CITY OF VANCOUVER COMMUNITY SERVICES GROUP

REPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT BOARD JUNE 28, 2010

315 & 316 - 1238 SEYMOUR STREET (COMPLETE APPLICATION) DE413457- ZONE DD

RRS/BAB/CH/LH

APPLICANT:	PROPERTY OWNER (Suite No. 315):
Dwayne Yaretz	Glen Saito
#3302 - 939 Homer Street	#315 - 1238 Seymour Street
Vancouver, BC	Vancouver, BC
V6B 2W6	V6B 6J3
	PROPERTY OWNER (Suite No. 316): Dwayne Yaretz #3302 - 939 Homer Street Vancouver, BC V6B 2W6

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

• **Proposal:** Addition of approximately 122.0 sq. ft. of floor area to Unit No. 315 and 90.0 sq. ft. of floor area to Unit No. 316 on the upper level of both units, with the total of 212.0 sq. ft., to be through the purchase of heritage density.

See Appendix A - Standard Condition

- Appendix B Standard Notes and Conditions of Development Permit
- Appendix C Plans
- Appendix D Letters "A" and "B" from the receiver and donor regarding the purchase of heritage density
- Issues: None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE

THAT the Board APPROVE the Heritage Density Transfer request contained in Development Application No. DE413457 as submitted, the plans and information forming a part thereof, thereby permitting interior alterations to construct a 122.0 sq. ft. addition to the existing mezzanine in Suite No. 315, and a 90.0 sq. ft. addition to the existing mezzanine in Suite No. 316, in the existing Multiple Dwelling/ Residential Unit with Artist Studio - Class A building on this site, using a Heritage Density Transfer of a total of 212.0 sq. ft.. subject to the following conditions:

- 1.0 That the condition set out in Appendix A be met prior to the issuance of the Development Permit.
- 2.0 That the Notes to Applicant and Conditions of the Development Permit set out in Appendix B be approved by the Board.

• Technical Analysis:

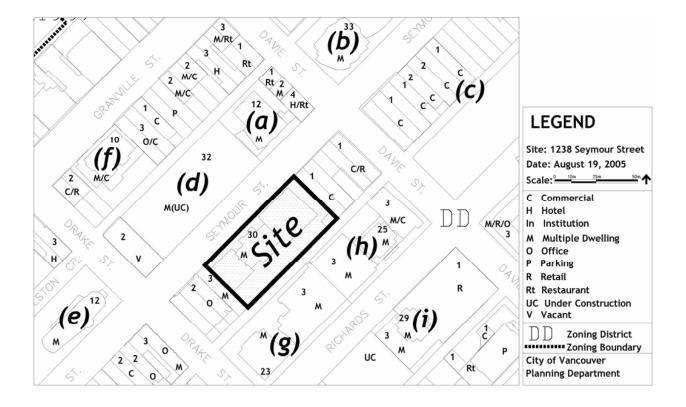
	PERMITTED (MAXIMUM)	EXISTING	PROPOSED
Site Size		250.0 ft. x 120.0 ft.	
Site Area		30,000.0 sq. ft.	
Floor Area ¹	150,000.0 sq. ft. (total)	162,260.0 sq. ft.	162,472.0 sq. ft.
FSR ²	5.00 (total)	5.41 (total)	5.42 (total)
Parking	108 (minimum)	178	178
	211 (maximum)		

¹ Floor Area: Under Section 3.14 of the DODP, an additional 10 percent heritage density transfer (maximum 5.5 FSR or 165,000.0 sq. ft.) may be considered by the DP Board.

² FSR: The existing building has previously obtained additional FSR through heritage density transfers.
 See further discussion under Background, page 4.

 Legal Description 		 History of Application:
Strata Lot:	40 (Unit #315)	09 11 17 Complete DE submitted
Strata Plan:	LMS2446	10 06 14 Development Permit Board Meeting
District Lot:	541	
Strata Lot:	41 (Unit #316)	
Strata Plan:	LMS2446	
District Lot:	541	

- Site: The site is located mid-block, on the east side of Seymour Street between Davie and Drake Streets.
- Context: Significant adjacent development includes:
 - a) 1221/1225 Seymour 'Seymour Place' 12 storey social housing tower and Coast Mental Health Resource Centre – social service centre
 - b) 1133 Seymour 'Brava' two residential towers (32 storeys and 24 storeys) with cultural amenity facility (VIFF) – under construction
 - c) Downtown South Park 'Emery Barnes Park' (Phase 1 open)
 - d) 1299 Seymour 'Elan' 32 storey residential tower under construction
 - e) 600 Drake Street 12 storey residential tower
 - f) 1278 Granville 10 storey residential tower
 - g) 1295 Richards 'Oscar' 23 storey residential tower
 - h) 1225 Richards 'Eden' 25 storey residential tower
 - i) 1238 Richards 'Metropolis' 29 storey residential tower



• **Background**: DE215997, issued September 7, 1994, approved the construction of a 20-storey Multiple Dwelling building containing 219 dwelling units and 128 parking spaces. DE217485, issued March 16, 1995, pursuant to incorporation into the development site of an additional small lot, approved additions of 15,306.0 sq. ft., increase of the number of dwelling units from 219 to 223, and increase of the number of parking spaces from 128 to 178, thereby maximizing permitted FSR. In 1996, BU323680 permitted the reduction of the number of dwelling units to 211.

According to our Building Inspection Branch, a total of 22 units in the building were being pursued for infractions due to construction of additional floor area without permits. Between 1996 and 2009, a series of Development Permits approved the addition of a total of 12,362.0 sq. ft. to provide 56 loft mezzanines, and expand 18 out of the 22 dwelling units with infractions through Heritage Density Transfers, as permitted by Section 3.14 of the Downtown Official Development Plan.

The current Development Application seeks a combined total of an additional 212.0 sq. ft. out of the 2,638.0 sq. ft. still remaining in the total of 15,000.0 sq. ft. of heritage density eligible for this site. Staff believe that a sufficient amount of heritage density would still be available for units 205 and 701, the 2 remaining units with infractions.

The applicant has indicated the purchase of heritage density is from 540 Beatty Street. See Appendix D, confirming the purchase of qualifying density in submitted Letters "A" and "B".

• Applicable By-laws and Guidelines:

1. Downtown Official Development Plan (DODP)

The site is within area L1 of the Downtown District. Section 3.1 of the DODP states, in part:

In the areas denoted by the letter 'L1', 'L2', the maximum density for all uses shall be floor space ratio 3.00, except that:

• The maximum density for all uses on an interior site with a minimum frontage of 200 feet and a minimum site area of 24,000 square feet shall be floor space ratio 5.00.

Section 3.14 of the DODP states, in part, the following:

Not withstanding subsections 1, 3 and 4, the Development Permit Board may permit an increase in floor space ratio for any use where the increase results from a transfer of heritage floor space to a maximum of 10 percent over the total permitted floor space ratio, except that this increase shall not apply to hotels where the floor space has already been increased pursuant to subsection 2.

2. Downtown South Guidelines (excluding Granville Street)

• Response to Applicable By-laws and Guidelines:

1. Downtown Official Development Plan

FSR: The By-law allows up to a maximum of 5.00 FSR for all permitted uses, plus up to 10 percent additional heritage density transfer allowed under Section 3.14.

The proposed floor space addition under this application is 212.0 sq. ft. thereby increasing density transfers for this site from 12,362.0 sq. ft. to 12,574.0 sq. ft. or 0.42 FSR, which equates to 8.4 percent of the maximum 10 percent heritage density transfer eligible for this site. The proposal meets the density and FSR provisions of the DODP.

2. Downtown South Guidelines (excluding Granville Street)

No exterior alterations to this existing development are proposed. The livability of the units affected will be improved. The intent of the Guidelines is maintained.

• **Conclusion**: Staff support this proposal for a small heritage density transfer with the conditions attached.

B. Boons Chair, Development Permit Staff Committee

R. Segal, MAIBC Senior Architect/Development Planner

B. Balantzyan Project Coordinator

A.1 Standard Condition

A.1.1 Clarification of existing floor area for the affected dwelling units.

Note to Applicant: Existing floor areas shown on the floor plans are inconsistent.

B.1 Standard Notes to Applicant

- B.1.1 It should be noted that if condition 1.0 has not been complied with on, or before December 13, 2010, this Development Application shall be deemed to be refused, unless the date for compliance is first extended by the Director of Planning.
- B.1.2 This approval is subject to any change in the Official Development Plan and the Zoning and Development By-law or other regulations affecting the development that occurs before the permit is issuable. No permit that contravenes the bylaw or regulations can be issued.
- B.1.3 A new development application will be required for any significant changes other than those required by the above-noted conditions.
- B.1.4 A letter of approval from the Strata Council regarding the proposed alterations will be required at the Building Permit application stage. The applicant is advised to obtain this letter and submit a copy prior to issuance of the Development Permit.
- B.2 Condition of Development Permit:
- B.2.1 This site is affected by the Development Cost Levy By-law No. 6924. Levies will be required to be paid prior to issuance of Building Permits.