

MIAMIBEACH
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Staff Report & Recommendation

Historic Preservation Board

TO: Chairperson and Members
Historic Preservation Board

DATE: October 21, 2025

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP
Planning Director



For TRM

SUBJECT: HPB25-0668, **1200 Meridian Ave**

An application has been filed requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for an Art in Public Places (AIPP) art installation within Flamingo Park.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness.

EXISTING SITE

Local Historic District: Flamingo Park

ZONING / SITE DATA

Zoning: GU, Government Use
Future Land Use Designation: ROS, Recreation and Open Space

THE PROJECT

The applicant has submitted documents entitled "The Flamingo Machine", dated 8/22/2025.

COMPLIANCE WITH ZONING CODE

A preliminary review of the project indicates that the application appears to be consistent with the Land Development Regulations of the City Code.

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 it 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.
Not Applicable
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.
Not Applicable
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.
Not Applicable
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.
Not Applicable
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.
Not Applicable
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.
Not Applicable
11. Cool pavement materials or porous pavement materials shall be utilized.
Not Applicable
12. The project design shall minimize the potential for a project causing a heat island effect on site.

Not Applicable**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.
Satisfied
 - 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.

Not Applicable

- 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.

Not Applicable

- 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.

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

- 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.

Not Applicable

- 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).

Not Applicable

- 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.

Not Applicable

- l. All buildings shall have an appropriate and fully integrated rooftop architectural treatment which substantially screens all mechanical equipment, stairs and elevator towers.
Not Applicable
- 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.
Not Applicable
- 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.
Not Applicable

STAFF ANALYSIS

The City of Miami Beach established an Art in Public Places program in 1984, following the example of successful programs in cities such as Seattle and New York. By ordinance, 2 percent of the cost of City-owned construction projects is set aside for “works of art in public places other than museums which enrich the public environment.” Art in Public Places (AIPP) Committee is responsible for the commission and purchase of works of art by contemporary artists in all media. Funds from construction projects are aggregated into the AIPP Fund and allocated for art at public sites and for collection maintenance. The Fund is administered by a City Commission appointed citizen's board, the AIPP Committee.

The Historic Preservation Board (for historically designated sites or districts) serves as advisor to the City Commission which makes the final determination with respect to AIPP projects.

On October 16, 2019, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2019-31038 requesting that the Art in Public Places (AiPP) committee allocate a portion of AiPP funds appropriated from the Flamingo Park Youth Center (PAL Facility) G.O. Bond Project, or other G.O. Bond Projects within Flamingo Park for the commission of a flamingo-related work of art to be incorporated within Flamingo Park. AiPP funds are only available for appropriation once there are contracts in place for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). Subsequently, on September 11, 2024, the Mayor and City Commission adopted Resolution No. 2024-33258 directing the Administration to implement Resolution No. 2019-31038. Once the series of projects in Flamingo Park led by CIP reached the appropriate development stage to enable access to funds, the Tourism and Culture Department (TCD) issued a Call to Artists to design a flamingo-inspired work of art for Flamingo Park.

At the July 15, 2025, Art in Public Places (AiPP) Committee Meeting, Committee members selected the “Flamingo Machine” proposal by artist Koichiro Azuma and structural engineer Jutaro Sekita for the public artwork for the Flamingo Park project. The artist will install a sculpture that references a flamingo, measuring 20 feet high and 14 feet in width, to be located at the central juncture that meets at the heart of the park.

The application documents include a history of the proposal, description of the project, biography of the artist, Koichiro Azuma, as well as information regarding materials and maintenance.

Staff is highly supportive of the proposal and recommends approval of the application as noted below.

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the foregoing analysis, staff recommends that the Certificate of Appropriateness be **approved**, subject to the conditions enumerated in the attached draft Order.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
City of Miami Beach, Florida

MEETING DATE: October 21, 2025

PROPERTY/FOLIO: 1200 Meridian Ave – Flamingo Park

FILE NO: HPB25-0668

APPLICANT: City of Miami Beach

IN RE: An application requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for an Art in Public Places (AIPP) art installation within Flamingo Park.

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 consistent with Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria in section 2.13.7(d)(ii)(2) of the Land Development Regulations.
- C. The project would remain 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:
 - a. The final details of the sculpture shall be submitted, in a manner to be approved by staff consistent with the Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
 - b. A plaque shall be provided with the name of the artist, date, title of the piece, and

a description and explanation of the artwork, in a manner to be approved by staff consistent with the Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.

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. No variances have been applied for 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. Certificate of Appropriateness' and 'II. Variances' noted above.

- A. 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.
- B. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Permit.
- C. 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.
- D. The conditions of approval herein are binding on the applicant, the property's owners, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns.
- E. 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.
- F. 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.

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 documents entitled **“The Flamingo Machine”**, **dated 8/22/2025.**, 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 _____.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

BY: _____
Michael A. Belush, AICP
Planning & Design Officer
FOR THE CHAIR

