



Board of Architects Review Application

Phone: 305.460.5238

Email: boardofarchitects@coralgables.com

Application Request

The undersigned Agent/Owner request(s) Board of Architects review of the following application(s):

(Choose one (1) from Section #1 and choose all applicable from Section #2)

1. ☐ New Building OR ☒ Alterations / Additions

2. ☒ Preliminary Approval
☐ Coral Gables Mediterranean Style Design Standards Bonus Approval
☐ Final Approval

Property Information

PUBLIC PARK AND STREETSCAPE

Street Address of the Subject Property: 2810 PONCE DE LEON BLVD

Property/Project Name: PONCE CIRCLE PARK.

Legal description: Lot(s) – C GABLES CRAFTS SEC PB 10 40 - ALL BLK 19 - LOT SIZE 58503 SQUARE FEET
- 10129-1582 0878 3

Block(s) 19 Section(s) CORAL GABLES CRAFT SECTION

Folio No. 03-4117-005-5380

Owner(s): CITY OF CORAL GABLES

Mailing Address: PO DRAWER 341549 CORAL GABLES, FL 33134-0000

Telephone: 305-446-6800 Fax 305-460-5370

Other Email BDECARO @CORALGABLES.COM

Architect(s)/Engineer(s): URBAN ROBOT ASSOCIATES, INC

Architect(s)/Engineer(s) Mailing Address: 420 LINCOLN RD S.600 MIAMI BEACH FL 33139

Telephone: Business 786.246.4857, 101 Fax

Other Email JUSTINE@URBANROBOT.NET

Project Information

Project Description(s): RE-DESIGN THE EXISTING PARK GREEN SPACE TO BE A LANDMARK PLAZA-PARK DESTINATION
— EMBRACING ITS LOCATION IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF CORAL GABLES, AND WITH AMENITIES
SUITABLE FOR THE DIVERSE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS

Estimated project cost*: \$7.563 MILLION

(*Estimated cost shall be +/- 10% of actual cost)

Date(s) of Previous Submittal(s) and Action(s): NONE



Board of Architects Review Application

Applicant/Owner/Architect/Engineer Affirmation and Consent

(I) (We) acknowledge, affirm, and certify to all of the following:

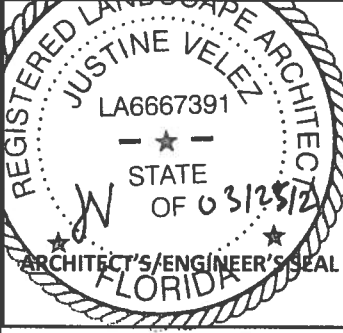
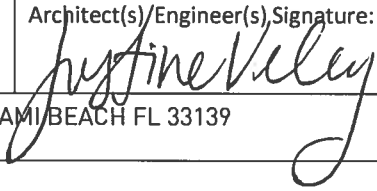
1. This request, application, application supporting materials and all future supporting materials complies with all provisions and regulations of the Zoning Code, Comprehensive Plan and Code of Ordinances of the City of Coral Gables unless identified and approved as a part of this application request or other previously approved applications. Applicant understands that any violation of these provisions renders the application invalid.
2. That all the information contained in this application and all documentation submitted herewith is true to the best of (my) (our) knowledge and belief.
3. Understand that the application, all attachments and fees become a part of the official records of the City of Coral Gables and are not returnable.
4. All application representatives have registered with and completed lobbyist forms for the City of Coral Gables City Clerk's office.
5. Understand that under Florida Law, all the information submitted as part of the application are public records.
6. Failure to provide the information required for submittal/necessary for review by the Board of Architects may cause the application to be deferred without review.
7. That applications for the Board of Architects review require the presence of the applicant and/or architect/engineer at the Board of Architects meeting unless otherwise notified.
8. That plans submitted to this office are required to be picked up at the Board of Architects counter, by the Applicant, within fourteen (14) days after the Board of Architects meeting unless the plans have received Final Approval by the Board of Architects in which case, they will automatically be processed for a building permit. Plans which are not picked up within fourteen (14) days will be discarded.
9. All fees shall be paid by 12-midnight, three (3) days prior to the meeting date (ie. Monday before a Thursday meeting) to secure placement on the meeting's docket (agenda)
10. I have received consent from the owner of the property to file this application.

NOTE: ONLY ONE SIGNATURE OR AFFIRMATION/CONSENT IS REQUIRED

Agent/Owner/Contractor Print Name: BRANDAN DECARO	Agent/Owner/Contractor Signature:
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Address: 2800 SW 72ND AVENUE MIAMI, FL 33155

Telephone: 205.480.5059	Fax:	Email: BDECARO@CORALGABLES.COM
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	Architect(s)/Engineer(s) Print Name: JUSTINE VELEZ	Architect(s)/Engineer(s) Signature: 
	Address: 420 LINCOLN RD S. 600 MIAMI BEACH FL 33139	
	Telephone: 786.246.4857, 101	Fax:
	Email: JUSTINE@URBANROBOT.NET	

NOTARIZATION

STATE OF FLORIDA)
 ss
 COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)
 Sworn to or affirm and subscribed before me this 25 day of MARCH, in the year 20 21
 by JUSTINE VELEZ who has taken an oath and is personally known to
 me or has produced _____ as identification.

My Commission Expires: FEB. 2, 2025

Notary Public



Samantha Corrochano
 Comm. #HH088294
 Expires: Feb. 2, 2025
 Bonded Thru Aaron Notary



25-MARCH-2021

Simone Chin
Board of Architects
City of Coral Gables
405 Biltmore Way, 3rd Floor
Coral Gables, FL 33134

RE: Board of Architects - Letter of Intent :: Fred B. Hartnett Ponce Circle Park Master Plan

Dear Ms. Chin,

It is with great pleasure that we submit the proposed **Ponce Circle Park Master Plan** for Board of Architects' review! Urban Robot Associates, Inc., is serving as the Landscape Architect and Design Lead for the project. We received our Notice to Proceed on November 1, 2019 and since then, we have worked with various departments of the City, including Public Works, Parks & Recreation and the City Manager's Office among others, as well as met with members of the community, to develop this Master Plan.

Introduction

The scope of work for the **Ponce Circle Park Master Plan** is to re-design the existing green space to be a landmark plaza-park destination — embracing its location in the Central Business District of Coral Gables, and with amenities suitable for the diverse surrounding neighborhoods.

A unique aspect of the project is the Park's location — in a traffic roundabout, bounded on all sides by vehicular roadways. Ponce de Leon Boulevard is a major north-south travel way, and as such, the green space is currently difficult to access. One of the main objectives of the project is to improve pedestrian safety and access. As a result, the scope of work extends well beyond the park boundary itself to include the surrounding streets and sidewalks. (See Sheet L-002A, pink dashed line.) The **Ponce Circle Park Master Plan** proposes eight roadway & streetscape improvements to enhance pedestrian access (see Sheet L-100), in addition to park improvements. These streetscape enhancements are pending Miami Dade County approval.

Master Plan Design

The design of the park itself was influenced by several important factors. Urban Robot began the design process by taking a survey of the community, which occurred at a widely-publicized public meeting on December 12, 2019. The overwhelming feedback from residents and business-owners alike was for shade, greenery, seating, and room for a farmer's market. (See Sheet L-000D.) These priorities have served as our touchstones throughout the design process, guiding the decision to incorporate a verdant & tree-lined path system, a large number of uniquely programmed seating opportunities, and a landmark shade structure.

Inspired by the public's wish for a farmer's market, the **Ponce Circle Park Master Plan** features a large event lawn at its center, a potential venue for a wide range of public events, as determined by the City. From Burgerlicious and Chili Chillin' to Art in the Park and the Easter Egg Hunt, the lawn has been designed to accommodate large public gatherings when desired, with wide paths all around and innovative sod preservation methods to ensure durability.

see next page...

The symmetry of the park design was inspired by the historic nature of the City of Coral Gables, including the recent designation of the street grid as historic. We have preserved the capsule-shape of the park, predicated the design on the cardinal axes and introduced other elements of formality into the park layout. (The existing fountain, decorative walls, and other monuments in the park are not historic and will be removed.)

The park design was also influenced by the recent extraordinary transformation of Miracle Mile, only 3 blocks away, and the ongoing construction of Plaza on Ponce on the east side of the site. A 2.1 million square foot development, Plaza on Ponce, when complete, will feature hotel, retail, office, condo and apartment uses, which will bring thousands of new residents and visitors to the area, in addition to foot traffic from local businesses and existing neighborhoods. The **Ponce Circle Park Master Plan** embraces these changes by providing a forward-thinking design that includes contemporary elements such as sculptural seating design, sustainable features such as rain gardens, an interactive sculpture (Art in Public Place), and a unique planting scheme — the “Rainbow Ring”. (See Sheets L-100 through L-201A.) The shade structure will also be a visually-striking sculptural element in the park, to be designed. (See Sheets L-301A and L-301B.)

The project will be built in 2 phases, ensuring continuity of service of roadways and the existing park. (See Sheets L-600 through L-602 for the Phasing Plan, which will be developed in more detail during Design Development.) We have engaged a well-respected civil engineering team, Wade Trim, to provide civil, traffic and electrical engineering services, as well as prepare drawings for Miami Dade County Public Works approval of the proposed roadway and sidewalk geometry.

Conclusion

Urban Robot is thrilled to serve as your Landscape Architect for this pivotal project! We are excited to have the opportunity to help the City and the neighborhood re-design Ponce Circle Park and the surrounding Streetscape to better serve the pressing and evolving needs of the community. We believe the **Ponce Circle Park Master Plan** achieves the stated objectives and will create an exceptional green space and an enduring landmark in the City.

We greatly appreciate your consideration and look forward to your feedback. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Justine Velez, RLA
Principal
URBAN ROBOT ASSOCIATES, INC.