 ft²), as shown in Appendix "B".

Official Plan and Zoning

Official Plan 2014 (partially approved on November 24, 2017, and updated on April 9, 2018)

The Official Plan designates the Subject Lands "Residential Low Rise", which provides for low-rise housing forms including single detached dwellings. Section 8.2.3.5 of the Official Plan outlines infill development criteria for the "Residential Low Rise" designation with respect to height, massing, and setbacks. These criteria are established to ensure that infill developments are appropriate for the site and generally consistent with the zoning requirements for adjacent properties and properties along the same street, while accommodating a diversity of building styles. In considering applications for development is required to meet the general intent of the above noted development criteria. In addition, regard shall be had for the retention of existing trees

and vegetation. Planning Staff have had regard for the requirements of the infill development criteria in the preparation of the comments provided below.

Zoning By-Law 134-79, as amended

The Subject Lands are zoned "Third Density – Single Family Residential (R3)" zone requirements under By-law 134-79, as amended, as it relates to a proposed one-storey detached cabana. The proposed development does not comply with By-law 134-79 with respect to the minimum setback distance from the centerline of the arterial road.

Zoning By-law 2024-19, as amended

The Subject Lands are zoned "Residential - Established Neighbourhood Low Rise (RES-ENLR)" under By-law 2024-19, as amended, which permits detached dwellings. By-law 2024-19, as amended, is the Comprehensive Zoning By-law (CZBL), approved by City Council on January 31, 2024. Section 1.7 of the CZBL provides transition policies allowing the former Zoning By-law to remain applicable for 'applications in process' prior to the CZBL coming into full force and effect for three years. A building permit (HP 22 110153) was submitted in October 2022, requiring the Owner to obtain a variance to By-law 134-79 only. If this variance application is approved, the building permit is required to be obtained by January 31, 2027.

Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) Not Undertaken

The Applicant has confirmed that a Zoning Preliminary Review (ZPR) has <u>not</u> been conducted. However, the Applicant has received comments from the building department through their ongoing building permit review process (HP 22 110153) to confirm the variances required for the proposed development.

COMMENTS

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

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

Setback from an Arterial Road

The Applicant is requesting relief to permit an accessory building that is located 26.82 metres (87.99 feet) from the centre line of 16th Avenue, whereas the by-law requires a minimum setback of 30 metres (98.43 feet) from the centreline. This represents a reduction of 3.18 metres (10.43 feet).

The variance is entirely attributable to the rear single-storey detached cabana. The main rear wall of the proposed accessory building (cabana) provides a rear yard setback of approximately 6.1 metres (20 feet) and is generally consistent with the established rear yard setback pattern on the street. Given that there is generous distance between the centerline of 16th Avenue and the proposed accessory building, and that the property

consists of mature vegetation along the rear yard, Staff are of the opinion that the onestorey cabana will have minimal impacts on neighbouring properties and that the variance is minor in nature.

Staff further note that the intent of the By-law is to accommodate for any future arterial road widenings along 16th Avenue. 16th Avenue is a regional arterial road that is owned and operated by York Region. The Region has reviewed the application and has confirmed that they have no comments on the variance application.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

No written submissions were received as of November 11, 2024. It is noted that additional information may be received after the writing of the report, and the Secretary-Treasurer will provide information on this at the meeting.

CONCLUSION

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

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

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

PREPARED BY:

Nohannad

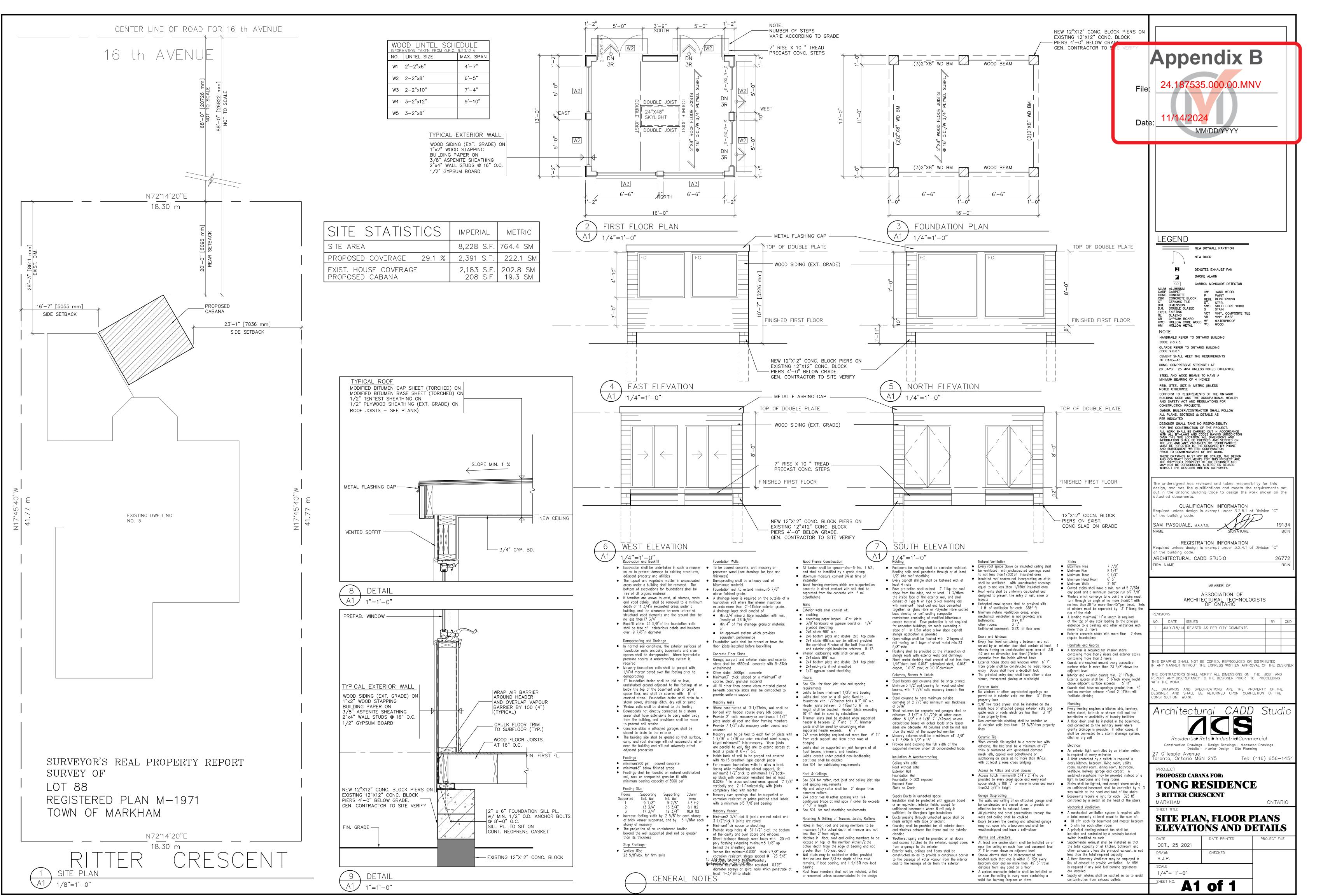
Hussnain Mohammad, Planner 1, Development Facilitation Office

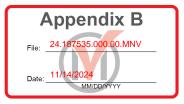
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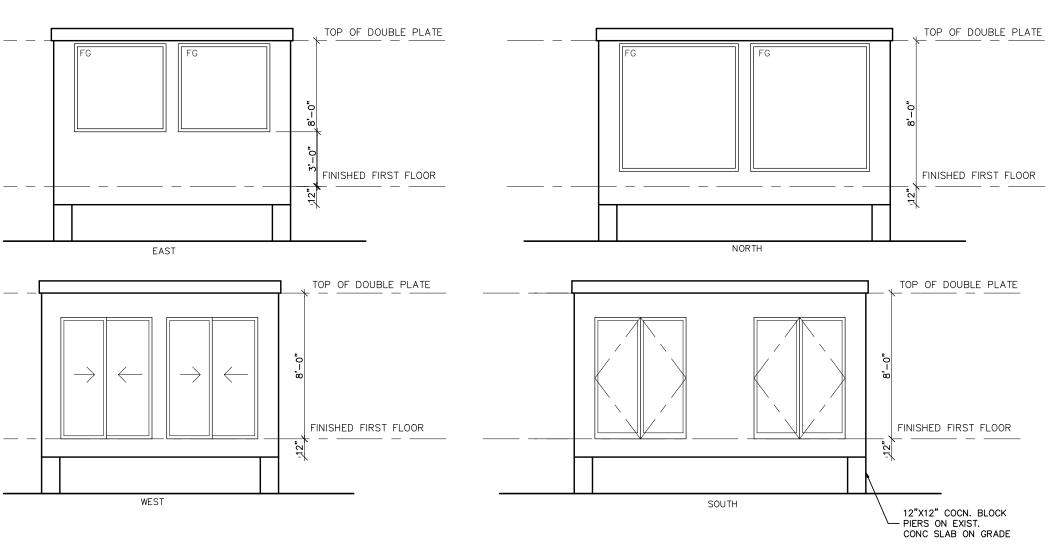
Melissa Leung, MCIP RPP, Senior Planner, Central District

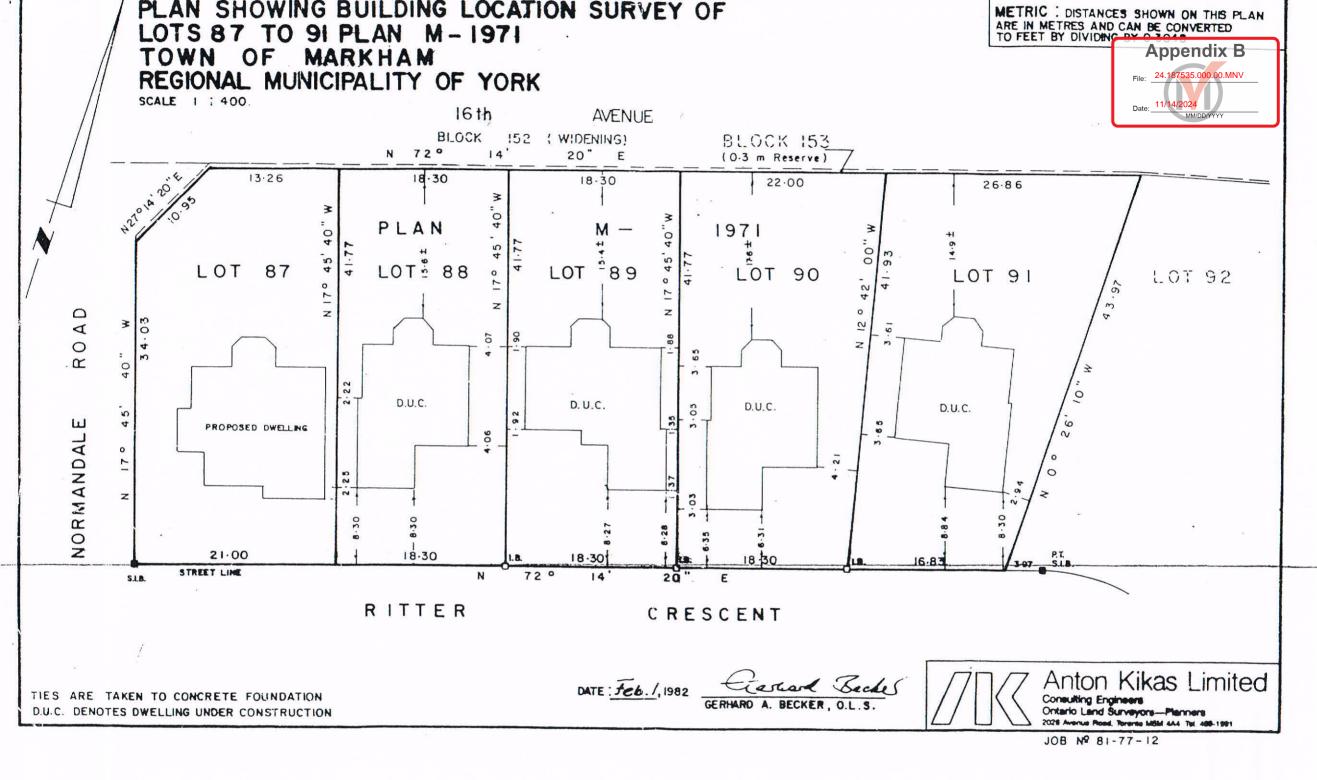
APPENDICES Appendix "A" – Aerial Context Photo Appendix "B" – Plans Appendix "C" – A/094/24 Conditions of Approval











APPENDIX "C" – A/094/24 Conditions of Approval

CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO ANY APPROVAL OF FILE A/094/24

- 1. The variances apply only to the proposed development as long as it remains; and
- 2. That the variances apply only to the proposed development, in substantial conformity with the plans attached as Appendix "B" to this Staff Report, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Supervisor of the Committee of Adjustment or designate that this condition has been fulfilled to their satisfaction.
- **3.** Submission of a Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan, prepared by a Qualified Tree Expert in accordance with the City's Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan (TAPP) Requirements (2024) as amended, to be reviewed and approved by the City, and that the Secretary-Treasurer receive written confirmation from the Tree Preservation By-law Administrator that this condition has been fulfilled to his/her satisfaction, and that any detailed Siting, Lot Grading and Servicing Plan required as a condition of approval reflects the Tree Assessment and Preservation Plan.

CONDITIONS PREPARED BY:

Mohannad

Hussnain Mohammad, Planner 1, Development Facilitation Office