

**DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**  
**City of Miami Beach, Florida**

MEETING DATE: June 12, 2025 and November 20, 2025

PROPERTY: **94 Palm Island 02-4205-001-0330**

FILE NO: DRB25-1087

IN RE: An application has been filed requesting modifications to a previously approved Design Review Approval for the construction of a new two-story residence with an understory, Specifically, the applicant is requesting variances to provide an enclosed, air-conditioned storage area within the understory; to provide concrete areas within the understory; to exceed the maximum permitted lot coverage; for height and interior side setback for an increase in the height of mechanical equipment with screening within the interior side setback; including one or more waivers, to replace an existing residence.

LEGAL: Lots 36 and 37, in Block 1, of PALM ISLAND, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 54, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Also:

A strip of land 20 feet wide lying Southerly of and contiguous to the Southerly boundary line of Lots 36 and 37, in Block 1, of PALM ISLAND, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 54, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

APPLICANT: Palm Island Residence Trust

**MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER**

The City of Miami Beach Design Review 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. Design Review**

- A. The Board has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 2.1.3.1 of the Land Development Regulations. The property is not located within a designated local historic district and is not an individually designated historic site.
- 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 is inconsistent with Design Review Criteria i. & s. in Section 2.5.3.1 of the Land Development Regulations.
- C. 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 is inconsistent with Sea Level Rise Criteria 1 and 10 in Section 7.1.2.4(a)(i) of the Land Development Regulations.

- D. All of the original conditions of approval by this Board, as reflected in the Final Order dated September 3, 2024, pursuant to DRB24-1026, shall remain in effect except as modified and approved herein.
- E. The project would be consistent with the criteria and requirements 2.5.3.1 and/ or Section 7.1.2.4(a)(i) if the following conditions are met:
- I. Revised elevation, site plan, and floor plan drawings for the proposed new home at 94 Palm Avenue shall be submitted, at a minimum, such drawings shall incorporate the following:
    - a. The revised design of the mechanical enclosure within the west side yard **shall be** approved as proposed.
    - b. The final design, materials and details of the revised mechanical enclosure shall be submitted, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
    - c. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the project Architect shall verify, in writing, that the subject project has been constructed in accordance with the plans approved by the Planning Department for Building Permit.

**In accordance with section 2.2.4.8 of the Land Development Regulations, the applicant, the City Manager, Miami Design Preservation League, Dade Heritage Trust, or an affected person may appeal a decision of the design review board for design review approval only to the city commission, except that orders granting or denying a request for rehearing shall not be reviewed by the commission.**

## II. Variance(s)

- A. The applicant filed an application with the Planning Department for the following variance(s):
1. **June 12, 2025 Variance No. 4:** A variance from of side yard setbacks in section 7.2.2.3.b.1. and section 7.2.2.3.b.12.F.II. to exceed by 4'-5" the permitted height of 5' above current flood elevation, with a maximum height not to exceed 10' above grade, for mechanical equipment and to exceed by 5'-7" for the screening elements the permitted height of 5' above current flood elevation, with a maximum height not to exceed 10' above grade. within the side yard at a height of 9'-5" above current flood elevation.
  2. **November 20, 2025 Variance No. 1:** A variance from Section 7.2.2.3.b.6.A. to allow an enclosed, air-conditioned storage space within the understory area. **This variance was withdrawn by the applicant at the November 20, 2025 meeting.**

- 3. **November 20, 2025 Variance No. 2:** A variance from Section 7.2.2.3.b.6.G. to allow concrete flooring in non-air-conditioned areas within the non-air-conditions portions of the understory area.
  - 4. **November 20, 2025 Variance No. 3:** A variance from Section 7.2.2.3.b.7.C.II. to exceed by 4.15% the maximum permitted lot coverage of 30%, to permit 34.15% lot coverage to construct an operable aluminum trellis from the exterior rear wall. **This variance was denied by the DRB at the November 20, 2025 meeting.**
  - 5. **November 20, 2025 Variance No. 4:** A variance from Section 7.2.2.3.b.9.F. to exceed by 3'-0" the maximum height allowed of 10'-0" feet above the roof line in order to construct an elevator bulkhead up to 13'-0" above the roofline.
- B. The applicant has submitted plans and documents with the application that satisfy Article 1, Section 2 of the Related Special Acts, as noted above 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.

Additionally, the Board has concluded that the plans and documents submitted with the application comply with the following hardship criteria, as they relate to the requirements of Section 2.8.3 of the Land Development Regulations:

- i. 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;
- ii. The special conditions and circumstances do not result from the action of the applicant;
- iii. 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;
- iv. 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;
- v. The variance granted is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land, building or structure;
- vi. 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;
- vii. 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; and

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- viii. 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 hereby **Approves** the following variance requests and imposes the following conditions based on its authority in Section 2.8.4 of the Miami Beach City Code:
1. **June 12, 2025 Variance no. 4:** 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.
  2. **November 20, 2025 Variance no. 2:** A variance from Section 7.2.2.3.b.6.G. to allow concrete flooring in non-air-conditioned areas within the non-air-conditions portions of the understory area.
  3. **November 20, 2025 Variance no. 4:** A variance from Section 7.2.2.3.b.9.F. to exceed by 3'-0" the maximum height allowed of 10'-0" feet above the roof line in order to construct an elevator bulkhead up to 13'-0" above the roofline.

**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. Design Review Approval and 'II. Variances' noted above.**

- A. All new construction over 7,000 square feet shall be required to be, at a minimum, certified as LEED Gold by USGBC. In lieu of achieving LEED Gold certification, properties can elect to pay a sustainability fee or post a bond, pursuant to Section 7.1.3.2 of the Land Development Regulations. This fee is set as a percentage of the cost of construction.
- B. 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.
- C. During construction work, the applicant shall maintain gravel at the front of the construction site within the first 15'-0" of the required front yard and including the swale (subject to the review and approval of Public Works), to mitigate disturbance of soil and mud by related personal vehicles exiting and entering the site. All construction materials, including dumpsters and portable toilets, shall be located behind the construction fence and not visible from the right-of-way.
- D. During the course of construction, all vehicles, including, but not limited to all personal vehicles, shall park within the confines of the private property, the swale directly

abutting the construction site, or at alternate overflow parking sites that are not on-street metered spaces and not zoned RS. Additionally, parking of any vehicles shall be prohibited in the travel lanes of all streets.

- E. All allowable construction signage shall be attached to or situated behind the construction fence and shall be limited to one (1) sign, not to exceed four (4) square feet, in accordance with Section 6.3.2 of the Land Development Regulations.
- F. The building and parking departments shall approve a construction parking plan prior to the issuance of any building permit, including applicable demolition permits for the project.
- G. The applicant shall ensure that the contractor(s) observe good construction practices and prevent construction materials and debris from impacting the right-of-way.
- H. The contractor(s) shall ensure that the street and the swale directly abutting the construction site remains free of debris and refuse at all times; at a minimum, the contractor(s) shall inspect and clear the street and swale areas before leaving at the end of each day.
- I. This order shall be enforced by the Building, Planning, Parking and Code Compliance Departments.
- J. A recycling/salvage plan shall be provided as part of the submittal for a demolition/building permit, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff.
- K. 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.
- L. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
- M. 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.
- N. 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.
- O. The conditions of approval herein are binding on the applicant, the property's owners, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns.
- P. 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.

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 Finding of Fact, to which the applicant has agreed.

PROVIDED, the applicant shall build substantially in accordance with the plans, entitled "94 Palm Residence" as designed by **Borges Architects + Associates** dated August 24, 2025, and as approved by the Design Review 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 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 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 2.2.4.6 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 shall 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 of the City Code. 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 12/22/2025 | 4:10 PM EST

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD  
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA



