

**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE MEETING FROM TALLAHASSEE**
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**JUNE 8, 2023
2:00 P.M.**

Minutes

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Joe Del Vecchio, Chairman
Stan De Aranzeta
Allison Klien

Beth Meyer
Sila Miller
Paul Edward Viksne

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL NOT PRESENT:

Lois Darlene Laibl-Crowe

STAFF PRESENT:

Thomas Campbell
Sabrina Evans
Jim Hammers
Robert Benbow

Mo Madani
Chip Sellers
Justin Vogel

Welcome:

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Sellers welcomed everyone to the teleconference meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Council.

Roll Call

Mr. Sellers performed roll call for the Council. A quorum was determined with 5 members present at roll call.

Ms. Beth Myers entered the meeting, making the quorum 6 members present.

Agenda Approval:

Ms. Myers entered a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting as posted. Mr. Del Vecchio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

Approval of the minutes from April 8, 2023:

Mr. Viksne entered a motion to approve the minutes from April 8, 2023 as posted. Mr. Del Vecchio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

Commission's Action on April 2023 Waiver Applications:

Mr. Madani informed the committee that the Committee actions were consistent with the Council's recommendations.

Application for waiver from Accessibility Requirements:

- 1) **Alami New Generation 2 LLC – Waiver 609-** 24 S Orange Ave, Orlando 32801- **Issue:** Vertical Accessibility to the second floor.

Mr. Sellers presented the waiver request with staff analysis and staff recommendation.

Analysis:

The applicant is requesting a waiver from providing vertical accessibility to the second floor of a historic office building built in 1888 with 924 square feet. The project consists of changing the use of the existing law office into a retail "smoke shop." The smoke shop will be located on the second floor and the only access to it is via a set of stairs. According to the applicant, no work is being performed on the building and this waiver was requested because of the change of use. The applicant has provided documentation confirming the historic significance of the property.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends granting the request for waiver for vertical accessibility to the second floor to the extent that it has been made necessary.

Discussion:

Ms. Klein provided a question.

Mr. Sellers provided an answer to Ms. Klein's question.

Motion:

Ms. Miller entered a motion to grant the waiver for vertical accessibility to the second floor on the grounds of historical nature of the property. Mr. Del Vecchio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

2) Arena Properties LLC – Waiver 605 – 532 N Miami Ave, Miami 33136 – Issue:
Vertical Accessibility to the second floor.

Mr. Sellers presented the waiver request with staff analysis and staff recommendation.

Analysis:

The applicant is requesting a waiver from providing vertical accessibility to the second floor of a two-story building with 7,977 square feet. The existing building is a hotel which is being converted to a retail store. The proposed alteration will consist of replacing the existing storefront, partition wall, exterior door and plumbing fixtures with new products and materials at a cost of \$119,600. The building was built in the 1920's with concrete perimeter walls and interior wood frame construction. The design professional for the project stated that it would not be feasible to install an elevator or lift in the building due to limited size of the lot and the fact that erecting an elevator pier would be impossible without compromising the structural integrity of the structure of the second-floor joists and restricting necessary egress paths. The applicant alleges that the hardship is caused by a condition or set of conditions affecting the owner which does not affect owners in general.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends granting the request for waiver for vertical accessibility on the grounds of technical infeasibility.

Motion:

Mr. Viksne entered a motion to grant the waiver for vertical accessibility on the grounds technical infeasibility. Ms. Klein seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

- 3) **Americano Studio – Waiver 592** – 2920 NW 7 ST, Miami 33125 – **Issue:** Vertical Accessibility to the second floor.

Mr. Sellers presented the waiver request with staff analysis and staff recommendation.

Analysis:

The applicant is requesting a waiver from providing vertical accessibility to the second floor of a television and radio studio with 5,050 square feet. At this time, the applicant is proposing to only renovate the first floor of the building. According to the design professional for the project, the second floor will not be occupied and access to it will be prohibited using deadbolts to be installed at the existing doors to the available stairs. Furthermore, signage will be placed on the doors which will clarify access. The project cost is \$41,750 for the alteration. The proposed alteration will consist of interior framing, exterior remodeling, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, new finishes and fixtures. The applicant has submitted two cost estimates of \$32,900 and \$45,890 for a lift. The applicant alleges substantial financial costs will be incurred by the owner if the waiver is denied.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends granting the request for waiver for vertical accessibility on the grounds of economic hardship.

Motion:

Ms. Miller entered a motion to grant the waiver for vertical accessibility on the grounds economic hardship. Mr. Viksne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6 to 0.

Other Council Business:

None

Public Comment:

None

Member and Staff Comment:

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Mr. Vogel provided a comment.

Adjourn:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Sellers adjourned the meeting at 2:13 p.m.