

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139. www.miamibeachfl.gov

PLANNING DEPARTMENT Tel: 3 05-673-7550, Fax: 305-673-7559

October 25, 2017

Members of the Florida Building Commission & Accessibility Advisory Council c/o Robert Benbow
Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: 8635 Harding Avenue

Dear Mr. Benbow and Members of the Commission and Council:

I am writing in reference to the above noted structure, and the request for an accessibility waiver. The subject structure is designated as a 'Contributing' property within the proposed North Shore Local Historic District and the North Shore Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places on November 18, 2009.

Constructed in 1947 and designed by architect Robert Little, the structure located at 8635 Harding Avenue is an excellent example of the Post War Modern style of architecture. The subject structure retains a high degree of historic and architectural integrity and is representative of the rich diversity of architectural styles that have evolved within the City's Historic Districts. The current proposal to retain, preserve and restore this building is essential to the future understanding of the development of architecture in Miami Beach.

The concern in the subject request pertains to code requirements regarding vertical accessibility. The interventions required to meet the requirements of the current code would irreparably harm the historic integrity of the 'Contributing' building.

The Planning Department, on behalf of the Historic Preservation Board, strongly supports the subject waiver request. If you have any questions relative to the historic significance of the existing structure, or you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Debbie Tackett

Chief of Historic Preservation

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