



## **DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION**

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**City & County of San Francisco  
1660 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94103-2414**

### **ACCESS APPEALS COMMISSION MINUTES Special Meeting**

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**Wednesday, September 12, 2007**

**\*SPECIAL MEETING LOCATION:**

**LOBBY MEETING ROOM**

**1275 Market Street**

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#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

President Brown called the meeting of the Access Appeals Commission to order at 1:11 P.M.  
Commissioner Baltimore was absent.

#### **COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Alyce Brown, President  
Mr. Jurgen Dostert, Commissioner  
Mr. Arnie Lerner, AIA, Commissioner  
Mr. Walter Park, Commissioner

#### **CITY REPRESENTATIVES:**

Mr. Neil Friedman, DBI, Secretary  
Ms. Susan Pangilinan, DBI, Recording Secretary  
Ms. Elaine Warren, Deputy City Attorney  
Ms. Doris Levine, Court Stenographer

#### **221 MAIN STREET REPRESENTATIVES:**

Mr. Douglas Booth, Douglas Booth Architects  
Mr. Michael Knauff, Douglas Booth Architects

#### **PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE:**

Ms. Karen Kircher

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

#### **3. REVIEW OF COMMUNICATION ITEMS:**

There were no communication items.

#### **4. PROCLAMATION FOR MS. ENID LIM:**

Ms. Lim could not attend. This item will be calendared for another time.

## 5. CONTINUED APPEALS:

### Appeal No. 07-01, 221 Main Street

This is a continuation of an appeal of the denial of an Unreasonable Hardship Request for the lack of the required 8'2" clearance into the parking garage of a downtown high-rise building. The Department has previously approved parking hardships for this building based on Administrative Bulletin AB-007 and on the fact that alternative 8'2" covered van parking was available within 300' horizontally of 221 Main Street. The 300' was previously measured as a radius. The Department has recently *informally* determined that the 300' must be measured as an accessible, straight line distance.

#### Summary of the hearing:

The appellant would like to install a 'blue zone' at the front of the building for disabled access van parking. The space at 75 Folsom Street is too far away (via an accessible path of travel, that would be 800 feet) and it cannot be leased.

The Commission would like the space to be reserved and labeled 'for 221 Main St.' It will need a sign that states 'van only.' There would be a contingency for approval of this case, that a sign would be added that says that vehicles other than vans and vans which are not visiting 221 Main Street, would be towed. The Department of Parking and Traffic would approve these conditions in writing, based on the recommendation of the AAC. One Commissioner did not agree that this could be done (that it might not be legal to reserve a space on the street) and that the responsibility for the parking was being thrust upon the city. He thought a reserved space, off street would be more suitable. Another commissioner said that per CBC 1130B, an equivalent facilitation for hi-top van parking is not really required. Unobstructed 8x18 aisle on sidewalk. Curb cut, smooth transitions (no lip), can not use the driveway curb cut, 23 feet long with rear 5 feet hatched, blue curb, van only, ISA, towaway, reserved for this building only, gutter slope and driveway ramp no more than 5% grade, level landing, no lip at driveway (smooth transition), ability to turn onto the sidewalk without more than 2% cross slope. A commissioner suggested that the secretary write a letter to the appellant stating

**Commissioner Park made a motion leave the case open, until and contingent upon the appellant's ability to secure the conditions listed below. The Secretary shall make a list in writing, to send to the appellant, which states the conditions for approval of this case. If, in a letter to the Secretary from the appellant, these conditions are stated as being met, the appellant would not have to return to the Commission in order to get approval to proceed. On a vote of 4-0, the Commission approved the motion (Commissioner Baltimore was absent.) These are the conditions to be met by the appellant:**

- 1. The proposed parking at the front of the building shall be a 'blue zone.'**
- 2. An aisle on the sidewalk having the dimensions of 8' by 18' shall be reserved for the unloading zone.**
- 3. Provide a hatched 5' long space at the rear of the 18' long by 9' wide parking space**

4. **Provide 4 signs at the required height: a ‘van only’ sign, a sign which states that the space is reserved for 221 Main Street, a sign which shows the international symbol of accessibility, and a tow away sign, all located outside the transfer aisle;**
5. **Provide a smooth transition at the driveway curb cut.**
6. **Verify that the slope at the gutter does not exceed 5%;**
7. **Verify that the slope of the driveway ramp does not exceed 5%;**
8. **Verify that level landings can be provided;**
9. **Verify that the cross slope at the top of the ramp does not exceed 2% where a wheelchair user turns to use the sidewalk;**
10. **Secure a letter from the Department of Parking and Traffic stating that they approve of these conditions.**

**6. AAC MINUTES:**

Minutes for the January 10 and February 14, 2007 meetings will be calendared for formal approval.

**7. COMMISSIONERS AND STAFFS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:**

- i. Commissioner Park would like to have a discussion about the ‘consent calendar.’
- ii. Commissioner Dostert would like to have a written document regarding the application and (basis for) a 3 year length of time for decisions.
- iii. The Commission asked Secretary Friedman to obtain a written copy of the Department of Public Health Standard regarding home visits for skin care salon practitioners, as it applies to the 3384 Sacramento Street appeal case #06-05.
- iv. The Commission asked for a discussion regarding physical conditions of special offsite meetings.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM.

These notes are an approximate summary of the Commission meeting.

Full transcripts of meetings are available for the cost of transcription. Copies of the audio tapes are also available for the cost of making the copies.

**Neil Friedman**

Senior Building Inspector

Department of Building Inspection

Secretary to the Access Appeals Commission