



3.6 Specific Policies and Guidelines

3.6.1 Arterial Road Policy

OVERVIEW:

The City has permitted densification along its arterial roads since the 1999 OCP was adopted. This densification includes compact lots (e.g., 9 m or 30 ft. wide lots) and coach house development with a rear lane as well as townhouses without a lane. The purpose of this densification is to locate development where there is transit service and to direct it away from the internal single family neighbourhoods which are not located on arterial roads. The City has reviewed and refined this policy over the years, including as part of the 2041 OCP Update.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Direct appropriate development onto certain arterial roads outside the City Centre.

1. Arterial Road Map

The 2041 OCP Arterial Road Policy only applies to the arterial roads in Central Richmond and Steveston shown on the Arterial Road Map. It does not apply to lands located within the City Centre Area Plan (City Centre), the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) or Riverside Industrial Park.

2. Additional New Arterial Road Areas

Additional new areas to the Arterial Road Policy outside Central Richmond and Steveston may be considered as part of the update of the applicable Area Plans (e.g., Bridgeport Area Plan; East Cambie Area Plan; West Cambie Area Plan; Hamilton Area Plan) after, the 2041 OCP Update.

3. Areas Not Within Arterial Road Policy

The Arterial Road Policy does not apply to excluded areas shown on the Arterial Road Map (e.g., other land use designations; large single family lot size policy; not on arterial road; neighbourhood service centre; community centre; commercial service; public school; park).

4. Arterial Road Development Map

The Arterial Road Development Map will be used to guide townhouse, compact lot (e.g., 9 m or 30 ft. wide lots) and coach house development. It is a conceptual map that does not need to be amended to show new townhouse or compact residential lot development areas approved by Richmond City Council.

5. Additional New Townhouse Areas (Not on Arterial Road Development Map)

Rezoning and development permit applications for townhouse development on arterial roads in Central Richmond and Steveston may be considered in additional areas not identified on the Arterial Road Development Map if the townhouse development is within walking distance of any one of the following sites identified on the Arterial Road Map:

- a) 800 m (2,625 ft. or 10 minute walk) of a Neighbourhood Centre (e.g., Broadmoor, Blundell, Garden City, Seafair, Terra Nova or Ironwood Shopping Centres); or
- b) 800 m (2,625 ft. or 10 minute walk) of a City Community Centre (e.g., South Arm, Thompson, West Richmond or Steveston Community Centres); or



- c) 400 m (1,312 ft. or 5 minute walk) of a Commercial Service use (e.g., store, shopping plaza or gas/service station with a retail sales area); or
- d) 400 m (1,312 ft. or 5 minute walk) of a Public School (e.g., elementary or secondary school); or
- e) 400 m (1,312 ft. or 5 minute walk) of a Park on City or School Board lands (e.g., playing field or open space).

6. No Townhouse Development

Townhouse development will not be considered in Central Richmond and Steveston on sites identified for Arterial Road Compact Lot Coach House on the Arterial Road Development Map, except if the proposed townhouse development is within 800 m (2,625 ft. or 10 minute walk) of a Neighbourhood Centre (e.g., shopping centre) where there is an existing fully operational municipal lane.

7. Additional New Compact Lot and Coach House Areas (Not on Arterial Road Development Map)

Rezoning and subdivision applications for compact lot (e.g., 9 m or 30 ft. wide lots) and coach house development on arterial roads in Central Richmond and Steveston may be considered in additional areas not identified on the Arterial Road Development Map if the compact lot and coach house development:

- a) is located outside a Single Family Lot Size Policy;
- b) dedicates and constructs a fully operational municipal lane.

8. No Compact Lot and Coach House Development

Compact lot and coach house development will not be considered in Central Richmond and Steveston on sites identified for Arterial Road Townhouse Development on the Arterial Road Development Map.

9. Granny Flat Locations

Rezoning applications for the construction of a granny flat on arterial roads in Central Richmond and Steveston may be considered on isolated sites that do not have potential for a townhouse, compact lot or coach house development (e.g., single lot without a lane).



Townhouse Development Requirements

All townhouse developments in Central Richmond and Steveston on the arterial roads shown on the Arterial Road Map, whether or not they are on the Arterial Road Development Map, should meet the following development requirements.

Land Assembly

1. Involve a land assembly with at least 50 m (165 ft.) frontage on a major arterial road and 40 m (130 ft.) frontage on a minor arterial road.

Residual Sites

2. Leave a residual site for future townhouse development with at least 50 m (165 ft.) frontage on a major arterial road and 40 m (130 ft.) frontage on a minor arterial road.

Public Consultation

3. Include public consultation prior to Public Hearing where determined by Richmond City Council or City staff (e.g., if the site is the first townhouse development on that block of the arterial road; if it is expected that the surrounding property owners will want input into the development; etc.).

Newer Homes or Narrower Lots

4. Recognize that developing townhouses on lots with new houses (e.g., less than 10–20 years old) and with narrow frontages (e.g., less than 18 m or 60 ft.), will be more difficult, especially for land assembly purposes.

Internal Lot

5. An internal lot facing and addressed off a local road may be included in a townhouse development if the lots facing and abutting the arterial road are less than 35 m (115 ft.) deep.

Access—Local Road or Lane

6. Access should not be from a local road or lane, unless acceptable to the City.

Shared Access

7. Access may be required to be provided through or shared with another townhouse development by means of a statutory right-of-way or other suitable arrangement to the City.

Access Locations

8. Driveway accesses should be located across from a local road or commercial access, where possible.

Access Setbacks

9. Townhouse access points should generally be setback:
 - a) 35 m (115 ft.) to 50 m (164 ft.) from a local road;
 - b) 50 m (164 ft.) to 75 m (246 ft.) from a minor arterial road intersection;
 - c) 75 m (246 ft.) to 100 m (328 ft.) from a major arterial road intersection;
 - d) 80 m (262 ft.) to 100 m (328 ft.) from another townhouse access point.



Additional Density

10. Additional density along arterial roads (e.g., increase from the normal density range of 0.60–0.65 FAR outside the City Centre to an additional density of 0.65–0.70 FAR) may be considered:
 - a) on corner lots with required frontage improvements on two or more streets; or
 - b) where significant road dedication is required; or
 - c) on a land assembly with more than 100 m (328 ft.) frontage on a major arterial road and 80 m (262 ft.) on a minor arterial road; or
 - d) on a site abutting a park or other non-residential land use; or
 - e) where additional community benefits are provided (not including affordable housing contributions).

Compact Lot and Coach House Development Requirements

All compact lot (e.g., 9 m or 30 ft. wide lots) and coach house developments in Central Richmond and Steveston on the arterial roads shown on the Arterial Road Map, whether or not they are on the Arterial Road Development Map, should meet the following development requirements.

Landscape Plan

1. A landscape plan, prepared by a registered landscape architect must be submitted as a condition of rezoning adoption.

Landscape Cost

2. The landscape architect must submit a cost estimate of the proposed landscaping (including fencing, paving and installation costs) as a condition of rezoning adoption.

Landscape Security

3. Security in the amount of the cost estimate submitted by the landscape architect for landscaping must be received by the City as a condition of rezoning adoption.

Grade—Front Yard

4. The grade between the City's sidewalk and the landscaping along the front property line should be the same.

Grass Strip—Front Yard

5. Wherever possible, a grassed strip with at least one deciduous tree (minimum 6 cm or 2.5 in. calliper) per lot should be installed along the front property line (see New Trees—Front Yard).

Existing Tree and Hedge Retention

6. Wherever possible, existing trees and hedges should be retained, particularly if the trees are in the front yard and the hedges are in the side yard.



Replacement Trees

7. Where existing trees are being removed, the replacement trees shall:
 - a) meet the City's 2:1 replacement policy;
 - b) comply with the minimum planting sizes specified in the City's Tree Protection Bylaw, unless approved otherwise by the Director of Development or designate;
 - c) include an appropriate mixture of coniferous and deciduous trees.

New Trees—Front Yard

8. In addition to the aforesaid landscaping along the front property line, one deciduous tree (minimum 6 cm or 2.5 in. calliper) or one coniferous tree (minimum height 3.5 m or 11.5 ft.) is to be planted on each lot in the front yard.

Coniferous Trees

9. Coniferous trees must be sized and spaced appropriately and be subject to CPTED principles.

Fencing—Front Yard

10. Fencing in the front yard is limited to a maximum height of 1.2 m (4 ft.) and must be picket, wicket or post-rail rather than solid panel, which could be setback from the front property line if possible.

Flowers and Low Lying Landscaping—Front Yard

11. Fencing should incorporate flower beds, flowering shrubs and other low lying landscaping to provide improved articulation.

Decorative Features—Front Yard

12. Decorative arbours/brackets/trellis features may be used to further articulate the fencing provided that they are in scale with and totally complementary to the fencing details.

Planting—Front Yard

13. All front yard areas and front property lines must be planted with a combination of lawn, flower beds, flowering shrubs and ground cover to provide seasonal interest and water permeability.

Shrubs—Front Yard

14. If individual shrubs are planted in the front yard, they must be of a low height that will not exceed 1.2 m (4 ft.) and must be located behind any fencing on the front property line.

Hedges—Front Yard

15. Continuous hedges are not permitted in the front yard.

Walkways/Pathways—Front Yard

16. Walkways/pathways from the arterial road to the entrance of the single family residence or coach house are not to consist of asphalt materials (e.g., should be aggregate concrete, stamped concrete, paving stones, pervious paving or other acceptable material to the City.