

STATE OF LOUISIANA
Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Office of State Fire Marshal Code Enforcement and Building Safety
8181 Independence Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
225-925-4920

H "BUTCH" BROWNING
FIRE MARSHAL

RENOVATION

ROBERT WILTSE, ARCHITECT
DAMMON ENGINEERING INC
1095 FLORIDA AVE
SLIDELL, LA 70458-0000

RE: P0367234
NORTH SHORE CHURCH
300 KENSINGTON AVE
SLIDELL, LA 70458-0000

NFPA 101, 2006

ASSEMBLY OVER 300 OCCUPANTS

Dear Applicant:

This is to advise that we have reviewed the drawings and specifications for the subject proposed construction and have determined that they appear to satisfactorily comply with the adopted laws, codes, rules and regulations of The State Fire Marshal subject to the following requirements:

1. **This letter voids and replaces our review of March 16, 2009, Project Number P0360411.**
2. **This review is for the renovation and change of occupancy of a portion of an existing multi-tenant building. A "Party Wall" is to be erected in association with structural modifications in order to separate the existing building into two structures. This review assumes that the proposed classrooms are to be used in conjunction with worship activities.**
 - a) **This review applies to new work indicated in the drawings and does not apply to existing non-conforming conditions. This review DOES NOT INCLUDE areas of the building indicated as "FUTURE EXPANSION" on the submitted plans. Before occupancy of that area is permitted and before any work is commenced in that area, plans and specifications shall be reviewed by this office.**
 - b) **101:4.6.11 A change in use of a building shall require conformance with the requirements of this Code applying to new construction for the proposed new use. Prior use: MERCANTILE / BUSINESS occupancy, proposed use: ASSEMBLY occupancy.**
 - c) **Section 36.102(e) of the Federal Register 28 CFR Part 36 states that "religious entities" are exempt from the requirements of title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Since it appears that the facility is operated by a "religious entity", a review for ADAAG compliance has not been performed on this submittal. Please return ALL reviewed documents with a written request for full ADAAG compliance review, if the exemption does NOT apply. A separate plan review application and fee will NOT be necessary.**

NOTE: THE COMMENTS LISTED BELOW IDENTIFY APPARENT DEFICIENCIES DETECTED IN OUR REVIEW OF THE DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED.

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3. 101:12.2.3.6.2(2) Main entrance/exit doors 113A serving the Worship Center shall be of a width that accommodates one-half of the total occupant load.
4. 101:7.2.1.4.4 During their swing, doors 136A & 115B, and doors 118A & 135 shall not reduce the effective width of the corridor to less than one-half its required width. When fully open, doors shall not project more than 7" (including hardware) into the required egress width. (See sheet A-1).
5. 101:12.2.2.2 Doors in a required means of egress serving 100 occupants or more may be provided with a latch or lock only if it is panic hardware. (See Doors 115B, 136A, & sheet A-2).
 - a) 101:12.2.2.2 and 101:7.2.1.5.4 MAIN ENTRANCE/EXIT DOORS 100A & 100B shall be provided with panic hardware. The building occupant load exceeds 500, a key-operated locking arrangement from the egress side is not permitted.
6. 101:7.10.8 Any door that is neither an exit nor a way of exit travel that is located or arranged so that it is likely to be mistaken for an exit shall be identified by a sign that reads: "NO EXIT". Such sign shall have the word NO in letters 2" high with a stroke width of 3/8" and the word EXIT below in letters 1" high in accordance with this section.
 - a) 101:7.5.1.6 Exit access from the Worship Center shall not be through the Janitor closet. provide "NO EXIT" signage.
 - b) 101:7.2.1.4.2 Door(s) 136B shall either swing in the direction of travel from the Worship Center & have panic hardware, or be labeled with "NO EXIT" signage.

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IDENTIFY ISSUES FOR INFORMATIONAL AND CAUTIONARY PURPOSES OR ISSUES THAT COULD NOT BE VERIFIED IN THE SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS.

7. 101:12.7.8 Seats in assembly occupancies accommodating more than 200 persons shall be securely fastened to the floor, except where fastened together in groups of not less than three and not exceeding seven and as permitted by 101:12.7.8.2.
8. 101:7.1.7.2.2 Platform 132 step, where the elevation difference is 21" or less, shall have minimum 13" treads.
 - a) 101:7.2.2.4.1 Provide handrails on both sides of platform steps.
9. 101:12.4.5.2.3 Permanent platforms shall be of the materials required for the type of building construction in which the permanent platform is located, except that the finish floor shall be permitted to be of wood in all types of construction.
10. 101:7.2.2.4.1 Stairs shall have handrails on both sides.
 - a) 101:7.2.2.4.4.10 Handrails shall continue to slope for a depth of one tread beyond the bottom riser and shall extend 12" level with the landing at the top riser.
11. Residential cooking equipment in COFFEE SHOP (if provided) shall only be used for warming or limited cooking that produces no grease-laden vapors. Otherwise, cooking equipment shall be protected in accordance with NFPA 96.
12. 101:12.3.4 Provide a fire alarm system in accordance with 101:9.6.
 - a) 101:12.3.4.3.4 The announcement shall be made via an approved voice communications or public address system, provided with an emergency power source, that is audible above the ambient noise level of the assembly occupancy.
 - b) 101:12.3.5 Provide sprinkler system "supervision" in accordance with NFPA 101:9.7.2.

c) LRS 40:1651 Submit fire alarm system shop drawings with plan review application and fee prior to installation of any work of this section. Such work shall not commence until shop drawings have been found to be in compliance with applicable codes by this office. The submittal shall include a copy of this letter and shall be in accordance with the submittal requirements outlined in the memorandum dated June 24, 1993 which was distributed from this office to all state licensed fire alarm contractors, architects and engineers. Specify the "Type of Signaling System" to be utilized, identify the monitoring station, describe the evacuation system ("zoned" or "general"), and include information concerning the means of protecting fire command centers, circuitry, and other essential equipment, such as may be required for high-rise buildings, as applicable.

13. 101:12.3.5 Provide supervised automatic sprinkler protection in accordance with 101:9.7.2. Modifications to the existing sprinkler system shall be in accordance with NFPA 13.
- a) LRS 40:1625 Submit automatic sprinkler system shop drawings with plan review application and fee prior to installation of any work to this system. Such work shall not commence until the shop drawings are reviewed and appear to satisfactorily comply with the laws, codes, rules, and regulations enforced by this office.

Be advised that a sprinkler system that satisfies the requirements of NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, NFPA 13, NFPA 13R and/or NFPA 13D may not necessarily be considered by the building insurance underwriters as "full coverage" or "fully sprinklered", for insurance purposes.

NFPA 13:4.3, 22.1.4 (2007 edition) COMPLETE AND SUBMIT "OWNER'S INFORMATION CERTIFICATE" TO SYSTEM DESIGNER IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY SPECIAL OCCUPANCIES AND COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION BEFORE START OF DESIGN. FORM CAN BE FOUND IN THE PLAN REVIEW/SPRINKLER SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE (<http://www.dps.louisiana.gov/sfm>).

14. LAC 55:V:303.D Provide listed portable fire extinguishers in accordance with NFPA 10. (Refer to Appendix E for distribution information.)
- a) NFPA 10:1.5.3 Fire extinguishers shall be conspicuously located where they will be readily accessible and immediately available in the event of fire.
- b) NFPA 10:1.5.6 Fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.
- c) NFPA 10:5.1.4 Travel distance to a fire extinguisher shall not exceed 75 feet for Class A, C and D fires.

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING IS A REVIEW FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 12 OF THE 2005 FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE. THIS REVIEW IS PERFORMED AT THE REQUEST OF, AND ON BEHALF OF THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH THIS PROPOSED PROJECT IS LOCATED.

This office will not be responsible for inspections to certify compliance with applicable requirements. Contact the local Building Official or a Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council certified third-party provider to arrange for inspections.

Codes Referenced:

2006 International Building Code (IBC) not including Chapters 1, 11, 27, and 29;
2006 International Existing Building Code (IEBC) not including Chapter 1;
2006 International Mechanical Code (IMC);
2000 Louisiana State Plumbing Code (LSPC);
2006 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC);
2005 National Electric Code (NEC)

15. **Building Planning:**
- a) **Proposed Occupancy/Use Group Classification:**
The occupancy is ASSEMBLY Group A-3 per IBC Section(s) 303.
The existing building has been subdivided into two buildings with party wall construction. This review is limited to the proposed A-3 occupancy. Areas labeled "Future Expansion" are not included in this review.
 - b) **Special Occupancy Areas:**
There are special detailed requirements for PLATFORMS AND STAGES per IBC Section 410.
 - 1. 410.4 Permanent platforms shall be constructed of materials as required for the type of construction of the building in which the permanent platform is located. Platforms are permitted to be constructed of fire-retardant- treated wood.
 - c) **Incidental/Accessory Use Areas:**
There are NO incidental use areas indicated. There are accessory Group B occupancy areas and an accessory Group M occupancy area per IBC Section 508.
 - d) **Construction Type/Building Limitations:**
The construction type is indicated to be Type II (A) per IBC Section 602.
The proposed construction meets the allowable height and area limitations of Table 503.
 - e) **Classification of Work:**
The scope of work is classified as Alteration-Level 2 per IEBC Section 404, AND Change of Occupancy per IEBC Section 406.
 - 1. 404.2 Level 2 alterations shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 6 for Level 1 alterations as well as the provisions of Chapter 7.
 - 2. 406.2 Changes of occupancy shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 9.
16. **Fire-Resistance-Rated Construction and Interior Finishes:**
- a) Party wall shall be constructed as a fire wall without openings in accordance with Section 705. The fire-resistance rating shall be not less than 3 hours per Section 705.4.
 - b) Fire (party) wall shall extend from the foundation to a termination point at least 30 inches above both the roof per IBC 705.6, UNLESS:
 - 1. Wall shall be permitted to terminate at the underside of noncombustible roof sheathing, deck, or slab where both buildings are provided with not less than a Class B roof covering. Openings in the roof shall not be located within 4 feet of the fire wall.
 - c) Fire-Resistance rating requirements for building elements shall comply with IBC Table 601. A 1-hour fire-resistance rating for structural framing and exterior bearing walls is indicated. Roof construction 20 feet or more above any floor immediately below is excepted. Construction shall comply with IBC Sections 703 and 714.
 - d) Interior walls and ceiling finishes shall be Class B: Flame spread 0-75; smoke-developed 0-450 at corridors, and Class C: Flame spread 0-200; smoke-developed 0-450 at other enclosed spaces and rooms, per IBC Table 803.5.
17. **Fire Protection Systems:**
- a) 903.2.1.3 An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for Group A-3 occupancies where the fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet or where the occupancy load exceeds 300.
 - b) 907.2.1 A manual fire alarm system shall be installed in Group A occupancies having an occupant load of 300 or more.
 - 1. 907.2.1.1 Activation of the fire alarm system shall initiate a signal using an emergency voice/alarm communications system in accordance with NFPA 72.

18. Means of Egress:

a) Refer to Life Safety Code review above for means of egress requirements. There are no apparent additional requirements of the building code that are in excess of those cited above.

19. Structural:

a) The proposed work does not appear to affect the existing building structure by more than 5%, per IEBC Section 707.

b) Modifications for structural stability of the fire wall (party wall) are required. Details indicated appear to comply.

20. Mechanical Systems:

NOTE: Section 403.1 through Section 403.7 of the "2007 Supplement to the IMC" has been adopted as part of the LSUCC by the Code Council. This change will also be included in the 2009 edition of the IMC.

IEBC 909.1 Where the occupancy of an existing building or part of an existing building is changed such that the new occupancy is subject to different kitchen exhaust requirements or to increased mechanical ventilation requirements in accordance with the International Mechanical Code, the new occupancy shall comply with the intent of the respective International Mechanical Code provisions. **THE PROPOSED WORK APPEARS TO SIGNIFICANTLY REPLACE THE EXISTING MECHANICAL SYSTEM FOR THIS TENANT SUITE.**

a) The minimum ventilation rate of outdoor air shall be determined in accordance with Section 403.3, as modified by the 2007 Supplement to the International Codes.

b) The ventilation air distribution system shall be provided with means to adjust the system to achieve at least the minimum ventilation airflow rate required. Ventilation systems shall be balanced by an approved method. Such balancing shall verify that the ventilation system is capable of supplying the airflow rates required by Section 403, per IMC 403.7 (2007 supplement).

21. Plumbing Systems:

Review for compliance with the requirements of the Louisiana State Plumbing Code [Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code] is performed at the request of the jurisdiction in which this proposed project is located AND on behalf of the State Health Officer. In accordance with R.S. 40:4.A(7), R.S. 40:5, and R.S. 40:1730.28.A(5), the State Health Officer and the Office of Public Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals holds the exclusive jurisdiction, control, and authority over Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code. Interpretations and/or adjustments to the requirements contained in this code should be directed to that department for ruling.

a) **IEBC 910.1** Where the occupancy of an existing building or part of an existing building is changed such that the new occupancy is subject to increased or different plumbing fixture requirements or to increased water supply requirements in accordance with the International Plumbing Code, the new occupancy shall comply with the intent of the respective International Plumbing Code provisions.

1. **PROVIDE AT LEAST 3 DRINKING FOUNTAINS, PER TABLE 407.**

22. Fuel Gas:

No fuel gas is indicated in the work.

23. Electrical Systems:

IEBC 908.1 Where the occupancy of an existing building or part of an existing building is changed to an assembly occupancy, the electrical wiring and equipment of the building or portion thereof that contains the proposed occupancy shall comply with the applicable requirements of the Electrical Code whether or not a change of occupancy group is involved.

a) **70:230.2 (E)** Where a building or structure is supplied by more than one service, or any combination of branch circuits, feeders, and services, a permanent plaque or directory shall be installed at each service disconnect location denoting all other services, feeders, and branch circuits supplying that building or structure and the area served by each. See 225.37. **PROVIDE REQUIRED SIGNAGE.**

b) **NFPA 70:250.24 (A)** A premises wiring system supplied by a grounded ac service shall have a grounding electrode conductor connected to the grounded service conductor, at each service, in accordance with 250.24(A)(1) through (A)(5).

c) **NFPA 70:250.26** For ac premises wiring systems, the conductor to be grounded shall be as specified in this section.

Changes to construction in the field which are not consistent with the reviewed documents are not authorized unless reviewed by this office for compliance with Code. Modifications to reviewed plans must be submitted to this office by the Architect/Civil Engineer for review prior to final inspection. If an Architect or Civil Engineer is not required by RS 37:155, revisions shall be submitted by the Owner. Submittals shall include plans, completed application, a minimum \$55.00 review fee, and a copy of the most current plan review letter.

Compliance with code requirements for fire protection systems, such as Fire Alarm, Sprinkler and Suppression Systems, is determined by separate shop drawing submittal and is not included in this review.

This review applies to work indicated in the drawings or specifications. Existing portions of the facility of building unaffected by the new work shall comply with LAC 55:103B thru 55:103F.

This review shall in no way permit and/or authorize any omissions or deviations from the specific requirements of the adopted codes, rules and regulations in accordance with R.S. 40:1574.1(B).

This review is valid for 180 days from the date of this letter. Construction permits must be issued and/or construction must commence within this time period.

This office requires certification of the completed project in accordance with the approved documents (certificate enclosed).

Occupancy of the project will not be permitted until we receive the completed certificate and a satisfactory inspection of the completed construction has been made by this office.

To arrange for inspection of the project, please contact the District Office at the phone number below two (2) to three (3) weeks in advance. The plans stamped reviewed by this office must be available on job site at time of inspection. Certificate of completion must be provided to the inspecting Deputy for final inspection.

REVIEWED BY:
LAWRENCE DELAUNE
ARCHITECT SUPERVISOR

CC:
North Shore Church
St Tammany Fire Protection District No 1*
City Of Slidell*
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