



City of Vancouver *Land Use and Development Policies and Guidelines*

Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability Department

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AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE POLICIES

Adopted by City Council on November 20, 1979

Reaffirmed March 8, 1988

On November 20, 1979 City Council adopted the following policy statements regarding the removal of lands from the Agricultural Land Reserve (Figure 1). These statements were reaffirmed as City Policy on March 8, 1988 with the adoption of the **Southlands Plan**.

1. The primary criterion for evaluating applications for release of undeveloped or underdeveloped land from the Agricultural Land Reserve be the capability of that land for agricultural pursuits as determined by the Agricultural Land Commission and that the Agricultural Land Commission base its decisions solely on that criterion.
2. Secondary considerations, such as potential or the capability of land for other urban uses, should only be considered in the case of appeals to the Environment and Land Use Committee of the Provincial Cabinet.
3. The Agricultural Land Commission should only grant leave to appeal its decisions where, in its opinion, land has marginal or questionable potential for agricultural use.
4. In cases where the Agricultural Land Commission refuses leave to appeal but leave is granted by the Minister of Environment*, the Minister should demonstrate his/her reasons for believing that the land has marginal or questionable potential for agricultural use.
5. The Environment and Land Use Committee should consider secondary factors in appeal cases but should place considerable attention on demonstrated need for the land for alternative uses due to a lack of appropriately zoned, non-ALR land elsewhere in the economic or demographic region and externalities which could entail from the proposed development.
6. The Agricultural Land Commission and the Environment and Land Use Committee of the Provincial Cabinet should be fully accountable for their decisions by issuing statements of public record documenting information available and upon which their decisions are made.

* Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks (1992).

Figure 1. Agricultural Land Reserve

