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**TO:** Members of the City of Fort Pierce Planning Board

**THROUGH:** Rebeca A. Guerra, AICP, LEED-AP, CPD, Interim Planning Director 

**FROM:** Vennis Gilmore, Planner 

**RE:** **Application for Site Plan and Design Review  
Second Street Station  
100 Avenue A (Marina Way)**

**BOARD DATE:** July 9, 2019

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**STAFF REPORT**

**Owner(s):** Kraaz and Kraaz Finance LLC  
201 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 206  
Fort Pierce, FL. 34950

**Applicant:** John H. Blum – Carter Associates, Inc.  
1708 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Vero Beach, FL. 32960

**Applicant's Request:** Approval to build a building consisting of 3,000 sq. ft. of mercantile and 1,986 sq. ft. of business office in the C-4, Central Commercial Zone.

**Location:** 100 Avenue A (Marina Way)

**Parcel ID:** 2410-503-0042-000-5

**Zoning:** Central Commercial Zone (C-4)

**Surrounding Zoning:**

North	East	South	West
I-1	C-4	C-4	C-4

**Site Size:** 1.02 acres

**Utilities:** FPUA

## Staff Analysis:

**The Planning Board has previously reviewed this application on March 13, 2018. The Planning Board forwarded a recommendation of Approval to the City Commission with four conditions. The City Commission approved this Site Plan and Design Review application with four conditions on May 7, 2018. The approved Site Plan has become expired. Per the direction of the City Manager's office, the applicant is requesting an extension of the approved Site Plan and Design Review application with the four conditions.**

## Request

The applicant is seeking approval to build a building consisting of 3,000 sq. ft. of mercantile and 1,986 sq. ft. of business office. The project will consist of four (4) units; totaling 4, 896 sq. ft. The proposed development is an extension of an existing downtown commercial building – Second Street Station. The 0.138 acre lot of the subject 1.02 acres property is located on the north side of Avenue A; between the existing PP Cobb and Second Street Station buildings. The subject parcel is currently vacant and consists of an unimproved parking lot.

The subject site has a Zoning of C-4, Central Commercial Zone with Future Land Use (FLU) designation of CBD, Central Business District.

## History

The City Commission at their meeting on February 7, 2005; approved the Planned Unit Redevelopment Plan for the subject parcel. The proposed development "One Marina Place" consisted of a five-story building with approximately 7,200 square feet of retail space on the ground floor and a total of 41 units on the other four floors. The proposed density was 40 units per acre on a total of 1.04 acres. A total of 98 parking spaces were proposed in a basement, on the ground floor, and along Avenue B which was proposed to be realigned. In addition, a gym and an outdoor pool were proposed to be located on the 5th floor of the mixed-use building. Because the construction of the project had not started; as defined by the Building Department, nor an extension for the Plan had been requested within 12 months of the City Commission approval, the Plan expired. After discussion by the City Commission, Staff committed to place the Plan on the April 11th Planning Board agenda for re-approval. The Planning Board reapproved the Plan at their April 11, 2006 meeting. The Plan was submitted for re-approval and approved by the City Commission at their May 15, 2006 meeting.

## Site Plan

The current applicant is proposing to build a building consisting of 3,000 sq. ft. of mercantile and 1,986 sq. ft. of business office. The project will consist of four (4) units; totaling 4, 896 sq. ft. The proposed development is an extension of an existing downtown commercial building – Second Street Station. The site is located in the "Downtown Business and Entertainment Overlay District" and is exempt from off-street parking requirements. Also in the "Downtown Business and Entertainment Overlay District", there is no minimum setback. With that said, the proposed building will consist of a monolithic slab with footers in-line with the proposed exterior building walls. There will be no encroachment of the foundation on the neighboring properties. The proposed construction will include an elevated patio seating area and re-construction of the existing sidewalk pavers to

the south and west of the proposed building. Due to the sloping sidewalk (drops approximately one-foot west to east along the property's 50-foot frontage), the proposed finished floor elevation has been established to match the adjacent buildings and therefore cannot provide ADA accessibility to the public sidewalk without the ramp and elevated patio. The patio will lend itself to "sidewalk café seating."

## **Design Review**

The proposed mixed-use building is designed to match the adjacent buildings on each side with "on-street" frontage (i.e. – zero front setback). This configuration occurs predominately throughout the downtown area. The property to the west (i.e. – Second Street Station) is also owned by the applicant. The subject property is also within the Downtown District; a City of Fort Pierce Historic District. A Certificate of Appropriateness for Design Review by the City of Fort Pierce Historic Preservation Board, has been approved. The proposed development is considered to be conforming with regard to use. The (C-4) Central Commercial Zoning District is intended to serve as a primary center of commercial and institutional activity and as a readily identifiable focal point of the community and surrounding area.

The proposed development's modern architectural design and construction are compatible with the scale and character of the city's mix of existing buildings and land uses. The design is architecturally compatible with surrounding structures. The property is located within a historic preservation district (Downtown Historic District), the design features are reasonably consistent with the historic character of the predominant architectural style within the district. The design features will enhance or preserve the quality of the surrounding area so as not to detract from existing property values or impact adversely on existing scenic, natural, or historic beauty. The design avoids undue monotony in structural design features. Per City Code Section 22-59. – Design Review (d)(2); the following standards are considered for approval:

- (i) The design, including landscape features, is architecturally compatible with surrounding structures so as to be reasonably harmonious in landscaping, style, and color;
  - (ii) If the property is located within a historic preservation district, the design features are reasonably consistent with the historic character of the predominant architectural style within the district;
  - (iii) The design features will enhance or preserve the quality of the surrounding area so as not to detract from existing property values or impact adversely on existing scenic, natural, or historic beauty;
  - (iv) The design avoids undue monotony in structural design features.
- The board may condition recommendation for approval upon an applicant obtaining of a suitable variance pursuant to article VIII from the board of adjustment.

## **Traffic Impact Study**

An analysis of the traffic impacts associated with the proposed mixed use building was performed using data provided by the latest edition of the ITE Trip Generation Manual. The calculations demonstrate that the proposed mixed use building will cause a nominal increase in traffic volumes. Therefore, the results indicate that an acceptable level of service will be maintained on the roadways servicing this project. The study suggests an increase of 404 daily trips with an average morning total of 39 trips and average evening total of 37 trips.

### Staff Recommendation

The proposed Site Plan meets the criteria specified in Section 22-32 and 22-59 of the City Code and promotes and protects the public health, safety, and general welfare; therefore Staff recommends that the Planning Board forward a recommendation to, **APPROVE** the proposed Site Plan with the following conditions:

- 1) The applicant obtains a Right of Way permit with the Engineering Department for re-construction of the adjacent sidewalk and construction of an elevated patio.
- 2) Please provide a color board (11"x17" maximum) containing actual color samples of all exterior finishes, keyed to the elevations, and indicating the manufacturer's name and color designation. Provide an accurate color rendering of proposed signs showing dimensions, type of lettering, materials and actual color samples that demonstrates cohesiveness with the project design.
- 3) Please provide a final landscape plan that meets the requirements of Article XII, Landscaping and Trees.
- 4) Per City Code Section 22-59 and Chapter 23; the design features must be reasonably consistent with the historic character of the predominant architectural style within the historic district (Downtown). Please seek approval by the Historic Preservation Board for compliance with terms and conditions of applicable certificates of appropriateness, prior to issuance of any building permit.