

PUBLIC COMMENTS

RECEIVED VIA EMAIL: Tues 11/16/2021 8:26 AM
FROM: Scott Treanor strearor@stanfordalumni.org

SUBJECT: CASE FILE AB19013562 301-341 Madeira Avenue, Coral Gables, FL

Hello,

I will not be able to attend the hearing before the Board of Architects for this project on Thursday November 18.

May I submit the following letter to be read at the hearing? Please confirm receipt. Thanks for your help.

Dear Board of Architects,

Since their last application in August, the applicant has done no more than tinker with the previous design. The building is fundamentally lacking in Mediterranean spirit, with the result that the references that do exist feel forced. A cursory glance at pages 20 and 21 of the application reveal that this is a hulking, blocky, angular building suitable for Dallas, Denver or Doral, but not Coral Gables. This building is just on the border of Coral Gables, yet to condone this building here would have reverberations on the excellence of design throughout the city.

I live in a single family home just over the back property line of this project in MDC. These plans propose to erect a 5 story wall with just 10 feet setback from my backyard. Imagine a wall of 5 stories rising just 10 feet beyond your backyard! And worse, really, it is not just a 5 story wall, but a 5 story ventilation of the parking structure. Imagine the misery of my backyard, and indeed of my entire house, with a 5 story exhaust wall looming menacingly above it.

I implore the Board to reject this application to send it back to the drawing board for a complete reimagination, in a spirit that is both humane and Mediterranean. Indeed, the Mediterranean ideal is not merely a hodgepodge of historical references but a desire to bring humanity and beauty to the look and feel of the City Beautiful.

Scott Treanor