# Town of Kittery Planning Board Meeting July 13, 2023

ITEM 3 – 163 and 165 Rogers Road – Conventional Subdivision – Sketch Plan Review

Action: Accept sketch plan or continue review.

Proposal: To merge two existing parcels into a single 2.84 acre-lot subdivided by unit into five single-

family residential dwellings, all along a shared driveway with individual private septic systems.

**Location**: 163 and 165 Rogers Road, Map 14 Lots 53 & 53-1

Zoning District: R-U: Residential Urban
 Owners: Ruth E. and Karen L. Bouffard

**Agent**: Rick Chellman

#### **PROCESS SUMMARY**

REQ'D	ACTION	COMMENTS	STATUS
YES	Sketch Plan Acceptance/Approval	Scheduled for July 13, 2023 Meeting	Pending
YES	Preliminary Plan Review		
	Completeness/Acceptance		
	Site Visit		
YES	Public Hearing	Required for Preliminary Site Plan or	
		Subdivision Approval	
YES	Preliminary Plan Approval		
YES	Final Plan Review and Decision		

Applicant: Prior to the signing of the approved Plan any Conditions of Approval related to the Findings of Fact along with waivers and variances (by the BOA) must be placed on the Final Plan and, when applicable, recorded at the York County Registry of Deeds. PLACE THE MAP AND LOT NUMBER IN 1/4" HIGH LETTERS AT LOWER RIGHT BORDER OF ALL PLAN SHEETS. As per Section 16.4.4.L - Grading/Construction Final Plan Required. - Grading or construction of roads, grading of land or lots, or construction of buildings is prohibited until the original copy of the approved final plan endorsed has been duly recorded in the York County registry of deeds when applicable.

#### PROJECT INTRODUCTION

This is a conceptual review for a proposed major subdivision by unit at the properties of 163 and 165 Rogers Road in the R-U Residential-Urban Zone. 163 Rogers Road is a lot of approximately 103,200 square feet; directly north of it is 165 Rogers Road, a spaghetti-shaped lot of 20,290 square feet. Both properties are legally non-conforming due to street frontage and contain one single-family residential dwelling connected by a shared driveway and are surrounded by open fields and a forest covering the majority of each lot. The plan proposes merging both properties into a single lot that conforms to dimensional standards, then extending the shared driveway further into the property to construct three new single-family dwellings. The subdivision will total up to 5 units, all of which will be converted into condos. The applicant identified a wetland pocket in the wooded area of the lot totaling 9,315 sq ft. Although this deducts land from the development's net residential acreage calculations outlined in §16.5.8, the resource is too far to trigger any setback requirements for the proposed development.

#### **APPLICATION & PLAN REVIEW**

Staff reviewed the submitted application and plan and have the following comments:

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# 16.4.13 R-U ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS

- 1. The application appears to meet dimensional standards and open space requirements, although the site plan does not have the envelopes for the proposed and existing dwellings.
- 2. Conservation subdivisions are permitted use in the R-U zone, while conventional subdivisions are a special exception use requiring planning board approval. When asked, the applicant said a conventional subdivision was more appealing due to the focus on shared septic systems in the conservation subdivision ordinance.
- 3. The minimum size per dwelling for a lot in the R-U zone is 20,000 square feet. With an approximate lot size of 123,500 square feet, this allows for up to 6 dwellings. In accordance with net residential acreage calculations per §16.5.18.B, the size of the wetland lowers the amount of land to 114,185 sq ft, meaning only 5 dwellings are allowed on the lot.
  - a. Staff advised the applicant that if the pending soil survey identifies any soil deemed "poorly drained" or "somewhat poorly drained," they must revise their net residential acreage calculations in accordance with §16.5.18.B.
- 4. Per **§16.5.4**, because the proposed subdivision includes less than 10 building lots, it does not trigger a requirement for affordable housing units.

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# **16.5.27 STREETS**

- 1. Staff requested the applicant provide information on the total length of the existing driveway and proposed expansion. Per the definition in §16.3, a driveway may not exceed 500 feet in length; otherwise, it would be considered a private street and would be subject to the width and fire access requirements of a right-of-way.
  - a. Driveways are excluded from net residential acreage calculations. If the proposal is determined to be long enough to be considered a street, the dimensions of the right-of-way would have to be deducted in the net residential acreage calculations per §16.5.18.B.(5).
- 2. The applicant inquired about the requirement threshold for a traffic impact analysis, as Rogers Road is utilized by workers commuting to the Kittery Shipyard. Per §16.8.9.C.(6).(h), this analysis is required for "developments involving 40 or more parking spaces, or which are projected to generate more than 400 vehicle trips per day," neither of which appear applicable to the proposed development.

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#### 16.8.9 SUBDIVISION REVIEW PROCESS

- 1. The applicant is working on finishing a class A soil survey and soil interpretation.
  - a. While a soil survey is a requirement at the sketch plan stage, full net residential acreage calculations are not a requirement until the preliminary stage.

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#### 16.8.10 SUBDIVISION PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- 1. Public water is available along Rogers Road and both existing properties are connected. The applicant plans to connect the proposed new development to the existing water main.
- 2. Public sewers are not available at this property. The sketch plan indicates the approximate leach fields of the existing properties. Test pits are in the process of being dug to determine soil quality for the proposed new dwellings.
- 3. Per §16.8.10.N, any proposed development must limit clearing of trees to areas designated on the plan.

#### DISCUSSION, NEXT STEPS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

After review, staff suggest moving to continue or accept the sketch plan. All missing reports are currently ongoing or being planned for, but the information currently provided is sufficient to allow the project to move forward.

#### **RECOMMENDED MOTIONS**

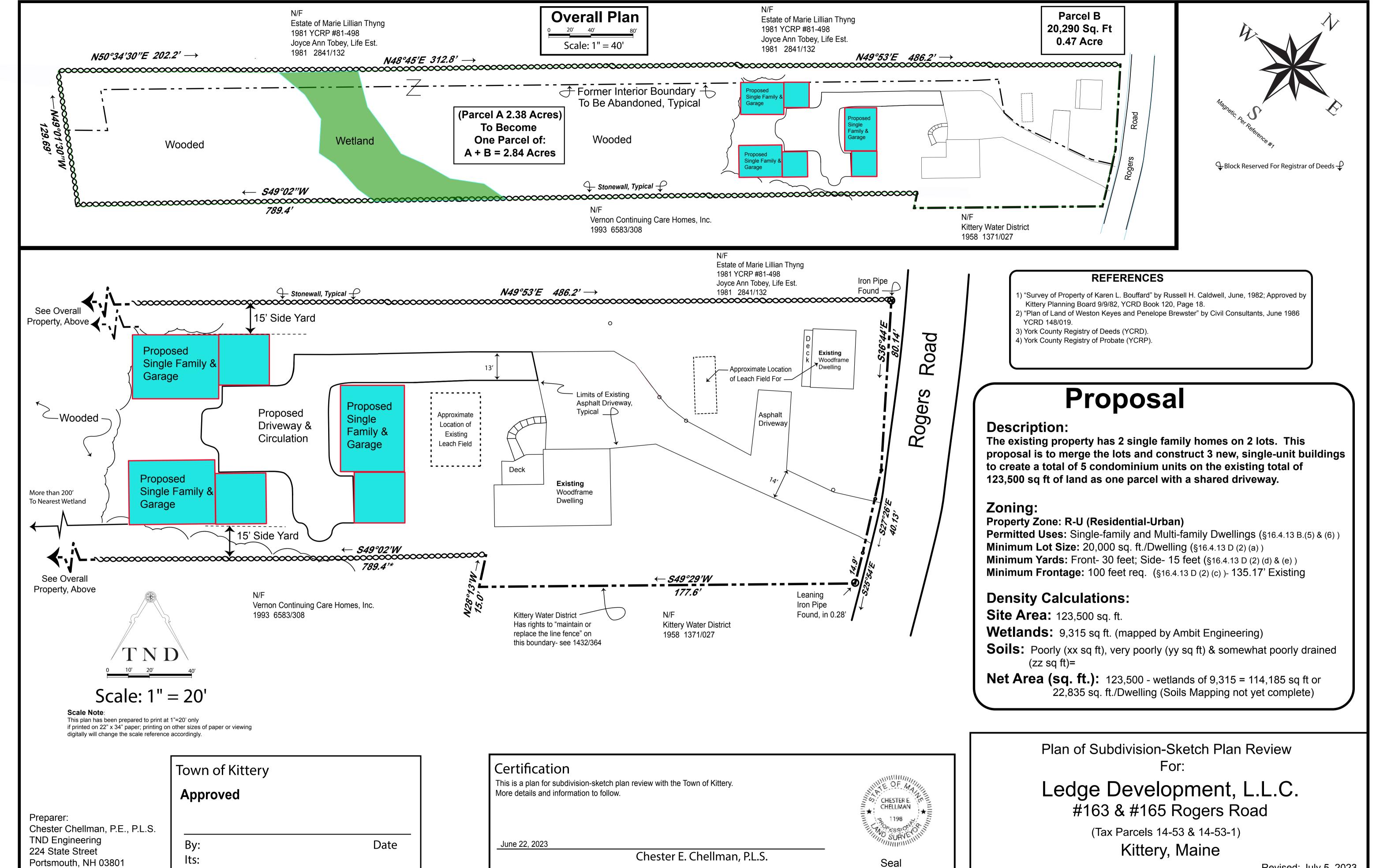
The sketch plan review is an opportunity to consider a concept, ask and answer questions, and **make** specific suggestions to the applicant.

# Motion to continue the application

Move to continue review of the subdivision sketch plan by Rick Chellman, for owners Ruth and Karen Bouffard, who proposes to merge two parcels into a single 2.85 acre-lot containing a total of three buildings and up to six condominium dwellings, all along a shared driveway with individual private septic systems, located at the address of 163 and 165 Rogers Road, Tax Map 14, Lots 53 & 53-1, in the Residential – Urban (R-U) Zone.

# Motion to accept the application as complete

Move to accept the subdivision sketch plan by Rick Chellman, for owners Ruth and Karen Bouffard, who proposes to merge two parcels into a single 2.85 acre-lot containing a total of three buildings and up to six condominium dwellings, all along a shared driveway with individual private septic systems, located at the address of 163 and 165 Rogers Road, Tax Map 14, Lots 53 & 53-1, in the Residential – Urban (R-U) Zone.



603.479.7195

TND Engineering Revised: July 5, 2023

June 22, 2023

