

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 346, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 347, AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW 21-12 TO ALLOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 2,600 SQ. FT. DRIVE-THRU RESTAURANT AND A 20,422 SQ. FT. SUPERMARKET WITH TYPE 20 (BEER AND WINE) ALCOHOL SALES ON 2.85 ACRES OF VACANT LAND LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF FIRST STREET AND CESAR CHAVEZ STREET. (APN 778-020-007 AND 778-010-017) COACHELLA RETAIL REALTY ASSOCIATES, LP (APPLICANT).

WHEREAS Coachella Retail Realty Associates, LP filed an application for Conditional Use Permit (CUP 346), CUP 347, Architectural Review (AR) 21-12 and amendments to CUP 321, AR 20-03, and Tentative Parcel Map (TPM) 37940 to allow the construction of a 2,028 sq. ft. drive-thru coffee shop, 2,600 sq. ft. drive-thru restaurant, and a 20,422 sq. ft. supermarket located at the northeast corner of First Street and Cesar Chavez Street (APN 778-020-007 and 778-010-017); and,

WHEREAS on December 7, 2021, the Planning Commission of the City of Coachella held a duly noticed public hearing on the subject application, considered written and oral comments, and facts and evidence presented by the applicant, City staff, and other interested parties; and

WHEREAS the proposed use is necessary or desirable for the development of the community, is consistent with the objectives of the City’s General Plan, and is not detrimental to the existing uses or the uses specifically permitted in the zone in which the proposed use is to be located; and,

WHEREAS the proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the proposed development; and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Division completed an initial environmental assessment of the above matter and in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) recommends the Planning Commission determine the project will not result in any new environmental effects that were not previously analyzed as part of the original project under Environmental Initial Study 07-16 on May 7, 2008 for Fountainhead Plaza for all phases of the project.

WHEREAS the conditions as stipulated by the City are necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission of the City of Coachella, California hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals

The Planning Commission hereby finds that all of the facts in the Recitals are true and correct and are incorporated and adopted as findings of the Planning Commission as fully set forth in this resolution.

Section 2. CEQA Findings

Based upon its review of the entire record, including the Staff Report, any public comments or testimony presented to the Planning Commission, and the facts outlined below, the Planning Commission hereby finds and determines that the proposed project will not result in any new environmental effects that were not previously analyzed as part of the original project under Environmental Initial Study 07-16 on May 7, 2008 for Fountainhead Plaza for all phases of the project.

Section 3. Conditional Use Permit (CUP 346) and Architectural Review Findings

With respect to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 346 and Architectural Review 21-12, the Planning Commission finds as follows for the proposed for the 2,600 sq. ft. drive-thru restaurant and the 20,422 sq. ft. supermarket:

1. The Conditional Use Permit and Architectural Review is consistent with the goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures of the Coachella General Plan 2035, except as recognized that the project has vested rights to the development of drive-thru restaurants and service stations previously vested under CUP No. 233 and AR No. 07-20. Staff requested direction from the Planning Commission at the June 3, 2015, Planning Commission hearing through a policy discussion item on the agenda. The Commission did find that the proposed drive-thru and service station are in harmony with the immediate vicinity of the proposed site and indicated that any future proposed development on the vacant portion of the site must be in strict compliance with the newly adopted City of Coachella General Plan 2035. The site has a Downtown Center land use designation that allows for a range of retail uses. The proposed uses on the site are in keeping with the policies of the Downtown Center land use classification and the Project is internally consistent with other General Plan policies for this type of development.
2. The proposed uses will be located, designed, constructed, operated and maintained so as to be compatible with the existing or intended character of the general vicinity and shall not change the essential character of the same area. The proposed project is in compliance with the applicable development standards for the C-G (General Commercial) Zoning District of the City's Zoning Code. The site plan proposes the construction and operation of a development consisting of a 2,600 sq. ft. drive-thru restaurant and 20,422 sq. ft. supermarket, on 2.85 acres of vacant land of a 5.9 acre site within Tentative Parcel Map 37940, in accordance with section 17.74.010 of the Coachella Municipal Code. The drive-thru restaurant can accommodate 10 vehicles in drive-thru lane and satisfies the City's minimum stacking requirement of 8 vehicles.
3. Consideration is given to harmony in scale, bulk, coverage and density, to the availability of public facilities and utilities, to harmful effect, if any, upon desirable neighborhood character, to the generation of traffic and the capacity of surrounding streets, and to any other relevant impact of the development. The proposed project is in compliance with the applicable

development standards for the C-G (General Commercial) Zoning District of the City's Zoning Code. The proposed development consists a 2,600 sq. ft. drive-thru restaurant and 20,422 sq. ft. supermarket, on 2.85 acres of vacant land of a 5.9 acre site which will provide City residents and regional residents with an alternative dining choice and an additional service station with a convenience store which will provide convenience to motorist within the region. The proposed use is compatible with existing adjacent uses which include similar land uses and large commercial development sites.

4. The Project will be compatible with neighboring properties with respect to land development patterns. The proposed development would development according to the development standards of the C-G Zone at a scale, massing, and aesthetic appeal of existing development is in keeping with development of neighboring properties.
5. The proposed use will include three new vehicular approaches to the property designed to improve off-site and on-site vehicular circulation for existing traffic on surrounding public streets or roads. Evidence of this is reflected in the provided site plan design. The three new proposed drive aisles and internal circulation have been reviewed and approved by the Fire Department and the Engineering Department.

Section 4. Conditional Use Permit Findings – CUP 347

With respect to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) 347, the Planning Commission finds as follows for the proposed for Type 20 Off-Sale Beer and Wine at the 20,442 sq. ft. supermarket:

1. The Conditional Use Permit is consistent with the goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures of the Coachella General Plan 2035, except as recognized that the project has vested rights to the development of drive-thru restaurants and service stations previously vested under CUP No. 233 and AR No. 07-20. Staff requested direction from the Planning Commission at the June 3, 2015, Planning Commission hearing through a policy discussion item on the agenda. The Commission did find that the proposed drive-thru and service station are in harmony with the immediate vicinity of the proposed site and indicated that any future proposed development on the vacant portion of the site must be in strict compliance with the newly adopted City of Coachella General Plan 2035. The site has an Downtown Center land use designation that allows for a range of retail uses. The proposed uses on the site are in keeping with the policies of the Downtown Center land use classification and the Project is internally consistent with other General Plan policies for this type of development.
2. The proposed uses will be located, designed, constructed, operated and maintained so as to be compatible with the existing or intended character of the general vicinity and shall not change the essential character of the same area. The proposed project is in compliance with the applicable development standards for the C-G (General Commercial) Zoning District of the City's Zoning Code. The site plan proposes the construction and operation of a development consisting of a 2,600 sq. ft. drive-thru restaurant and 20,422 sq. ft. supermarket, on 2.85 acres of vacant land of a 5.9 acre site within Tentative Parcel Map 37940, in accordance with section 17.74.010 of the Coachella Municipal Code.
3. Consideration is given to harmony in scale, bulk, coverage and density, to the availability of

public facilities and utilities, to harmful effect, if any, upon desirable neighborhood character, to the generation of traffic and the capacity of surrounding streets, and to any other relevant impact of the development. The proposed project is in compliance with the applicable development standards for the C-G (General Commercial) Zoning District of the City's Zoning Code. The proposed development consists a 2,600 sq. ft. drive-thru restaurant and 20,422 sq. ft. supermarket, on 2.85 acres of vacant land of a 5.9 acre site which will provide City residents and regional residents with an alternative dining choice and an additional service station with a convenience store which will provide convenience to motorist within the region. The proposed use is compatible with existing adjacent uses which include similar land uses and large commercial development sites.

4. The Project will be compatible with neighboring properties with respect to land development patterns. The proposed development would development according to the development standards of the C-G Zone at a scale, massing, and aesthetic appeal of existing development is in keeping with development of neighboring properties.
5. The proposed use will include three new vehicular approaches to the property designed to improve off-site and on-site vehicular circulation for existing traffic on surrounding public streets or roads. Evidence of this is reflected in the provided site plan design. The three new proposed drive aisles and internal circulation have been reviewed and approved by the Fire Department and the Engineering Department.
6. Although the Aldi supermarket Type 20 Off-Sale Beer and Wine establishment does fall within seven hundred (700) feet, measured from property line to property line, of a use for religious worship (Centro Catolico Martin Ortiz), and residential use, the benefit of the supermarket outweighs the distance restrictions and the public convenience or necessity is justified to issue the off-sale beer and wine license as the supermarket will offer a wide selection of food products, will increase the availability of fresh produce to Coachella residents and provide goods at a location within walking distance from surrounding neighborhoods in keeping with the walkable character promoted by the Downtown Center land use designation for the Coachella General Plan 2035.
7. Although the Aldi supermarket Type 20 Off-Sale Beer and Wine establishment does fall within seven hundred (700) feet, measured from property line to property line, of an existing liquor, off-sale use (Walgreens, 99 Cent Store, and Cardenas market) the benefit of the supermarket outweighs the distance restrictions and the public convenience or necessity is justified to issue the off-sale beer and wine license as the supermarket will offer a wide selection of food products, will increase the availability of fresh produce to Coachella residents and provide goods at a location within walking distance to the immediate neighborhood not provided by another existing establishment in keeping with the walkable character promoted by the Downtown Center land use designation for the Coachella General Plan 2035. A condition of approval for CUP 347 requires that not greater than five percent of the sales floor area or one thousand (1,000) square feet, whichever is less, shall be used for the display or sale of alcoholic beverages.
8. The supermarket Type 20 Off-Sale Beer and Wine establishment at the location will not adversely affect the economic welfare of the nearby community, but rather would expand the availability of jobs by a major anchor tenant and would serve as a catalyst to the

development of the other vacant retail pads within the commercial center which would also provide jobs and increase the City's sales tax revenues.

9. The exterior appearance of the structure of the proposed establishment will not be inconsistent with the exterior appearance of commercial structures already constructed or under construction within the immediate neighborhood so as to cause blight or deterioration, or substantially diminish or impair the property values within the neighborhood insofar that the architectural design of the building is modified as conditioned inclusive of architectural enhancements to the front elevations and extending parapet walls above the height of rooftop mechanical equipment for screening purposes.

Section 5. Planning Commission Approval

Based on the foregoing recitals and findings above, and the written and oral comments, facts and evidence presented, the City of Coachella Planning Commission hereby approves Conditional Use Permit (CUP 346), CUP 347 and Architectural Review 21-12 for the Fountainhead Plaza Phase III development and subject to the Conditions of Approval as set forth in "Exhibit A"

PASSED APPROVED and ADOPTED this 7th day of December 2021.

Stephanie Virgen, Chairperson
Coachella Planning Commission

ATTEST:

Gabriel Perez
Planning Commission Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Carlos Campos
City Attorney

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. PC2021-25, was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Coachella, California, held on the 7th day of December 2021, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Gabriel Perez
Planning Commission Secretary