



#### **WELCOME** to the **WEBINAR**

#### Where do Housing Costs Come From: A Developer's Inside Peek

1:00-2:30pm PDT Thursday, November 28, 2013













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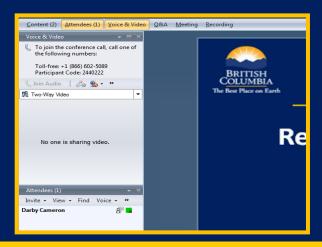


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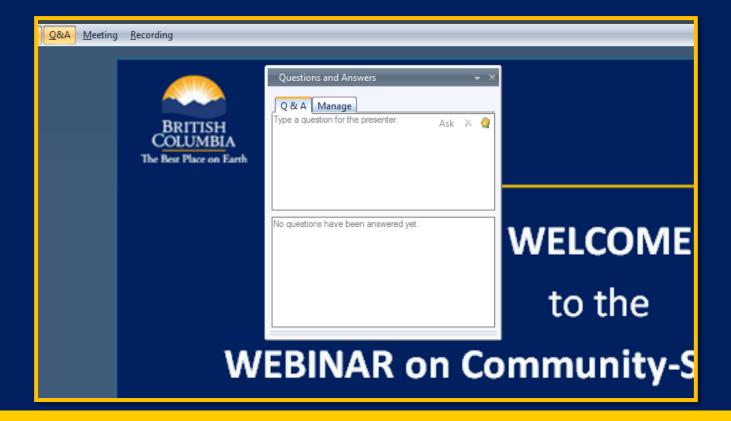




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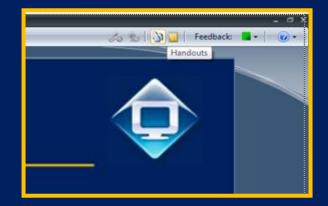


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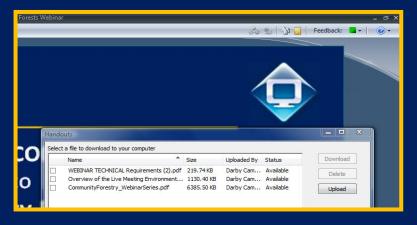


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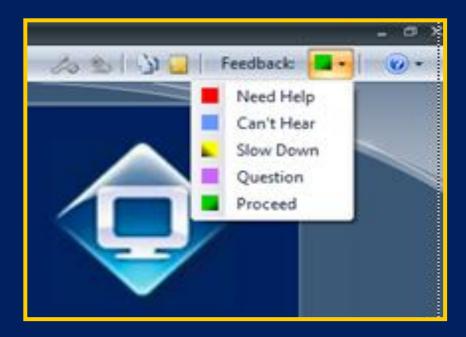




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# Where do Housing Costs Come From: A Developer's Inside Peek

Webinar 2: Thursday November 28, 2013

Time: 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time



## **Future Webinars**

#### Three-part Series

**Drivers Affecting Housing Affordability** 

Webinar 1. October 23, 2013

Where do Housing Costs Come From:

A Developer's Inside Peek

Webinar 2. November 28, 2013

Secondary Suites: What Works, What Doesn't?

Webinar 3. January 30, 2014





# **Quick Poll**





# **Justin Barer and Gerry Mulholland**

- G.P. Rollo & Associates
   Ltd., Richmond, BC
- Land Economists and Development Strategists

- Gerry, Vice President and Senior Land Economist
- Justin, Planner, Real Estate
   Development Analyst







# Where do Housing Costs Come From?

**Components of a Market Housing Project** 

#### **Overview**

How is affordability defined?

- Income levels
- Lending criteria
- Housing products available

If housing spending is capped based on the above, what affects the pricing of new construction?

- 1. Land
- 2. Profit/Return on Investment
- 3. Hard Costs
- 4. Soft Costs

#### 1.1 Where is the Site?

- What are the range of prices that a particular type of land is trading for in a given market?
- Are prices of land in this location being driven up by speculation?
  - If so, can the municipality act to reduce speculative bids? (more on this later)
- Are lots in the area small? Large? Easy to assemble?

#### 1.2 What is the Designation / Zoning of the Site?

- OCP/NCP (future use)
- Zoning
  - Density allowance (and how it is defined)
  - Building Form & character
  - Other (to be addressed in 'civic requirements' below)

#### 1.3 Who Owns the Site?

- Ownership of the site and the mandate / interests of the site owner(s) can be a significant driver of unit end price.
  - Private land owner
  - Municipal ownership
  - Institutional ownership
  - First Nations Reserve land (general, locatee)
    - First Nations Land Management Act

- Back to who is developing?
- Build & Sell vs. Build & Hold
  - Build & sell develop products for purchase and focus on profit as a measure of return
  - Build & hold develop products for rent (both commercial & residential) and focus on a variety of measure for return based on a long-term perspective
- In either case, a developer needs to realize a return on their investment they feel is commensurate with their risk and efforts to consider pursuing a project

#### 3.1 Materials

- Wood Frame
- Concrete
- 6-storey Wood Frame
- Wood Frame over concrete
- Wood highrises? (Michael Green TED Talk)









#### **3.2 Site Conditions**

- What are the environmental conditions of the site?
- Soils?
- Grading?
- Terrain?

#### **3.3 On-Site Improvements**

- Fill
- Remediation
- Services
- On-site amenities

#### 3.4 Design

- Efficiency
- Finish
- Target Market
- Sustainability Features

#### **4.1** Soft Development Costs

- Project Management
- Architecture Fees
- Engineering Fees
- Other consulting fees (market, financial, marketing)
- Appraisals & Surveys
- Legal & Accounting
- Insurance

#### **4.2** Financing & Interest

- Land Purchase financing
- Interim Financing
- Takeout Financing
- Fees & Charges

#### **4.3 Civic Requirements & Process**

- Parking Requirements (max vs. min)
- Setbacks, heights, angles, & other zoning-related matters
- District Energy
- Property Taxes during construction
- Planning & approvals time
- Civic Fees
  - Rezoning
  - Redesignation
  - Building permit
  - Development Cost Charges (civic & regional)
- Community Amenity Contributions (CACs)
  - Will they apply?
  - How much are they? Negotiated? Flat fee? Percentage?

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Land Economists - Development Strategists

## Michael Geller

- President of the Geller Group
- Vancouver-based architect, planner, real estate consultant and property developer
- Four decades' experience in the public, private and institutional sectors
- Adjust faculty at SFU



# Affordable Market Housing Looking at the numbers pro-formas for rental or ownership stacked townhouses and apartments

Prepared by
Michael Geller & Associates Limited
November 2013

## What are stacked townhouses?



A townhouse stacked above one or more townhouses, each with its own entrance at grade

## **Project Description**

#### Family oriented stacked townhouses

Project size is usually a function of the site area times the floor space ratio (sometimes called a floor area ratio)

55,466 sq ft.
1.5
83,200
4
64

- 32 2 bed @1,115 sf (945 sf net of stairs)
- 32 3 bed @1,480 sf (1,255 sf net of stairs)

## Leaseable area vs. buildable area

When determining a project pro-forma it is important to calculate both total building area and saleable/leaseable area

Buildable area			83,200 sc	ı.ft.
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**Leaseable Floor Area** 83,200 sq.ft.

(70,400 net of stairs)

Building efficiency\* 100%

Parking stalls 80

(64 leasable, 16 visitors)

#### \*NOTE:

typical apartment building might be **85% efficient** since can't sell or lease corridors, stairs, etc.

# **Project Costs**

### 3 key components:

LAND HARD COSTS SOFT COSTS

Land (often measured per square foot of building area) (approx. 83,200sq.ft at \$40) \$3,328,000

**Hard Costs** (construction costs generally consist of on-site and off-site costs; various ways of measurement but often a cost/sq.ft. calculated on area above grade)

**Building** (83,200 sf @\$140/ft) \$11,648,000

**Off-site** cost allowance (roads, sewer, etc) 300,000 Note: rental building costs generally include portion of GST since not offset

# **Project Costs (continued)**

#### **Soft Costs**

Professional fees (arch, engineers, 5% to 7%)	\$836k
Municipal fees/ (permits, inspections, hook-ups,)	\$200k
DCC's Municipal/Regional	
Community Amenity Contributions	???
Other (insurance, legal, surveys, taxes, etc)	\$100k
Project management/overhead (3%)	\$400k
Lease-up marketing allowance (\$2,750/suite)	\$176k
Contingencies (5% of hard and soft costs)	
Financing (say 5% x 1/2 costs x construction period	od on 75%)
Total soft costs	\$3,179,000
Total Project Costs	18,155,000
Cost per Gross Square foot	\$218
Cost per suite	\$283,672

## **Project revenues**

Rental revenue per square foot GFA \$1.40

Ave rent/month 2 bedroom \$1,560

Ave rent/month 3 bedroom \$2,075

Rental revenue per annum \$1,397,760

Parking \$35 per stall/month \$26,880

Total gross revenue \$1,424,640

Vacancy allowance (2% of gross revenue \$28,500

Effective Gross Revenue (EGR) \$1,396,140

# Operating costs and return

**Total operating expenses** (maintenance, repairs, taxes, management, etc. usually calculated as a % of EGR (30%) \$418,840

Net Operating Income \$977,300

The return is determined by dividing net operating income by the total costs:

**Total Costs** (Land, Hard, Soft) \$18,155,000

**Break-even Return or capitalization rate** (%) 5.38%

Note: Equity required from developer \$3M to \$4.5M



# 4 storey wood frame apartment condominiums

**Site area** 55,466 sq. ft.

Permitted Floor Space Ratio 1.5

Gross Floor Area 83,200 sq.ft.

Net saleable Area (85% of gross) 70,720 sq.ft.

50 1 bed @ 550 to 625 sq.ft.

50 2 bed @775 to 850 sq.ft

**Revenues:** 70,720 @\$335 = \$23,691,000

Less commissions @ 3% = \$710,000

Net revenues: \$22,981,000

# 4 storey wood frame condominium apartments

**Land** (often measured per square foot of building area) (approx. 83,200sq.ft at \$40) \$3,328,000

Hard Costs (construction costs for a condominium likely to be higher than for rental project)

**Building** (83,200 sf @\$160/ft) \$13,312,000 **Off-site** cost allowance (roads, sewer, water, etc.) \$300,000

#### **Soft Costs**

**Professional fees** (arch, engineers, 5% to 7%) \$825k

Municipal fees/ (permits, inspections, hook-ups,) \$200k

**DCC's** Municipal (likely to apply to condominium)

DCCs Regional (\$590 to \$1,082 unit)

#### **Community Amenity Contributions** TBD

Other (insurance, legal, surveys, taxes, etc) \$150k

**HPO fees** \$100k

**Project management/overhead** (3%) \$500k

Marketing costs (materials, advertising, etc.)

2% to 4% of revenues \$460 - \$920k

Contingencies (5% of hard and soft costs) \$850k

Financing (5% x 1/2 costs x construction period plus sales period)

for 75% of the costs; + provision for interest on mezzanine \$\$\$

Total soft costs	\$3,360,000
Total Project Costs	\$20,000,000
Cost per Gross Square foot	\$240
Cost per Net Square foot	\$282
Cost per suite	\$200,000
Net Revenues	\$22,981,000
Less Costs	\$20,000,000
Profit	\$2,981,000
As percentage of cost	14.9%

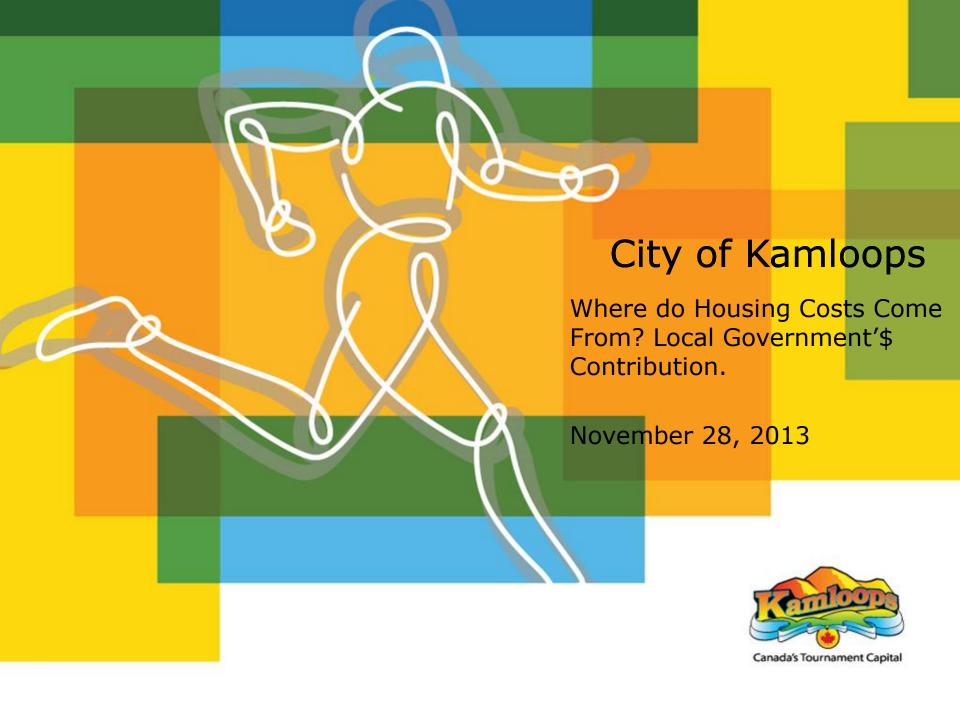
# Summary and conclusions

- In order to assess the financial viability of affordable rental or ownership projects, need to review total land, hard and soft costs and revenues;
- For rental projects, also need to look at annual operating costs;
- Rental projects are likely to be viable if capitalization rate is 4.5% or higher
- Condominium projects need to demonstrate a profit around 15% to 17.5% of costs
- While developers may accept lower profit margin, the bank usually wants to see this level of profit to finance!

## **David Freeman**

- Assistant Development and Engineering Director/Real Estate
   Manager
- City of Kamloops





## Presentation

Where do Housing Costs Come From? –
 Local Government'\$ Contribution.

 David W. Freeman, Assistant Development and Engineering Services Director. City of Kamloops



# Local Government'\$ Contribution Our impact on project costs

Time

- "Time is money ... & opportunity"
- application processing timelines

- Fees
- permits, application, service connections, road closures, parkland, inspections, security, off-site works, Building Permit, DCCs.



# Development'\$ "Municipal" Rule

Anytime there is a **change** there is a regulation.

Anytime there is a **regulation** there is a permit.

Anytime there is a **permit** there is a process.

(more permits = more processing time)

Anytime there is a **process** there is a **fee**.

Helping you build a better/sustainable community



# Paying the Cost to Regulate Change

- Municipal governments are the gatekeepers of change to the built form.
- People/voters/taxpayers are wary of change.
   They want to participate in the change.
   Change is controlled through regulation.
- Our authority to regulate and charge fees
  - Part 21 LGA Building
  - Part 26 LGA Planning and Land Use





# Magnitude of the Regulation Participants in the Development Process

- Federal DFO, Canada Post,1st Nations, RCMP
- Provincial WMA (Contaminated Site Regs).
  Land Title Act for subdivision, BC Building Code,
  RAR, MOTI, Provincial Fire Code, ALR, Local
  Health Authority.
- Municipal OCP, Rezoning (CD), DP, DVP, Geotech, Heritage, Subdivision, Parkland.
- Private utilities and railways.



# Permits, Processes and Fees

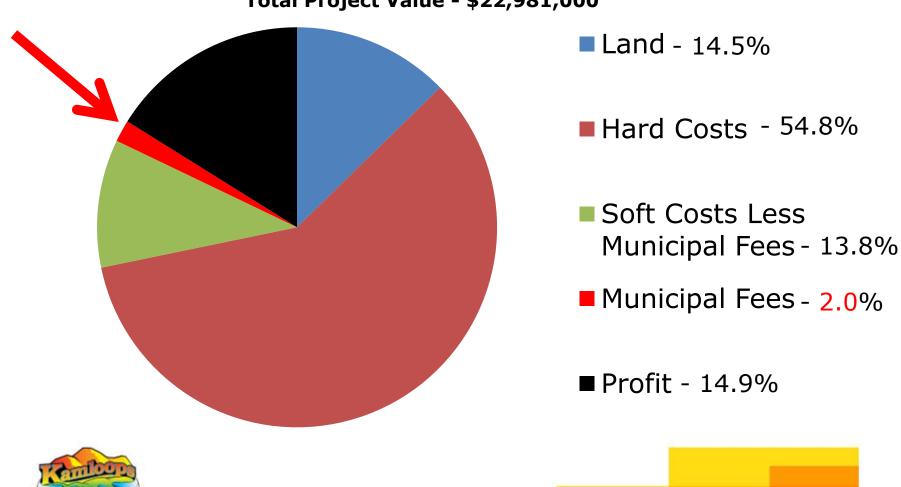
- Process to ensure equity among clients
  - Who is the Client
    - » Developer / Builder
    - » Purchaser (s)/user
    - » Taxpayer/neighborhood
- Price point doesn't impact works or process.
- Internal Process Building Permit manpower.
- External Process OCP or rezoning/DP stakeholder participation.





# What Politicians/Neighbors See





## DCC\$ - Development Co\$t Charge\$

- Demon Construction Costs -
  - a method to recover costs associated with providing infrastructure required for growth. Non-taxpayer funded.
- Sec 933 of LGA provides for DCCs.
- UBCM best practices guide recommends review every 2 years and stakeholder participation (Homebuilders or UDI). City of Kamloops package 117 pages double sided.



## DCCs Continued

- Exemptions/reductions available for **not for profit housing,** units under 312 sq.ft and for profit affordable rental (933.1 LGA).
- Can be charged on square footage, benefitting
   smaller units = more affordable units.
- DCC credits available for demolition or construction of DCC off-site works – intersection upgrades.
- Assist factors taxpayer funded. Lobbying.





## Conclusion

- Local Government constantly balancing between taxation and user fees. Charges and Fees Bylaw approved by Council.
- Municipal obligation efficiency, transparency, certainty - "no changing of the goal posts", recognize the role of the lender.
- Our Developer expectations meet the staff, do your homework, retain professionals, engage the neighborhood.



# THANK YOU



# Questions?



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### Resources



### Presenter Links

### **Justin Barer and Gerry Mulholland**

Rollo & Associates Ltd., Land Economists <u>www.rolloassociates.com</u>

#### Michael Geller

SFU Centre for Sustainable Community Development Geller Group

www.michaelgeller.ca

www.gellersworldtravel.blogspot.com

#### **David Freeman**

City of Kamloops

www.kamloops.ca



### Resources



### Partner Links

BC Housing: www.bchousing.org

BC Real Estate Association: www.bcrea.bc.ca

Canadian Home Builders' Association BC: www.chbabc.org and

www.withinyourmeans.ca

Union of BC Municipalities: www.ubcm.ca

Urban Development Institute Pacific Region: www.udi.bc.ca

BC Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Local

Government Department: <a href="www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/">www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/</a>

BC Ministry Responsible for Housing: www.housing.gov.bc.ca

RuralBC www.ruralbc.gov.bc.ca/individuals/housing



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# THANK YOU

for your participation in this webinar