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Centre Plan Package B Established Residential Designation

Community Design Advisory Committee (CDAC) July 9, 2020



- 6.1.1 Package B review process update
- 6.1.2 Proposed Package B CDAC review schedule
- 6.1.3 Established Residential Designation

Package B Update

- February 2020: Draft Package B released
- March 2020: 10 Pop-Ups and 12 Stakeholder Sessions; 8 planned public meetings cancelled due to COVID-19

• March – Ongoing

- $\circ\,$ analysis of feedback received to date
- o additional research and analysis
- o monitoring of emerging policy issues, and
- o enhanced online engagement opportunities



Online Surveys

• 10 Online Surveys on key topics and

themes:

- o Parks and Community Facilities
- o Established Residential Areas
- o Young Avenue Area
- o Downtown Halifax
- o Entertainment District
- o Institutional Areas
- o Industrial Areas
- o Water Lots
- o Coastal Elevation
- o Package A Feedback
- Surveys are open until August 31st, 2020

Halifax Planning

HALIFAX

Published by Deanna Wilmshurst (?) - June 11 at 5:11 PM - 🔇

Here's a short video that provides an overview of Centre Plan - Package B. Centre Plan is a comprehensive planning process for the Regional Centre based on the core concepts of complete communities, pedestrians first, human scaled design, and strategic growth. The first phase the Plan (Package A) was approved by Council in September 2019, and we're looking for your feedback on the second phase (Package B). Visit https://www.centreplan.ca/ to join the conversation.



7/7/2020

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Community Engagement and COVID-19

- Online surveys for the Saint Patrick Alexander Site
- Stakeholder engagement through phone and virtual meetings
- Exploring additional online engagement tools
- Preparing for future in-person meetings



Proposed CDAC Review Schedule

Date	Proposed Review Themes
July 9	Project UpdateEstablished Residential
TBD	 Parks and Community Facilities Downtown Halifax Entertainment District Institutional Employment
TBD	 Industrial Employment Water Access Implementation Changes to Package A
TBD	 If needed to complete reviews

Established Residential

Demographics and Housing Affordability

- Increasing population growth
- Decreasing household size
- Increasing rent levels
- Decreasing vacancy rate
- Decreasing affordability

APARTMENTS AGAIN BECAME HARDER TO FIND AND MORE EXPENSIVE



COVID-19 IMPACTS

- Typical renters have taken biggest employment and income hits
- Inflows of students and migrants will be dampened for some time
- Net impacts on construction, rents, and vacancy...?

Source: Halifax Partnership 2020 Halifax Index Presentation

Opportunities

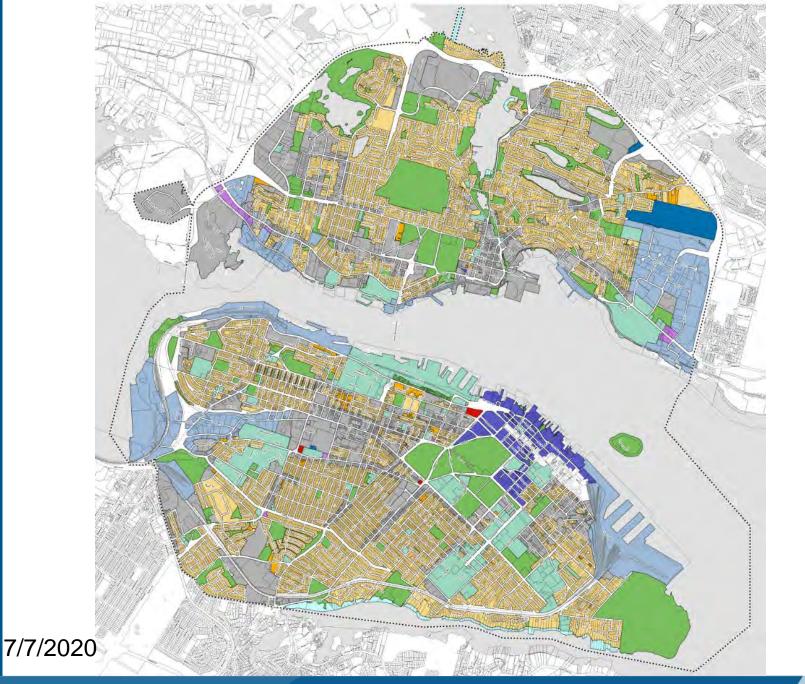
- Align policies and regulations with the Regional Plan and Priority Plans
- Simplify and standardize regulations
- Enable more housing forms and uses that support complete communities
- Provide for more housing opportunities for owners and renters
- Support local built form character







Structure Urban





URBAN STRUCTURE | PACKAGE B

Urban Structure

Established Residential Designation

- Applied over predominantly low-rise residential areas
- Key policies in Part 3.7 & 4.7.7 of the Plan
- The intent is to:
 - provide opportunities for a variety of housing types and forms while protecting the character of established neighbourhoods
 - support local commercial uses, institutional, park and recreation, and urban agriculture uses complimentary to established residential areas



Urban Nodes and Links

- Map 2 Urban Structure Links: streets with existing or emerging mixed uses which connect people and places of significant activity
- Links often have transit or active transportation routes but sometimes exist to support or strengthen complete communities



Zones

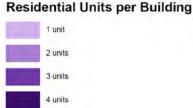
LUB Table 1; Schedule 3

- Established Residential 1 (ER-1) Zone applies to lands not located on a major or minor community node or urban structure links. Single unit dwellings + one secondary suite OR one backyard suite
- Established Residential 2 (ER-2) Zone applies to lands in close proximity to, but not directly abutting, urban structure links and community nodes. Also placed near major institutions like universities, collages and hospitals. Up to 3 dwellings per lot.
- Established Residential 3 (ER-3) Zone applied to lands that abut urban structure links. Allows local commercial uses on all lots to provide local neighbourhoods with goods and services. Up to 4 dwelling units per lot.
- Land-Leased Community (LLC) Zone applies to existing land leased communities, and allows for mobile home uses and accessory uses.

Zoning Placement

- Considered existing zones, current unit mix and development patterns
- Considered proposed Heritage Conservation Districts
- Applied Urban Structure analysis
- Minimized downzoning
- Provided for increase in gentle/hidden density
- Provisions for non-conforming uses and structures under the *HRM Charter* and LUB





Residential Land Uses LUB Table 1 Excerpt

RESIDENTIAL USES	ER-1 Zone	ER-2 Zone	ER-3 Zone	LLC Zone
Single-unit dwelling use	•	•	•	
Semi-detached dwelling use		•	•	
Townhouse dwelling use		•	•	
Two-unit dwelling use	•*	•	•	
Three-unit dwelling use	•*	•	•	
Four-unit dwelling use			•	
Secondary suite use	•	•	•	
Backyard suite use	•	•	•	
Small Shared housing use	•	•	•	•
Mobile home use				•

* Permitted in the ER-1 Conversion Special Area (Schedule 4E & Section 68 of the LUB)

Typical Built Form Controls Part V of the LUB

- In ER-2 zone townhome blocks limited to a maximum of 4 contiguous units
- In ER-3 zone townhome blocks limited to a maximum of 8 contiguous units
- Attached garages may be no closer to the streetline than the front wall of the main building
- Attached garages facing a front lot line shall not exceed 3.0 metres in width; only one door permitted
- Attached garages facing a flanking yard shall not exceed 6.0 metres in width with two doors permitted

Typical Built Form Controls

- Minimum Front/flanking yard setback: 0.5-1.5 metres
- Minimum side yard: 1.25 metres
- Minimum rear yard: 6.0 metres
- Maximum lot coverage: 35%-50%
- Maximum height: 11 metres
 - 9.2 m in Downtown Dartmouth proposed HCDs and some special areas
 - 8 m on registered heritage buildings





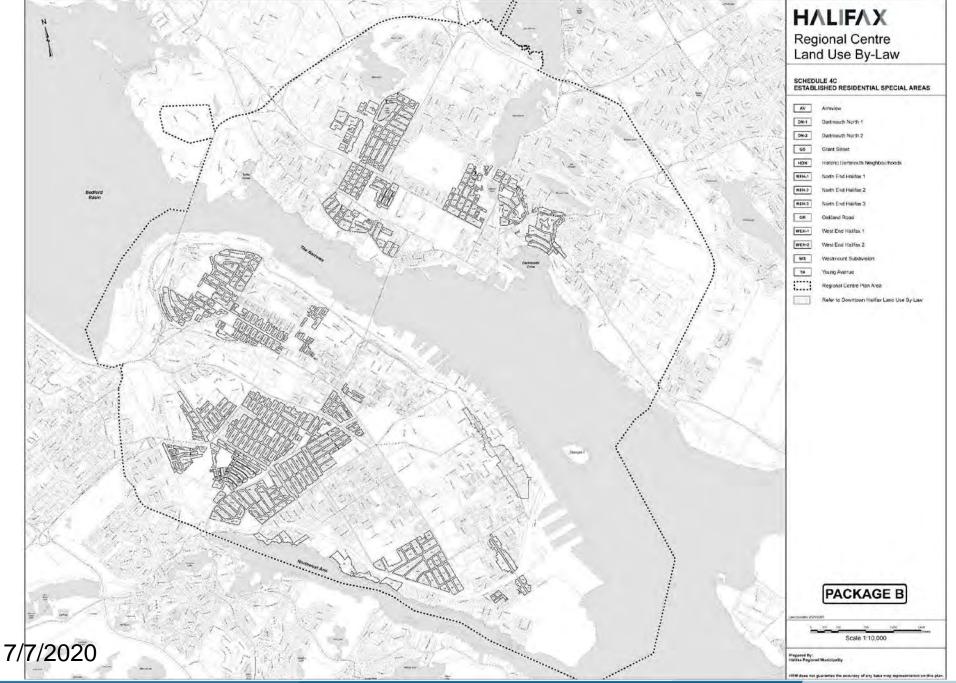
Established Residential Special Areas

- 5 Precincts implemented through 13 Special Areas in the LUB
- Customized local built form controls, including:
 - min. lot size, min. frontage, min. side yards, min. setbacks, max. coverage, max. building footprint for single unit dwellings
- Intent is to maintain the character of these areas through preserving built form without impacting permitted uses
- 3-unit conversion for existing buildings permitted in certain areas

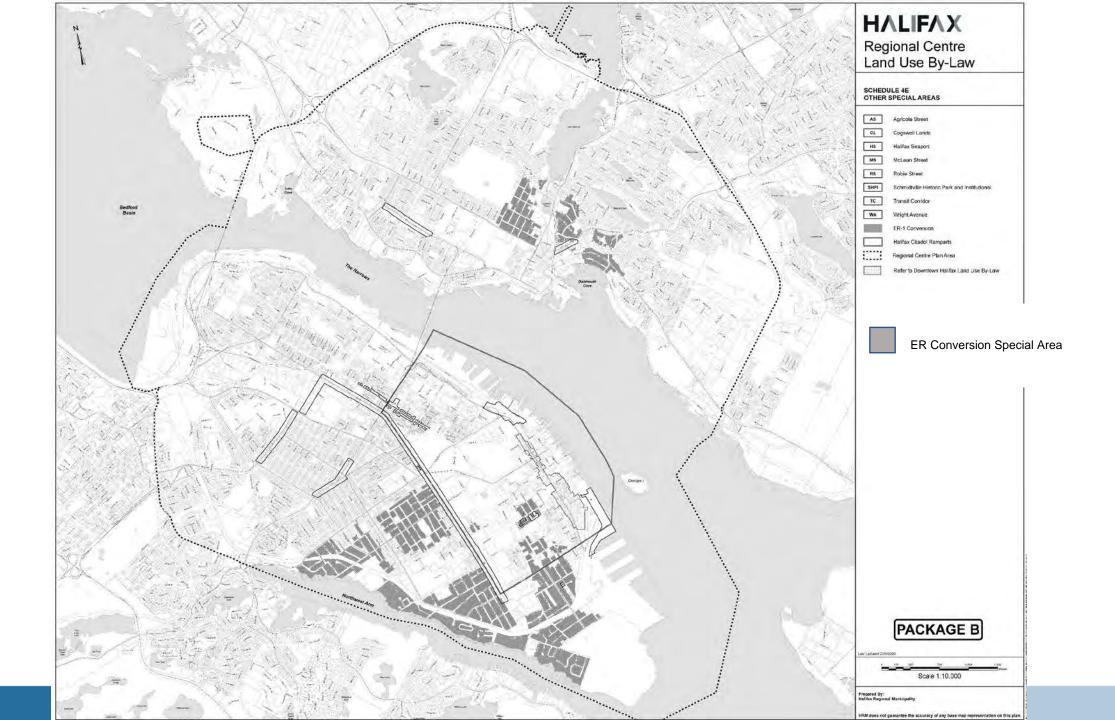




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Armview (AV); Grant Street (GS); Historic Dartmouth Neighbourhoods (HDN); North Dartmouth 1 (ND-1); North Dartmouth 2 (ND-2); North End Halifax 1 (NEH-1); North End Halifax 2 (NEH-2); North End Halifax 3 (NEH-3); Oakland Road (OR); West End Halifax 1 (WEH-1); West End Halifax 2 (WEH-2); West mount Subdivision (WS); and Young Avenue (YA).



Young Avenue Special Area Development Agreement Policies 10.35 – 10.36

- In the Young Avenue Special Area (YASA) tailored built form controls and 3-unit conversion are maintained
- Two development agreement options are proposed to support existing built form and context-sensitive infill on existing vacant lands:
 - Up to **six units** within existing buildings, subject to design requirements
 - Up to four units on existing vacant lots, subject to design requirements, same lot sizes but narrower frontages from the YASA built form
 7/7/2020 controls



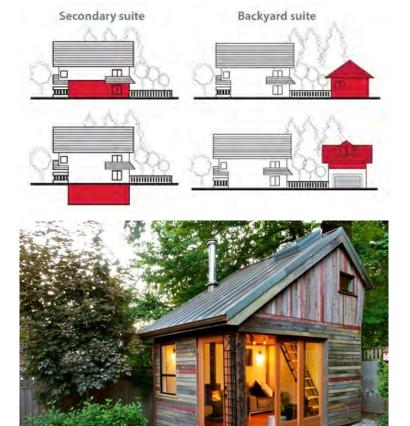


Secondary & Backyard Suites

- Coordinated with proposed Region-wide amendments
- One secondary OR backyard suite permitted on a lot containing a single-unit, two-unit, semi- detached or townhouse dwelling
- Secondary suite is a separate, subordinate dwelling unit within a main dwelling unit (max. 80 sm)
- Backyard suite is a dwelling unit contained within an accessory structure
- Backyard suites are treated the same as accessory structures for built form controls:
 - minimum 1.25 m from and side or rear lot line
 - maximum 5.5 m in height

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• maximum 60 sm footprint & 90 sm floor area



Shared Housing

- Permitted in all residential zones at a compatible scale
- Coordinated with region-wide project work
- Small shared housing contains at least 4 and no more than 10 bedrooms (depending on the zone) that meet one or more of the following conditions:
 - are being rented separately to occupants
 - include medical assistance to occupants
 - are provincially licensed under the Homes for Special Care Act, and/or
 - are operated by a non-profit organization or a registered Canadian charitable organization that provides support services.





Bedroom Counts

- Bedroom counts are proposed per lot to control density in Established Residential areas
- Currently used in some by-laws
- Maximum bedroom count ranges from 6 bedrooms for single-unit dwellings, to 10 bedrooms for four-unit dwellings



Local Commercial Uses

- Proposed to be permitted in all ER and LLC Zones
 - on the ground floor of all ER-3 Zones
 - on the ground floor of corner properties of ER-1 and ER-2 zones
- Local commercial use is:
 - up to 200 square metres (2,152 square feet) in area
 - offers goods or products for sale or rent, including businesses that offer personal services, and businesses that sell
 - food prepared on or off site but excluding restaurants



Urban Agriculture LUB Table 1; S. 74-75

Permitted in all ER and LLC Zones as an accessory use:

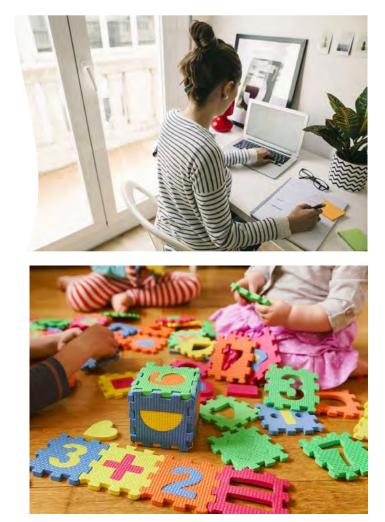
- keeping of bees (2-4 depending on lot size)
- keeping of egg-laying hens (max. 10)
- breeding, planting, harvesting of plants
- sale of urban agriculture products produced or processed on site



Other Permitted Uses

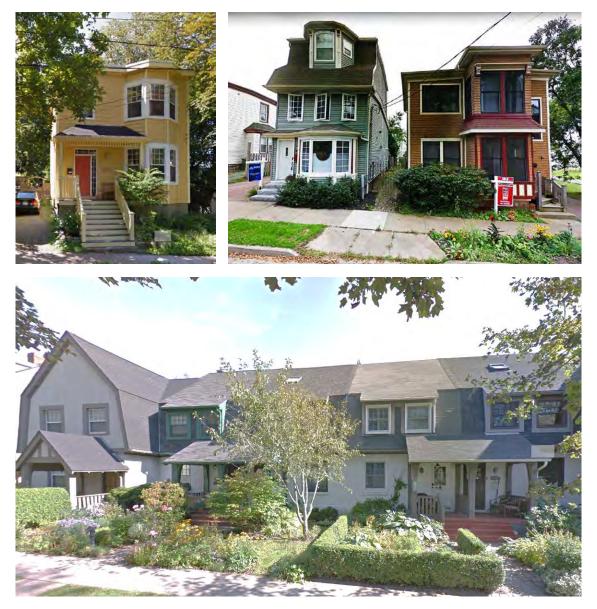
Section 61: Where permitted, <u>one</u> of the following is permitted in ER and LLC Zones:

- Home occupation
- Bed and breakfast
- Small shared housing
- Daycare
- Local commercial
- Medical clinic



Heritage

- Max. 8 m height on all registered heritage properties
- ER-1 zoning with nonconforming provisions on all proposed Heritage Conservation Districts in the Established Residential Designation (Table 3 in the Plan, Map 20)



Key Items for Discussion and Feedback

- Policy directions
- Zone placements
- Special Areas
- Size and design of backyard suites
- Backyard suites in Westmount Special Area
- ER-1 Zoning applied to proposed Heritage Conservation Districts
- Non-confirming uses and structures
- Local commercial uses
- Clustered housing
- Young Avenue Development Agreement Policies

Discussion

Thank you

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