

**RESOLUTION NO. PC 2021-19**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COACHELLA, CALIFORNIA APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 343 TO ALLOW ON SALE LIQUOR SERVICE FOR THE 1,680 SQUARE FOOT COACHELLA BAR (ABC LICENSE TYPE 48 – ON SALE GENERAL PUBLIC PREMISE), IN AN EXISTING COMMERCIAL BUILDING LOCATED AT 85-995 GRAPEFRUIT BLVD, (APN 778-100-013); NICOLAS MEZA, APPLICANT.**

**WHEREAS**, Nicolas Meza filed an application for Conditional Use Permit No. 343 (CUP 343) to allow a 1,680 square foot cocktail lounge with service of beer and wine (ABC License Type 48 – On Sale General Public Premise) in an existing commercial building located at 85-995 Grapefruit Blvd, Suite 2; Assessor’s Parcel No. 778-110-004 (“Project”); and,

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing on CUP No. 343 on September 1, 2021 at the Coachella Permit Center, 53-990 Enterprise Way, Coachella, California regarding the proposed Project; and,

**WHEREAS**, at the Planning Commission hearing, the Applicant and members of the public were present and were afforded an opportunity to testify regarding the Project; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Project is permitted pursuant to Chapter 17.74 of the Coachella Municipal Code.

**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 restaurant with on-sale beer and wine; and,

**WHEREAS**, the site for proposed use relates properly to streets which are designed to carry the type and quantity of traffic to be generated by the proposed use; and,

**WHEREAS**, the proposed project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, as amended; and,

**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 does hereby approve Conditional Use Permit No. 343, subject to the findings and conditions of approval listed below.

**FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 343:**

1. The proposed use will not be in conflict with, but will be in harmony with and in accordance with the objectives of the general plan because the proposed restaurant use with alcohol sales is within the Downtown Center land use designation according to the General Plan 2035, which allows the intended physical character to provide a convenient and congenial environment for everyday shopping and dining, the Downtown brings the entire community together in a one-of-a-kind Coachella center that is the civic heart of the City. The on sale liquor service will expand existing offerings of beer and wine at Coachella Bar that serves the businesses in the Downtown Center and citywide.
2. The proposed use will be located, designed, constructed, operated and maintained so as to be compatible with the existing character of the general vicinity and shall not change the essential character of the same area because the proposed use is within a zoning designation of 'C-G' (General Commercial) which permits cocktail lounges subject to obtaining a conditional use permit to sell alcoholic beverages. The proposed use in the Sixth Street commercial core area and is compatible with the adjoining commercial uses and the conditional use permit can be revoked if any of the conditions of approval are violated.
3. Consideration has been 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 development, because the existing commercial tenant space is within an existing commercial building with all infrastructure available on-site for the existing restaurant. Due to the location of the business in the Sixth Street Commercial Core and distance within 500 feet of a public parking lot, the business is exempt from providing on-site parking pursuant to the City Parking Ordinance Chapter 17.54.
4. Where the proposed use may be potentially hazardous or disturbing to existing or reasonably expected neighboring uses, it must be justified by the common public interest as a benefit to the community as a whole. As conditioned, the proposed use will provide for the sale of alcoholic beverages. The Riverside County Sheriff indicated that there have been no complaints or nuisances reported for the Coachella Bar business and they do not recommend conditions related to public safety concerns. As such, there will be no hazardous or disturbing effects to the existing and neighboring uses.
5. The proposed use provides vehicular approaches to the property designed for reasonable minimal interference with traffic on surrounding public streets or roads. Vehicular approaches are not required for the location. The existing building is a historic building with a traditional neighborhood design appropriate for a Downtown Center that is of a scale that promotes walkability. Vehicular public parking along public streets is sufficient.
6. The City of Coachella has determined that the proposed project is categorically exempt

from environmental review pursuant to the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act as an “Existing Facilities” project (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301a) as the proposed on sale service of liquor will occur in conjunction with an existing business in an existing commercial building.

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 343:**

1. Conditional Use Permit No. 343 is an approval for the on sale of beer and wine in conjunction with the existing El Tranvia restaurant. This approval is based on the floor plan submitted for the proposed project. Violation of any of the conditions of approval shall be cause for revocation of the Conditional Use Permit.
2. Alcohol sales must be commenced within 12 months of the effective date of this Conditional Use Permit unless a request for an extension of time is reviewed by the Planning Commission. A request for time extension shall be filed in a timely manner with applicable fees.
3. Any break in service, meaning the closure of the convenience grocery store use for a period of 180 consecutive days, will result in the expiration of this CUP.
4. The applicant will agree to defend and indemnify the City of Coachella against all claims, actions, damages, and losses, including attorney fees and costs, in the event that anyone files legal challenges to the approval of this project on the basis of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Prior to the issuance of building permits, the applicant shall execute a standard indemnification agreement subject to review by the City Attorney.
5. The use shall meet the standards within the limits established by the Coachella Municipal Code as related to emissions of noise, odor, dust, vibration, wastes, fumes, or any public nuisances arising or occurring incidental to the establishment or operation.
6. Hours of operation for the cocktail lounge may be from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 am Friday through Saturday, with last call for alcohol service at 1:30 a.m.
7. The applicant shall comply with all requirements imposed by the State Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and a review of this conditional use permit will be required if the business results in an increase in floor area.

**PASSED APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Stephanie Virgen  
Planning Commission Chairperson

**ATTEST:**

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Yesenia Becerril  
Planning Commission Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Carlos Campos  
City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA            )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE        ) ss.  
CITY OF COACHELLA            )

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing Resolution No. PC2021-19 was duly adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Coachella at a regular meeting thereof, held on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 2021 by the following vote of the Planning Commission:

AYES:

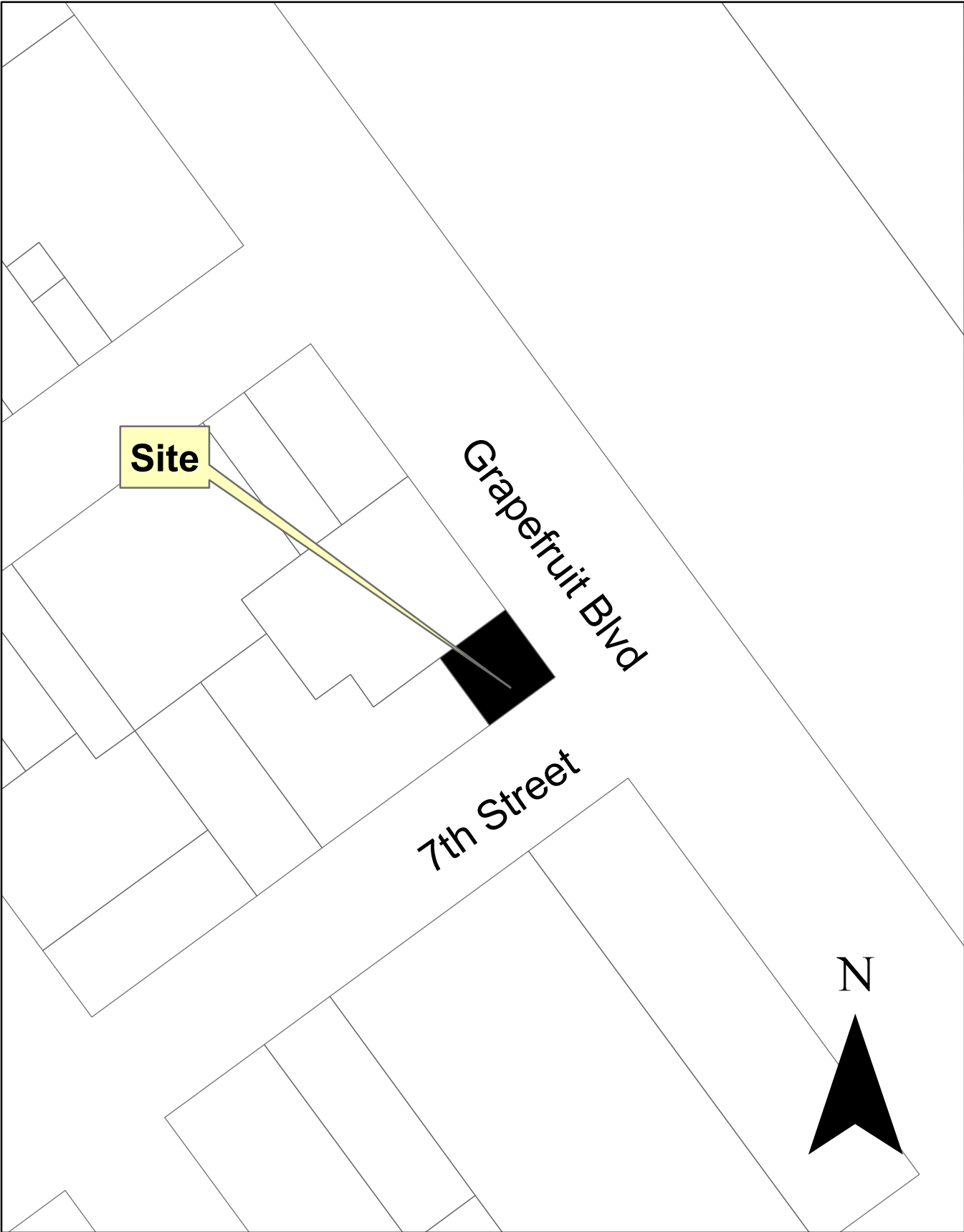
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Yesenia Becerril  
Planning Commission Secretary



**Vicinity Map**



