Department of Community Affairs
FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100
NOTICE TO WAIVER APPLICANTS

Please make certain you comply with the following:

• The person submitting the waiver request application as the Applicant MUST sign the application. Should you fail to do so, your application will be returned.

• If a licensed design professional (architect or engineer) has designed the project, his or her comments MUST be included as a part of this application.

• Be as explicit as possible. The more information provided to the Florida Building Commission, the more informed its decisions can be. If you are claiming financial hardship, please specify why and to what degree.

• If at all possible, PLAN TO ATTEND the Accessibility Advisory Council and the Florida Building Commission meetings. Sometimes pertinent facts are inadvertently omitted, or information provided/presented in the Request for Waiver application is not clear. Your attendance at the meetings to answer questions will enhance the possibility of the waiver being approved, since the Council and the Commission will receive the most complete information — from you. When we receive the completed application, we will send you a notice of the time, date, and place for both the Council and the Commission meetings.

Enclosed is a List of Required Information and the Request for Waiver application.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call the Codes and Standards Section at (850) 487-1824.

Please mail this application to the Department of Community Affairs at the address above. As well as a hard copy, please include a copy of the application and drawings or plans on a CD in PDF format. NOTE: Please do not send CAD files, but rather scan the CAD files and save as a pdf. Must be in Microsoft Compatible format.

NOTE: Failure to submit electronically will not have any bearing on whether your petition is heard by the Commission, however, electronic filing will facilitate the Commission's movement toward utilizing CD technology to display the waiver application and attached floor plans to the Counsel and Commission.
This application is available in alternate formats upon request.

LIST OF REQUIRED INFORMATION:

1. ✓ Drawings that will clearly present your project and that identify the issue(s) that relate to the waiver you are requesting. As a minimum, the following drawings must be submitted:
   a. Project site plan
   b. 24" x 36" minimum size drawings
   c. Building/project sections (if necessary to assist in understanding the waiver request)
   d. Enlarged floor plan(s) of the area in question

2. ✓ One set of reduced scale (11" x 17") versions of the drawings submitted in item one above.

3. _____ One set of overhead transparencies (8 1/2" x 11") of the drawings submitted in item one above. When numerous features are shown on the drawings, please designate the location of the waiver items by highlighting or outlining in color the affected areas.

4. _____ When substantial financial cost of compliance is alleged, supporting cost estimates with quotes from at least two vendors or contractors and catalog information.

5. _____ If you feel photographs and/or renderings are necessary for your presentation, provide 40 legible color photocopies of the photographs and/or renderings. If color photocopies of photographs are provided, use a minimum size of 4" x 6" photographs with a maximum of two photographs per photocopied page.

6. _____ Please submit a hard copy of this application to the Department of Community Affairs. PLEASE NOTE: Although not required by Rule 9B-7, F.A.C., in addition to the hard copy please include a copy of the application and drawings or plans on a CD in PDF format.

General Information:

a. Equipment: A CD projector is provided at the Accessibility Advisory Council and Florida Building Commission meetings. Any other equipment necessary for your presentation, such as an overhead projector, TV/VCR, slide or LCD projectors, etc., is the responsibility of the applicant.

b. Verbal Descriptions: Presentations may be to sight or hearing impaired persons; visual presentations should consider adequate verbal and text descriptions of charts and pictures.

Your application will be reviewed by the Accessibility Advisory Council. You will have the opportunity to answer questions and/or make a short presentation not to exceed 15 minutes. The Council will provide recommendations to the Florida Building Commission. The Commission will review the application. You will have another opportunity to answer questions and /or give a short presentation not to exceed 15 minutes. The Commission will consider all information and the Council's recommendation before voting on the waiver.
REQUEST FOR WAIVER FROM ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
OF CHAPTER 553, PART V, FLORIDA STATUTES

Your application will be reviewed by the Accessibility Advisory Council and its recommendations will be presented to the Florida Building Commission. You will have the opportunity to answer questions and/or make a short presentation, not to exceed 15 minutes, at each meeting. The Commission will consider all information presented and the Council's recommendation before voting on the waiver request.

1. Name and address of project for which the waiver is requested.

Name: GIBSON PARK NEW CONSTRUCTION
Address: 350 NW 13TH STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136

2. Name of Applicant. If other than the owner, please indicate relationship of applicant to owner and written authorization by owner in space provided:

Applicant's Name: Javier F. Salman, AIA / C3TS Architects Engineers
Applicant's Address: 901 Ponce del Leon Blvd, Ste 900 Coral Gables, Fl 3314
Applicant's Telephone: (305) 445-2900  FAX: (305) 774-6277
Applicant's E-mail Address: efreire@c3ts.com
Relationship to Owner: Architect

Owner's Name: CITY OF MIAMI-DEPARTMENT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
Owner's Address: 444 SW 2ND AVENUE, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33130
Owner's Telephone: (305) 416-1206  FAX: (305) 416-2153
Owner's E-mail Address: cavasquez@miamigov.com
Signature of Owner: 

Contact Person: Carlos Vasquez
Contact Person's Telephone: (305) 416-1206  E-mail Address: cavasquez@miamigov.com
This application is available in alternate formats upon request.
Form No. 2001-01

3. Please check one of the following:

[X] New construction.

[ ] Addition to a building or facility.

[ ] Alteration to an existing building or facility.

[ ] Historical preservation (addition).

[ ] Historical preservation (alteration).

4. Type of facility. Please describe the building (square footage, number of floors). Define the use of the building (i.e., restaurant, office, retail, recreation, hotel/motel, etc.)

6,957 S.F. single story Community Center & Aquatic Facility at Gibson Park.

Gibson Park contains football/baseball fields, playground, pavilions, tot pool, competition pool, vita course, walkways, existing bleachers accessible at 1st level with ADA accessible and companion seating, new bleacher structure for 993 seats with handicap accessibility at 1st and top levels including ADA accessible and companion seating at both levels. Top level also contains press box and is accessible by LULA elevator.

5. Project Construction Cost (Provide cost for new construction, the addition or the alteration): $9,645,278

6. Project Status: Please check the phase of construction that best describes your project at the time of this application. Describe status.

[ ] Under Design [ ] Under Construction*

[ ] In Plan Review [X] Completed*

* Briefly explain why the request has now been referred to the Commission.

City of Miami Building Department Inspector commented that a “State Waiver” is required to provide vertical accessibility to all levels.
7. **Requirements requested to be waived.** Please reference the applicable section of Florida law. Only Florida-specific accessibility requirements may be waived.

**Issue 1:**

Per Part II, Subsection 553.509 Vertical Accessibility of the Florida Statutes states that “nothing in sections 553.501-553.513 of the guidelines shall be constructed to relieve the owner... from the duty to provide vertical accessibility to all levels above and below the occupiable grade level...” and Florida Building Code (FBC) Chapter 11/Section 11-4.1.3 Accessible Buildings states that “vertical accessibility shall be provided to all levels above and below the occupiable grade level...”

8. **Reason(s) for Waiver Request:** The Florida Building Commission may grant waivers of Florida-specific accessibility requirements upon a determination of unnecessary, unreasonable or extreme hardship. Please describe how this project meets the following hardship criteria. Explain all that would apply for consideration of granting the waiver.

[X ] The hardship is caused by a condition or set of conditions affecting the owner which does not affect owners in general.

Section 553.509 refers to “… all levels above and below the occupiable grade level...” in a building. For most owners, this statement applies to each floor level of a building; however, in this case, because the building is a fixed bleacher with 17 rows of fixed stadium-type seats, this statement could be interpreted to mean what all 17 “levels” of the building may be required to have vertical accessibility. As shown the attached drawings, this building is a two story building with a “second floor” Press Box of 192 SF; it is not a 15 story building. The owner of this 2-story building with a top-level press box would suffer a hardship if he/she were required to comply with the requirements of this code when the levels of seating are interpreted as 17 levels requiring accessibility. Additionally, this owner has met the exception of section 11-4.33.3 of the 2007 Florida Building Code which states that “accessible viewing positions may be clustered for areas having sight lines that require slopes of greater than 5% and “equivalent accessible viewing positions may be located on levels having accessible egress”.

If a ramp were used to accommodate every level of seating, additional area would need to be provided for clearance and turning radii at each level of seating. Furthermore, providing accessibility to all levels of the bleachers would generate a cost increase to the owner and would put the project over the fixed budget price.
9. Provide documented cost estimates for each portion of the waiver request and identify any additional supporting data which may affect the cost estimates. For example, for vertical accessibility, the lowest documented cost of an elevator, ramp, lift or other method of providing vertical accessibility should be provided, documented by quotations or bids from at least two vendors or contractors.

a. The cost per SF of additional building area required to accommodate the same number of seats with ramps and landings at every level is $300.00 for a total additional cost of $1,879,200 (17 rows of seating requiring an additional 41” each in depth = 58’ of new depth: 58’ x 108’ of existing building width = 6,264 SF of additional space: 6,264 SF x $300.00 per SF = $1,879,200)

10. Licensed Design Professional: Where a licensed design professional has designed the project, his or her comments MUST be included and certified by signature and affixing of his or her professional seal. The comments must include the reason(s) why the waiver is necessary.

This waiver is necessary due primarily to the fact that the seating area in the bleachers would need to be almost doubled to require necessary ramps and adequate landing dimensions and turning radii at every level of seating, and such area would present an economical hardship and cause the project to go over budget. In addition, the sight lines for the bleachers would be drastically diminished either if the rows of seats were to be deepened to accommodate such dimension. Furthermore, the constructed bleachers provides several clusters of accessible viewing positions at the 1st level and at the top level and we feel it does comply with the code exemption listed in FBC Section 11-4.33.3 Placement of Wheelchair Locations.

In addition, these drawings were permitted in March 2012 under FBC 2007 edition. However, the FBC and Federal Standards 2010 editions were to take effect in October and may have been used in March when the project was permitted. The Federal Standard 2010 Section 221 further clarifies the accessible seating locations at bleachers and the constructed bleachers comply with this code, as well as the Section 35.151(g)(i). We hope you find our recommendations acceptable.

Signature

Printed Name

(STATE OF FLORIDA)

Phone number: 500-2900

(REGISTERED ARCHITECT)
CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANT:

I hereby swear or affirm that the applicable documents in support of this Request for Waiver are attached for review by the Florida Building Commission and that all statements made in this application are to the best of my knowledge true and correct.

Dated this [Signature] day of [October], 2012

[Signature]

Printed Name

By signing this application, the applicant represents that the information in it is true, accurate and complete. If the applicant misrepresents or omits any material information, the Commission may revoke any order and will notify the building official of the permitting jurisdiction. Providing false information to the Commission is punishable as a misdemeanor under Section 775.083, Florida Statutes.
REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION BY LOCAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

Please state why the issue is being referred to the Florida Building Commission as well as a recommendation for disposition. The Building Official or his or her designee should review the application and indicate that to the best of his or her knowledge, all information stipulated herein is true and accurate. Further, if this project is complete, explain why it is being referred to the Commission. The Building Official or his or her designee should sign a copy of the plans accompanying this application as certification that such plans are the same as those submitted for building department review. Please reference the applicable section of the Accessibility Code.

a. 

b. 

c. 

Has there been any permitted construction activity on this building during the past three years? If so, what was the cost of construction?

[X] Yes [ ] No Cost of Construction

Comments/Recommendation: Approval as Requested

Jurisdiction

Building Official or Designee

Signature

MARIANO V. FORNNAN

Printed Name

Certification Number

Telephone/FAX

Address: 444 SW 2 AVE

MIAMI, FL 33130
**LIFE SAFETY NOTES**

1. Contractor shall provide capacity 150% of bleachers to each event to prevent total seating capacity of bleachers shall be 75% of the 75% of the fire capacity.

**Bleacher Exit**

Number of exits required = 2
Number of accessible exits = 2

**Bleacher Capacity**

Regular Seats (12") = 48 Seats
Handicap Seats (6") = 12 Seats
Total Capacity = 60 Seats

**Nota:** Contractors to provide separate first aid that is accessible to the building department.

**Architect's Note:** The City of Miami requires the final plans to be reviewed by the fire marshal for the building department.
**BLEACHER EGRESS CALCULATIONS**

P.B.C. CODE SECTION 609.1.3:

- Safety + 1/2 for persons / 4 ft. / 60.4 seats per person
- Number of exit doors: 2
- Number of accessible exits: 2

**LIFE SAFETY NOTES**

1. Contractor shall provide capacity view at bleachers to exceed 90% of seating capacity at bleachers shall be no people.
2. Change to be as required by code section 4.6.4.1 for YYYY.

**BLEACHER CAPACITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Seating</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular seats (R/S)</td>
<td>90 seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair seats (W/S)</td>
<td>9 seats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL CAPACITY** = 99 seats

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**SITE Plan**

- **NOTE:** Contractors to provide separate plan depicting requirements for building department.
- Architect to review plan for compliance with building department.

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**LIFE SAFETY PLAN**

Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"