

MIAMI BEACH

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Staff Report & Recommendation

Design Review Board

TO: DRB Chairperson and Members

DATE: January 3, 2017

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP
Planning Director

SUBJECT: DRB16-0083
1717 North View Drive – Single Family Home

The applicant, Misha Ezratti, is requesting Design Review Approval for the construction of a new two-story single family home to replace an existing two-story home.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval with conditions

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Lot 10 of Block 1 H of 3rd revised Plat of Sunset Islands—Island No. 1 according to Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 40, Page 8 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

SITE DATA:

Zoning: RS-2
Future Land Use: RS
Lot Size: 26,978 SF
Lot Coverage:
Existing: ±4,423 SF / 16.3%
Proposed: 7,095 SF / 26.3%
Maximum: 8,093 SF / 30%

Unit size:

Existing: ± 5,828 SF / 22%
Proposed: 13,183 SF / 48.8%
Maximum: 13,489 SF / 50%

2nd Floor Volume to 1st: **97%***

***DRB WAIVER**

Height:

Proposed: **28'-0" flat / from BFE+1'**
Maximum: 28'-0" flat roof

Grade: +4.24' NGVD

Flood: +8.00' NGVD

Difference: 3.76'

Adjusted Grade: +6.12' NGVD

30" (+2.5') Above Grade: +8.62' NGVD

First Floor Elevation: +9.00' NGVD

EXISTING STRUCTURE:

Year Constructed: 1955

Architect: S.H. Zacker

Vacant: No

Demolition Proposed: Total

Surrounding Properties:

East: Two-story 1952 residence

North: Biscayne Bay

South: Two-story 1936 residence

West: Two-story 1938 residence

THE PROJECT:

The applicant has submitted plans entitled "Sunset Island Residence", as prepared by **Choeff Levy Fischman P.A.** dated 10/28/2016.

The applicant is proposing to construct a new two-story residence on a waterfront parcel on the western side of Sunset Island No. 1.

The applicant is requesting the following two design waiver(s):

1. The height of the proposed structure is **27'-0"** in accordance with Section 142-105(b).
2. The second floor's physical volume exceeds 70% of the first floor in accordance with Section 142-105(b)(4)(c).

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. For two story homes with an overall lot coverage of 25% or greater, the physical volume of the second floor shall not exceed 70% of the first floor of the main home, exclusive of any enclosed required parking area and exception from this provision may be granted **through DRB approval** in accordance with the applicable design review criteria. **The applicant is requesting a 2nd Floor Volume to 1st of 97% with a 26% lot coverage which will require a waiver from the DRB.**
2. 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 this provision may be granted **through DRB approval** in accordance with the applicable design review criteria. **The applicant is requesting the open space elevation at Base Flood Elevation plus 1'-0".**

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.
Satisfied
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 proposed design requires two design waivers to be granted by 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 proposed design requires two design waivers to be granted by 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 proposed design requires two design waivers to be granted by 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; the proposed design requires two design waivers to be granted by the Board.
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.
Not Satisfied; the proposed design requires two design waivers to be granted by the Board.
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

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).

Not Satisfied; the proposed design requires two design waivers to be granted by the Board.

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

STAFF ANALYSIS:
DESIGN REVIEW

The applicant is requesting Design Review Approval for the construction of a new two-story home on a waterfront parcel on one of the Sunset Islands. The opportunity to maximize the expansive northwesterly views of Biscayne Bay is a driving feature of the design. The home is within the maximum zoning thresholds for lot coverage and below the maximum unit size permitted; however, two design waivers are being requested from the Design Review Board, both of which is supported by staff.

The architect has designed a two-story home which consists of an I-shaped floorplan with two large expansive open space courtyards. The residence has been configured predominately towards the northwest portion of the site with a long front courtyard entrance. The home has been configured to maximize the views of Biscayne Bay with the common rooms oriented towards the water on the ground floor and the bedroom suites on the second floor. The architecture is defined by projecting balconies and terraces and contrasting materials that give the building's form much movement and greatly assists with breaking up the volume and mass.

The first design waiver requested by the applicant pertains to the second floor to first floor ratio. Since the proposed home has a lot coverage of slightly over 26%, a waiver is required by the Design Review Board. The home has a second floor to first floor ratio of 97% where the Code limits the ratio to 70%. When reviewing the second floor volume rule, staff believes that the greater 2nd to 1st floor ratio request is commensurate with the design that features 4% less lot coverage than what is permissible by Code and a "top-heavy" design that drives the concept. Additionally, the architect has respected the street scale through an increased setback of over 66'-0" for the exterior wall of the second floor, which greatly removes any negative impact on the street. Additionally, changes in plan along the side façades amplify the movement of the elevation and a large courtyard at the north façade create interesting architecture for the neighbors to the north and south. As such, staff is supportive of the requested waiver.

The applicant is also requesting a waiver of the open space requirement for elevation of the courtyard to exceed the maximum permitted elevation height of the required side yard in order to maintain a design that is more fluid and harmonious with the finished floor of the principal structure. The design features at least 75% of the open space to be landscaped. The intent of this regulation is to break up long expanses of uninterrupted two-story elevations at or near the required side yard setback lines in order to prevent the "blank wall syndrome" that may negatively affect a neighboring property by diminishing the light and air offered to their site. Staff believes that this does not pertain to the proposed design. As such, staff supports the waiver.

In summary, staff must commend the applicant on a design executed with simplicity, elegance, discipline and refined proportions. Staff recommends that the design of the replacement home be approved including the requested waivers.

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 criteria.

TRM/JGM

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DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
City of Miami Beach, Florida

MEETING DATE: January 3, 2017

FILE NO: DRB16-0083

PROPERTY: **1717 North View Drive**

APPLICANT: Misha Ezratti

LEGAL: Lot 10 of Block 1 H of 3rd revised Plat of Sunset Islands—Island No. 1 according to Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 40, Page 8 of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

IN RE: The Application for Design Review Approval for the construction of a new two-story single family home to replace an existing two-story home.

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 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 12 in Section 118-251 of the Miami Beach Code.
- C. The project would remain consistent with the criteria and requirements of Section 118-251 if the following conditions are met:
 1. Revised elevation, site plan, and floor plan drawings for the proposed new home at 1717 North View Drive shall be submitted, at a minimum, such drawings shall incorporate the following:
 - a. The 70% limitation for the second floor volume shall be waived as proposed.
 - b. The side open space elevation requirement shall be waived as proposed.

- c. All roof-top fixtures, air-conditioning units and mechanical devices shall be clearly noted on a revised roof plan. All mechanical fixtures shall be located as close to the center of the roof as possible and screened on all sides from view, in a manner to be approved by staff.
 - d. The final Design details and color selection of the Ipe wood 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.
 - e. The stone cladding proposed along the façades of the residence shall consist of a natural keystone or other natural stone, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
 - f. 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.
 - g. 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.
 - h. 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.
2. A revised landscape plan, and corresponding site plan, 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 plan 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. 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.

- d. 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.
- e. The architect shall substantially increase the amount of native canopy shade trees within the site, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
- f. The proposed and existing trees located within the swale shall be subject to the review and approval of Green Space and CIP.
- g. 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.
- h. Any existing plant material within the public right-of-way may be required to be removed, as the discretion of the Public Works Department.
- i. 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.
- j. The utilization of root barriers and/or Silva Cells, as applicable, shall be clearly delineated on the revised landscape plan.
- k. If technically feasible, all overhead utility lines adjacent to the subject property shall be placed underground.
- l. The applicant shall verify, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit, the exact location of all backflow preventers and all other related devices and fixtures. The location of backflow preventers, 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.

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

- A. During Construction of the new home, the Applicant will maintain gravel at the front of the construction site within the first 15'-0" of the required front yard to mitigate disturbance of soil and mud by related personal vehicles existing and entering the site and with an eight foot (8'-0") high fence with a wind resistant green mesh material along the front of the 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.
- B. 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.
- C. The final building plans shall meet all other requirements of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code.
- D. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.

- E. 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.
- F. 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.
- G. The conditions of approval herein are binding on the applicant, the property's owners, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns.
- H. Nothing in this order authorizes a violation of 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 "Sunset Island Residence", as prepared by **Choeff Levy Fischman P.A.** dated 10/28/2016, and as approved by the Design Review Board, as determined by staff.

When requesting a building permit, the plans submitted to the Building Department for permit shall be consistent with the plans approved by the Board, modified in accordance with the conditions of approval that must be satisfied prior to permit issuance, as set forth in this Order, have been met.

The issuance of the approval does not relieve the applicant from obtaining all other required Municipal, County and/or State reviews and permits, including final zoning approval. If adequate handicapped access is not provided on the Board approved plans, this approval does not mean that such handicapped access is not required. When requesting Building permit, the plans submitted to the Building Department for permit shall be consistent with the plans approved by the Board, modified in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Order.

If the Full Building Permit for the project is not issued within eighteen (18) months of the meeting date at which the original approval was granted, the application will expire and become null and void, unless the applicant makes an application to the Board for an extension of time, in accordance with the requirements and procedures of Chapter 118 of the City Code, the granting of any such extension of time shall be at the discretion of the Board. If the Full Building Permit for the project shall expire for any reason (including but not limited to construction not

