

**Height Increase for Ground Level Additions  
on Oceanfront Lots in the Architectural District**

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, SUBPART B, ENTITLED "LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS," BY AMENDING CHAPTER 142, ENTITLED "ZONING DISTRICTS AND REGULATIONS," ARTICLE II, ENTITLED "DISTRICT REGULATIONS," DIVISION 3, ENTITLED "RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY DISTRICTS," SUBDIVISION V, ENTITLED "RM-3 RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY, HIGH INTENSITY," BY AMENDING SECTION 142-246, ENTITLED "DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND AREA REQUIREMENTS," TO INCREASE THE HEIGHT LIMIT FOR GROUND FLOOR ADDITIONS MEETING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach (the "City") has the authority to enact laws which promote the public health, safety and general welfare of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Land Development Regulations ("LDRs") provide for the regulation of land within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance provides for a height increase for ground floor additions on oceanfront lots in the Architectural District, with a lot area greater than 115,000 square feet, subject to the requirements set forth herein.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 142, "Zoning Districts and Regulations," Article II, "District Regulations," Division 3, "Residential Multifamily Districts," Subdivision V, "RM-3 Residential multifamily, high intensity," is hereby amended as follows:

**CHAPTER 142 – ZONING DISTRICTS AND REGULATIONS**

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**ARTICLE II. – DISTRICT REGULATIONS**

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**DIVISION 3. - RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY DISTRICTS**

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**SUBDIVISION V.- RM-3 RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY, HIGH INTENSITY**

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**Sec. 142-246. - Development regulations and area requirements.**

(a) The development regulations in the RM-3 residential multifamily, high intensity district are as follows:

- (1) Max. FAR: Lot area equal to or less than 45,000 sq. ft.—2.25; lot area greater than 45,000 sq. ft.—2.75; oceanfront lots with lot area greater than 45,000 sq. ft.—3.0.
- (2) Notwithstanding the above, oceanfront lots in architectural district shall have a maximum FAR of 2.0.
- (3) Notwithstanding the above, lots which, as of the effective date of this ordinance (November 14, 1998), are oceanfront lots with a lot area greater than 100,000 sq. ft. with an existing building, shall have a maximum FAR of 3.0; however, additional FAR shall be available for the sole purpose of providing hotel amenities as follows: the lesser of 0.15 FAR or 20,000 sq. ft.

(b) The lot area, lot width, unit size and building height requirements for the RM-3 residential multifamily, high intensity district are as follows:

Minimum Lot Area (Square Feet)	Minimum Lot Width (Feet)	Minimum Unit Size (Square Feet)	Average Unit Size (Square Feet)	Maximum Building Height (Feet)
7,000	50	New construction—550 Non-elderly and elderly low and moderate income housing—400 Workforce housing—400 Rehabilitated buildings—400 Hotel units: 15%: 300—335 85%: 335+ For contributing hotel structures, located within an individual historic site, a local historic district or a national register district, which are renovated in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior Standards and Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Historic Structures as amended, retaining the existing room configuration and sizes of at least 200 square feet shall be permitted. Additionally, the	New construction—800 Non-elderly and elderly low and moderate income housing—400 Workforce housing—400 Rehabilitated buildings—550 Hotel units—N/A	150 Oceanfront lots—200 Architectural dist.: New construction—120; ground floor additions (whether attached or detached) to existing structures on oceanfront lots—50 (except as provided in section 142-1161)

		<p>existing room configurations for the above described hotel structures may be modified to address applicable life-safety and accessibility regulations, provided the 200 square foot minimum unit size is maintained, and provided the maximum occupancy per hotel room does not exceed 4 persons.</p>		
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- (c) Notwithstanding the above, for oceanfront lots located within a locally designated historic district or site, but not within the architectural district, with less than 400 feet of lineal frontage along Collins Avenue and containing at least one contributing structure, the maximum building height for ground floor additions to existing structures, whether attached or detached, shall be as follows:
- (1) For existing structures greater than five stories in height, the maximum height shall be limited to ten stories or the height of the roof line of the main structure on site, whichever is less. At the discretion of the historic preservation board, the maximum height of the ground floor addition may exceed ten stories if the existing and surrounding structures are greater than five stories in height, provided the addition is consistent with the scale and massing of the existing structure.
  - (2) For existing structures five stories or less in height, the maximum height shall be limited to five stories.

Additionally, the proposed addition shall not substantially reduce existing or established view corridors, nor impede the appearance or visibility of architecturally significant portions of an existing structure, as determined by the historic preservation board.

- (d) Notwithstanding the above, for oceanfront lots located in the architectural district, the overall height of an attached addition may exceed five stories and 50 feet, but shall not exceed the height of the roof line of the structure attached to, provided all of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (1) The proposed addition shall consist of the expansion of existing hotel units only and shall not result in an increased number of units.
  - (2) The proposed addition shall be for hotel units only. A restrictive covenant, running with the land, or other similar instrument enforceable against the owner(s), acceptable to and approved as to form by the city attorney, shall be required to ensure that the units remain as hotel units for a minimum of 30 years. If the applicant is unable to provide such a covenant, this requirement may be waived by the city manager if it is demonstrated that the project provides an extraordinary public benefit to the surrounding area.

- (3) The proposed addition shall not be attached to front, street side or oceanfront elevations, nor along any other principal elevations or facades, as determined by the historic preservation board.
  - (4) The proposed addition shall not substantially reduce existing or established view corridors, nor impede the appearance or visibility of architecturally significant portions of an existing structure, as determined by the historic preservation board.
- (e) A ground floor addition relocating existing hotel units shall also meet the following conditions, in addition to subsection (d)(2)—(4) above:
- (1) There shall be no neighborhood impact establishment, dancehall or entertainment use in the area of the proposed addition;
  - (2) No new outdoor or open air entertainment establishment shall be created on the property. Outdoor or open air entertainment establishments existing as of the effective date of this subsection (November 24, 2012) may continue but shall not be expanded if a property avails itself of this provision.
  - (3) Upon approval of the proposed addition by the historic preservation board, no building greater than two stories or 25 feet in height shall be constructed between the rear of the building and westward line of the dune overlay district. This provision shall not be subject to variance.
  - (4) Notwithstanding the provisions in subsection 142-1161(d), if the building presently contains unoccupied but built spaces enclosed on at least three sides by existing walls of a height that would conceal a new roof, such as false parapets or storage rooms, those spaces may be further enclosed as habitable floor area, up to the permitted floor area; and
  - (5) No new commercial uses shall be permitted on the rooftop or any open air decks of the existing structure or proposed addition.
- (f) Notwithstanding the above, for oceanfront lots located in the architectural district, with a lot area greater than 115,000 square feet, a ground floor addition, whether attached or detached, may exceed 50 feet in height, but shall not exceed 200 feet in height, in accordance with the following provisions:
- (1) Placement of the structure. The ground floor addition shall be located internal to the site, and shall be set back a minimum of 100 feet from the front property line, 75 feet from the street side property lines, and 100 feet from the rear (oceanfront) property line.
  - (2) Limits on the floorplate of additions exceeding 50 feet in height. The maximum floor plate size for the portion of an addition that exceeds 50 feet in building height is 15,000 square feet per floor, excluding projecting balconies. The historic preservation board may approve an increase in this overall floor plate, up to a maximum of 20,000 square feet per floor, excluding balconies, in accordance with the certificate of appropriateness criteria in chapter 118, article X of these land development regulations.

**SECTION 2. REPEALER.**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances and all section and parts of sections in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3. CODIFICATION.**

It is the intention of the City Commission, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code of the City of Miami Beach as amended; that the sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention; and that the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section" or other appropriate word.

**SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.**

If any section, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall not be affected by such invalidity.

**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance shall take effect ten days following adoption.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

First Reading: July 17, 2019  
Second Reading: July 31, 2019

Verified by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas R. Mooney, AICP  
Planning Director

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION  
Paul C. [Signature] 7/2/19  
City Attorney Date  
NK