


MIAMI BEACH

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Staff Report & Recommendation

Design Review Board

TO: DRB Chairperson and Members

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP
Planning Director 

SUBJECT: DRB18-0319
6431 Allison Road_SOUTH PARCEL

DATE: November 06, 2018

DRB18-0319, 6431 Allison Road (SOUTH PARCEL). The applicant, Clara Homes LLC, is requesting Design Review Approval for the construction of a new two-story residence including one or more waivers, on the north side of a property containing an existing pre-1942 architecturally significant two-story residence. This application is subject to the approval of a lot split application pending before the Planning Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval with conditions

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

See attached "exhibit A"

HISTORY:

The subject parcel is the southern portion of a property that was part of an application for a division of land that was heard and approved by the Planning Board on September 25, 2018 (PB18-0217).

SITE DATA:

Zoning: RS-3
Future Land Use: RS
Lot Size: 16,162.5 SF
Lot Coverage:
Proposed: 3,698 SF / **22.9%**
Maximum: 4,040 SF / 25%
Unit size:
Proposed: 6,463 SF / **39.9%**
Maximum: 6,465 SF / **40%**
2nd Floor to 1st: NA

Height:

Proposed: 27'-0" Sloped Roof
Maximum: 27'-0" Sloped Roof

Grade: +3.59' NGVD

Base Flood Elevation: +8.00' NGVD

Difference: 4.41'

Adjusted Grade: +6.28' NGVD
30" (+2.5') Above Grade: +6.09' NGVD
First Floor Elevation: +9.00' NGVD
(BFE+1' FB)

EXISTING STRUCTURE:

Year: 1930
Architect: B. Kingston Hall
Vacant: Yes
Demolition: Total

SURROUNDING PROPERTIES:

East: Indian Creek
North: DRB18-0318 | New two-story
South: 1934 Two-story Residence
West: 1952 Two-story Residence

THE PROJECT:

The applicants have submitted plans entitled "Allison Island South Residence", as prepared by [STRANG] Architecture signed, sealed and dated September 07, 2018.

The applicant is proposing to construct a new two-story residence on a waterfront lot on Allison Island.

COMPLIANCE WITH ZONING CODE:

A preliminary review of the project indicates that the application, as proposed, appears to be inconsistent with the following sections of the City Code:

1. Two-story side elevations located parallel to a side property line shall not exceed 50 percent of the lot depth, or 60 feet, whichever is less, without incorporating additional open space, in excess of the minimum required side yard, directly adjacent to the required side yard. The additional open space shall be regular in shape, open to the sky from grade, and at least eight feet in depth, measured perpendicular from the minimum required side setback line. The square footage of the additional open space shall not be less than one percent of the lot area. **The open space provided along a side elevation in accordance with this subsection, whether required or not, shall not be included in the lot coverage calculation provided that the combined depth of the open space, as measured from the required side setback line(s), is less than 30 percent of the maximum developable building width of the property, as measured from the interior setback lines, and the total open space provided does not exceed five percent of the lot area.** Any portions of the interior side yard open space in excess of five percent of the lot area shall be included in the total lot coverage calculation. The elevation (height) of the open space provided shall not exceed the maximum permitted elevation height of the required side yard, and at least 75 percent of the required interior open space area shall be sodded or landscaped previous open space. The intent of this regulation shall be to break up long expanses of uninterrupted two-story volume at or near the required side yard setback line and exception from the minimum requirements of this provision may be granted only through design review board approval in accordance with the applicable design review criteria.

The above noted comments shall not be considered final zoning review or approval. These and all zoning matters shall require final review and verification by the Zoning Administrator prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.

COMPLIANCE WITH DESIGN REVIEW CRITERIA:

Design Review encompasses the examination of architectural drawings for consistency with the criteria stated below with regard to the aesthetics, appearances, safety, and function of the structure or proposed structures in relation to the site, adjacent structures and surrounding community. Staff recommends that the following criteria are found to be satisfied, not satisfied or not applicable, as hereto indicated:

1. The existing and proposed conditions of the lot, including but not necessarily limited to topography, vegetation, trees, drainage, and waterways.

Not Satisfied; the applicant is requesting one (1) design waiver from the Board.

2. The location of all existing and proposed buildings, drives, parking spaces, walkways, means of ingress and egress, drainage facilities, utility services, landscaping structures, signs, and lighting and screening devices.

Not Satisfied; the applicant is requesting one (1) design waiver from the Board.

3. The dimensions of all buildings, structures, setbacks, parking spaces, floor area ratio, height, lot coverage and any other information that may be reasonably necessary to determine compliance with the requirements of the underlying zoning district, and any applicable overlays, for a particular application or project.

Not Satisfied; the applicant is requesting one (1) design waiver from the Board.

4. The color, design, selection of landscape materials and architectural elements of Exterior Building surfaces and primary public interior areas for Developments requiring a Building Permit in areas of the City identified in section 118-252.

Satisfied

5. The proposed site plan, and the location, appearance and design of new and existing Buildings and Structures are in conformity with the standards of this Ordinance and other applicable ordinances, architectural and design guidelines as adopted and amended periodically by the Design Review Board and Historic Preservation Boards, and all pertinent master plans.

Not Satisfied; the applicant is requesting one (1) design waiver from the Board.

6. The proposed Structure, and/or additions or modifications to an existing structure, indicates a sensitivity to and is compatible with the environment and adjacent Structures, and enhances the appearance of the surrounding properties.

Not Satisfied.

7. The design and layout of the proposed site plan, as well as all new and existing buildings shall be reviewed so as to provide an efficient arrangement of land uses. Particular attention shall be given to safety, crime prevention and fire protection, relationship to the surrounding neighborhood, impact on contiguous and adjacent Buildings and lands, pedestrian sight lines and view corridors.

Satisfied

8. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic movement within and adjacent to the site shall be reviewed to ensure that clearly defined, segregated pedestrian access to the site and all buildings is provided for and that all parking spaces are usable and are safely and conveniently arranged; pedestrian furniture and bike racks shall be considered. Access to the Site from adjacent roads shall be designed so as to interfere as little as possible with traffic flow on these roads and to permit vehicles a rapid and safe ingress and egress to the Site.

Satisfied

9. Lighting shall be reviewed to ensure safe movement of persons and vehicles and reflection on public property for security purposes and to minimize glare and reflection on adjacent properties. Lighting shall be reviewed to assure that it enhances the appearance of structures at night.
Not Satisfied; a lighting plan has not been submitted.
10. Landscape and paving materials shall be reviewed to ensure an adequate relationship with and enhancement of the overall Site Plan design.
Satisfied
11. Buffering materials shall be reviewed to ensure that headlights of vehicles, noise, and light from structures are adequately shielded from public view, adjacent properties and pedestrian areas.
Satisfied
12. The proposed structure has an orientation and massing which is sensitive to and compatible with the building site and surrounding area and which creates or maintains important view corridor(s).
Satisfied
13. The building has, where feasible, space in that part of the ground floor fronting a street or streets which is to be occupied for residential or commercial uses; likewise, the upper floors of the pedestal portion of the proposed building fronting a street, or streets shall have residential or commercial spaces, shall have the appearance of being a residential or commercial space or shall have an architectural treatment which shall buffer the appearance of the parking structure from the surrounding area and is integrated with the overall appearance of the project.
Satisfied
14. The building shall have an appropriate and fully integrated rooftop architectural treatment which substantially screens all mechanical equipment, stairs and elevator towers.
Satisfied
15. An addition on a building site shall be designed, sited and massed in a manner which is sensitive to and compatible with the existing improvement(s).
Not Applicable
16. All portions of a project fronting a street or sidewalk shall incorporate an architecturally appropriate amount of transparency at the first level in order to achieve pedestrian compatibility and adequate visual interest.
Satisfied
17. The location, design, screening and buffering of all required service bays, delivery bays, trash and refuse receptacles, as well as trash rooms shall be arranged so as to have a minimal impact on adjacent properties.
Not Applicable

18. In addition to the foregoing criteria, subsection [118-]104(6)(t) of the city Code shall apply to the design review board's review of any proposal to place, construct, modify or maintain a wireless communications facility or other over the air radio transmission or radio reception facility in the public rights-of-way.
Not Applicable
19. The structure and site complies with the sea level rise and resiliency review criteria in Chapter 133, Article II, as applicable.
Not Satisfied; see below

COMPLIANCE WITH SEA LEVEL RISE AND RESILIENCY REVIEW CRITERIA

Section 133-50(a) of the Land Development establishes review criteria for sea level rise and resiliency that must be considered as part of the review process for board orders. The following is an analysis of the request based upon these criteria:

- (1) A recycling or salvage plan for partial or total demolition shall be provided.
Not Satisfied
A recycling plan shall be provided as part of the submittal for a demolition/building permit to the building department.
- (2) Windows that are proposed to be replaced shall be hurricane proof impact windows.
Satisfied
- (3) Where feasible and appropriate, passive cooling systems, such as operable windows, shall be provided.
Not Satisfied
- (4) Whether resilient landscaping (salt tolerant, highly water-absorbent, native or Florida friendly plants) will be provided.
Satisfied
- (5) Whether adopted sea level rise projections in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Action Plan, as may be revised from time-to-time by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, including a study of land elevation and elevation of surrounding properties were considered.
Not Satisfied
Sea Level Rise projections were not taken into account.
- (6) The ground floor, driveways, and garage ramping for new construction shall be adaptable to the raising of public rights-of-ways and adjacent land.
Satisfied
- (7) Where feasible and appropriate, all critical mechanical and electrical systems shall be located above base flood elevation.
Satisfied

- (8) Existing buildings shall be, where reasonably feasible and appropriate, elevated to the base flood elevation.

Not Applicable

- (9) When habitable space is located below the base flood elevation plus City of Miami Beach Freeboard, wet or dry flood proofing systems will be provided in accordance with Chapter of 54 of the City Code.

Satisfied

- (10) Where feasible and appropriate, water retention systems shall be provided.

Not Satisfied; as part of the civil engineering design to be provided at time of permit.

STAFF ANALYSIS:
DESIGN REVIEW

The applicant is proposing to construct a new two-story residence on a waterfront site. The subject parcel is the southern portion of a property that was part of an application for a division of land that was heard and approved by the Planning Board on September 25, 2018 (PB18-0217). The combined site contains an existing pre-1942 architecturally significant two-story residence that will be demolished. One design waiver is being sought as part of this application.

The new two-story residence is designed in a Modern Farmhouse style. With metal gabled roofs, finished concrete and wood siding, the design integrates the traditional American farmhouse massing with a contemporary expression of volumes, materials and textures. The residence is composed of two parallel, gabled-end volumes, clad in vertical wood siding, that are sited running east to west, and connected at the center by a central two-story volume with open yards to either side. Forming the front (west) façade, a singular story of the shed-like structure sits atop of, and offset from, a ground floor volume that is finished in concrete. Industrial-style, large windows provide transparency on the front elevation to the coarsely finished skin of the home. The primary two-story façade is significantly set back from the property-line with only a single-story rectilinear garage structure jutting along the southern edge to the required front yard setback. The second, and rear, shed-like volume is fully clad in wood siding, with its rear (west) facade punctured with a massive glazing system that overlooks the bay.

The applicant is requesting a waiver of the open space requirement for two-story elevations that exceed 60'-0" in length. Specifically, the applicant proposes a "notch" along the south side interior elevations to fulfill the open space requirement of the Code. The north side elevation spans 70'-9" in length and has been designed with the required open space courtyard. The south side open area, or "notch", is programmed with a concrete pads for mechanical equipment. The Code specifies that the open space shall be at least 8'-0" in depth, no less than one percent of the lot area, and at least 75% sodded. As designed, the proposed open space does not meet the Code's requirements.

As previously mentioned, the subject property is the southern half of an approved division of land application by the Planning Board. Since the site contained an existing pre-1942

architecturally significant home proposed to be demolished, the Code limits the maximum lot coverage for a new two-story home shall not exceed 25% of the lot area, and the maximum unit size shall not exceed 40% of the lot area, or such lesser number, as determined by the planning board. The applicant had submitted documentation substantiating the very poor structure conditions of the current home. These reduced allowances will help mitigate adverse impacts of what could otherwise be a large home on the current site with a unit size up to 50%.

While the “notches” do provide some relief to adjacent neighbors from the building’s massing, the quantity, size, and elevation height and quality of the open space provided is deficient. Staff notes that the architect has designed the north side and broken up the massing to comply with the requirement that abuts the companion application, but does not apply the same sensitivity to the south abutting neighbor. The floor plan can be flipped to balance the two open space waiver requests found within this application and the request found within the companion application DRB18-0318 to mirror one another and impact no older homes. Staff recommends that the architect redesign the south side open spaces to adhere more to the ordinance as it impacts an existing architecturally-significant pre-1942 two-story residence. As such, staff does support requested open space waiver along north side and does not support the request along the south side.

Staff recommends that the design of the replacement home be approved without the waiver.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the foregoing analysis, staff recommends the application be **approved**, subject to the conditions enumerated in the attached Draft Order, which address the inconsistencies with the aforementioned Design Review and Sea Level Rise criteria.

TRM/JGM/FSC

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EXHIBIT 'A'

6431 Allison Road SOUTH

The South 75 feet of Lot 10, INDIAN CREEK SUBDIVISION, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 31, Page 75, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
City of Miami Beach, Florida

MEETING DATE: November 06, 2018

FILE NO: DRB18-0319

PROPERTY: **6431 Allison Road—SOUTH PARCEL**

APPLICANT: Clara Homes LLC

LEGAL: See attached "Exhibit A"

IN RE: The Application for Design Review Approval for the construction of a new two-story residence including one or more waivers, on the north side of a property containing an existing pre-1942 architecturally significant two-story residence.

ORDER

The City of Miami Beach Design Review Board 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 record for this matter:

I. Design Review

- A. The Board has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 118-252(a) of the Miami Beach Code. The property is not located within a designated local historic district and is not an individually designated historic site.
- B. Based on the plans and documents submitted with the application, testimony and information provided by the applicant, and the reasons set forth in the Planning Department Staff Report, the project as submitted is inconsistent with Design Review Criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, and 19 in Section 118-251 of the Miami Beach Code.
- C. Based on the plans and documents submitted with the application, testimony and information provided by the applicant, and the reasons set forth in the Planning Department Staff Report, the project as submitted is inconsistent with Sea Level Rise Criteria 1 and 10 in Section 133-50(a) of the Miami Beach Code.
- D. The project would be consistent with the criteria and requirements of Section 118-251 and/ or Section 133-50(a) if the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The property shall comply with all of the conditions of the lot split approval enumerated in the Final Order for PB18-0217 dated September 25, 2018 for the division of land application.
 - a. The building parcels created by this lot split shall be as depicted on the signed and sealed surveys by Blanco Surveyors Inc, dated 09-11-2019

2. Revised elevation, site plan, and floor plan drawings for the proposed new home at 6431 Allison Road_SOUTH shall be submitted, at a minimum, such drawings shall incorporate the following:
 - a. The north side open space requirement **shall** be waived as proposed. The proposed south side open space requirement **shall not** be permitted as proposed.
 - b. The final design and details including material sample and color and finish for the proposed standing seam metal roof shall be provided in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board
 - c. The final design details and color selection of the vertical “wood sliding” cladding proposed finish shall be submitted, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
 - d. The final design details of the exterior materials and finishes shall be submitted, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
 - e. A copy of all pages of the recorded Final Order shall be scanned into the plans submitted for building permit, and shall be located immediately after the front cover page of the permit plans.
 - f. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the project Architect shall verify, in writing, that the subject project has been constructed in accordance with the plans approved by the Planning Department for Building Permit.
3. A revised landscape plan, prepared by a Professional Landscape Architect, registered in the State of Florida, and corresponding plans shall be submitted to and approved by staff. The species, type, quantity, dimensions, spacing, location and overall height of all plant material shall be clearly delineated and subject to the review and approval of staff. At a minimum, such plans shall comply with Chapter 26-Landscape Requirements of the Miami Beach Code and shall incorporate the following:
 - a. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall submit a tree protection plan for all trees to be retained on site. Such plan shall be subject to the review and approval of staff, and shall include, but not be limited to a sturdy tree protection fence installed at the dripline of the trees prior to any construction.
 - b. In order to identify, protect and preserve mature trees on site, which are suitable for retention and relocation, a Tree Report prepared by a Certified Tree Arborist shall be submitted for the mature trees on site.

- c. Prior to any site demolition work, a tree protection fence following the City standard shall be installed for trees scheduled to remain subject to the review and approval of the City Urban Forester.
- d. Any necessary root and tree branch pruning with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 2" or greater shall be approved by the City Urban Forester prior to any tree work.
- e. Any tree identified to be in good overall condition shall be retained, and protected in their current location if they are not in conflict with the proposed home, or they shall be relocated on site, if determined feasible, subject to the review and approval of staff. A tree care and watering plan also prepared by a Certified Arborist shall be submitted prior to the issuance of a Building Permit or Tree Removal/Relocation Permit. Subsequent to any approved relocation, a monthly report prepared by a Certified Arborist shall be provided to staff describing the overall tree performance and adjustments to the maintenance plan in order to ensure survivability, such report shall continue for a period of 18 months unless determined otherwise by staff.
- f. Existing trees to be retained on site shall be protected from all types of construction disturbance. Root cutting, storage of soil or construction materials, movement of heavy vehicles, change in drainage patterns, and wash of concrete or other materials shall be prohibited.
- g. The proposed and existing trees located within the swale shall be subject to the review and approval of Green Space and CIP.
- h. Street trees shall be required within the swale at the front of the property if not in conflict with existing utilities, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by the Public Works Department.
- i. Any existing plant material within the public right-of-way may be required to be removed, as the discretion of the Public Works Department.
- j. A fully automatic irrigation system with 100% coverage and an automatic rain sensor in order to render the system inoperative in the event of rain. Right-of-way areas shall also be incorporated as part of the irrigation system.
- k. The utilization of root barriers and Silva Cells, as applicable, shall be clearly delineated on the revised landscape plan.
- l. The applicant shall verify, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit, the exact location of all backflow preventors and all other related devices and fixtures. The location of backflow preventors, Siamese pipes or other related devices and fixtures, if any, and how they are screened with landscape material from the right-of-way, shall be clearly indicated on the

site and landscape plans, and shall be subject to the review and approval of staff.

- m. The applicant shall verify, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit, the exact location of all applicable FPL transformers or vault rooms. The location of any exterior transformers and how they are screened with landscape material from the right-of-way shall be clearly indicated on the site and landscape plans and shall be subject to the review and approval of staff.
- n. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the Landscape Architect or the project architect shall verify, in writing, that the project is consistent with the site and landscape plans approved by the Planning Department for Building Permit.

In accordance with Section 118-262, the applicant, or the city manager on behalf of the City Administration, or an affected person, Miami Design Preservation League or Dade Heritage Trust may seek review of any order of the Design Review Board by the City Commission, except that orders granting or denying a request for rehearing shall not be reviewed by the Commission.

II. Variance(s)

- A. No variance(s) were filed as part of this application.

The decision of the Board regarding variances shall be final and there shall be no further review thereof except by resort to a court of competent jurisdiction by petition for writ of certiorari.

III. General Terms and Conditions applying to both 'I. Design Review Approval and 'II. Variances' noted above.

- A. Upon the issuance of a final Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion, as applicable, the project approved herein shall be maintained in accordance with the plans approved by the board, and shall be subject to all conditions of approval herein, unless otherwise modified by the Board. Failure to maintain shall result in the issuance of a Code Compliance citation, and continued failure to comply may result in revocation of the Certificate of Occupancy, Completion and Business Tax Receipt.
- B. During construction work, the applicant will maintain gravel at the front of the construction site within the first 15'-0" of the required front yard and 10'-0" of the required street yard to mitigate disturbance of soil and mud by related personal vehicles exiting and entering the site, and with an 8'-0" high fence with a wind resistant green mesh material along the front property line. All construction materials, including dumpsters and portable toilets, shall be located behind the construction fence and not visible from the right-of-way. All construction vehicles shall either park on the private property or at alternate overflow parking sites with a shuttle service to and from the property. The applicant shall ensure that the contractor(s) observe good

construction practices and prevent construction materials and debris from impacting the right-of-way.

- C. If applicable, a Construction Parking and Traffic Management Plan (CPTMP) shall be approved by the Parking Director pursuant to Chapter 106, Article II, Division 3 of the City Code, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
- D. A recycling/salvage plan shall be provided as part of the submittal for a demolition/building permit, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff.
- E. All applicable FPL transformers or vault rooms and backflow prevention devices shall be located within the building envelope with the exception of the valve (PIV) which may be visible and accessible from the street.
- F. A copy of all pages of the recorded Final Order shall be scanned into the plans submitted for building permit, and shall be located immediately after the front cover page of the permit plans.
- G. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
- H. Satisfaction of all conditions is required for the Planning Department to give its approval on a Certificate of Occupancy; a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy or Partial Certificate of Occupancy may also be conditionally granted Planning Departmental approval.
- I. The Final 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.
- J. The conditions of approval herein are binding on the applicant, the property's owners, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns.
- K. 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.

IT IS HEREBY 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 are adopted herein, including the staff recommendations, which were amended and adopted by the Board, that the **application** is GRANTED for the above-referenced project subject to those certain conditions specified in Paragraph I, II, III of the Finding of Fact, to which the applicant has agreed.

PROVIDED, the applicant shall build substantially in accordance with the plans, entitled "Allison Island South Residence", as prepared by [STRANG] Architecture signed, sealed and dated September 07, 2018, and as approved by the Design Review Board, as determined by staff.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____ 20__ by James G. Murphy, Chief of Urban Design, Planning Department, City of Miami Beach, Florida, a Florida Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the Corporation. He is personally known to me.

NOTARY PUBLIC
Miami-Dade County, Florida
My commission expires: _____

Approved As To Form:
City Attorney's Office: _____ ()

Filed with the Clerk of the Design Review Board on _____ ()