

MIAMI BEACH

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Staff Report & Recommendation

Historic Preservation Board

DATE: September 16, 2025

TO: Chairperson and Members
Historic Preservation Board

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP
Planning Director



SUBJECT: HPB25-0657, **809 2nd Street.**

An application has been filed requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a new single-family home, including variances from the minimum lot width and lot area.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness with conditions.
Approval of the variances with conditions.

EXISTING SITE

Local Historic District: Ocean Beach

ZONING / SITE DATA

Folio: 02-4203-009-5372
Legal Description: The west 47.44 feet of the east 92.09 feet of Lot 8 and the west 47.44 feet of the east 92.09 feet of Lot 7, Block 77 of the Ocean Beach Addition No. 3, According to the Plat Thereof, as Recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 81, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Zoning: R-PS2, Residential performance standard, medium low intensity
Future Land Use Designation: R-PS2, Residential performance standard, medium low intensity

Lot Size: 2,656.65 sq. ft. (1.5 maximum FAR – 3,984.97 sq. ft.)
Proposed FAR: 3,938 sq. ft. / 1.48 FAR
Proposed Height: 39'-6" as measured from B.F.E. +1'-0" freeboard (9.00' NGVD)

Existing Use: Vacant lot
Proposed Use: Single-family home

THE PROJECT

The applicant has submitted plans entitled “New Family Residence Construction”, as prepared by Fausto Guerrero P.E., dated July 13, 2025.

COMPLIANCE WITH ZONING CODE

A preliminary review of the project indicates that the application appears to be inconsistent with the following sections of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code:

1. **Section 7.5.3.2:** Balconies may project a maximum of 25% of the required setback.
2. **Section 7.5.3.2:** Planters may not project into a required yard with the exception of planters at ground level.

This 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.

CONSISTENCY WITH 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

A preliminary review of the project indicates that the single-family residential use is **consistent** with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan.

COMPLIANCE WITH SEA LEVEL RISE AND RESILIENCY REVIEW CRITERIA

Section 7.1.2.4(a)(i) of the Land Development Regulations 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 Applicable
2. Windows that are proposed to be replaced shall be hurricane proof impact windows.
Not Applicable
3. Where feasible and appropriate, passive cooling systems, such as operable windows, shall be provided.
Satisfied
4. Resilient landscaping (salt tolerant, highly water-absorbent, native or Florida friendly plants) shall be provided, in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Land Development Regulations.
Satisfied
5. The project applicant shall consider the 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. The applicant shall also specifically study the land elevation of the subject property and the elevation of surrounding properties.
Satisfied

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 and shall provide sufficient height and space to ensure that the entry ways and exits can be modified to accommodate a higher street height of up to three (3) additional feet in height.
Satisfied
7. In all new projects, all critical mechanical and electrical systems shall be located above base flood elevation. Due to flooding concerns, all redevelopment projects shall, whenever practicable, and economically reasonable, move all critical mechanical and electrical systems to a location above base flood elevation.
Satisfied
8. Existing buildings shall be, where reasonably feasible and economically appropriate, elevated up to base flood elevation, plus City of Miami Beach Freeboard.
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 in General Ordinances.
Not Applicable
10. In all new projects, water retention systems shall be provided.
Satisfied
11. Cool pavement materials or porous pavement materials shall be utilized.
Satisfied
12. The project design shall minimize the potential for a project causing a heat island effect on site.
Satisfied

COMPLIANCE WITH CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS CRITERIA

A decision on an application for a certificate of appropriateness shall be based upon the following:

1. Evaluation of the compatibility of the physical alteration or improvement with surrounding properties and where applicable, compliance with the following criteria pursuant to section 2.13.7(d)(ii)(1) of the Land Development Regulations (it is recommended that the listed criteria be found Satisfied, Not Satisfied or Not Applicable, as so noted):
 - a. The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings may be amended from time to time.
Not Applicable
 - b. The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Reconstruction as may be amended from time to time.
Not Applicable
 - c. Other guidelines/policies/plans adopted or approved by resolution or ordinance by the city commission.

Satisfied

2. The examination of architectural drawings for consistency with the criteria pursuant to section 2.13.7(d)(ii)(2) of the Land Development Regulations and stated below, with regard to the aesthetics, appearances, compatibility, safety, and function of any new or existing structure, public interior space and physical attributes of the project in relation to the site, adjacent structures and properties, and surrounding community. The criteria referenced above are as follows (it is recommended that the listed criteria be found Satisfied, Not Satisfied or Not Applicable, as so noted):
 - a. 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.
Satisfied
 - b. 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
See compliance with the Zoning Code section of this report.
 - c. The color, design, surface finishes and selection of landscape materials and architectural elements of the exterior of all buildings and structures and primary public interior areas for developments requiring a building permit.
Satisfied
 - d. The proposed structure, or additions to an existing structure are appropriate to and compatible with the environment and adjacent structures, and enhance the appearance of the surrounding properties, or the purposes for which the district was created.
Satisfied
 - e. The design and layout of the proposed site plan, as well as all new and existing buildings and public interior spaces 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 preserving historic character of the neighborhood and district, contiguous and adjacent buildings and lands, pedestrian sight lines and view corridors.
Satisfied
 - f. 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 any driveways and parking spaces are usable, safely and conveniently arranged and have a minimal impact on pedestrian circulation throughout the site. Access to the site from adjacent roads shall be designed so as to interfere as little as possible with vehicular traffic flow on these

roads and pedestrian movement onto and within the site, as well as permit both pedestrians and vehicles a safe ingress and egress to the site.

Satisfied

- g. 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 and consistent with a city master plan, where applicable.

Satisfied

- h. Landscape and paving materials shall be reviewed to ensure an adequate relationship with and enhancement of the overall site plan design.

Satisfied

- i. 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

- j. Any proposed new structure shall have 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

- k. All buildings shall have, to the greatest extent possible, space in that part of the ground floor fronting a sidewalk, 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 sidewalk street, or streets shall have residential or commercial spaces, or shall have the appearance of being a residential or commercial space or shall have an architectural treatment which shall buffer the appearance of a parking structure from the surrounding area and is integrated with the overall appearance of the project.

Satisfied

- l. All buildings shall have an appropriate and fully integrated rooftop architectural treatment which substantially screens all mechanical equipment, stairs and elevator towers.

Satisfied

- m. All portions of a project fronting a street or sidewalk shall incorporate an amount of transparency at the first level necessary to achieve pedestrian compatibility.

Satisfied

- n. 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.

Satisfied

STAFF ANALYSIS

The applicant is proposing to construct a new single-family residential structure on the vacant site. Staff is highly supportive of the massing and contemporary design language of the new home, which incorporates variations in surface finishes and changes in plane along the primary elevation. Further, the height, scale and mass of the proposed building is consistent with the existing single-family home located at 819 2nd Street and the recently approved single-family home located at 803 2nd Street, as well as the larger surrounding context of the Ocean Beach Local Historic District.

Staff's only concern is relative to the design of the proposed balcony railings and screening. As currently depicted, the railings have been designed in a manner that will likely require an exposed bolt attachment to the face of the slab which will be visible from the street. Consequently, staff recommends that the railings be designed in a manner that will not require exposed metal plates and bolts.

VARIANCE ANALYSIS

The applicant is requesting the following variances:

1. A variance to reduce by 3,093.35 square feet the minimum required lot area of 5,750 square feet within the R-PS2 zoning district in order to construct a single-family residential building on a property with a lot area of 2,656.65 square feet. Variance requested from:

Section 7.2.15.2(f) Residential Performance Standard Area Requirements (R-PS)

*The development standards for residential performance standard districts are as follows:
Lot Occupation*

R-PS2, Minimum Lot Area: 5,750 square feet

2. A variance to reduce by 2.56' the minimum required lot width of 50.0' within the R-PS2 zoning district in order to construct a single-family residential building on a property with a lot width of 47.44'. Variance requested from:

Section 7.2.15.2(f) Residential Performance Standard Area Requirements (R-PS)

*The development standards for residential performance standard districts are as follows:
Lot Occupation*

R-PS2, Minimum lot width: 50 feet

The subject property was originally platted with the sites adjacent to either side, as part of Lot 8, Block 77 and later subdivided as three separate properties, including 6 feet of Lot 7 to the north. All three properties fronting 2nd Street are non-conforming with regard to lot area and lot width in their current configurations. The subject lots size is 2,656.65 square feet, where the minimum required is 5,750 square feet within the R-PS2 zoning district. The existing lot width of 47.44' is also non-conforming, as the minimum required lot width is 50.0'.

Without the granting of these variances, the construction of the proposed single-family home, or any new structure for that matter, would not be permitted. Staff finds that the existing size of the lot and existing lot width establish hardships that justifies the variances requested.

In summary, staff is supportive of the proposed application, which is the missing piece of this unique set of three urban single-family homes and recommends approval as noted below.

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the foregoing analysis, staff recommends that the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness and variances be **approved**, subject to the conditions enumerated in the attached draft Order, which address the inconsistencies with the aforementioned Certificate of Appropriateness and practical difficulty and hardship criteria, as applicable.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
City of Miami Beach, Florida

MEETING DATE: September 16, 2025

PROPERTY/FOLIO: 809 2nd Street / 02-4203-009-5372

FILE NO: HPB25-0657

APPLICANT: 802 2nd Street LLC

IN RE: An application has been filed requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a new single-family home, including variances from the minimum lot width and lot area.

LEGAL: The west 47.44 feet of the east 92.09 feet of Lot 8 and the west 47.44 feet of the east 92.09 feet of Lot 7, Block 77 of the Ocean Beach Addition No. 3, According to the Plat Thereof, as Recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 81, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

ORDER

The City of Miami Beach Historic Preservation 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. Certificate of Appropriateness

- A. The subject site is located within the Ocean Beach Local Historic District.
- 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:
 1. Is consistent with Sea Level Rise and Resiliency Review Criteria in Section 7.1.2.4(a)(1) of the Land Development Regulations.
 2. Is consistent with Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria in section 2.13.7(d)(ii)(1) of the Land Development Regulations.
 3. Is not consistent with Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria 'b' in section 2.13.7(d)(ii)(2) of the Land Development Regulations.
- C. The project would be consistent with the criteria and requirements of sections 2.13.7(d) and 7.1.2.4(a) of Land Development Regulations if the following conditions are met:
 1. Revised elevation, site plan and floor plan drawings shall be submitted, and at a minimum, such drawings shall incorporate the following:

Meeting Date: September 16, 2025

- a. The balcony railings along the front of the home shall be designed in a manner that does not require visible metal plates and bolts on the slab faces, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
 - b. Final details of all exterior surface finishes and materials shall be submitted, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
 - c. All roof-top fixtures, air-conditioning units and mechanical devices shall be clearly noted on a revised roof plan and elevation drawings and shall be screened from view, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff, consistent with the Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
3. A revised landscape plan, prepared by a Professional Landscape Architect, registered in the State of Florida, 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. 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.
 - b. The project design shall minimize the potential for a project causing a heat island effect on site.
 - c. Cool pavement materials or porous pavement materials shall be utilized, if applicable.

In accordance with section 2.2.4.8(c) of the Land Development Regulations the applicant, the City Manager, Miami Design Preservation League, Dade Heritage Trust, or an affected person may appeal the Board's decision on a Certificate of Appropriateness to a special magistrate appointed by the City Commission.

II. Variance(s)

- A. The applicant filed an application with the Planning Department for the following variances which were either approved, approved with modifications or denied by the Board:

The following variances were approved by the Board:

1. A variance to reduce by 3,093.35 sq. ft. the minimum required lot area of 5,750 sq. ft. within the R-PS2 zoning district in order to construct a single-family residential building on a property with a lot area of 2,656.65 sq. ft.
2. A variance to reduce by 2.56' the minimum required lot width of 50.0' within the R-PS2 zoning district in order to construct a single-family residential building on a property with a lot width of 47.44'.

- B. The applicant has submitted plans and documents with the application that satisfy Article 1, Section 2 of the Related Special Acts, allowing the granting of a variance if the Board finds that practical difficulties exist with respect to implementing the proposed project at the subject property.

The applicant has submitted plans and documents with the application that indicate the following, as they relate to the requirements of section 2.8.3(a) of the Land Development Regulations:

That special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the land, structure, or building involved and which are not applicable to other lands, structures, or buildings in the same zoning district.

That the special conditions and circumstances do not result from the action of the applicant.

That granting the variance requested will not confer on the applicant any special privilege that is denied by these land development regulations to other lands, buildings, or structures in the same zoning district.

That literal interpretation of the provisions of these land development regulations would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same zoning district under the terms of these land development regulations and would work unnecessary and undue hardship on the applicant.

That the variance granted is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land, building or structure.

That the granting of the variance will be in harmony with the general intent and purpose of these land development regulations and that such variance will not be injurious to the area involved or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.

That the granting of this request is consistent with the comprehensive plan and does not reduce the levels of service as set forth in the plan.

The granting of the variance will result in a structure and site that complies with the sea level rise and resiliency review criteria in chapter 7, article I, as applicable.

- C. The Board finds that the application satisfies Article 1, Section 2 of the Related Special Acts and the requirements of section 2.8.3(a) of the Land Development Regulations, and hereby **approves** the requested variances and imposes the following conditions based on its authority in section 2.8.4 of the Land Development Regulations:

1. Substantial modifications to the plans submitted and approved as part of the application, as determined by the Planning Director or designee, may require the applicant to return to the Board for approval of the modified plans, even if the modifications do not affect variances approved by the Board.

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. Certificate of Appropriateness' and 'II. Variances' noted above.

- A. The applicant agrees and shall be required to provide access to areas subject to this approval (not including private residences or hotel rooms) for inspection by the City (i.e.: Planning, Code Compliance, Building Department, Fire Safety), to ensure compliance with the plans approved by the Board and conditions of this order.
- B. The issuance of a building permit is contingent upon meeting Public School Concurrency requirements, if applicable. Applicant shall obtain a valid School Concurrency Determination Certificate (Certificate) issued by the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. The Certificate shall state the number of seats reserved at each school level. In the event sufficient seats are not available, a proportionate share mitigation plan shall be incorporated into a tri-party development agreement and duly executed. No building permit may be issued unless and until the applicant obtains a written finding from Miami-Dade County Public Schools that the applicant has satisfied school concurrency.
- C. The relocation of any tree shall be subject to the approval of the Environment & Sustainability Director and/or Urban Forester, as applicable.
- D. Where one or more parcels are unified for a single development, the property owner shall execute and record a unity of title or a covenant in lieu of unity of title, as may be applicable, in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.
- E. All applicable FPL transformers or vault rooms and backflow prevention devices shall be located within the main building setbacks 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.
- L. 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.

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 Findings of Fact, to which the applicant has agreed.

PROVIDED, the applicant shall build substantially in accordance with the plans entitled "**New Family Residence Construction**", as prepared by **Fausto Guerrero P.E.**, dated **July 13, 2025**, as approved by the Historic Preservation 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 set forth in this Order. No building permit may be issued unless and until all 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 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 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 section 2.13.7 of the Land Development Regulations; the granting of any such extension of time shall be at the discretion of the Board. If the Full Building Permit for the project should expire for any reason (including but not limited to construction not commencing and continuing, with required inspections, in accordance with the applicable Building Code), the application will expire and become null and void.

In accordance with chapter 2 of the Land Development Regulations, the violation of any conditions and safeguards that are a part of this Order shall be deemed a violation of the land development

regulations. Failure to comply with this Order shall subject the application to chapter 2 of the Land Development Regulations, for revocation or modification of the application.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20__.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

BY: _____
DEBORAH TACKETT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION & ARCHITECTURE OFFICER
FOR THE CHAIR

STATE OF FLORIDA)
)SS
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____ 20__ by Deborah Tackett, Historic Preservation & Architecture Officer, Planning Department, City of Miami Beach, Florida, a Florida Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the corporation. She 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 Historic Preservation Board on _____ ())