

# MIAMI BEACH

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

### Staff Report & Recommendation

## PLANNING BOARD

TO: Chairperson and Members  
Planning Board

DATE: July 26, 2022

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP  
Planning Director



SUBJECT: **PB06-0075 – 601-685 Washington Avenue. Goodtime Hotel – Progress Report.**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Planning Board discuss the progress report.

### **BACKGROUND**

- May 10, 2016:* The Historic Preservation Board approved the project (HPB File No. 7632).
- July 26, 2016:* The Planning Board approved a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the construction of a new seven story hotel development exceeding 50,000 square feet including a parking garage and a Neighborhood Impact Establishment with outdoor entertainment.
- January 24, 2017:* The Planning Board approved a Modified CUP to include mechanical parking in the garage.
- May 25, 2021:* A cure letter was sent to “Washington Squared Owner, LLC,” pursuant to the requirements of Section 118-194 of the City Code. The cure letter requested that the applicant appear before the Planning Board on June 22, 2021 for a progress report.
- June 22, 2021:* The Planning Board discussed a Progress Report and continued it to the September 28, 2021 meeting.
- June 30, 2021:* A cure letter was sent to “Washington Squared Owner, LLC,” pursuant to the requirements of Section 118-194 of the City Code. The cure letter requested that the applicant appear before the Planning Board on July 27, 2021 for a progress report.
- July 27, 2021:* The Planning Board discussed the Progress Report and scheduled a revocation/modification hearing for the September 28, 2021 meeting.
- September 28, 2021:* The Planning Board discussed the item and continued the revocation/modification hearing to the November 30, 2021 meeting.
- November 30, 2021:* At the request of the applicant, the Planning Board continued the item to the January 25, 2022 meeting.

- January 11, 2022:* The Historic Preservation Board (HPB) approved the applicant's request for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for the introduction of a sound barrier wall located at the north and west sides of the 3rd level rooftop pool deck (HPB File No. HPB21-0478).
- January 25, 2022:* At the request of the applicant, the Planning Board discussed the item and continued the revocation/modification hearing to the May 24, 2022 meeting.
- May 24, 2022:* The Planning Board modified the CUP and continued the revocation/modification hearing to the September 20, 2022 hearing.

### **PROGRESS REPORT**

As mentioned in the background section above, the project is scheduled for a revocation/modification hearing at the September 20, 2022 Planning Board meeting. At the request of the applicant, staff has scheduled an additional progress report to update the Board as to the progress that has been made and to obtain feedback regarding a modification that the applicant will be requesting at the revocation/modification meeting.

As mentioned at the last progress report, the applicant received approval of a certificate of appropriateness (COA) from the HPB for the installation of a sound barrier wall located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> level rooftop. Since the last progress report the hotel was able to finalize the permit for the sound barrier wall and they are currently seeking approval for the Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) Plan for the crane installation to be able to complete the work by the end of August 2022.

Additionally, the applicant has indicated that the hotel has been working to complete the leases for the ground floor uses and that they have found a potential restaurant tenant for the southwest corner of the building. However, condition 1 of the CUP only permits retail uses on the ground floor, as noted hereto:

1. *This Conditional Use Permit is issued to Washington Squared Owner, LLC, to construct a seven (7) story mixed use hotel project, **with retail space on the first floor**, traditional parking and mechanical parking on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, food and beverage areas located on the roof and interior of the second floor (3<sup>rd</sup> level), and a pool and pool deck on the upper roof deck. Any proposed change to the uses approved in this Conditional Use shall require the review and approval of the Planning Board.*

The applicant will be seeking a modification to the Order to allow for other commercial uses on the first floor. In this regard, the applicant is also seeking to obtain preliminary feedback from the Board pertaining to a modification to condition 1, in order to allow for restaurants, in addition to retail, at the September 20, 2022 revocation/modification hearing.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Planning Board discuss the progress report.

**PLANNING BOARD  
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**

**PROPERTY:** 601-685 Washington Avenue

**FILE NO.** PB 06-0075, a.k.a. PB 0616-0031, f.k.a., PB File No. 2320

**IN RE:** The application for a modification to a previously issued Conditional Use Permit for the construction of a new seven story hotel development exceeding 50,000 square feet including a parking garage and a Neighborhood Impact Establishment with outdoor entertainment. Specifically, the modification includes mechanical parking in the garage, pursuant to Section 118, Article IV and Section 130, Article II of the City Code. On May 24, 2022, the Planning Board held a public hearing to consider a revocation, modification, or imposition of additional conditions to the existing Condition Use Permit due to code violations and complaints.

**LEGAL**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lots 11-21 of Block 34, of "Ocean Beach Fla Addition No. 1", according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 3, page 11 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

**MEETING DATE:** January 24, 2017 and May 24, 2022

**MODIFIED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT**

The applicant, Washington Squared Owner, LLC, requested a Conditional Use approval for the construction of a new seven story hotel development exceeding 50,000 square feet including a parking garage, with mechanical parking in the garage and a Neighborhood Impact Establishment with outdoor entertainment, pursuant to Section 118, Article IV, Section 142, Article II, and Section 142, Article V of the City Code. Notice of the request was given as required by law and mailed out to owners of property within a distance of 375 feet of the exterior limits of the property upon which the application was made.

The Planning Board of the City of Miami Beach makes the following FINDINGS OF FACT, based upon the evidence, information, testimony and materials presented at the public hearing and which are part of the of the record for this matter:

The property in question is located in the CD-2 – Commercial, Medium Intensity Zoning District.

The use is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan for the area in which the property is located;

The intended use or construction will not result in an impact that will exceed the thresholds for the levels of service as set forth in the Comprehensive Plan;

The structures and uses associated with the request are consistent with the Land Development Regulations;

The public health, safety, morals, and general welfare will not be adversely affected;

Necessary safeguards will be provided for the protection of surrounding property, persons, and neighborhood values.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED**, based upon the foregoing findings of fact, the evidence, information, testimony and materials presented at the public hearing, which are part of the record for this matter, and the staff report and analysis, which is adopted herein, including the staff recommendations, that the Conditional Use Permit be GRANTED, as provided below to which the applicant has agreed. Underlining denotes new language and ~~strikethrough~~ denotes stricken language from the previous order:

1. This Conditional Use Permit is issued to Washington Squared Owner, LLC, to construct a seven (7) story mixed use hotel project, with retail space on the first floor, traditional parking and mechanical parking on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, food and beverage areas located on the roof and interior of the second floor (3<sup>rd</sup> level), and a pool and pool deck on the upper roof deck. Any proposed change to the uses approved in this Conditional Use shall require the review and approval of the Planning Board.
2. The Planning Board shall maintain jurisdiction of this Conditional Use Permit. The applicant shall appear before the Planning Board for a progress report within 90 days from the issuance of the business tax receipt (BTR) for any of the proposed outdoor entertainment venue.

When BTR's are issued for at least 75% of the building area, but no later than one (1) year from the issuance of the BTR for the proposed hotel use, the applicant shall appear before the Planning Board for a progress report specific to traffic, including providing a full revised traffic study outlining the actual transportation operations on-site and in the surrounding initial study area, and including valet operations and loading/servicing of the building.

The Board reserves the right to modify the Conditional Use approval at the time of a progress report in a non-substantive manner, to impose additional conditions to address possible problems and to determine the timing and need for future progress reports. This Conditional Use is also subject to modification or revocation under City Code Sec. 118-194 (c).

3. The conditions of approval for this Conditional Use Permit are binding on the applicant, the property applicants, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns. Any change of operator or 50% (fifty percent) or more stock ownership, partnership interest or equivalent, shall require review and approval by the Planning Board as a modification to this Conditional Use Permit.
4. The Planning Board shall retain the right to call the owner or operator back before them and make modifications to this Conditional Use Permit should there be valid complaints about loud, excessive, unnecessary, or unusual noise. Nothing in this provision shall be deemed to limit the right of the Planning Board to call back the owner or operator for other reasons and for other modifications of this Conditional Use Permit.
5. Substantial modifications to the plans submitted and approved as part of the application, as determined by the Planning Director or designee, may require the applicant to return to the Board for approval.
6. The applicant, now and in the future, shall abide by all the documents and statements submitted with this application.

7. All existing overhead utilities abutting the subject site shall be placed underground at the sole expense of the applicant.
8. The following shall apply to the operation of the proposed parking garage:
  - a. There shall be security personnel of at least one person, on-site, monitoring the garage during all hours of operation.
  - b. Signs prohibiting tire-screaching and unnecessary horn-honking shall be posted at the garage entrance.
  - c. Signs to minimize vehicle conflict in the driveways in and out of the property shall be posted in appropriate locations.
  - d. The minimum parking required by the land development regulations shall be provided, or parking in lieu fee shall be paid for any spaces that cannot be provided in the parking level.
9. The following shall apply to the construction and operation of the proposed mechanical parking system:
  - a. The noise or vibration from the operation of the mechanical parking lifts shall not be plainly audible to or felt by any individual standing outside an apartment or hotel unit at any adjacent or nearby property. In addition, noise and vibration barriers shall be utilized to ensure that surrounding walls decrease sound and vibration emissions outside of the parking garage.
  - b. The parking lift platforms must be fully load bearing, and must be sealed and of a sufficient width and length to prevent dripping liquids or debris onto the vehicle below.
  - c. All free-standing mechanical parking lifts must be designed so that power is required to lift the car, but that no power is required to lower the car, in order to ensure that the lift can be lowered and the top vehicle can be accessed in the event of a power outage.
  - d. All mechanical lifts must be designed to prevent lowering of the lift when a vehicle is parked below the lift.
  - e. All mechanical parking lifts must be inspected and certified as safe and in good working order by a licensed mechanical engineer at least once per year and the findings of the inspection shall be summarized in a report signed by the same licensed mechanical engineer or firm. Such report shall be furnished to the Planning Director and the Building Official.
  - f. All parking lifts shall be maintained and kept in good working order.
  - g. Parking operation shall be by valet attendants only. A contract with a valet operator shall be submitted to staff for review and approval prior to a final Certificate of Occupancy or Business Tax Receipt, whichever occurs first

10. The Applicant agrees to the following operational conditions for all permitted and accessory uses and shall bind itself, lessees, permittees, concessionaires, renters, guests, users, and successors and assigns and all successors in interest in whole or in part to comply with the following operational and noise attenuation requirements and/or limitations. The applicant shall ensure through appropriate contracts, assignments and management rules that these restrictions are enforced and the applicant agrees to include the rules and regulations set forth in these conditions in any contract or assignment:
- a. As proposed by the applicant, the project authorized by this Conditional Use Permit includes the creation and operation of the proposed lounge, café, restaurant, café cart, and two (2) outdoor courtyard areas located on the roof of the second floor (3<sup>rd</sup> level) with the criteria listed below:
    - i. The food and beverage areas of the hotel covered in the CUP shall have a maximum occupant content of approximately 1200 persons or any lesser such occupant content as determined by the Fire Marshal.
    - ii. The indoor portions of the project may operate until 5:00 AM and shall be permitted to have a DJ or music, whether live or recorded, whether amplified or non-amplified, which is played at a volume that is louder than ambient background music (defined as a sound level that does not interfere with normal conversation), seven (7) days per week, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 AM.
    - iii. All outdoor areas of the venue(s) may operate until 1:00 AM and shall be permitted to have a DJ or music, whether live or recorded, whether amplified or non-amplified, which is played at a volume that is louder than ambient background music (defined as a sound level that does not interfere with normal conversation), as follows seven (7) days per week:

<u>Times</u>	<u>Type of Permitted Music</u>	<u>DJ Permitted</u>
<u>9:00 AM to 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Ambient Only</u>	<u>Yes, Ambient Only</u>
<u>11:00 AM to 8:00 PM</u>	<u>Ambient Or Entertainment</u>	<u>Yes, Ambient Or Entertainment</u>
<u>8:00 PM to 1:00 AM</u>	<u>Ambient Only</u>	<u>Yes, Ambient Only</u>
<u>1:00 AM to 9:00 AM</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No</u>

- iv. The house sound system shall be installed and set in such a manner as to limit the acoustical output of the system and have password protected security on all controls at all times in accordance with the design intent and recommendations of the sound system study submitted as part of this application. The equipment and installation plan for the sound system, including the location of all speakers and sound level controls shall be submitted for the review and approval of the Planning Department. Prior to the issuance of the Business Tax Receipt (BTR), the sound system shall be tested under the supervision of a qualified acoustical professional and the City's sound study peer reviewer, to ensure that all aspects of the

system's performance comply with the design intent and recommendations of the sound system study submitted as part of this application. This shall include the requirement that noise from the sound system shall not be plainly audible ~~at the western balconies of the Arcadia House Condominium located at the southwest corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and~~ anywhere west of Washington Avenue. A final report issued by such acoustical consultant shall be submitted to staff prior to the issuance of a BTR.

- v. Additionally, 60 days after the issuance of a BTR , the sound systems in the facility shall be tested by a qualified acoustic professional, and a report shall be submitted to the Planning Department for review demonstrating that the system's performance still complies with the design intent and recommendations of the sound system study submitted as part of this application.
- b. Delivery trucks shall only be permitted to make deliveries from the designated loading spaces contained within the property and from designated on-street loading zones for trucks not to exceed 20'-0" in length, as authorized by the Parking Department.
- c. Delivery trucks shall not be allowed to idle in the loading areas.
- d. Equipment and supplies shall not be stored in areas visible from streets, alleys or nearby buildings.
- e. Deliveries and waste collections may occur daily, but shall occur only between 6:00 AM and 5:00 PM.
- f. There shall be a loading dock master, on-site, monitoring the interaction between loading and refuse pick up with the operation of the valet and garage during all hours of deliveries and refuse pick up.
- g. All trash containers shall utilize rubber wheels, or the path for the trash containers shall consist of a surface finish that reduces noise, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff.
- h. Adequate trash room space, air conditioned and noise baffled, shall be provided, in a manner to be approved by the Planning and Public Works Departments. Sufficient interior space must be provided so that doors can remain closed while trash and trash bags are being deposited in dumpsters. Doors shall remain closed and secured when not in active use.
- i. Trash room(s)/garbage room(s) shall be large enough, or sufficient in number to accommodate enough dumpsters so that more than one pick up of garbage per day will not be necessary. A high-level trash/garbage compacting device shall be located in an air-conditioned trash/garbage holding room within the facility.
- j. Garbage dumpster covers shall be closed at all times except when in active use.

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- k. Restaurant personnel shall take measures to enforce the Patron Age Restriction of the City Code during the hours of operation of all alcoholic beverage establishments.
  - l. No patrons shall be allowed to queue on public rights-of-way, or anywhere on the exterior premises, except adjacent to Collins Court, on private property.
  - m. The owner/operator shall be responsible for maintaining the areas adjacent to the facility, including the sidewalk, and all areas around the perimeter of the property. These areas shall be kept free of trash, debris and odor, and shall be swept and hosed down at the end of each business day
  - n. Street flyers and handouts shall not be permitted, including handbills from third-party promotions.
  - o. Special Events shall not be issued for the outdoor areas. Special Events may occur on the interior of the building, subject to City ordinances, rules or regulations existing at the time, and may exceed the hours of operation and occupancy loads specified herein, if permitted by the Fire Marshal, subject to the review and approval of staff.
  - p. No outdoor bar counter shall be permitted on the roof deck located above the highest level of hotel units.
  - q. The rooftop deck located above the highest level of hotel units shall be for the exclusive use of hotel guests and their invitees.
11. The applicant shall address the following Concurrency and Traffic requirements, as applicable:
- a. A Method of Transportation (MOT) shall be submitted to Public Works Department staff for review and approval prior to the issuance of a building permit. The MOT shall address any traffic flow disruption due to construction activity on the site.
  - b. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall participate in a Transportation Concurrency Management Area Plan (TCMA Plan), if deemed necessary, by paying its fair share cost, as may be determined as determined by the Concurrency Management Division.
  - c. A final concurrency determination shall be conducted prior to the issuance of a Building Permit. Mitigation fees and concurrency administrative costs, if required, shall be paid prior to the issuance of any Building Permit.
  - d. A bicycle parking plan shall be submitted for staff review and approval prior to the issuance of a Business Tax Receipt.
  - e. Valet or loading activities shall not block the garage ramp at any time.



- f. Valet pick-up may only occur in front of the two (2) northernmost loading spaces (the middle of the three (3) valet spaces) between 5:00 PM and 7:00 AM.
  - g. The required number of valet runners will be provided in order to prevent queued vehicles from blocking traffic on Collins Court.
  - h. A representative shall be identified who will be in charge of implementing the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies identified and approved in the original traffic impact study memorandum dated May 24, 2016. Once a TDM plan is implemented, the City will contact the TDM representative to determine how well the plan is working and if any adjustment are needed with time.
- 12. The applicant shall satisfy outstanding liens and past due City bills, if any, to the satisfaction of the City prior to the issuance of a Building permit.
  - 13. The applicant shall obtain a full building permit within 18 months from the date of the original approval, on July 26, 2016, of this Conditional Use Permit, and the work shall proceed in accordance with the Florida Building Code. Extensions of time for good cause, not to exceed a total of one year for all extensions, may be granted by the Planning Board.
  - 14. This order is not severable, and if any provision or condition hereof is held void or unconstitutional in a final decision by a court of competent jurisdiction, the order shall be returned to the Board for reconsideration as to whether the order meets the criteria for approval absent the stricken provision or condition, and/or it is appropriate to modify the remaining conditions or impose new conditions.
  - 15. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
  - 16. The establishment and operation of this Conditional Use shall comply with all the aforementioned conditions of approval; non-compliance shall constitute a violation of the Code of the City of Miami Beach, Florida, and shall be subject to enforcement procedures set forth in Section 114-8 of said Code and such enforcement procedures as are otherwise available. Any failure by the applicant to comply with the conditions of this Order shall also constitute a basis for consideration by the Planning Board for a revocation of this Conditional Use.
  - 17. Nothing in this order authorizes a violation of the City Code or other applicable law, nor allows a relaxation of any requirement or standard set forth in the City Code.
  - 18. A violation of Chapter 46, Article IV, "Noise," of the Code of the City of Miami Beach, Florida (a/k/a "noise ordinance"), as may be amended from time to time, shall be deemed a violation of this Conditional Use Permit and subject to the remedies as described in Section 118-194 of the City Code. Allowances for outdoor entertainment in condition number 10 shall not supersede the regulations in Chapter 46, Article IV of the City Code.

