



June 16, 2021

## CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Carla Pareja  
Hamilton-Anderson Associates  
1435 Randolph Street, #200  
Detroit, MI 48226

**RE: Application #21-7300; 2200 Atwater, Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre / Chene Park Historic District**

Dear Ms. Pareja:

At the regularly scheduled meeting held virtually on June 9 2021, the Detroit Historic District Commission (“Commission”) reviewed the above-referenced application for building permit. Pursuant to Section 5(10) of the Michigan Local Historic District Act, as amended, being MCL 399.205, MSA 5-3407(5)(10) and Section 21-2-73 of the 2019 Detroit City Code; the Commission has reviewed the above-referenced application for building permit and hereby issues a Certificate of Appropriateness, which is effective as of June 16, 2021.

The following proposed work meets the defined elements of design for the historic district and the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings (36 CFR Part 67).

Construction of a new building that will house toilet facilities with usable rooftop space, a lift/elevator, and accessible seating area. Lighting and new planting material as part of, and adjacent to, the structure is also proposed.

- The height of the main structure will be 22 feet, with the ADA lift tower rising another 2’-4” (total height topping at 26’-4”).
- Four accessible seats span the width of the seating platform (with companion seating directly behind). The path to the new building/lift is at the rear and will not interfere with the seating area. A glass guardrail will enclose this area allowing for clear viewing toward the stage.
- The roof level includes an area for casual gathering in addition to the circulation areas needed for the entrance/exit from the lift and stairs leading to the lower path/restrooms.
- Storage is proposed for the interior space within the north tower, above the first floor restrooms. This area will be accessed by a double door on the area of the roof not accessible to the public. It will be closed off from the public area by two tall curved perforated metal panels.
- Horizontal metal rails, similar in design to the historic rails, will be used to create a uniform enclosure height (as the height of the concrete walls will vary). Additional horizontal rails between the top and bottom rails will be needed to comply with the current building code. Color: black.
- Lighting will be limited to recessed lights within the lower walls of the structure, path and stairs to avoid light pollution within the auditorium seating.
- At the lower level, there is one entrance to the restrooms and storage/janitorial closet. The entrance to the lift is adjacent (to the right of) the restroom entrance.
- Solid corrugated metal panels (ascot white) will face the lift tower.

- Perforated metal panels (with different diameters of holes and percentage of open areas) will face a portion of the front façade.
- The curvilinear portions of the building will retain exposed, smooth surface, concrete walls.
- Two wall-mounted lights will partially illuminate the front of the building, while existing tall pathway pole lights will illuminate the surrounding area.
- Concrete, laid in a radial pattern helps to integrate the building to the lower path. The lower planter wall will allow for seating.
- New plantings, identical to existing plantings within the park, will be placed in the raised planters and adjacent the new building.
- Twelve evergreen trees and one deciduous tree will be removed for the new building.

## **Materials:**

### Building

*Concrete* – poured concrete, smooth finish with translucent glazing, recessed horizontal joints, color: natural.

*Corrugated (perforated and non-perforated) metal cladding* - ATAS International, Gaten Series, belvedere wave panel, color: ascot white (matte finish).

### Perforation panel specifications

Level one (closest to grade): A15 - 1/8” holes, 23% open area

Level two: A19 - 3/16” holes, 33% open area

Level three: A23 - 1/4” holes, 23% open area

Level four (near top of building): A25 - 3/8” holes, 40% open area

*Glass guard rail* (to enclose accessible seating) – CR Laurence Company, Taper-LocX Dry Glaze Railing System, CRL Glass Rail System, color/glass: tempered monolithic, fascia cladding for base shoe.

*Metal tube horizontal railing* – used at building roof and side enclosure of accessible seating, color: black

### Lighting

Recessed lights – BEGA shielded lights, color: black

Overhead lights – BEGA wall-mounted deck light, color: black

Pole lights – existing, color: Lagoon Blue

### Site

*Concrete* – main path: light broom finish, no color additive; accent paving: exposed aggregate finish, color additive (color not specified)

## **FUTURE PHASE – ACCESSIBLE SEATING PLATFORM AND RAMP**

Preliminary design for a future construction phase that will create an additional accessible seating area at the upper promenade (stage right of center).

- Glass guardrails along the face of the platform will offer full visibility for those seated at the platform as well as minimal visual intrusion to those walking along the upper promenade. Horizontal railings, similar in design to the site’s existing horizontal guard rails (but meeting today’s building code), are specified for the sides of the platforms and will be painted Deep Lagoon to match the existing adjacent stair railings.

The COA was issued with the following conditions:

- The drawings will note which panel will be used for the privacy walls on the roof.



CITY OF DETROIT  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226  
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- An additional tree plan will be submitted showing where new evergreen plantings will be placed.
- Details on the storage enclosure (lighting and door) will be submitted to staff for review and approval.
- Signage will be submitted to staff for review and approval.
- Staff was granted review authority for the final construction drawings of the future-phase accessible seating.

Please retain this COA for your files. You should now proceed to obtain a building permit from the City of Detroit Buildings, Safety, Engineering and Environmental Department. It is important to note that approval by the Detroit Historic District Commission does not waive the applicant's responsibility to comply with any other applicable ordinances or statutes.

For the Commission:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audra Dye".

Audra Dye  
Staff, Detroit Historic District Commission