

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

TO: Subdivision and Development Appeal Board

DATE: December 16, 2020 DIVISION: 1

FILE: 03913093 **APPLICATION**: PRDP20202490

SUBJECT: Vacation Rental

PROPOSAL: Vacation Rental	GENERAL LOCATION : Located in the Hamlet of Bragg Creek.
APPLICATION DATE: August 25, 2020	MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION: Approved
APPEAL DATE: November 23, 2020	MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION DATE: October 30, 2020
APPELLANT: Michele and Joe Longo	APPLICANT: Teresa and Matthew Weir
LEGAL DESCRIPTION : Lot: 6, Block: 8, Plan 1741 EW, SE-13-23-05-05	MUNICIPAL ADDRESS: 79 River Drive North
LAND USE DESIGNATION: Residential, Residential Urban District (R-URB)	GROSS AREA: ± 0.22 hectares (± 0.55 acres)
PERMITTED USE: Discretionary Use	DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE AUTHORITY:
PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS:	LAND USE POLICIES AND STATUTORY PLANS:
The application was circulated to thirteen (13) adjacent landowners. At the time this report was prepared, no letters were received in support or objection to the application, excepting the appeal.	 County Plan Land Use Bylaw Greater Bragg Creek Area Structure Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The proposal is for the operation vacation rental within an existing dwelling, single detached. The subject land is designated Residential, Rural District. The property is surrounded by residential districts and a Special Public Service District to the east. The subject land is located within the Hamlet of Bragg Creek. The parcel contains a single detached dwelling and an accessory building.

The Development Permit application was made on August 25, 2020. The Application was a result of an enforcement action and that enforcement file was closed, with application being made.

On October 29, 2020, the application was approved by the Municipal Planning Commission.

The Notice of Decision was circulated on October 30, 2020, to thirteen (13) adjacent landowners.

On November 23, 2020, Michele and Joe Longo, adjacent landowners, filed an appeal. The reasons for appeal are detailed in the agenda package.



PROPERTY HISTORY:

Date	File/Application #	Туре	Result
August 25, 2020	PRDP20202490	Application submitted	Development Permit application made as a result of an enforcement action. The enforcement file was closed upon development permit application.
September 2, 2020		Site inspection	Inspector's comments: Well screened Neat and tidy, Adequate parking, No concerns at time of inspection Site photos were taken at time of inspection.
October 29, 2020		Municipal Planning Commission	Application was approved.
October 30, 2020			Notice of Decision sent to applicant and adjacent landowners.

APPEAL:

See attached report and exhibits.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean MacLean

Supervisor, Planning and Development Services

WV/IIt

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT 'A': Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Report

ATTACHMENT 'B': Application Details

ATTACHMENT 'C': Inspection Report and Site Photos

ATTACHMENT 'D': Map Set ATTACHMENT 'E': Site Plan

ATTACHMENT 'F': Notice of Decision ATTACHMENT 'G': Notice of Appeal



DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REPORT

Application Date: August 25, 2020	File: 03913093
Application: PRDP20202490	Applicant: Matthew and Teresa Weir Owner: Matthew and Teresa Weir
Legal Description: SE-13-23-05-W5M Municipal Address: 79 River Drive North	General Location: Located in the hamlet of Bragg Creek
Land Use Designation: Residential, Urban District (R-URB) under Land Use Bylaw C-8000-2020	Gross Area: ± 0.22 hectares (± 0.55 acres)
File Manager: Wayne Van Dijk	Division: 1

PROPOSAL:

The application is for the operation of a vacation rental within an existing dwelling, single detached. *Note: the application was assessed in accordance with Land Use Bylaw C-8000-2020.*

The application is a result of an enforcement issue but that issue is resolved with this application being made. The applicants wish to utilize their property as a vacation rental property. The current dwelling is approximately 92.90 sq. m. (1000 sq. ft.) with three (3) bedrooms and two (2) bathrooms with a total of five (5) beds. The application states that there is adequate egress and a total of five (5) combination smoke/CO detectors in the dwelling, smoke extinguishers located at each exit and there is a wood burning stove that is professionally inspected annually.

The application states that the owners have a strict no-noise policy and do not allow for any events/parties to be held on the property and they also do not allow/permit any tenting and/or camping.

The applicant has stated that a large, 1.82 m (6.00 ft.), privacy fence has been constructed on the property line to the north and that they are installing sound monitoring devices around the property.

Land Use Bylaw C-8000-2020

Section 332 Discretionary Uses

Vacation Rental

Part Eight Definitions

- a) "Vacation Rental' means a Dwelling Unit that is rented online via a hospitality service brokerage company that arranges lodging such as Airbnb, Vrbo, turnkey, HomeAway etc.
 - There is one Dwelling Unit, Single-Detached on this parcel and the applicant utilizes an online brokerage service to book accommodations.

Onsite Parking and Loading

As per Table 5-Parking Minimums, Vacation Rental has the same parking requirements as Dwelling type.

No additional parking requirements at this time.



STATUTORY PLANS:

The site falls within The Greater Bragg Creek Area Structure Plan (Bylaw C-7602-2016). That plan does not address applications such as this and this application was assessed utilizing the Land Use Bylaw (C-8000-2020).

INSPECTOR'S COMMENTS:

- Well-screened, neat and tidy;
- Adequate parking;
- No concerns at time of inspection.

CIRCULATIONS:

Development Compliance, Rocky View County

This application is the result of an enforcement issue. As an application has been filed,
 Development Compliance has no comments at this time.

Utility Services

• The only comment I would have is that if they are not already hooked up to County water and wastewater that they be required to as a condition of approval.

Fire Services and Emergency Management

No comments at this time.

Planning and Development Services - Engineering Review

 Engineering has no requirements at this time (as this if for an existing development) for this DP application.

No other comments received at time of report writing

OPTIONS:

Option #1: (this would approve the proposed development)

APPROVAL subject to the following conditions:

Description:

 That the Vacation Rental (Airbnb) may operate on the subject property, within the existing dwelling, single detached, in accordance with the approved site plan, floor plans and the conditions of this permit.

Permanent:

- 2. That no off-site advertisement signage associated with the Vacation Rental shall be permitted.
- 3. That there shall be no non-resident employees at any time, with the exception of cleaning companies (if required).
- 4. That the *Vacation Rental* shall be limited to the dwelling, single detached.
- 5. That the Owner shall be responsible for ensuring that any renters are familiar with the property boundaries, whether that be by means of a fence, signage, or other means, to ensure no trespassing to adjacent properties.
- 6. That all customer parking shall be on the Owner's property at all times.



- 7. That the operation of the vacation rental shall not change the residential character and external appearance of the land and dwellings.
- 8. That the operation of this *Vacation Rental* shall not generate noise, smoke, dust, fumes, glare, or refuse matter considered offensive or excessive by the Development Authority and at all times the privacy of adjacent residential dwellings shall be preserved. The *Vacation Rental* shall not, in the opinion of the Development Authority, unduly offend or otherwise interfere with neighbouring or adjacent residents.
- 9. That the operation of the *Vacation Rental* shall be subordinate and incidental to the principal use of the dwelling unit as an owner-occupied residence.
- 10. That any minimal exterior modification of the structure or grounds may be considered by the County upon request, to ensure that no additional permits are required and that it is not changing the residential character of the property.

Advisory:

- 11. That a Building permit and applicable sub trade permits shall be obtained through Building Services, if required, prior to commencement of the *Vacation Rental*.
- 12. That any other government permits, approvals, or compliances are the sole responsibility of the Applicant/Owner.
- 13. That this Development Permit shall be valid until **November 25, 2023**, at which time a new application shall be submitted. *Note, that the County will take into consideration any enforcement action of this Vacation Rental prior to considering subsequent applications*.

Option #2: (this would not allow the proposed development)

REFUSAL as per the following reasons:

1. That in the opinion of the Development Authority, the development unduly interferes with the amenities of the neighbourhood and materially interferes with and affects the use, enjoyment, and value of neighbouring parcels of land.





ROCKY VIEW COUNTY
Cultivating Communities

20202490

APPLICATION FOR A

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

	Page 8 of 37
FOR OFFICE	
Fee Submitted	File Number 039/3023
Pale of Receipt Aug 25, 2026	Receipt # 2020025[79

	Mailing Ad							
	Telephone For Agent							
	Registered Owner (if not applicant)							_
	Mailing Address							
				Postal Code_				
	Telephone (B)	(H)			Fax			
ŀ	LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LAND	ELE.	W- 4	77				
	a) All / part of the SE 1/2 Section	-	nip <u>23</u>	_ Range _ <u>5</u>	West of	_5_	_Merid	ian
		ock 8	~ .	d Plan Numbe	A TOTAL	EW	200	-
	c) Municipal Address 79 River				naty, All	berta	TOF	OKO
	d) Existing Land Use Designation R-UR	B Parce	el Size	231.68 m	_ Division	01		_
3.	APPLICATION FOR TO WHIT IZE OUT P	roperty o	35 ª	Vacatio.	Renta		2.6	
	a) Are there any oil or gas wells on or within	n 100 metres of	the subject	property(s)?	Yes	No	λ	
	 b) Is the proposed parcel within 1.5 kilomer (Sour Gas facility means well, pipeline or 		s facility?		Yes	_ No	X	_
	c) Is there an abandoned oil or gas well or	pipeline on the p	property?		Yes	_ No	X	_
	d) Does the site have direct access to a de	eveloped Municip	al Road?		Yes X	No	_	_
4.	REGISTERED OWNER OR PERSON	ACTING ON H	IS BEHAL	F				
	(Full Name in Block Capitals)	nereby certify tha		am the registe	ered owner	owner's b	ehalf	
					£ 200 (Q7)	rporate		
	and that the information given on this form is full and complete and is, to the best of my of the facts relating to this application.	knowledge, a	true statem	ent	Transfer of the Parket of the		r	
	is full and complete and is, to the best of my	knowledge, a		ent Signature	here if or	wner is i	r	

5. RIGHT OF ENTRY

I hereby authorize Rocky View County to enter the above parcel(s) of land for purposes of investigation and enforcement related to this Development Permit application.

Applicant's/Owner's Signature

Please note that all information provided by the Applicant to the County that is associated with the application, including technical studies, will be treated as public information in the course of the municipality's consideration of the development permit application, pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000 Chapter M-26, the Land Use Bylaw and relevant statutory plans. By providing this information, you (Owner/Applicant) are deemed to consent to its public release. Information provided will only be directed to the Public Information Office, 262075 Rocky View Point, Rocky View County, AB, T4A 0X2; Phone: 403-520-8199.

I, MATTHEW WETR + TERESA WETR , hereby consent to the public release and disclosure of all information contained within this application and supporting documentation as part of the development process.

Signature

Dat

Matthew and Nicole Weir

Planning Services Rocky View County 262075 Rocky View Point, Rocky View County, Alberta

severe ment production

T: 403.230.1401 F: 403.277.3066

Dear Sir/Madam at Rocky View County Planning Services,

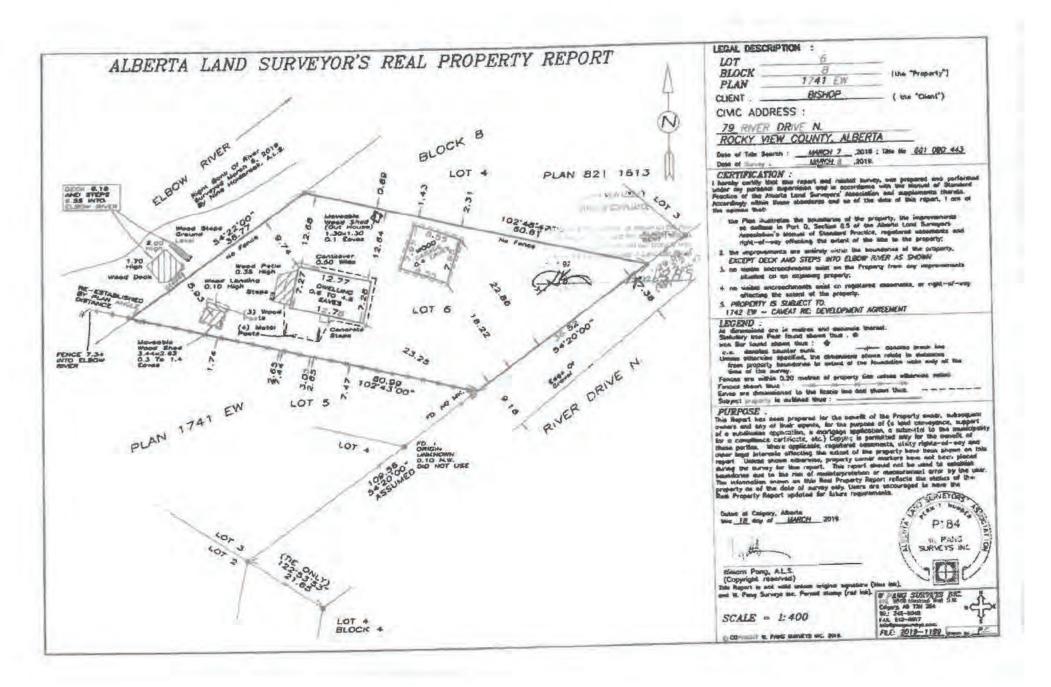
We have been operating a short-term vacation rental at the address of 79 River Drive North in the Hamlet of Bragg Creek for approximately one year. The rental consists of a 1000 sqft house situated on a 0.55 acre lot that backs onto the Elbow River. The house has three bedrooms, two bathrooms and sleeps a total of six people in five beds; each bedroom has a large window that meets egress requirements. The house has a total of five combination smoke/CO detectors, one in each of the bedrooms and in the common spaces. The house has a wood burning stove that is inspected and cleaned by a certified professional on an annual basis and there is a fire extinguisher located at each exit of the house.

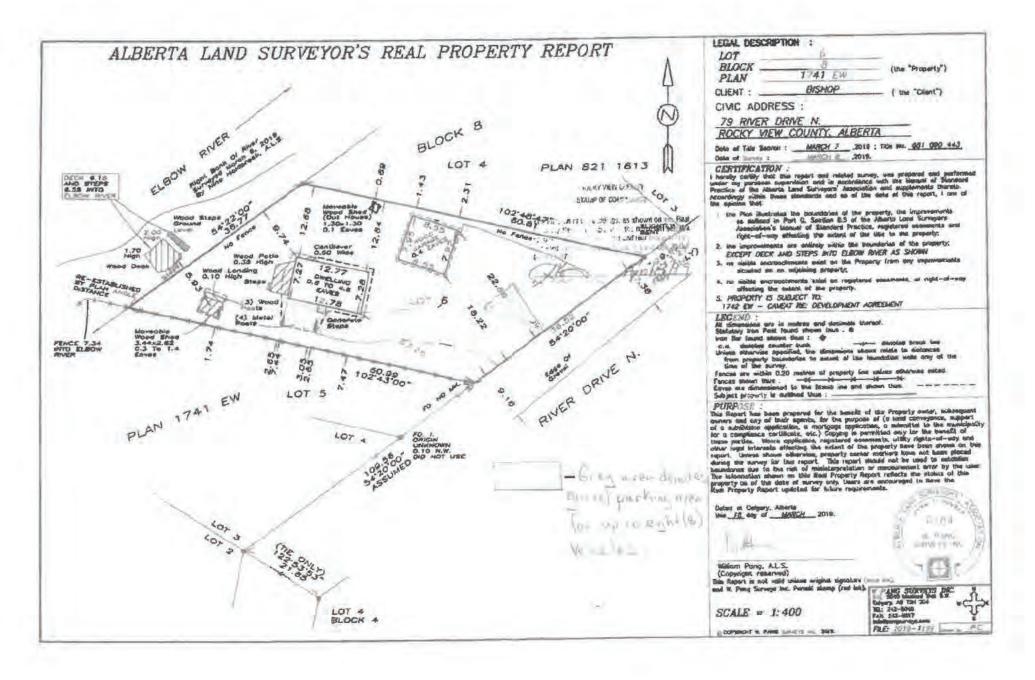
We have a strict no-noise policy and do not allow for any events or parties to be held on the property and do not permit tenting or camping.

We are applying for a business development licence to operate our Vacation Rental under the new Rocky View County Land Use Bylaw C-8000, 2020.

Sincerely,

Matthew and Nicole Weir







262075 Rocky View Point Rocky View County, AB, T4A 0X2

> 403-230-1401 questions@rockyview.ca www.rockyview.ca

Inspection Request

Roll #:

03913093

DP #: PRDP20202490

Applicant/Owner:

Weir, Teresa N & Matthew R

Legal Description: Municipal Address: Lot 6 Block 8 Plan 1741 EW, SE-13-23-05-05 79 RIVER DRIVE NORTH, Bragg Creek AB

Land Use:

R-2

Reason for Inspection	Operation of a vacation rental.
	Inspection Report
Date of Inspection:	2/au
Permission granted for e	ntrance? Yes
Observations:	Screened
- neat + tro	
-nu concerns	at time of inspection

Signature:



















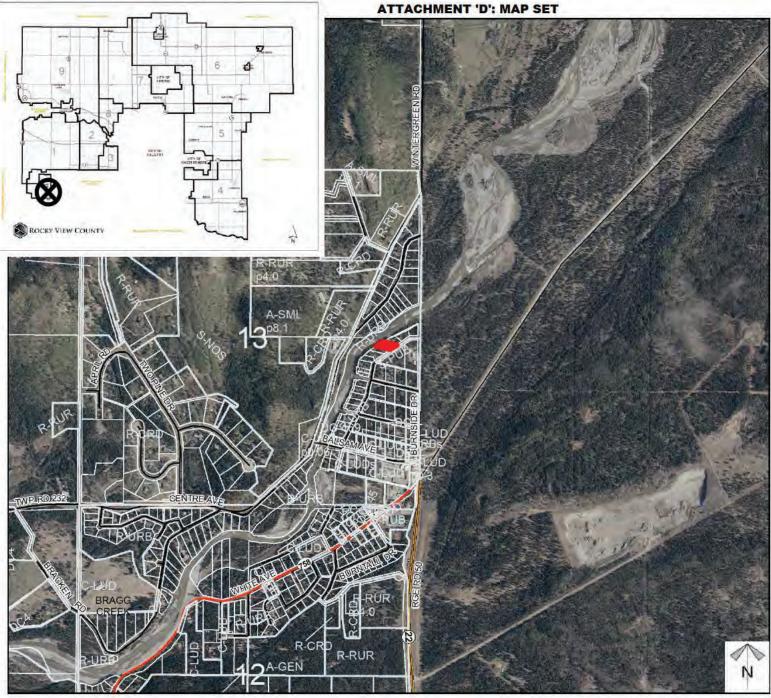


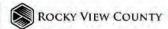








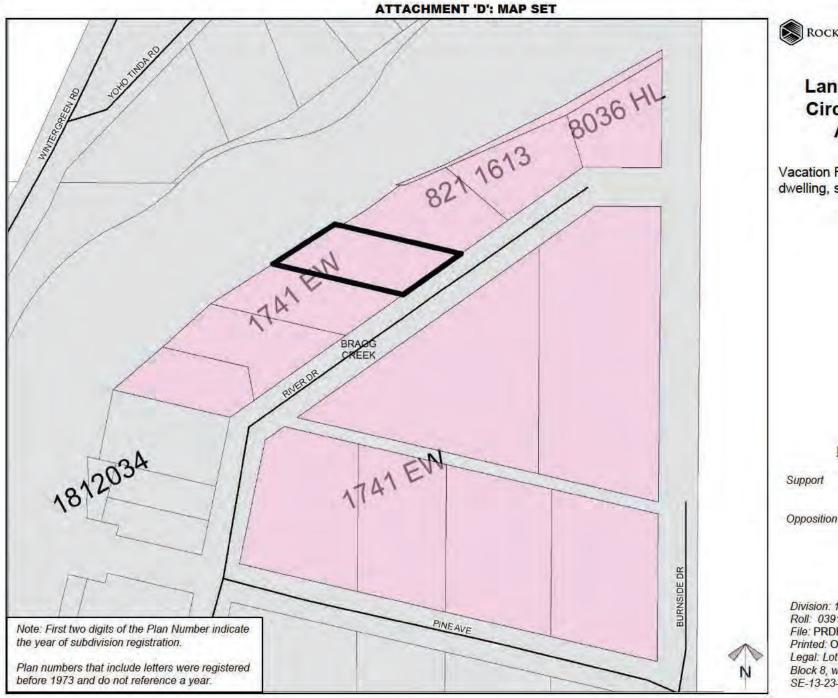


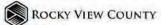


Location & Context

Vacation Rental (existing dwelling, single detached)

Division: 1
Roll: 03913093
File: PRDP20202490
Printed: October 14, 2020
Legal: Lot 6, Plan 1741 EW,
Block 8, within
SE-13-23-05-W05M





Landowner Circulation Area

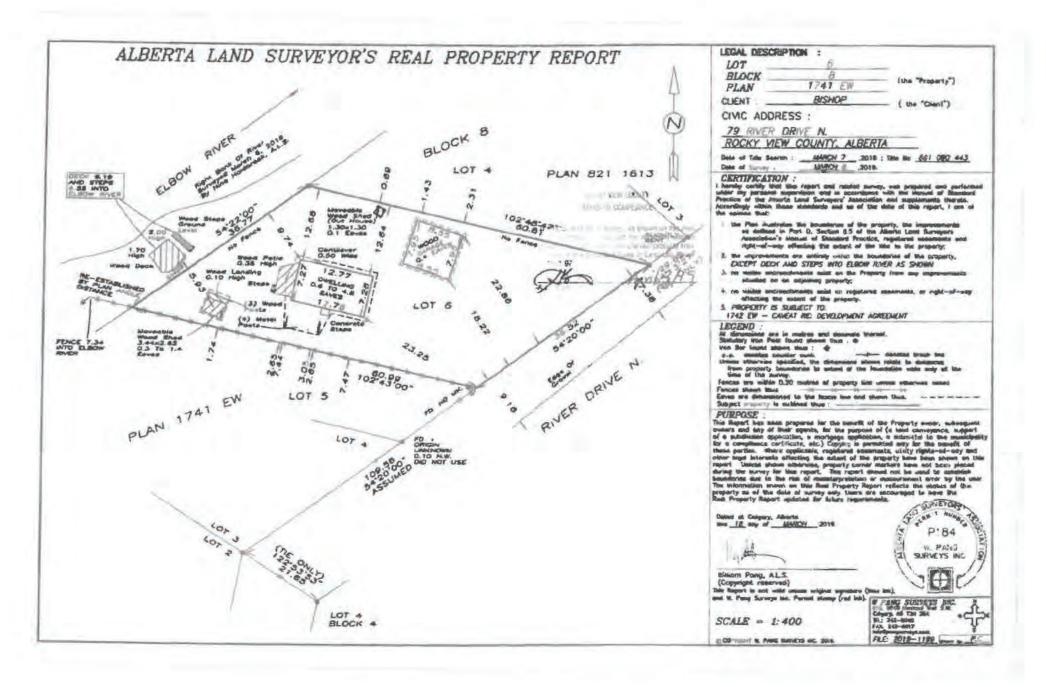
Vacation Rental (existing dwelling, single detached)

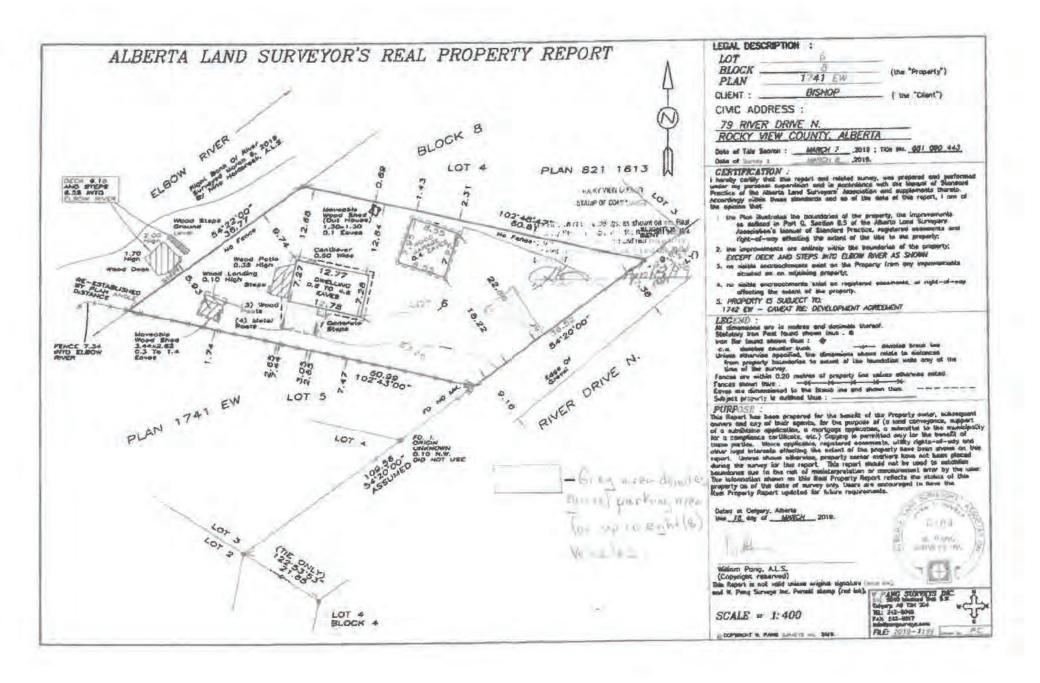
Legend





Division: 1 Roll: 03913093 File: PRDP20202490 Printed: October 14, 2020 Legal: Lot 6, Plan 1741 EW, Block 8, within SE-13-23-05-W05M







262075 Rocky View Point Rocky View County, AB, T4A 0X2

> 403-230-1401 questions@rockyview.ca www.rockyview.ca

Decision of the Municipal Planning Commission

This is not a development permit

Teresa N & Matthew R Weir

Development file #: PRDP20202490

Issue Date: October 30, 2020

Roll #: 03913093

Rocky View County's Municipal Planning Commission conditionally approves your August 25, 2020 development permit application for the operation of a vacation rental within an existing dwelling, single detached at 79 River Drive North subject to the conditions as follows:

Description:

1. That the *Vacation Rental* (Airbnb) may operate on the subject property, within the existing dwelling, single detached, in accordance with the approved site plan, floor plans and the conditions of this permit.

Permanent:

- 2. That no off-site advertisement signage associated with the Vacation Rental shall be permitted.
- 3. That there shall be no non-resident employees at any time, with the exception of cleaning companies (if required).
- 4. That the *Vacation Rental* shall be limited to the dwelling, single detached.
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- 6. That all customer parking shall be on the Owner's property at all times.
- 7. That the operation of the vacation rental shall not change the residential character and external appearance of the land and dwellings.
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- 9. That the operation of the *Vacation Rental* shall be subordinate and incidental to the principal use of the dwelling unit as an owner-occupied residence.

10. That any minimal exterior modification of the structure or grounds may be considered by the County upon request, to ensure that no additional permits are required and that it is not changing the residential character of the property.

Advisory:

- 11. That a Building permit and applicable subtrade permits shall be obtained through Building Services, if required, prior to commencement of the *Vacation Rental*.
- That any other government permits, approvals, or compliances are the sole responsibility of the Applicant/Owner.
- 13. That this Development Permit shall be valid until November 25, 2023, at which time a new application shall be submitted. Note, that the County will take into consideration any enforcement action of this Vacation Rental prior to considering subsequent applications.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to meet and always follow the conditions of this development permit. Fines or enforcement action may occur if operating outside of this permit. Please contact Planning and Development Services at development@rockyview.ca or 403-520-8158 for assistance with this decision or the process for meeting development conditions.

An appeal of the Municipal Planning Commission's decision must be filed to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) in accordance with section 686 of the *Municipal Government Act*. To file an appeal or for assistance with filing an appeal, please contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at sdab@rockyview.ca or 403-230-1401. More information on the SDAB can also be found at www.rockyview.ca.

Jerry Gautreau, Chair

Municipal Planning Commission



Notice of Appeal

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Enforcement Appeal Committee

79 River Drive IV	Development Permit, Subdivision Application, PRDP20203490	plan OR quarter-section-township-renge-me 8 Plan 174/ or Enforcement Order #
Development Authority Decision Approval Conditions of Approval Refusal	Subdivision Authority Decision Approval Conditions of Approval Refusal	Decision of Enforcement Service Stop Order Compliance Order
Conditions of Approval	☐ Conditions of Approval	
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This information is collected for Rocky View County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Enforcement Appeal Committee under section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act) and will be used to process your appeal and create a public record of this appeal hearing. Your name, legal land description, street address, and reasons for appeal will be made available to the public in accordance with section 40(1)(c) of the FOIP Act. Your personal contact information, including your phone number and ernsil address, will be redacted prior to your appeal being made available to the public. If you have greations regarding the collection or release of this information, please contact the Municipal Clerk at 403-290-1401.

Appellent's Signature

Beta

Subject:

FW: Re[3]: [EXTERNAL] - Vacation rental regulation

From:

HMcInnes@rockyview.ca

Sent:

2020-09-18 11:13:50 AM

To:

CC:

TCochran@rockyview.ca; GNijjar@rockyview.ca;

Good Morning Michele,

Our Executive Director discussed your situation with me, as you and I had a similar conversation a few weeks back.

Rocky View County understands the situation you are currently under, and whereas we cannot control an application or the decision once it has been submitted, we can offer to waive the appeal fees. As this is a new use under our Land Use Bylaw, our Executive Director, Theresa Cochran has agreed to this waiver, to allow you the opportunity to file an appeal if you feel the conditions set do not address the concerns you currently have with the operation.

I hope that helps to alleviate at least one of the concerns you have. Unfortunately, our office has no further control on the outcome of an application at this point, it will need to run through the process as identified by the Municipal Government Act.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance to you. As I mentioned in our conversation, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or require help regarding what can be a complicated process. I'll be happy to assist you.

Best Regards,

HEATHER MCINNES

Acting Supervisor Development Compliance and Development | Planning and Development Services

ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

262075 Rocky View Point | Rocky View County | AB | T4A 0X2

Phone: 403-520-8153

hmcinnes@rockyview.ca | www.rockyview.ca developmentcompliance@rockyview.ca

This e-mail, including any attachments, may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution or copying of this information is prohibited and unlawful. If you received this communication in error, please reply immediately to let me know and then delete this e-mail. Thank you.

We are appealing the conditions of this development as the conditions described in the Decision of the MPC which could help us are either inapplicable to our situation or unenforceable and there doesn't currently exist any bylaws or conditions for this new land use that address its unique issues.

We require enforceable conditions because this development which began operating August 2019 has affected the use and enjoyment of our property. These have been the main issues:

- Parties daytime and late night which affect my ability to work from home, enjoy our backyard in peace, and sleep at night. The owner of this full-time vacation rental chose to market to groups, it's rented an estimated 90% of the time and the owner lives in Calgary. The RCMP hasn't responded when we've called either for parties or trespassing as this is a low priority call. Bylaw Enforcement told us they don't respond while a party is happening due to the danger of coming to a party where unknown people may be drunk/high and have weapons. So we or another neighbour have had to go and confront these groups usually late at night and it is incredibly stressful.
- Wood smoke, heavier than what we typically see here, almost every day there are guests in the rental.
 We can handle some smoke but not at this volume all year, this heavy, and inside our house. This has meant keeping our windows closed in the summer, has restricted when we can use our backyard and has changed when and how we can use our furnace and make-up air to limit the smoke from coming in our air intake as we've yet to find an air filter that can block smoke without damaging our furnace.
- One-off issues that if there was an on-site owner or manager we wouldn't be experiencing. This
 includes: disruptive late night arrivals, dangerous outdoor fires (in dry windy conditions the day before
 a ban comes on or during a fire ban) burning a noxious substance, extra people camping in the driveway
 which is right beside our bedroom window, outdoor lights left on all night which shine directly in our
 living room window. We're less concerned about these as they're infrequent but they add to the stress
 of having no consistency of what we're living next door to.

Our most significant issue used to be repeated trespassing which caused me to feel unsafe and without privacy at home. We had several instances of individuals and groups directly behind our house which is mostly windows facing to the river. We let the owner know but he didn't take any action. We eventually put up a privacy fence and asked the owner to pay half the cost of materials which he did. We haven't noticed any trespassing since.

We felt that our best hope of getting the owner to address our issues was to journal everything over many months and present it in an objectively worded document because altogether it would have more impact. We gave them the journal June 28 and told them they would be needing to get a development permit which they didn't know. We offered to meet with them if they wanted to discuss. They never followed up with us to apologize or let us know if anything would change.

Parties and noise did decrease after that but we assumed it was because it was now July, the minimum stay was longer and nightly rate was likely higher so there were better guests. We also thought the threat of needing a permit was somehow keeping things in check and we suspected noise monitors had been installed. We were worried that once the permit was approved the loud parties would return. Notice of the approved permit came out in early November. The following Friday we had to call the RCMP on a loud late-night party. They didn't come but the party ended at 11:30.

Because we've had no communication or assurances from the owner, no relationship where trust has been developed, and the severity of the loss of our enjoyment and use is so significant, we require enforceable conditions for this development to operate. We can't take the risk of being trapped in this situation with nothing to protect us for the three year period the permit covers. Here are the details of our two main issues we're hoping conditions can mitigate.

Parties/Noise

This rental is occupied primarily by Airbnb groups an estimated 90% of the time. In high season, it's about two empty nights per month and now in low season it seems to be empty about two nights per week. The vast majority of guests are not away in the day; they are at the rental and in the backyard if weather allows. Noise, and the music they used to bring, gets amplified if they're near the river and carries far. I work from home and would like to be able to have the windows open on a nice day or perhaps work outside. We also like to sleep with the windows open for the fresh air and sound of the river but between the parties and smoke we have to keep our windows closed most the time.

Sometimes more people come out for the party but don't stay overnight. There is no bylaw against daytime parties so we typically wait until 10:00 and then try to decide if it's likely to end soon, if we can put up with it or we need to go deal with it. We have had weeks where it was a loud party most days and nights.

We did know from RVC that if we called in every instance of an issue to Bylaw Enforcement or the RCMP their permit would likely get denied but we desperately just needed the parties to stop and hoped there would be other solutions. Also, it wasn't always possible to determine if the party was next door because of how sound travels in the river valley. This meant getting out of bed to walk up the street to confirm it was the Airbnb. We then had a choice to call Bylaw Enforcement who we knew wouldn't come or, seeing as we were now up, going over ourselves to try to shut it down.

Wood Smoke

The wood smoke is almost every day and night that the rental is occupied, summer and winter, and seems to be about 5-10 hours per day. Whether indoor or outdoor, these are not clean burning fires. We told the owner we thought there was an issue with his firewood and perhaps guests didn't know how to make a proper fire indoors. Poor firewood means heavier stronger-smelling smoke that doesn't rise and instead stays low and lingers. Outdoor fires can leave our backyard in a haze and often the haze extends to the river valley which can ruin a nice clear sunny day and our freedom to be outside unless the wind is in our favour. It is exhausting to have so little access to fresh air at home and I get a sore throat from the smoke if I'm in it too long.

We think the smoke might not be as heavy since we spoke to the owner on June 28 as the river valley hasn't been full of smoke since but we still get haze in our yard quite often.

The novelty of a wood fire wears off when you're a resident but tourists seem to want it for the duration of their stay and with high occupancy at the rental this goes far beyond what we'd be dealing with if a typical resident lived there. Also, my experience is that residents who like frequent fires invest in quality fireplaces, chimneys and firewood because they're the ones having to breathe and see their own smoke.

We're currently experimenting with different kinds of furnace filters and it seems the ones dense enough to block smoke (the finest particles to block) can restrict airflow to the point where you can damage the furnace and we've been told not to use those by our furnace supplier.

These are the relevant conditions in the MPC Decision but they aren't enforceable.

Condition #9 (the Vacation Rental shall be subordinate and incidental to the principal use of the dwelling as an owner-occupied residence) isn't applicable as this is a full-time vacation rental.

Condition #8 addresses noise, smoke, fumes and glare however I was told by RVC Bylaw Enforcement this would be too subjective to be enforceable.