

MIAMIBEACH

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Staff Report & Recommendation

Historic Preservation Board

TO: Chairperson and Members
Historic Preservation Board

DATE: December 16, 2025

FROM: Thomas R. Mooney, AICP
Planning Director



For TRM

SUBJECT: HPB25-0673, **407 Lincoln Road.**

An application has been filed requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of decorative lighting fixtures on the existing building.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness with conditions.

EXISTING STRUCTURE

Local Historic District: Flamingo Park
Classification: Non-Contributing
Construction Date: 1955
Architect: Edwin T. Reeder

BACKGROUND

On December 13th, 2022, the Historic Preservation Board approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the partial demolition and renovation of an existing building. On February 13th, 2024, the Historic Preservation Board approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for modifications to the ground level facades and public interior space.

ZONING / SITE DATA

Folio: 02-3234-072-0001
Legal Description: Lots 6 & 7, Block 3, of the Lincoln Road Subdivision, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 34, Page 66 of the public records of Miami Dade County, Florida.

Zoning: CD-3 (Commercial, high intensity)
Future Land Use: CD-3 (Commercial, high intensity)

THE PROJECT

The applicant has submitted plans entitled "407 Lincoln Road", as prepared by DeForma Studio, dated August 5th, 2025.

COMPLIANCE WITH ZONING CODE

A preliminary review of the project indicates that the application appears to be consistent with the applicable provisions of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code (LDRs). 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 proposed 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:

- A. A recycling or salvage plan for partial or total demolition shall be provided.
Not Applicable
- B. Windows that are proposed to be replaced shall be hurricane proof impact windows.
Satisfied
- C. Where feasible and appropriate, passive cooling systems, such as operable windows, shall be provided.
Not Applicable
- D. 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
- E. 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
- F. 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
- G. 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
- H. Existing buildings shall be, where reasonably feasible and economically appropriate, elevated up to base flood elevation, plus City of Miami Beach Freeboard.
Not Applicable

- I. 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
- J. In all new projects, water retention systems shall be provided.
Not Applicable
- K. Cool pavement materials or porous pavement materials shall be utilized.
Not Applicable
- L. 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

The Secretary of Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation are intended as an aid to assist in applying the Secretary of Interior's Standards but are not binding on their own and are not meant to give case-specific advice or to address exceptions of unusual conditions.
- 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.

Not Applicable

- 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.

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 Satisfied; a photometric plan shall be submitted at the time of building permit.

- 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 building located at 407 Lincoln Road was constructed in 1955 and designed by architect Edwin T. Reeder in the Post-War Modern architectural style. The 13-story office tower was originally built for the Miami Beach Federal Savings and Loan Association, which occupied the entire ground floor and several upper-level offices. The structure is presently classified as Non-Contributing within the Flamingo Park Local Historic District. The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of exterior lighting on the north, south, and east façades.

The building's original design featured extensive areas of staggered opaque turquoise glass panels paired with grey glass windows, all set within an anodized aluminum framing system. Vertical tower elements include black granite cladding, while the ground level incorporates solid wall portions and knee walls finished in various shades of blue mosaic tiles, some of which have begun to detach. The proposal includes the installation of vertical LED light fixtures secured to the structure through powder-coated aluminum channel brackets. These brackets will support static white LED lighting intended to complement the lively façade expressions characteristic of

the 1950s along this segment of Lincoln Road. The decorative lighting is proposed along select areas of the black granite cladding to create an accent feature.

Staff recommends that a photometric plan be prepared to ensure that glare and reflection is minimized on the surrounding area when the lighting is set to its maximum intensity. Staff would also recommend that the system be designed with a timer that can scale back the intensity to a very minimal level after 10:00 p.m. and that the lighting be turned off after midnight. In summary, staff is supportive of the project which maintains the character of this portion of Lincoln Road and recommends approval as noted below.

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the foregoing analysis, staff recommends that the request for a 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: December 16, 2025

PROPERTY/FOLIO: 407 Lincoln Road / 02-3234-072-0001

FILE NO: HPB25-0673

APPLICANT: Financial Plaza

IN RE: An application for a certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of decorative lighting fixtures on the existing building.

LEGAL: Lots 6 & 7, Block 3, of the Lincoln Road Subdivision A, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 34, Page 66 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 Flamingo Park 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)(i) 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.
 - 4. Is not consistent with Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria "g" in section 2.13.7(d)(ii)(3) of the Land Development Regulations.
- C. The project would be consistent with the criteria and requirements of sections 2.13.7(d) and 7.2.12 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: December 16th, 2025

- a. Final design and details of the proposed LED lighting on the west, north, and south façade shall be provided, 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. A photometric plan shall be submitted to minimize glare and reflection in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Certificate of Appropriateness Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
- d. The lighting system shall be equipped with a programmable timer. The system shall:
 - Reduce lighting intensity to a minimal level after 10:00 PM.
 - Automatically turn off all decorative lighting by 12:00 AM (midnight).The illumination levels shall be determined by staff and set in place after an on-site meeting, prior to the issuance of a certificate of completion.
- e. The lighting design shall be implemented in a manner that avoids unnecessary upward illumination and minimizes impacts on views of the night sky, subject to the review and approval of staff.

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 requested 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. 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.

Meeting Date: December 16th, 2025

- B. 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.
- C. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
- D. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. The conditions of approval herein are binding on the applicant, the property's owners, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns.
- G. 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.
- H. 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 "**407 Lincoln Road**", as prepared by DeForma Studio, dated August 5th, 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

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

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____ 20__ by Michael A. Belush, Planning & Design Officer, Planning Department, City of Miami Beach, Florida, a Florida Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the corporation. He 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 _____ ()

DRAFT