



# **TOWN OF FAIRFAX**

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **November 19, 2020**

**TO:** Planning Commissioners

**FROM:** Ben Berto, Director of Planning and Building Services

**SUBJECT:** Objective Design and Development Standards update

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#### **BACKGROUND**

State laws have changed to mandate that the primary and in some cases only way that jurisdictions can review multifamily housing development projects is if a jurisdiction already has adopted Objective Design and Development Standards (ODDS). Ten jurisdictions in Marin including the County of Marin, recognizing the need to address the State's usurping local discretionary review, pooled resources to mutually develop an ODDS toolkit that can be further customized for each of our jurisdictions.

The Planning Commission discussed local efforts at their February 20 and April 16 meetings. With the coronavirus, public workshops that had been scheduled in March had to be converted to an online/virtual meeting format. On May 21, although there was not a quorum of the Commission present, the design team doing the ODDS work headed by Opticos made a zoom presentation to the Commissioners present. The meeting was recorded and is available in the Town's meeting archive. A video and countywide survey was conducted this spring to obtain public's visual preferences and inform them on the progress being made on the development of standards.

Opticos has been continuing to work with local jurisdictions to develop a draft ODDS toolkit that can function as a municipal code for reviewing multifamily housing projects.

Concurrent with the Opticos-led ODDS effort, Yarbrough Architectural Resources (YAR) is working on identifying and cataloging the Town's cultural and historical resources.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The power point accompanying this report explains the current status and timing of the ODDS work, focusing on an overview of the draft toolkit which is currently being developed. Work on the toolkit is scheduled to continue through February 2020.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Accept the report and provide comments to staff.
2. Add Cassidy DeBaker to the ODDS subcommittee