ZONING, LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

## Sanctuary MiMo Vertical Accessibility – ADA Waiver Application

## **Project and Facility Type:**

The subject site is located on the west side of Biscayne Boulevard, between NE 76 Street and NE 77 Street, in the City of Miami. The property contains a 14,148 square foot church structure constructed in approximately 1951 (the "Church"). In 2006, through Resolution No. 2006-59, the City of Miami approved the MiMo/Biscayne Boulevard Historic District and designated the Church as a "contributing" structure. Pursuant to the MiMo/Biscayne Boulevard Historic District Designation Report prepared by Ellen J. Uguccioni in 2006 ("Designation Report"), the original Church appears mostly intact without any major alterations. One notable feature of the Church is its forty-nine (49') foot tall vertical tower at the corner of 76 Street and Biscayne Boulevard. The Church's tower and the lower portion of its front façade are thematically clad in Crab Orchard Stone. The front façade of the Church features uniquely modern, continuous eyebrows along the first and second story. Additionally, a portion of the roof is sloped, which contributes to the ecclesiastical architecture. Along Biscayne Boulevard, the Church features arched window details and columns.

The Designation Report provides that the Property was constructed with the New Mount Pleasant Baptist Church built in 1951. However, the City of Miami's microfilm records indicate that the Church was originally constructed in 1939, with renovations and additions in 1951, 1970, and 1971. With its Subtropical Modernism architectural style, the Church served as one of only two houses of worship in this historic District. The Church was continuously utilized until the 2000s when it was used intermittently as a school and offices, and then, became vacant.

The owner's goal is to restore the Church. The renovation includes proposing an adaptive reuse of the Church as an event space, which includes the conversion of the existing office space on the second-floor to incorporate contemporary offices. The owner intends to restore and preserve the architecture of the church building by maintaining the façade treatments, window styles, openings and finishes as close as possible to the original design and the MiMo Subtropical Modernism style.