

MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Belush, AICP, Planning and Zoning Manager

FROM: Jose R. Gonzalez, PE, Director

DATE: December 6, 2017

SUBJECT: 6372 Collins Avenue – Traffic Impact Study

The Transportation Department has reviewed the subject traffic impact study submitted by the applicant as part of the Planning Board conditional use permit application for the proposed temporary parking lot on the vacant land located at 6372 Collins Avenue (Project). Traftech Engineering, Inc. prepared and submitted the traffic statement for this project.

The subject site is currently a vacant land. The temporary parking lot will serve as self-parking to hotel patrons staying at the hotel located at 6084 Collins Avenue. The temporary parking lot will also serve two (2) to five (5) vans, transporting construction workers to the construction site located at 6755 Collins Avenue. The temporary parking lot will have a total of 34 parking spaces.

PROPOSED ACCESS

The proposed ingress and egress will occur from an existing driveway on Collins Avenue. Since the property is currently vacant, there is no vehicular activity occurring at the existing driveway. This proposed access will not be gated.

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

Turning movement counts (TMC) were collected at the following intersections:

1. Indian Creek Road & 63rd Street (Signalized)
2. Indian Creek Road & 65th Street (Signalized)
3. Collins Avenue & 63rd Street (Signalized)
4. Collins Avenue & 65th Street (Signalized)

The intersection turning movement counts were collected on Friday, August 4, 2017 during the typical weekday's AM peak period of 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and PM peak period of 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Subsequently, the peak hour volumes were adjusted for seasonal variations by utilizing the Florida Department of Transportation Seasonal Factors.

The trip generation for the Project was based on information obtained from the Institute of Transportation Engineers' (ITE) Trip Generation Manual (9th Edition). Given that the proposed parking lot will be used for self-parking by the hotel patrons, the trip generation calculations code must be consistent with the anticipated use. As such, the trip generation calculations were based on Land Use 310– Hotel.

As indicated in Table 1 of the TIS report, the existing hotel is anticipated to generate approximately 874 daily trips, of which approximately 47 are AM peak hour trips (27 inbound and

20 outbound) during the typical AM peak hour and approximately 69 are PM peak hour trips (34 inbound and 35 outbound) during the typical PM peak hour. The trips generated by vanpools carrying construction workers were assumed to provide five (5) AM peak hour trips.

Intersection capacity/level of service analyses were conducted for the four (4) study intersections and the parking lot driveway. The analyses were undertaken following the capacity/level of service procedures outlined in the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) and utilizing the SYNCHRO 9 software.

Based on the analysis, the existing conditions scenario showed that all study intersections operate accurately with the exception of SRA1A/Indian Creek Drive and 63rd Street which currently operates at Level of Service (LOS) F. Staff provided comments to the Traffic Engineer on the TIS on November 2, 2017 and November 9, 2017. The responses to the comments were received by staff on November 13, 2017; however, the updated Synchro files were provided on November 22, 2017, which did not provide sufficient time for staff review.

Based on staff's review of the updated documents, the following comment are still outstanding:

1) Signal Timing:

- a) Signal timing at 65th Street and Collins Avenue intersection for the future typical PM peak hour does not match existing conditions signal timing and no indication of model optimization has been provided.
- b) Signal timing at 65th Street and Indian Creek Drive intersection for the future conditions of the typical PM peak hour does not match existing conditions signal timings and no indication of model optimization has been provided.

2) Volume Balancing:

There are discrepancies in the volumes shown in the November 2017 TIS and the Synchro Files provided November 22, 2017 for the intersection of Indian Creek Drive and 65th Street. While the report shows 4 eastbound vehicles during the afternoon peak hour, the Synchro files show 37 vehicles. The LOS also needs to be revised.

3) Stopping Sight Distance:

The Transportation Department has expressed concerns regarding the limited stopping sight distance (SSD) and drive-way sight distance due to the curvature of the roadway. The SSD calculations and sight distance calculations provided in the report do not demonstrate that the access is safe for operation under the current conditions. In addition, staff has performed a crash analysis between 63rd Street and the entrance of proposed parking lot access. In the most recent 3 years of data, 33 crashes occurred, in which 8 crashes can be attributed to driveway and Stopping Sight Distance limitations. Based on the data collected and field observations, it is anticipated that the activation of a drive-way at the proposed location under the existing conditions will increase the likelihood of rear-end collisions and angled collisions. As such, the following mitigation measures/conditions are being recommended by staff.

- The no parking zone located 90 feet south of the proposed parking lot entrance must be retrofitted with a raised-curb bulb-out to increase driveway sight visibility and reinforce the no parking condition. The bulb-out can only be landscaped in accordance with Index 546 of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Design Standards.

- The two palm trees on the bulb-out directly south of the entrance of the proposed parking lot shall be removed or relocated as the current location obstructs driveway sight visibility and the trunk diameters do not comply with FDOT Design Standard Index 546.

- 4) The developer is required to present approval from the FDOT Traffic Operations Access Management Division as part of its permit application for activation of the existing driveway.

Based on the outstanding comments, the Transportation Department is recommending that this item be continued to the January 23, 2018 Planning Board Meeting.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on the above.

cc: Josiel Ferrer-Diaz, E.I., Transportation Manager
Firat Akcay, Transportation Analyst