

***Allen Willinsky***

Ambassador II  
2780 S. Ocean Boulevard  
Palm Beach, FL 33480

December 15, 2021

Town Council  
Town of Palm Beach  
360 South Country Road  
PO Box 2029  
Palm Beach, FL 33480

Mr. Wayne Bergman  
Director of Planning, Zoning & Building  
360 South Country Road  
PO Box 2029  
Palm Beach, FL 33480

Re: Special Exception Request for Beachfront Concessionaire at 2800 South Ocean Boulevard (ZON-21-025)

Dear Members of the Town Council and Mr. Bergman:

I am here today to tell you why this application is a bad idea and that the proper action from the Town Council is to deny this application.

We live in a tumultuous world today and Palm Beach is our go-to, to soak up needed tranquility, peace, and enjoyment of our beachfront. We must remember the unique history and quality of life Palm Beach exemplifies and promises. We do not want the council to disturb the special small town residential feeling that every administration has fought to preserve. A vote to deny this application is the right choice going forward, for every resident, guest & visitor to Palm Beach. This is a full-blown assault on our Palm Beach lifestyle.

Every action has a reaction and when you add a service you must think about the consequences of such an action. The addition of services will amplify additional issues and change the meaning of peaceful enjoyment of our waterfront for all with added noise levels from increased truck deliveries for food, increased waste, trash and pollution, waste removal vehicles, increased personnel activity, increased janitorial activity, increased glass recycling, increased parking needs for employees, guests, and commercial vehicles. The Ambassador II already lives with an 8 AM alarm sounding the arrival of the first commercial vehicle that signals warning sounds when backing up. Additional deliveries and parking maneuvering all add significantly to the environmental noise pollution factor. The Ambassador II next to the Four Seasons already lives with an elevated level of noise. Added services will amplify the noise levels coming from the Four Seasons and destroy the peaceful enjoyment of our beachfront community.

The bigger issue is whether The Town of Palm Beach retains its residential nature of quiet and peaceful enjoyment of the beach paradise the Town of Palm Beach website talks about. We must deny the beginnings of commercial enterprise to destroy the unique character of Palm Beach that all residents and guests expect and have a right to enjoy. The Town Council must protect the health, safety, welfare, and quality of life for residents, guests and families that come to embrace this special paradise.

The Four Seasons hotel has not been a good neighbor. It never discussed with us their intended petition for this proposal. Instead, they ignored the process and went ahead to install it without town approval, submitting the application after the fact. Submission of a proposal does not grant the right to operate prior to and without approval.

The Four Seasons has ignored the peaceful enjoyment of their neighbors by building sound and light stages above their pool, installing special lighting for a party that went on for 15 hours of continuous noise at levels you would expect at Madison Square Garden. The noise was rock-star level and surely affected the health and well-being of residents in the area. The Four Seasons followed up 2 days later with another mega party that went on for hours at decibel levels above code and creating a level of noise pollution that is not beneficial to our cherished environment. Additionally, the Town of Palm Beach cited the Four Seasons for multiple building and fire code violations and failed to correct the violations in a timely manner.

“Relaxed sophistication on the island’s best beach” comes directly from the Four Seasons website. Additionally, this quote “Here at Palm Beach Island’s only five-star, five-diamond resort, the feel is timeless, charming and intimately connected to our private beachfront just steps beyond our front door. Every detail and memorable experience tell the story of the warmth and spirit of our iconic island. Settle into the easygoing pace of life by the water, where an authentic Palm Beach experience awaits.”

Large storage bins on the beach are an eyesore and watercraft on the beach hinders beautiful walks on the beach without having to take detours. Additional concessionaire activities bring added tents and flags to our beach making for unpleasant and unsightly views. Increased beach traffic due to the Four Seasons activities increases the need for additional security for Ambassador II and additional cost.

All residents and guests pay handsomely to come to Palm Beach for the peaceful and tranquil enjoyment of our beachfront. Our resident beach lovers and Palm Beach history are the only reason to purchase property on the beach. Noise pollution, unsightly huts, trash bins, flags and the like detract from that enjoyment and realtors will devalue our property while revenue increases for the Four Seasons.

In closing, by favoring and rewarding a single commercial entity and bad neighbor, you alienate your tax paying residents and risk losing the small-town residential flavor of Palm Beach that is so cherished. This is a bad precedent to set now and for the future of Palm Beach. The Town Council’s mission is to keep and protect the magic that is Palm Beach. For that reason and all the above reasons, I strongly urge the council to protect the magic of the Palm Beach lifestyle by denying this application.

Respectfully,

*Allen Willinsky*

Board Director  
Ambassador II  
2780 S. Ocean Boulevard  
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